

THE PAW PRINT POST

October issue

Journalism Elective

Toys R Us Reopening!

By: Kai Navarro and Samantha DeCapua

If you've ever been to a Toys R Us toy store as a child, you most likely have fond memories of running up and down its long aisles, holding that one toy you would carry all over the store, begging your parents to buy it for you. However, you like many others were likely saddened when the 94-year-old franchise reported they were closing in June. More than 700 stores were closed due to being 11 billion dollars in debt. The stores were officially set to close on the 25th of June. It was a devastating event when so many employees across America were let go due to the stores closing.

But Toys R Us is back! Toys R Us wants to bring Geoffry the Giraffe (their mascot) back and told the internet about this through a simple tweet. The tweet had an image of Geoffry with a suitcase and message simply talking about how Geoffry was simply on a trip around the world and is now back and ready to give toys to thousands of children. It's fantastic to hear that Toys R Us is going to reopen soon but sadly this will not lead to all 33,000 employees being hired back when the franchise reopens. A person by the name of Carrie Gleason stated that for the workers that were let go it must have been like "lemon on the wounds" when they realized the franchise is reopening. Carrie Gleason even said that the way they closed and immediately are trying to reopen was a publicity stunt to gain attention when the franchise reopens! No matter its reason for closing, children all over the world will be happy that their favorite friend Geoffrey is back in business, and this time, he's here to stay.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Golf Match @Weston Hills- November 1
Away Basketball Game- November 1
Girls Volleyball Tryouts- November 1
Jaguar Jog- November 2
Home Basketball Game- November 5
NO SCHOOL- November 6
NO SCHOOL- November 12
6th grade field trip- November 13
Report cards issued- November 14
Home Basketball Game- November 15
Interims issued- November 20
NO SCHOOL- November 20-23

Volleyball games begin December 10



Toys R Us published this picture as part of the tweet saying Geoffry was coming back.

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Ian Murray- Principal
Ms. Irene Ortiz - 8th Grade Assistant Principal
Mrs. Karen Birke - 7th Grade Assistant Principal
Mr. David Greenfield - 6th Grade Assistant Principal

Beyond the Ridge

Earthquake rocks and tsunami rolls over Indonesia

By: Valerie Roa-Vidal

More than 2,000 people died, 2,500 are seriously injured, and about 5,000 went missing after an extreme earthquake and a tsunami hit Indonesia. This event destroyed cities and people's lives, thus it will be very hard to recover from. On September 28, 2018 this 7.5 magnitude earthquake hit Palu, Indonesia. As if that wasn't enough, a tsunami that reached a height of six meters and traveled at a speed of 500 mph inland hit Indonesia less than a day after the earthquake.

The reason why so many earthquakes happen in Indonesia is because the country is part of "The Ring of Fire", which is a ring of volcanoes around the Pacific Ocean that result from subduction of oceanic plates beneath lighter continental plates. Therefore, a large portion of the earthquakes and volcanic eruptions our world faces happen in this area. Many people lost their homes and have nothing left. Food, a household, and much more were taken away from these innocent people. There is not enough food for everybody, so people are starving to death waiting for help. Nothing like this had happened in Indonesia since 2004. More than 70,000 homes were destroyed and about 75,000 people are displaced because of the earthquake. Nearly 3,000 schools have been damaged and kids don't have a place to learn. Even though some schools are reopening after ten days, not many kids are attending. At 15 Palu middle schools, fewer than the 50 of their 697 students showed up. This tragic event has left many families hopeless that they will ever live normal lives again.

It was very hard for rescue crews to give everyone shelter, food, and medical help. It was extremely hard to find the missing people. The government wants its people to go back to living normally as if nothing ever happened. This is nearly impossible. People can't just go back to living, knowing that their family members are missing, dead, or that they do not have a place to live. They can't just move on under those conditions. Citizens need help. An estimate of 1.5 million people have been affected in some sort of way. It will be tough to rebuild this country which has been impacted in such a major way.



Photo Credit: Tatan Syufana
Disaster made by the Indonesia tsunami causing floods and destruction.

Another Royal on the Way!

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex announced their pregnancy on Monday, October 15th. After their international spectacle wedding in May, Kensington Palace made the official announcement that Meghan Markle and Prince Harry are pregnant with their first child. The new royal, due in the spring, will be seventh in line for the throne.



Photo credit: Chris Jackson/Getty Images

What's Trending?

Fortnite Battle Royale - Season 6

By Chiara Cremonti & Hunter Ring

Fortnite Battle Royale has taken over the video game industry. The third person animated shooter game has the objective to eliminate other players, be the last one standing, and achieve “#1 Victory Royale.” Fortnite, has become popular with tweens and teens alike. Accessible on platforms such as the PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Windows, Mac OS, iOS, Nintendo Switch, and is most recently available on Android devices as of August 2018. An online copy of Fortnite is \$59.99 (USD) on game consoles including Xbox One and PlayStation 4.

Fortnite dropped the Season 6 Halloween Themed Battlepass on September 27th, 2018 in preparation for the Halloween season in October. According to Bloomberg, Epic Games, the distributor of Fortnite, is estimated to be worth between 5 and 8 billion dollars. According to Celebrity Net Worth, the CEO of Epic Games is estimated to be worth 75 million dollars. Fortnite has boosted the value of Epic Games significantly. Before Fortnite, Epic Games was worth only 825 million dollars with a few different video games such as Gears of War, Unreal, and Infinity Blade. Fortnite is estimated to be earning an average of 2 million dollars per day alone on mobile devices.

Season 6 has brought many new additions to the game, including how gamers can now carry around pets, and Shadow Rocks can be found around the map (allowing you to be transparent, phase through walls, and surprise players). There is an updated map with a new island by Loot Lake, and a new “Dark Rising” theme that has added Shadow Stones and the Haunted Castle. The price for the new battle is 950 V-Bucks, which is the in-game currency. That translates to about \$9.99 (USD).

Many players enjoy the newly released Llama skin, which users can customize their character with. Anthony Prieto, a 7th grader at IRMS, says that the mansion of Haunted Hills is “really annoying”, because “Everyone lands there and it’s really crowded”. Emmanuel Moise thinks that Season 6 is “just there” and that it really isn’t the best season. In his opinion, it could be better. Mr. Brosz, the Indian Ridge Middle media specialist, is a parent of younger children. Most parents and adults only know that Fortnite includes weapons and guns. His children do not play Fortnite and he wouldn’t let his youngest play it, but would possibly let his eleven year old play it. “Fortnite is kind of cartoonish, it’s not super realistic, but it still desensitizes people to violence.” Most parents think that the appropriate age rating for Fortnite is 11 year olds and up.

iPhone Xs Max: is it worth it?

By Hannah Brant and Madison Adkins

Apple claims that the new iPhone Xs Max is brilliant in every way, but is it really? With “the most powerful chip yet” and 6.5-inch screen, the phone seems to be too good to be true.

The phone is almost similar to the iPhone Xs, but Apple has made a few new improvements to the Max. The iPhone X Max comes with new features such as a super retina custom OLED display, no home buttons, a water resistance screen, and much more. With a \$1,100 price tag, the phone has an almost double price rating than any other iPhone Xs product. Apple claims the phone has “The most durable glass in a smartphone, sealed and precision-fitted with the surgical-grade stainless steel-band, which helps create a more water-resistant enclosure up to 2 meters for 30 minutes”. Many improvements have been made to the new phone already to meet the high standards of their customers.

Time and time again Apple has blown us away with their amazing iPhone products. According to Mr. Beamer, our technology teacher here at IRMS, he says “The screen is different, the screen is supposed to be an OLED, which is more expensive to manufacture. This will give a better result in the size, and the battery which will make it better. Truthfully all cellphones are like the computers and watches we have now. Probably the phone is better than the computers we have here.” We live in a generation where the world is dependent on their modern technology, and Apple has proven that they are building towards a more compatible phone for their customers.

Will Apple continue to improve the iPhone Xs Max, or will they make another phone? The answer to this question is unclear now, but it’s certain that Apple has done an amazing job crafting this phone. According to many websites, including Apple, this phone has been ranked a 4.9-star review with anonymous buyers quoting “you get what you pay for”, and “Best phone overall in the market!”. Many buyers seem to be impressed with the phone and now look forward to buying the next available Apple products.

Sport-acular Jags

Hole in One

By Hannah Keller

Golf is one of the many sports that Indian Ridge offers. The first match of the season was on Monday, October 15th. Many new students joined the team as well as the new coach Mr. Hinkins. Last year the golf team got 3rd in the county.

Mr. Hinkins helped our boy's golf team get 3rd place in a recent match. They were one point from 2nd place. We asked new coach Mr. Hinkins what he liked most about golf. Mr. Hinkins said, "I like the fact that it is out doors, I like that it is a true game of skills, I like the fact that you can play as a group and you can play by yourself."



Mr. Hinkins is also one of our security personnel at IRMS.

The Jogging Jags

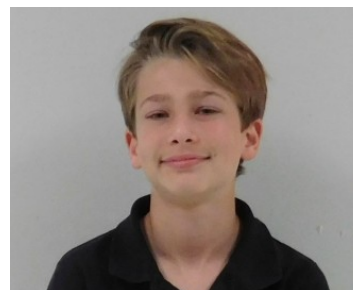
By Ciara Matthews

One of the many sports teams at Indian Ridge is the Cross-Country team. On Thursday, October 11th, the Cross-Country team had their last meet at Markham Park. A "meet" is equivalent to a game in other sports such as basketball or baseball.

Regan Morrall is one of the students on the Cross-Country team. When she was asked why she enjoys Cross-Country, she responded, "I like the team and just running. We have practiced almost every morning before school." We also asked her to explain the difference between track and Cross-Country and she replied by saying, "In Cross-Country you run long distances. Like, we run miles, and in track you do shorter distances."

Noah Dolberg was asked about the Cross-Country tryouts, "There were a lot of good runners there." he said. When asked how he felt when at a meet he responded by saying, "They were definitely intimidating and there's a lot of kids there."

"I like the team, and just running. We have practice almost every morning before school," says Regan Morrall, a seventh grader.



"There were a lot of good runners there. They were definitely intimidating and there's a lot of kids there," said Noah Dolberg, a seventh grader.

Sport-acular Jags

Dunk For the Jaguars



Photo Credit: Ella Dever

By Marvin Mercelus

The first game of the 2018 basketball season was held at Glades Middle on October 15th. The boys took the win with a score of 45-37 by, “conditioning and working as a team” as their practice according to Leo Herrera.

The game was an away game for the boys against Glades middle school. The team was coordinated and their practices from Mr. Bacon led themselves to victory. As Leo Herrera said before the game even started, “We’re going to win our game, our first game of the year.” However, on Thursday October 17th they tasted defeat against Falcon Cove.

Their defeat from Falcon Cove, was a tough one with a score of 50:27. The scores were 50 points for Falcon Cove Middle and 27 points for the Ridge. The basketball team tried their hardest to play defense and score as much as possible, but it simply wasn’t enough. Well, a bird from the sky can’t be touched from below on the ground. Falcon Cove however, destroyed the Ridge being 23 points ahead. Falcon Cove was playing a good defense and an insane offense. The Indian Ridge team did try and gave them a bit of a good fight. Overall, if this keeps going the IRMS team must train a lot harder, but there on a good start.

The Girls against Pine Middle lost 45 to 37 Pine’s way. The girls gave a good fight and the game could have easily went either way. Pine middle did play a good offense and defense. So, did the girls play a good offense and defense. The only problem is that Pine Middle bested them. The girls played a clean game and they tried, but a lost and they at least got a bit close.

“The Basketball tryouts were fun, I am very competitive, a lot of people came out and few made it, but we’ll see how the year goes.” says Leo Herrera a seventh grader at our school.



The Jaguar Den

School Officers Carrying Guns

By: Carlos Mallett

Ever since the horrific shooting on the grounds of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, just about every school campus consists of at least one school resource officer (SRO). Although police officers are meant for school safety, the presence of guns can have an uncomfortable impact on the students, parents, and staff. This can be due to some school cops taking it to an extreme. To illustrate, last year Officer Cafarelli carrying the AR-15 had some of our Indian Ridge students thinking it was unnecessary. 7th graders Isabella Crespo and Blake Schoneck both emphasized that it was “excessive”. “Excessive” is not an exaggeration.

Indian Ridge Middle School SRO, Officer Evans made it very clear that she is here for student benefits and safety as she elucidates, “The main reason I’m here is for safety, students can receive a good education in a safe environment. I definitely prefer for students to be comfortable around me. I would much rather be here in a position where students come to me and so I can help instead of being a disciplinarian.” She further explains that when she possesses a gun on school campus, it is for safety reasons. Though these are great points on why officers can hold guns on campuses, it will not change the tension others feel around them. Furthermore, Officer Evans does not carry the AR-15, unlike Officer Cafarelli. She clarifies that her AR-15 is somewhere only she can access in case of an emergency. She states “The school board does not have a policy on holding an AR-15, but there is an agreement between the school board and individual police departments for each city. In Davie, the police officers will only bring out AR-15 if there is a code red or an immediate threat.” She then further explained the requirements to possess the AR-15. She says “We have to go through qualification courses, like target shooting. We must be able to hit a certain percentage of shots on the target with accuracy.



Photo Credits: Ella Glassman

This is Indian Ridge Middle Schools resource officer, Officer Evans. She has strong beliefs for students to have a safe education.

CHOC Fundraisers

By Gabriel Pacheco

At Indian Ridge Middle School, there is a club called Children Helping Other Children (CHOC). 6th grade social studies teacher, Mrs Weintraub, is the head of CHOC She said, “CHOC was very successful last year. We raised thousands of dollars and we are raising money to build a school in Nigeria for orphans and donate money to local hospitals in arts and crafts”. 7th grader, Samantha DeCapua, who is a member of CHOC said, “I wanted to join CHOC because I wanted to help other children. This is my 2nd year of being a part of CHOC. There are many types of fundraisers, like the carwash fundraiser.”

Photo Credits : Ella Glassman



This is Mrs. Weintraub, the head of CHOC. She enjoys making a difference.

Jaguar on the Spot

By: Ella Glassman

Throwing Punches At Indian Ridge Middle School

There has been an increase in fist fights in the mornings before school starts at Indian Ridge this year. This has been happening throughout the past few school years, but it has been happening a lot more in the 2018 school year. Many students gave great insight as to why kids watch, why they think kids fight, and more. A student named Olivia Kaplan, from Mr. Haase's second hour, tells that kids watch instead of help because, "They think it is entertaining and would rather video tape it, because they think it is cool to have a video." A student named Noah Dolberg said instead of violence, "We should use our words" to work out our problems. Lastly, a student named Leah Budraj, said violence is not the way to work out our problems because, "People should not fist fight because they can get seriously hurt and get in trouble."

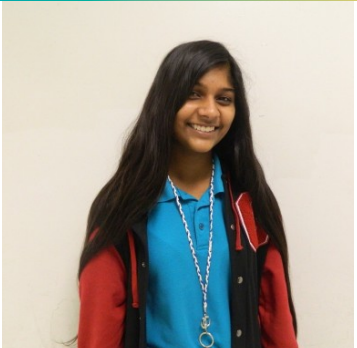


Olivia Kaplan, a 7th grader

Photo Credit:
Ella Glassman

All the students that were interviewed made great points, and it was clear to see everyone does not want the fights to continue at our school. Many students at IRMS have already been suspended or in serious trouble for hitting or punching other students. Fighting can have a horrible effect on students, which can also cause them to act out in class. Mrs. Vazquez, a sixth-grade teacher stated that "We should do everything we can to prevent it." Overall, fist fights are something put to an end.

IT IS OK TO DISAGREE, BUT IT IS NEVER OK TO FIGHT OR USE PROFANITY!



Leah Budraj, a seventh grader

Photo Crdit:
Ella Gassman

The Debate Competition

By: Brianna Harrison and Jaden Little

Have opinions and go to an elective where you get to express them and discuss who's right? Count me in! Most people who join this elective, 6th hour with Mrs. Manriquez, have the opportunity to argue about a certain subject or category. Children find this amusing because they always have to be "right". Mya Briceno was asked why she likes debate, she simply stated "The rush, and it makes me feel like I can accomplish things."

The Debate Team of Indian Ridge Middle School is an enthusiastic, challenging activity that you should absolutely be a part of. Who exactly are these Jaguars that have won this spectacular, cut throat event? Jaime Shrewsbury has received a 1st place medal in Student Congress, the Impromptu award went to Samantha Collie, and Lucas Osber won Declamation. All of these extravagant Jaguars have done very well in debating for the Ridge.

Being in debate means answering fast-thinking questions without hesitating. If you're trying to join this team it is only offered to 8th graders who tryout and are recommended by their teachers, applications usually go out in March. So, think fast, play hard and be ready.



Maya Briceno, an 8th grader on the debate team

Photo Credit:
Ella Glassman

Up For Debate

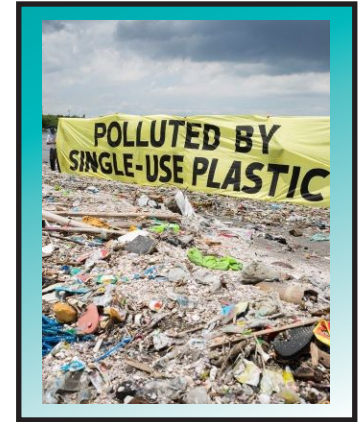
By: Isabella Bueno and Vania Guadarrama

Straws Killing Our Marine Life

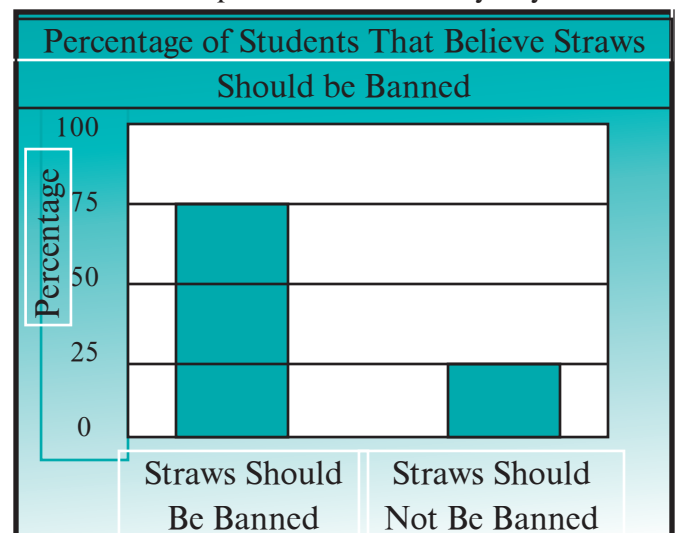
California's Governor, Jerry Brown, recently signed a law aimed to reduce plastic straw waste in the Golden State. By July 2019, many restaurants will no longer serve meals with straws unless the customer specifically asks for one. Americans use over 500 million plastic straws daily. That's enough straws to fill up 125 school buses. Only a small fraction of these get recycled, meaning most of them end up in the landfills, beaches, and oceans. There have been studies showing over 8 million metric tons plastic trash wind up in our oceans. That's equivalent to 5 grocery bags filled with plastic for each square foot of the coastlines in the world. Beach clean up groups have found approximately 1,100,000 seabirds and mammals dead because they ingested items that were not food. Most of the time, the items are straws or juice boxes. Sea creatures can confuse plastic with food. Consequently, they consume toxic plastic debris that harm the animals.

Jonathan Fuentes, an 8th grade debate student, says "there are certain exceptions where people actually need straws." Mr. Fuentes was correct about this statistic. Disabled individuals must use plastic straws daily due to their inability to drink independently. Many people stand up for this group, challenging the debate. Many enjoy and rely on the traditional plastic straws because compostable ones tend to melt or break apart when drinking hot liquids. However, the recent law signed in California will not completely get rid of straws; Straws will not be completely gone.

Some people believe this problem will not be resolved due to the fact plastic straws is not the only litter polluting our oceans. These individuals think that we should be spending time on reducing other waste other than only banning straws. Matthew Sanchez, a 6th grade student claims, "They are not the only plastic things that are harming animals." 90 percent of trash floating in our oceans every day is dangerous plastic waste. However, this number includes plastic debris other than straws. Indian Ridge Middle School (IRMS) provides plastic straws and utensils wrapped in a thin plastic covering. There are numerous students that purchase lunch every day and take the plastic utensils offered. That's a lot of plastic trash for one school in a day. But IRMS is not the only school that offers plastic utensils Most schools nationwide do, as well. Indubitably, there are several pros and cons regarding banning straws. Although banning straws would save many animals, it would also make lives harder for the disabled. The primary focus should not only be on straws but on other major waste products like juice boxes and plastic bags. Also, more beach pick-up groups should come together to pick up trash and spread the effects of littering. But policies to reduce waste would be necessary.



This photo illustrates how much pollution single use plastic makes.
Photo credits: Green Peace



Jaguar Judges

Is college education worth it?

Student loan debt is a real problem in our country, and as middle schoolers, we are already starting to think about colleges, careers, and exactly how much money this might cost us, or our parents. It's pretty intimidating. Let's break it down.

By Malik Suleiman

In my opinion, college is worth it for its cost. Education in a public college costs on average \$22,261 and in a private school it averages to \$43,289. Those prices do not include meals, books, or school supplies. According to exploretetrades.org, "over 44 million of us now hold about \$1.4 trillion in student debt." Even though college is an expensive investment leaving students drowning in debt, this debt can be worth it in the long run. College education is important to give students more job options and a higher salary.

In college, going for the highest degree is also an important investment. With these better job options, graduates could get higher paying salaries which would most likely pay off the college debt quicker than a graduate with a lower paying degree would. People without a college degree would not have nearly as many job choices. They also may not be able to get their dream job. Without a college education many life choices will be limited. College would give graduates a much better quality of life overall.

By Jordan Miller

I think students should go to college. Student debt is a big issue when students must pay it off. Because of student loans, students are having a hard time paying their household bills. According to ProCon.org "20% of millennials are homeowners, and most millennials say their student debt has delayed home ownership by seven years on average." So much of their student loans are taking money out of cars and homes. The better the degree the better of a job you may get. Student who graduate college are less likely to suffer because of poverty. A study released by Georgetown's center on education and the workforce reveals that the difference in lifetime wages for different majors is enormous. In fact, the difference between lifetime wages for the highest and lowest paying majors is \$3.4 million!

There are plenty of jobs that you don't need to go to college to get. For example, you could be an appliance repair person, carpenter, dental hygienist and more. College tuition has increased quicker than income, and it makes it unaffordable. Once you get to college you then must buy books, food, and pay fees. Also, once you do get a college degree it is a huge accomplishment in a person's life. College can make you stress on money and on work, and that could possibly lead to health issues.

Dear Jaguars...

By Dani Larios



Q: What is GSA and how do I deal with sexual identity confusion?

A: Some students face a problem socializing because they do not understand their sexuality, so they feel like they won't be accepted by others. Here at the Ridge there's a club called GSA. GSA used to stand for Gay Straight Alliance. Now it stands for Gender and Sexualities Alliance! It's a club where kids can go to relate to each other about to their sexuality confusion, to solve unanswered questions regarding their sexuality, or simply to support those that are struggling with these concerns. Being in GSA does NOT automatically mean that you are gay.

Here at Indian Ridge, the club is run by Mrs. Rosado and Ms. Richard.

The goal of these clubs is to provide a safe and supportive environment for LGBTQ youth.

Ms. Richard says that GSA members "support each other." She continued, "They build new friendships from the club and they communicate with each other and they support the LGBTQ community at large."

There are about eighteen members of the GSA club. They meet from 4:00 to 5:00 on Mondays in Room 170. On the first Monday of the month, the members of the group watch a PowerPoint on a specific topic they can talk about. On the second week, they watch a movie or short video on their topic. They're currently trying to set up a "study hall" for the third week, since the club also counts as the students' "safe place."

"Dealing with questioning your sexual/gender identity can be tough sometimes. You fear you might get bullied or won't be accepted by your peers. Everyone is human, and everyone thinks and feels differently about everything, and that can't always be controlled. Luckily, the population has become more accepting of the LGBTQ+ community. LGBTQ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning. Remember that your sexual orientation and gender identity are important parts of who you are. Learning more about gender identity and sexual orientation can help you understand yourself and the world around you. It's stressful for some, because people are expected to act a certain way based on their gender.

Gender is just a label given to you by the doctor, so it means something and doesn't at the same time. Your gender is set by societal expectations, culture, and it's a legal status. Gender identity on the other hand, is completely different. It's how you feel and how you express your gender through your behavior, fashion, and appearance. It's ok to feel differently than others. It's a great choice to join GSA whether you're questioning your sexual identity or not.



After all, everyone is human.

Fuzzy Feelings

By Sharon Hopengarten and Dani Larios



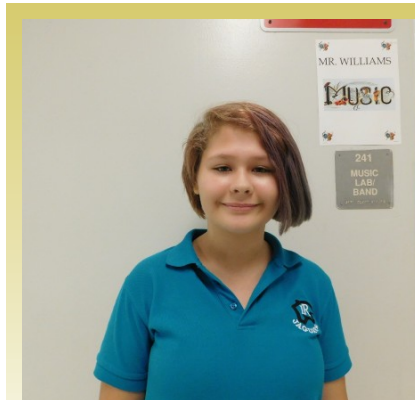
Mrs. Marino



Mr. Murray



Savannah Simpkins, 6th grader.



Tempus Mitchell, 7th grader.



Kyle Wagener, 8th grader.

Many students have a hard time focusing and working during school. Usually, the cause is stress or other feelings that get in the way of a student's thinking. Therapy dogs can help people relax and de-stress, helping them stay focused at school.

Mrs. Marino even has two therapy dogs of her own! "They make me feel better every time when I come home." When being asked about how they could help students work at school she said, "I think they can help students be calm, which translates to them absorbing more information."

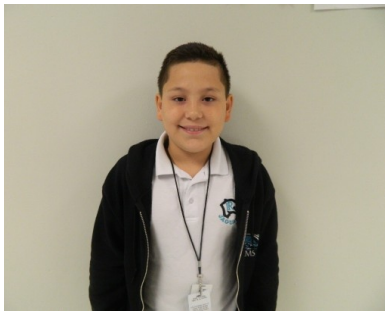
Mr. Murray also thinks that therapy dogs can be helpful to students who deal with stress." Students can really relax, and calm down, you know if you are having any anxiety or having any stress. Dogs usually relieve that stress."

Also, they can help "People with high anxiety and need a companion" says Tempus Mitchell, 7th grader. She said that it depends on the persons situation, but that therapy dogs would help. Kyle Wagener, 8th grader says it also helps "by showing them ways to de-stress".

In order to be approved as an official therapy dog owner, there is a five step process including a background check, observations, and paperwork with fees. To get more information, visit therapydogs.com/join-therapy-dogs

Cubs of Character

By: Vanessa Flores, Rylie Gilland, Giselle Bouzaglou



Oscar Franco, 6th grade, has been nominated for Cubs of Character. When we asked him, “What does responsibility mean to you,” he replied, “Responsibility means to never slack and always listen to your teachers.”



Cubs of Character nominations
6th

Audrey Wade, Hailey Anderson, Hailey Elgazar, Madison McEachron, Sophia Gurtov, Finleigh Hurlburt, Haylee Santantonio, Oscar Franco, Brody Miller, Kelly Velez, Emily Beodhram, Annabella Perez, Charlee Shon, Lisa Ngo, asmin Mathney, Viktoria Torres, Javier Santiago, Kate Koontz, Matthew Gurtov

7th

Vanessa Flores, Madison Urquhart, Maliha Sikder, Hannah Brant, Brooke Goldman, David Martinez, Melanie Romero, Audrey Heilig, Regan Morral, Zala Turk, Anthonella Catilino, Yaakov Berman, Natalie Solomon, Thanh Tran, Sean Smerkers, Lena Castellano, Tam

Ho

8th

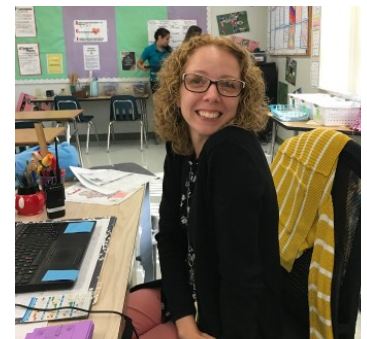
Jessica Cohen, Madelyn Streisfield, Austin Guinsler, Mileishka Lopez, Ava Forsythe, Ashley Cain, Maya Yenor, Asha Seemongal, Valeria Vasquez, Stephanie Andrade, Diego Gonzalez, Cayla Ankney, Jacob Deckelbaum,



Madison Streisfield, 8th grader, says, “Responsibility is that you are making sure that you are doing the right thing even when no one is watching.”



Hannah Brant, 7th grader, has also been chosen for this month. We asked, “What do you think made you earn Cub of Character.” She claims, “I work hard to be the best student I could possibly be.”



Ms. Didier is a language arts, journalism, and yearbook teacher. When she was nominating, she was, “looking for students that are on time everyday, meet their due dates, and come prepared with all their materials.”

Staff "Spot"light

By: Vanessa Flores, Gabriel Maya, Rylie Gilland.

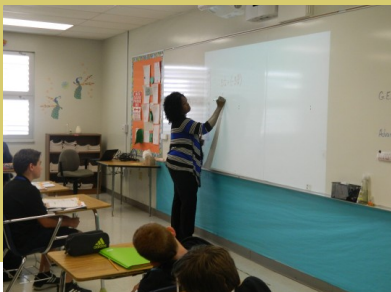
For the month of October, Mrs. Moise has been chosen for Staff Spotlight. Mrs. Moise is a sixth-grade math teacher at Indian Ridge. This year she teaches GEM and advanced as well as coaches the Step Team. She has an enjoyable and kind personality and it's clear she loves to teach. Though managing her schedule can be stressful she always finds a way to make time for her students.

Mrs. Moise has her own unique way of teaching. For both her advanced and GEM classes there are inside jokes. One inside joke was in her fifth-period class last year. Only those in that period would truly understand the importance of "Chinese Pickle." Though she is stern at times, she is also flexible when it comes to her students. Mrs. Moise says, "When you're laughing, I'm laughing." Instead of her classes always being work, work, work, and more work, she allows humor into the mix.

Step Team is an after-school club that performs at festivals, during sports events, and at pep rallies. Mrs. Moise coaches the team and comes up with the steps. In the beginning Mrs. Marsh and Mrs. Brown were originally in charge of Step Team. Then once they got promoted, Mrs. Moise became the coach. Mrs. Moise does many things in Step. She works with the kids to put together routines and dances. She also orders pizza and other foods before performances.

Mrs. Moise is lenient and tolerant; however, she can also be rigid. Her students are her #1 priority as a teacher and as a coach. Despite the hassle that comes from managing many different things, she loves what she does because the students make the time enjoyable. She has been recognized for Staff Spotlight because of all of this.

Congratulations, Mrs. Moise!!



Her philosophy as a teacher is, "work hard, play hard."



Mrs. Moise is a 6th grade math teacher as well as the coach of Step Team

“Paw”se to Remember

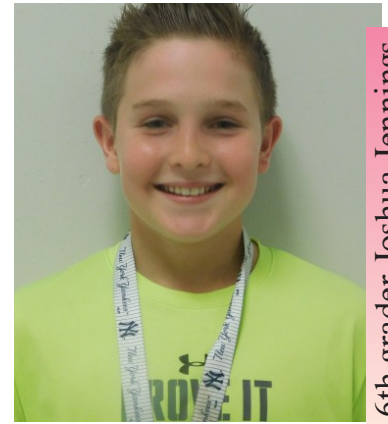
October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By Hadley Turner And Kayla Barcenas

6th grader Maci Felhan



6th grader Joshua Jennings



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and you may not know but a lot of kids at our school struggle with a loved one having cancer. While one in four people have breast cancer, the survival rate for a 5-year period is 90%! Breast cancer is a treatable cancer, that starts when the cells in the breasts start to grow out of control. These cells will typically form a tumor; the tumor can be seen on an x-ray or felt as a lump. Breast cancer appears almost entirely in women but can occur in men as well. Breast cancer is a cancer that can spread and invades other parts of the body. About 2,140 men in the US get diagnosed with breast cancer each year, and about 300 males get diagnosed with breast cancer each year in the United Kingdom.

Joshua Jennings and Maci Felhan, while not related, both have an aunt with breast cancer. Joshua's Aunt Tony struggled with breast cancer for a long time, but was eventually able to overcome it. When times were tough in his life, he knew he could count on his family, and he wants everyone out there to remember to, "stay strong." Maci's Aunt Robyn, struggled with breast cancer for about 2 ½ years, but then she eventually overcame it. It was a long road for them both, but they want everyone out there to remember "to never lose hope."

If you would like to donate or come out and walk for breast cancer awareness, here are a few charities you can trust. The American Cancer Society is a good place to donate. If you look up American Cancer Society, and click on the first link that pops up, it will give you the option to donate any amount. Another place to donate is the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Society. The American Cancer Society is also holding a walk on Sunday, December 9th. Registration is at 1 PM and the walk is at 3 PM, the event will take place in Cascades Park, Tallahassee. It is called Making Strides of Leon; more information can be found on The American Cancer Society's website as well as other walks and more. And remember every little bit helps!

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