



# ROBERTSON RAG



Spring Trimester 2023

5<sup>th</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Newspaper Club  
Faculty Advisor: Kate Cannon

## Graduation Special

# GET TO KNOW... THE FIFTH GRADE!

Interview with Braeden Awekey-Jiles, Brianna Borbon & Ella Thurston-Vargo by Ms. Cannon

### Braeden

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
BAJ: Field Day, when we broke the blue team’s winning streak, their streak went on way too long!

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
BAJ: My favorite subject is math; I like solving problems.

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
BAJ: Just be yourself!

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
BAJ: More math, harder problems.



### Brianna

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
BB: When I first made friends with Ella, we were in the playground and we both got SO much sand in our shoes, it made us laugh.

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
BB: P.E. is my favorite, we have fun!

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
BB: Don’t be a troublemaker, don’t talk too much!

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
BB: I am nervous but, looking forward to making new friends.

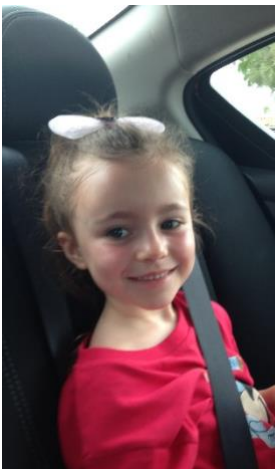
### Ella

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
ETV: Probably the first GaGa Tournament, my team won twice, it was so much fun!

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
ETV: Writing, I like writing my own stories and P.E. because it’s fun.

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
ETV: Don’t do dumb things!

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
ETV: My new school starts at 8:30 and lunch looks really good!





# POET'S CORNER

## Ode To Food

I am always hungry.  
And that isn't very funny.  
And I'm always picky  
that can be really tricky....

When I look at the clock  
it can be a big shock.  
But, I have a hunch  
It's almost time by lunch

I dream of burgers and fries  
It brings tears to my eyes.  
Or even a shake  
my well-being is at stake!

A hunger attack  
needs a yummy snack.  
I'm telling you folks  
these are no jokes  
*By Christopher Feurtado (3rd)*

## My Great School

My great school is filled with nice kids and loving  
teachers, you'll love it here more than delicious  
peaches,  
My caring principal is the best,  
she is the best even in all of the North, East, South  
and West!  
My classes are filled with fun and joy (even though  
we can't bring a toy),  
everyone has fun, girl and boy!  
We are a happy bunch after and before lunch!  
As you walk into the library you'll see all those  
books and you'll give them all very, very excited  
looks!  
This school is COOL!!!  
*By Wudasae Kidane (2nd)*

## Ode To Bodie

There was a tortoise,  
inside our school.  
She was very nice,  
aswell as very cool.  
  
She used to chill  
at poetry at dawn.  
She once was here,  
but now she is gone.  
  
“Bodie don't leave us”  
the children would cry  
but, Bodie left for heaven,  
without saying goodbye.  
  
Now we are sad,  
and also lonely.  
But she is in all of our hearts,  
that tortoise Bodie.  
*By Voltaire Godvin Griset (4th)*



# FIELD DAY

“I want to reflect on how amazing Field Day was this year. It was truly magical and unforgettable! If you were there, I'm sure you felt the same energy and school spirit I did. I have to say, it was exciting to see the White team come away with the victory after seven years! However, most importantly, the real winner was our school community. This event would not have been possible without the support of all the families who came out and supported. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart for participating in such a special day. I can hardly wait for next year's Field Day!” - **Coach Mike Jackson**





# CARNIVAL FOR JACARANDA

By Madame DeVault



“The Jacaranda School is deeply imbedded in the hearts of the ARS community.”

[www.jacarandafoundation.org](http://www.jacarandafoundation.org)

Many, many thanks to our community for coming together to support our sister school, the Jacaranda School for Orphans. In an enormous spirit of generosity culminating in our carnival celebration we have successfully contributed to uplifting others.

An important part of the Ethics program at ARS is our community service, whether it be in service to the community garden, our local food pantry, or our own school and communities across the world, ARS has an enormous heart!

**ARS fundraising efforts for the Jacaranda School for Orphans reached our goal of \$2500.00, Thank you!**

## Moving up!

“I am looking forward to my own desk in first grade” **Maya Engelman**, “I have a new backpack, pencil case, umbrella and water bottle for first grade” **Menkir Kidane**. “Fifth grade had a pajama party this year, I hope they do that again next year” **Luka Tinaj**. “I want to play with the Lego in kindergarten” **Lucien Pierre**. “I want to make art with tape and read new books in the kindergarten classroom” **Ella Chag-Crooks**. ‘I want to read more challenging books in fourth grade” **Elize Pierre**. “I hope to make new friends in third grade” **Ako Willis**. “I’m excited to be with the older grades for field day, third grade compete with fourth and fifth” **Hudsyn Pujols**. “I’m looking forward to the ‘snack shack’ when fifth grade make sandwiches and drinks for the whole school” **James Gettinger**.



Book Fair



Community Garden



Earth Day



Trip to Ellis Island



# Off to Wicked ...and more!

Spring term at ARS was filled with many amazing field trips, *Wicked*, the Mets and Central Park Zoo, to name a few!

## Wicked by Ms. Marina Colonna

On May 31st, The ARS cast of "The Wizard of Oz" had the opportunity to see the Broadway musical, "Wicked"! This was a completely extraordinary, memorable day for the ARS Theater Program, and I am overjoyed to report how much each student enjoyed the show. "Wicked" tells the story of the Wicked Witch of the West (Elphaba) and the Good Witch of The North (Glinda) about their relationship before Dorothy's house landed in Oz. We also learn in "Wicked" how each of the characters in The Wizard of Oz developed before they joined Dorothy on her journey to The Emerald City. It was a unique experience for the cast to learn so much about each of the characters that they played in "The Wizard of Oz" and allowed for us to find new layers in the story that we portrayed. All of the songs in Wicked were fantastic, and the ARS students have been humming them in the halls since we saw the show! I am so proud of all of our Theater students. Seeing "Wicked" was the perfect way to wrap up our exciting first year of ARS Theater!



## The Mets by Emma Mesaye

Boom, clash, Alonso makes a home run! The crowd roars in excitement, the Phillies boo in anger and sadness. This means.... The Mets won! The Players grabbed the victory they've been waiting for, since the last game, when the Phillies beat them. All my classmates and I can say is, "let's go Mets!"

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, my friends and teachers headed to the Mets stadium. Hopes were high. The Mets are a really good team, but at the same time, the Phillies are one of the best teams in America. Our question was, "Who would win?"

Firstly, our teachers led us to the train station. We hopped on the B train with busy looking people. We had to get on a couple more trains to get to the stadium, but when we saw the huge pit, our eyes lit up and our mouths dropped. It was crowded, lots of people coming and going. I was so excited that I forgot where I was for a second! Both teams were warming up, they passed, missed, and caught the ball. As they practiced, the announcers were throwing Mets shirts at the audience! It was like a dream come true! But sadly, in the first round no one in our school got jerseys, in the second-round, birthday boy Braeden caught one! As the game started, I could tell the Phillies were on a roll, but thanks to our guy Nimmo, he got the Mets back on track. I was so sure the Mets were going to win, but we would not see it, because at the last quarter of the game, we had to go back to school.

Oh, my goodness, that was the first Mets game I had ever been to! It was so much fun and even though the Mets players were ignoring our calls, it was all right, because I got to experience the excitement of a Mets game. Last but not least, I would like to thank Mr. Jackson for arranging this amazing day. He is the best gym teacher I've ever had!

## The Mets by Zev Engelman

It was sunny and warm, a perfect day for a baseball game. My class started at 96<sup>th</sup> St. we set off to Mets-Willis Point, Queens. We started on the B train and transferred to the uptown E train traveling to Queens. My class stopped at Roosevelt Av and transferred to the 7 train. It was cool going above ground, seeing the buildings, cars, and Amtrak. We then got off at Mets-Willis Point, took a picture and walked into Citi-field. The mascot, Mr. Met, shot out t-shirts and because it was Braeden's birthday, Mr. Jackson caught one for him!

My class found our seats, we had the front row where the players hit home runs. At our seats, it was hot, so my whole class went for a sip of water. The problem was, the water was also really warm, some kids asked Mr. Jackson for a refill. After 1 hour and 30 minutes the game had finally started. The crowd was roaring and right off the bat the Phillies scored twice! It wasn't until the 3rd inning that the Mets scored. Everybody was especially excited for the 4th inning because they were going to show 'Happy Birthday Braeden' on the Jumbotron! but to everyone's surprise, it didn't happen. Then came the bad news, that we could only stay until the middle of the 4th inning! When we got back to school, we packed our stuff and went home (excluding the people that go to after-school).

I had a great time and hope to go to a Mets game again someday and hopefully get the same seats, get the players to look at me, and cheer.





Central Park Zoo

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, Junior Kindergarten, Kindergarten 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade headed off to the Central Park Zoo, here are some favorite moments:

“Seeing the bears, because I love bears!” **Biruk Kidane** (JrK) “I liked the bears, one of them swam in the water!” **Alare Rowe** (JrK) “I liked the penguins best; I liked watching them swim” **Charline Mercado**(K) “I loved the mongoose, in the rainforest, they were so cute and fluffy” **Louise Enjalbert** (K) “I liked everything!” **Jayden Thirkill** (1<sup>st</sup>) “The penguins were my favorites, they were cute and kept looking at me through the glass” **Liam Taylor** (1<sup>st</sup>) “The sea lions were so fun, they splashed us when they did tricks” **Mionne Santos** (2<sup>nd</sup>) The sea lions were my favorite, they were doing tricks while they were being fed” **Noah Hicks** (2<sup>nd</sup>)



Want the fun to continue....

ARS SUMMER  
CAMP 2023

8:30 AM- 4:00 PM

SESSION 1: JUNE 19- 23

SESSION 2: JUNE 26- 30

SESSION 3: AUG 7- 11

SESSION 4: AUG 14- 18

SESSION 5: AUG 21- 25

For more information:  
[www.alexanderrobertson.org](http://www.alexanderrobertson.org)





James Gettinger’s Vegetarian Burritos

Ingredients-  
Flour Tortilla  
Tomato  
Black Beans  
Spinach  
Cheddar Cheese

Equipment-  
Knife  
Grater

- Instructions-
- 1. Put the black beans on the flour tortilla.
  - 2. Put the spinach leaves on top of the tortilla.
  - 3. Grate the cheddar cheese and sprinkle it on top of the tortilla.
  - 4. Cut the tomato into small cubes and put them on the tortilla.

- Folding-
- 1. Tuck the sides in.
  - 2. Fold up from the bottom.
  - 3. Roll up from the bottom.
  - 4. Tuck the corners in.
  - 5. ENJOY YOUR BURRITO!



We will miss all our friends and teachers at ARS, we hope everyone has an awesome summer! – Fifth Grade

ARS summer vibes!





# ROBERTSON RAG



Winter Trimester 2023

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newspaper Club  
Faculty Advisor: Kate Cannon

## GET TO KNOW...

Interview with Mrs. Keyarra Bell-Flynn by Brianna Borbon & Ella Thurston-Vargo



Brianna and Ella conducted an interview with Mrs. Bell-Flynn on 03/14/23.

B&E: Hello Ms. Bell what is your favorite color?

KB: I think blue is my favorite.

B&E: What is your dream vacation?

KB: Well, I recently got married and will have a bigger wedding next year, for our honeymoon, we plan to go to Italy, which has always been a dream!

B&E: What is your favorite season/weather?

KB: Fall is my favorite season, I like weather that is not too hot, not too cold.

B&E: Where were you born?

KB: I was born and grew up in New Jersey, I moved to NYC when I was 20yrs old.

B&E: What was your favorite year in school?

KB: My senior year, there were fun trips and prom, cool teenage stuff.

B&E: What is your favorite food?

KB: Sushi! Spicy Tuna is my favorite roll.

B&E: What was your favorite subject in school?

KB: English, I love reading and writing, I even won an award for writing! The hardest book I read was *Crime and Punishment*.

B&E: What is your favorite ice cream?

KB: Mint Choc Chip or Green Tea.

B&E: Do you have a favorite book?

KB: Harry Potter was my favorite, I read the last book in 1 hrs! I went with my grandma to buy it as soon as it can out.

B&E: Do you have any hobbies?

KB: I like Interior design; I like organizing spaces.

B&E: What is your favorite part of your job?

KB: I get to help in all different parts of school. Ms. Parson, extended day and I really enjoy updating our social media, I get to take pictures of all our students.

B&E: What was your favorite TV show/movie in school?

KB: *The PowderPuff Girls*, I even dressed up as Bubbles one Halloween.

B&E: When is your birthday?

KB: My birth date is actually a cool pattern – 9/2/92

B&E: Do you speak any other languages?

KB: I did study German in school for five years, but I've lost most of it, I can still sing 'Happy Birthday' in German!

B&E: Do you play an instrument?

KB: I played the trumpet in elementary school and I like to sing.

B&E: What is your favorite room in school?

KB: The Carnegie Library! It is a comfortable room and we hold a lot of social events there, it's a real community room.

B&E: Did you have a favorite 'special' at school?

KB: I was the president of my high school's environmental club; we would collect and do all the recycling.

Thank you, Mrs. Bell-Flynn for taking the time to answer all our questions.





# FRIDAY ASSEMBLY & SCHOOL NEWS

Happy New Year! On January 6<sup>th</sup> we held our first assembly of 2023! Ms. Colona kicked off the new year with a musical treat. She led a rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas, we were ready to start the year! In honor of Martin Luther King Jr’s Day, Lucas Gallion, from first grade, read an excerpt from Dr King’s *I Have a Dream* speech and some of our students shared what it means to them. Next, we celebrated Lunar New Year, Ms. Picciotto and students from various grades sang two songs all about the new year, we were informed and entertained. We wish everyone luck in the year of the Rabbit! To close out January, we enjoyed a mini concert by the ARS singers. Led by Señor Roldán, they delighted us with three songs; ‘Yellow Submarine’ followed by ‘Puff, The Magic Dragon’ and finally ‘My Favorite Things’.

February started off with Ms. Yi and science. We watched a video of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade’s trip to the Aquarium in Coney Island. It looked like a great time was had by all, lots of interesting facts and lots of fun. In celebration of Black History Month, Ms. Siddiqui and fifth grade took us on a historical journey. Museum exhibits came to life, and we learned about Harriet Tubman (Brianna) Frederick Douglas (Braeden) and Sojourner Truth (Ella). It was an inspiring way to learn about these important figures in history. The last class assembly of February was Ms. Juwayeyi and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, they brought us an assembly all about Latitude and Longitude. The students wrote their own parts and then Ms. Juwayeyi brought it all together. Great story and great acting from the fourth grade! On Valentines Day, we certainly felt the love from the Parents Association. The gym was transformed and the delicious smell of waffles greeted us all as we arrived on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The students delighted in wearing festive colors, they enjoyed the waffles and copious amounts of toppings! A big thank you to the P.A. for making it all possible.

March began with a double treat, Ms. Goodman’s 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and Ms. Bok’s 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The third grade were inspired by the book ‘From The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler’ They followed in the footsteps of the books protagonists and took us on a journey through the Metropolitan Museum. We went back in time with the second grade, all the way to Ancient Greece. They introduced us to all their favorite Gods & Goddess and showed us their fabulous self-made props. Next up ... drum roll please... The ARS talent show. We cannot say enough about our talented students, just WOW!

Throughout this semester, ARS students took advantage of the wonderful museums on offer in our great city. Students visited The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The American Museum of Natural History and The Guggenheim. Look out for more field trips in the Spring!

**Lastly, we hope everyone has a wonderful Spring Break!!**







# WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE?

*MBAPPÉ* BY OLIVIER PIERRE & DASTAN KALYANPUR

*RONALDO* BY JETT ZIMMER

Well, hello A.R.S. students! This article is all about Kylian Mbappé, the soccer player. Okay, you may be wondering why we a soccer player for the school newspaper? let's get started!!!

Kylian Mbappé is an amazing soccer player, he is so talented. Mbappé has only won one World Cup, but then again, he is only 24.

Mbappé was born on December 20, 1998, in a Paris suburb. Many immigrants from former French colonies in Africa have moved to France over the years, and among them were Mbappé’s parents. Young Mbappé was always obsessed with soccer. He played for the youth team, Bondy in Paris, where his father was a coach. The people running the club were so impressed by his talent. He was so good that the coaches had to put him in a higher age group to play.

In France, as in many countries in Europe, youth coaching is at an exceptionally high level. The French football Federation runs 12 well-equipped academies for young players. In one of them, young Mbappé had the opportunity to develop his talents under the tutelage of outstanding teachers and coaches.

You may think Mbappé is French well he is, but he could have also played for the Algeria or Cameroon international teams, because his dad came from Cameroon and his mom came from Algeria. There is a reason he became so good at soccer, Mbappé originated from a very athletic family. Mbappé’s mom is a professional handballer and his dad a soccer player and a football coach.

**Three Surprising Facts**

- Cristiano Ronaldo is his idol, Mbappé admired him as a chid and wanted to be like him
- Mbappé donated all his Worl Cup earnings to a children’s charity in 2018
- Today, Mbappé is the second most wanted player in the world

The soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo was born in Madeira Portugal on February 5, 1985. His family wasn’t very wealthy. From a very young age scouts knew that Ronaldo is a very special player.

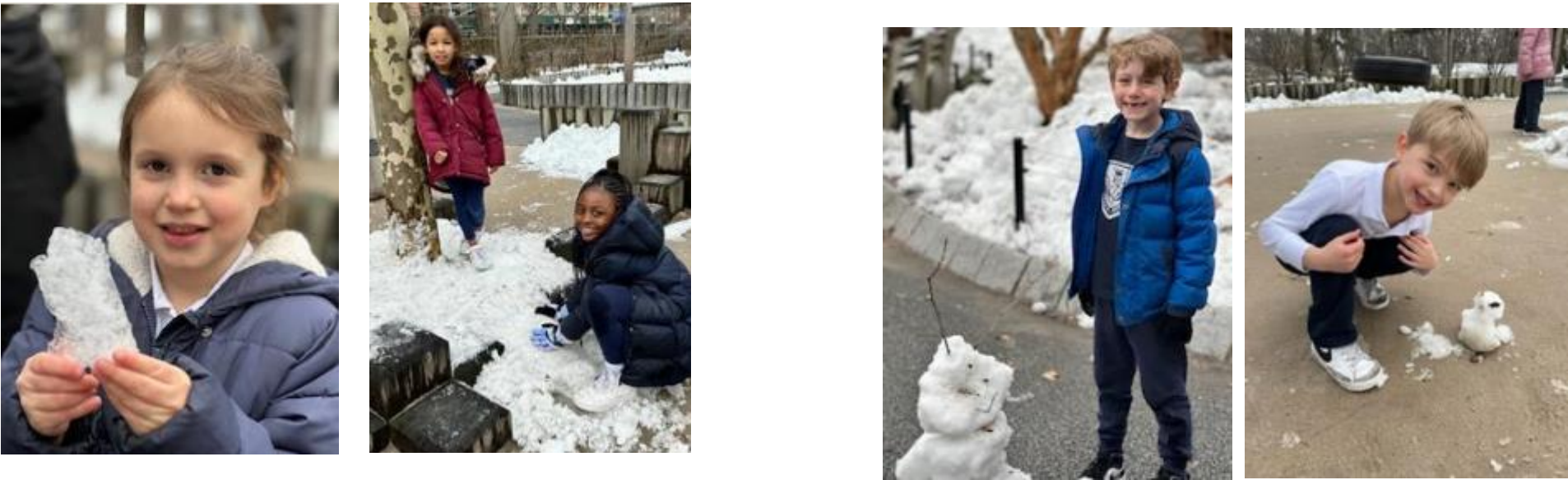
Ronaldo's first team was Sporting Lisbon. He was scoring goals left and right, but he felt homesick living on the mainland in Portugal. He was happy to play for Lisbon but he felt like he could really step it up a level, even though he was nervous.

Then Ronaldo went to Manchester United, and he was very excited. He started out good, it wasn't a surprise that Ronaldo kept scoring goals. The coach gave him the number 7 shirt, because great players on Man United wore that number including, David Beckham, George Best, Bryan Robson, and Eric Cantona. This is why he’s known for the name CR7. He liked his teammates; he liked being at Manchester United.

In 2009 he transferred to Real Madrid, there he played with Pepe, a former teammate from Portugal as well as other stars including, Benzema, Modric and Navas. This is when he and Messi started playing each other as Messi was playing for Barcelona. Now, there is an argument about who is better, Ronaldo or Messi? I think Ronaldo is the best.

After 9 seasons Ronaldo was transferred to Juventus. There he gained a lot of more followers. He keeps being great by scoring goals, making iconic plays and more. In 2021 CR7 got traded back to Manchester United. It was stunning for everybody; nobody could believe it. Currently he is playing for Al Nassar. Ronaldo is now 38 and still scoring goals. The GOAT of soccer, Cristiano Ronaldo!

# FUN IN THE SNOW





# POET'S CORNER

## Numbers & Inches

My name is Bodie  
and in math I like to codie  
I watch the numbers on the I-Pad  
It makes Ethan and his brother glad  
remember I'm a tortoise not a toadie!  
*By Ethan & Noah Hicks (Kindergarten & 2nd)*

The number Pi is great!  
(Just like Mr. Nate.....)  
It will never completely be known.  
This clever number all its own!  
But with it, the circle's circumference  
I can calculate!  
*By Voltaire Godvin Griset (4th)*

The number one is fun!  
It's the best number under the sun –  
It's better than any other  
Just ask James my brother  
I love the number one!  
*By Graham Gettinger (2nd)*

If I were one  
Inch tall  
I would ride a bee to school  
A drop of lemonade  
Would be my pool!  
*By Itsuki Kondo (1st)*



# 100 Days!

On Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade celebrated 100 days of school! Both classes took part in varies activities to celebrate this milestone. Kindergarteners participated in different ways to count to 100, made portraits of how they would look at 100 and wrote about what they would do with \$100! “Give it to strangers for food” Save until I really need it” and simply “buy school” are just some of the answers! 1<sup>st</sup> Graders made a 100-chart counting by 2s, used different coins to get 100 cents. Drew pictures and wrote about where they would be in 100 years.  
Here’s to the next 100 days!







# NYC SUBWAY by Braeden Awekey-Jiles

The A division/IRT are the number lines and the S train in Manhattan. Before the first subway in New York, there were four elevated lines in Manhattan called the 2nd Avenue Elevated, the 3rd Avenue Elevated, the 6th Avenue Elevated and the 9th Avenue Elevated in Manhattan. In Queens, there was the Astoria Line and the Queensboro Line. In The Bronx, the 3rd Avenue Elevated continued to Gun Hill Road.

## Manhattan

The Broadway-7th Avenue Line (1, 2 and 3) takes the west side of Manhattan passing through Columbus Circle, Times Square, Penn Station down to South Ferry where the 1 train terminates. The 2 and 3 trains turn east south of Chambers Street to Wall Street. Just below 103 Street station, the 2 and 3 trains head to Lenox Ave.

The Lexington Avenue Line (4, 5 and 6) takes the east side starting from 125 Street on Lexington Avenue to Grand Central where it goes on Park Avenue South heading towards Union Square, City Hall and the financial district. The shuttle goes only from Times Square to Grand Central. The Flushing Line (7) terminates from Hudson Yards and runs along 42 Street.

## The Bronx

The Jerome Avenue Line (4) starts north from the Lexington Line from 138 Street Grand Concourse becoming adjacent to Yankee Stadium. Finally going on Jerome Avenue to Woodlawn.

The White Plains Road line (2 and 5) starts northeast from the Lenox Line from 149 Street Grand Concourse becoming elevated on Westchester Avenue, Southern Boulevard and Boston Road to East 180 Street. Then goes on White Plains Road to 241 Street.

The Dyre Avenue Line (5) starts adjacent to East 180 Street and only goes from East 180 Street to Eastchester-Dyre Avenue.

The Pelham Line (6) starts from Third Avenue–138th Street along 138 Street towards Southern Boulevard and Westchester Avenue through Parkchester to Pelham Bay Park.

## Brooklyn

The Eastern Parkway Line (2, 3, 4 and 5) start at Borough Hall, down Flatbush to Barclays Center, Grand Army Plaza and on Eastern Parkway to Medgar Evers College to Utica Avenue.

The Nostrand Avenue Line (2 and 5) starts south of the Eastern Parkway Line to Flatbush Avenue Brooklyn Collage.

The New Lots Line/Livonia Avenue Line (3) starts east of the Eastern Parkway Line on Livonia Avenue to New Lots Avenue.

## Queens

The Flushing Line (7 local /<7> express) starts in Jarvis Center (since 2015) underneath Times Square, Bryant Park and Grand Central. Then to Queensboro Plaza towards Flushing.

# A FAVORITE AUTHOR by Voltaire Godvin Griset & Luka Tinaj

Tui T. Sutherland is a great author, she has written many book series, including *Wings of Fire* and *Warriors*. *Wings of Fire* is a very suspenseful book series about two continents with many kingdoms and many dragons. *Warriors* is about cats and their clans and these cats’ lives. These are only some of the books she has written.

Sutherland was born on July 31, 1978 in Caracas. When she went to high school, she began doing theater, mostly backstage work. Soon she decided to give up theater and write children’s books.

Sutherland first worked in a group called Grosset and Dunlap then in HarperCollins. Afterwards, she moved on to be one of the members of the Erin Hunter team, where she wrote *Warriors* and another book series called *Seekers*.

She later quit Erin Hunter and moved to Watertown to publish a book by herself. Her first solo work was a book called *This Must be Love* and a dog themed book series called *Pet Trouble*. After publishing her eighth and final book for *Pet Trouble* she pitched an idea to the editor team at Scholastic Inc and requested to write a book series with dragons as her main characters which is *Wings of Fire*. The first book was published in 2012 and got good reviews, it became an international bestseller. After writing all these books she is one of the most popular authors.

Tui T. Sutherland is a great author, we hope you read one of her books.



# TALENT AT ARS

I could not be prouder of each of the ARS Students that participated in the 2023 Talent Show! Each performance was inspiring, impressive, and filled with passion. I loved having the opportunity to work with each of the different acts and watch all of the performances flourish with confidence through each rehearsal. Each student showcased a unique quality to the show which proved that our ARS community is filled with original and creative charisma that is one of a kind. From singers, to dancers, to cubers, to chefs, and even mathematicians, each student stood out in their originality and proved not only where their passions lie, but the hard work they put into what they are passionate about. I hope that each of the students are still beaming with pride, because I sure am! **Ms. Marina Colonna -Director of Performing Arts**

“I was nervous to begin but after, happy, I loved the whole thing” Mionne Santos 2<sup>nd</sup> “I felt calm, I didn’t have to look at my notes when I played, I would do it again” Arianna Roman 3<sup>rd</sup>

“I felt excited and nervous, mixed feelings, I was relived at the end” Janes Gettinger 4<sup>th</sup> “I was really nervous at first for my dance, but everyone clapping helped me stay on beat, I was so happy” Sabina Tzavaras 3<sup>rd</sup>

“I was nervous ar first, then I focused on my steps. I was tired but happy at the end” Kiko Willis 3<sup>rd</sup> “I was not nervous, it felt good to play” Alice Fesenko K

“I was nervous before my swimming video was played and I was still nervouse after” Charline Mercado K



## If Music Be The Food Of Love....

By James Gettinger

Music is a very interesting subject. There are lots of different sounds and lots of different instruments. I'll be explaining a little bit about music in this article.

First, I'll talk about time signatures. If you see a 4/4-time signature, it means there are 4 quarter notes in each measure. A quarter note is a black circle with a stem. Sometimes you may see time signatures like 3/4, 2/4, and 5/4, 5/4 being the most uncommon. The 3/4-time signature means there are 3 quarter notes in each measure. The 2/4-time signature means there are 2 quarter notes in each measure. The 5/4-time signature means there are 5 quarter notes in each measure. There are many other time signatures but we'll just focus on these four.

Now that I've talked about time signatures, let's get into different types of notes. As I said in the first paragraph, a quarter note is a black circle with a stem. There are also half notes, dotted half notes and whole notes. A half note is a hollow circle with a stem. A dotted half note is a hollow circle with a stem and a dot to the right of the circle. A whole note is a hollow circle. A quarter note is 1 beat long. A half note is 2 beats long. A dotted half note is 3 beats long, and a whole note is 4 beats long.

There is one more thing you have to learn...the 12 notes on a keyboard. There are many types of scales, such as C major, A minor, and F major. The easiest scale to learn is the C major scale because it consists of only white keys. The C major scale is: C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, C, B, A, G, F, E, D, C. There are sharps and flats in some other major scales. If you see a hashtag sign on a piece of music, it is a sharp. It means go a half step higher. If you see a weird-looking *b*, it is a flat. This sign means go a half step lower. Now that you know this information, you can write a simple piece of music!



# COMING SOON



Art work by Élan-Owens Smith





# ROBERTSON RAG



Fall Trimester 2022

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newspaper  
Faculty Advisor: Kate Cannon

## GET TO KNOW...

Interview with Ms. Colonna by Brianna Borbon and Ella Thurston-Vargo



Brianna and Ella conducted an interview with Ms. Colonna on 11/9/22.

B&E: Hello Ms. Colonna, what is your favorite color?

MC: Red! I wear a lot of red but not so much at school.

B&E: What fitness classes do you teach?

MC: I teach Barre, which is a mix of Yoga, Pilates, and Ballet, and HIIT, a high intensity cardio class, it gets your heart beat up! I also teach dance Cardio, Barre is my favorite.

B&E: Do you prefer salty or sweet snacks?

MC: Salty when I'm really hungry!

B&E: What was your favorite book in school?

MC: I loved 'Lemony Snicket's a Series of Unfortunate Events.'

B&E: What was your favorite subject at school?

MC: Writing.

B&E: Do you have any hobbies?

MC: I love to sing and dance, do Yoga and Barre, I would also like to run more.

B&E: Do you have any pets?

MC: No, but I did have a dog for 19 yrs, an American Eskimo called Snowball. I also had a fish for 8 yrs.

B&E: What is your favorite game in gym?

MC: GaGa! It is my favorite because everyone loves GaGa and gets involved, it is great for teamwork.

B&E: What do you like to do if you are bored?

MC: I like to listen to music, watch movies and I love walking in the park.

B&E: Favorite ice cream flavor?

MC: Double chocolate fudge brownie, as much chocolate as I can have!

B&E: Why did you choose to work at ARS?

MC: This is my first time working in a school, I love spending time with students, it is the kindest community I have been part of in a job. I am excited to come to work every day and share my love of fitness and theater.

B&E: What is your favorite movie?

MC: 'Billy Elliot' it's a movie about a boy who loves to dance.

B&E: Where were you born?

MC: I was born in New York City and grew up in New Jersey, I then moved back to NYC for college.

B&E: What is your dream car?

MC: A Mini Cooper convertible, in red of course!

B&E: What is your favorite type of dance?

MC: It is hard to choose, but I think Tap, it is so fun. I also like theatre dancing, like you see in a Broadway show.

B&E: Do you have a favorite song?

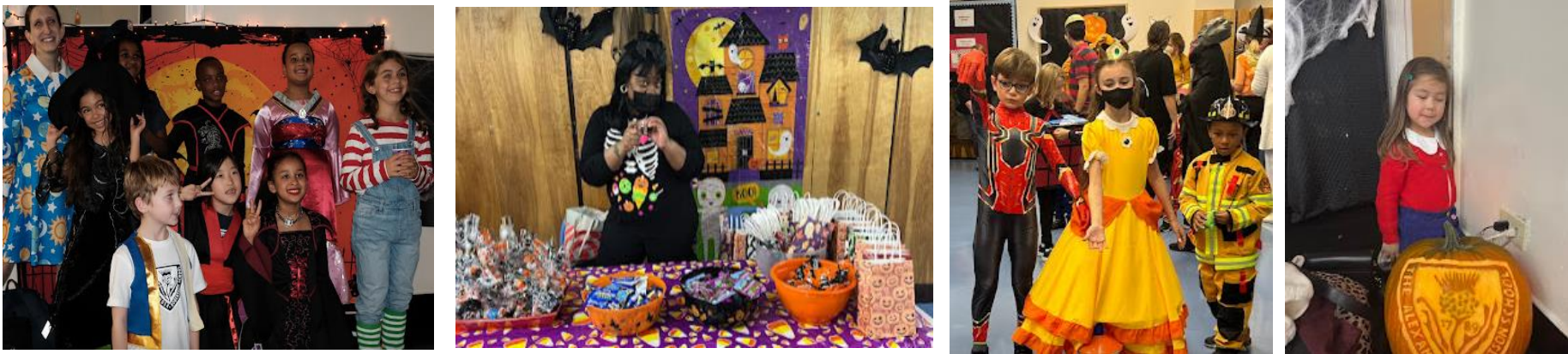
MC: I love the Beatles and my favorite song of theirs is 'Let it Be'

B&E: What is your favorite season?

MC: Fall! Summer is fun but it gets too hot.

Thank you, Ms. Colonna for taking the time to answer all our questions.





# FRIDAY ASSEMBLY & SCHOOL NEWS

It's a new year and warmest of welcomes to our new faculty and staff members, Frances Bennett, Jane Bok, Farah Siddiqui, Sami Buccella, Marina Colonna, Keyarra Bell and Wenwen Hou. We all met up after the long summer for our annual picnic. It was a great chance to see old friends and meet new ones. On Friday September 9, 2022, the new school year began with the Kirking of the school, a traditional Scottish blessing. Led by a tartan clad bagpiper, the whole school paraded around the block, culminating in the blessing by Rev. Thea Reggio. September also brought Grandparents and special visitors day and of course, photo day! We were all well prepared for our 'close ups' by our photographer Ms. Jessica Klee.

In person assemblies are back, and at ARS, our assemblies have something for everyone. For our first assembly we hosted a special visitor, Mr. Daniel Zauderer who spoke to our students about the Mott Haven Fridge. This organization helps bring fresh produce into the heart of underserved communities, a very worthy cause. Class assemblies were kicked off by Ms. Siddiqui and the fifth grade, the fifth grade performed a scene from the book *Be a Perfect Person in Just Three Days!* Next up was Ms. Juwayeyi and the fourth grade, who were also inspired by a book. The fourth graders performed a scene from *Island of the Blue Dolphins*. Rev. Reggio joined us for two special Fall assemblies, the first for Indigenous Peoples' Day and then again in November for Thanksgiving. We all reflected on what we were thankful for; all our students, faculty, staff, and families that make up our ARS community, how lovely it was to be able to experience this together. Ms. Goodman and the third grade brought us lots of facts about fossils to celebrate World Fossil Day, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade then invited everyone to their classroom to learn more. Ms. Bok and second grade were inspired by the *Who Would Win* book series. This popular series of books pits two animals against each other to see who can come out on top, the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders imagined their own match ups and brought the animals to life. October was closed out by Ms. Bennett and first grade. They taught us all about Johnny Appleseed and added in a couple of apple inspired tunes. November assemblies began with Mr. Hilguard and the Kindergarten. The kindergarten sang a wonderfully catchy song, *Walk A Mile in Your Shoes*. This song had a powerful message about empathy, and the kindergarten showed us all the ways they 'walk in others' shoes.' Ms. Picciotto and the Junior Kindergarten taught us about colors. They showed us how primary colors are mixed to make new colors and of course, they sang a delightful song. Ms. Yi began December with the science assembly. Each grade demonstrated what they have been studying in science this year. Insects, weather, and birds were just a few of the topics. Lastly and by no means least, we had Ms. Colonna and the Extended Day Play. Wow! *Locked in: A night at ARS* blew us away, a huge bravo to everyone involved, Broadway must surely be calling.

In other news, we held our first intermural soccer game! Organized by Coach Jackson, ARS 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders played against students from The Wetherby-Pembridge school, our neighbors from across the park. Our students had a wonderful time playing together as a team, and we look forward to next year's game. Also, back and in person this year, our annual Halloween party! Princesses, witches, cute animals, and superheroes descended on the gym. The gym was transformed into every child's dream Halloween space. A big thank you to the Parents Association for the transformation and for providing ghoulish treats and games! Friday Clubs are once again proving to be big hit! This trimester, students enjoyed Knitting Club, Dance Club and two Comic Book Clubs, to name just a few. The Conservation Club collected and deposited 19.6lbs of litter this autumn!

And finally, we will have our Holiday Concert. The concert will be held on December 16<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary. The children have been hard at work rehearsing their songs. What better way to celebrate our first trimester and send us on our way for the holidays, we look forward to seeing everyone at this special event.







# THE RUBIK’S CUBE ... AND HOW TO SOLVE IT!

BY JAMES GETTINGER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BY OLIVIER PIERRE & DASTAN KALYANPUR

**10 Facts About the Rubik’s Cube**

- 1: The Rubik’s cube was invented by Ernő Rubik in 1980.
- 2: This famous puzzle was originally named “the magic cube”.
- 3: There are over 43 quintillion (43,252,003,274,489,856,000) different combinations for one Rubik’s cube!
- 4: The first 4x4s and 5x5s were invented in the 1980s.
- 5: The world record for solving a Rubik’s cube is 3.47 seconds!
- 6: Rubik’s cubes used to have stickers, but now they usually have tiles.
- 7: It took one month for the inventor of the Rubik’s cube to actually solve the cube.
- 8: A Rubik’s cube is made up of 6 centers, 8 corners, 12 edges, and 1 core.
- 9: The 6x6 was not invented until the early 2000s.
- 10: A 2x2 can be scrambled 3,674,160 different ways!

**Rubik’s Cube Vocabulary Used in the Text**

- Method: A way of solving a Rubik’s cube
- Algorithm: A sequence of moves to achieve a goal
- Speedcuber: A person who can solve a Rubik’s cube very quickly
- Block building: Making solved squares or rectangles around the cube
- CMLL: Corners of last layer
- EO: Edge orientation
- LSE: Last six edges
- Move: A continuous turn around the cube
- EO-line: 2 Cross edges that make a line
- F2L: First two layers
- LL: Last layer

**The Three Big Methods**

There are a lot of methods used to solve the cube, but there are 3 that are the most popular. Their names are CFOP, Roux, and ZZ.

**The CFOP Method**

The first one is called CFOP. This method was invented by Jessica Fridrich in 1981. In case you’re wondering, CFOP stands for cross, first 2 layers, orientation of last layer, and permutation of last layer. CFOP is a great method because there are 78 algorithms for all 78 cases. Therefore, you will not repeat the same algorithm twice.

**The Roux Method**

The second one is called Roux, invented in the year 2003. It was named after the inventor of the method, Gilles Roux. The steps of Roux are: first 1x2x3 block, second 1x2x3 block, CMLL, EO, and LSE. Roux is a fabulous method because it has an extremely low move count. Solving a Rubik’s cube using the Roux method takes around 45 to 50 moves!

**The ZZ Method**

The final method is ZZ, invented by Zbigniew Zborowski in the year 2006. The steps to this method are: EO,EO-line,block building F2L, and LL. Most speedcubers say CFOP is better than ZZ. However, it’s still useful to learn this method because it contains EO and block building. These are very important skills to learn if you want to be an advanced cuber.

## FRIDAY CLUBS



Dance Club



Book Club



Comic Book Club



Conservation Club



# POET'S CORNER

## Ode to ARS poets by Bram Lewis

Noah (and his brother Ethan).  
Could rhyme pretty well (within reason)  
The gave Boadie a bonnet  
With a sonnet upon it...  
A real Shakespearean Completion!

A pretty young lady named Dami  
Was not very fond of Salami  
But, what do you think,  
with just a wink and a blink  
She'd make paper birds  
from Origami

Elise is an excellent poet  
her rhymes are sublime  
and she knows it.  
if you ask her to,  
she'll recite a Haiku  
or sit down right then  
and compose it!

Madeline is very unique.  
Sometimes she speaks in Greek.  
Or a catchy tongue-twister  
From Elinor her sister:  
"The Sixth Sheik's  
Lost sheep we must seek!"

There was a young genius named James  
Who'd rhyme anytime people's names.  
Especially Graham,  
he'd rhyme wham-bam-alla-kazam!  
Then go back to his Rubic Cube games.

A musical young man named Luka  
Plays a tuba he picked up in Cuba.  
With a song from Albania  
It's another Fantasia  
Or a March by John Philip Sousa!



# Community Garden

In November, all ARS classes visited the Community Garden, located on Amsterdam and 111th St. ARS students were excited to enjoy this natural oasis in the city!

"For me, the garden is a spiritual place. I hear birds, relax, and really feel the earth" **Emma 4<sup>th</sup>**. "It feels good to help the planet" **Elize 3<sup>rd</sup>**. "I enjoyed sitting in the garden and having lunch" **Ella 5<sup>th</sup>**. "Once inside the garden you have a chance to really see the worms, the Roly Polys and listen to the birds" **Zev 4<sup>th</sup>**. "I liked planting the bulbs" **Charline K.** "My favorite, seeing the really big worm" **Eito K.** "I liked meeting the baby worms" **Louise K.**

**We will return to the garden again in the spring!**







A southbound vintage subway train

A 1955 subway map. Blue-IRT Red-IND Yellow-BMT

# The Subway by Braeden Awekey-Jiles

The NYC subway system has grown rapidly from the first subway line to all the different subway lines we have today. The subway system has 27 lines covering 245 miles with 472 stations, the most in the world, but it wasn't always like that.

Before the first subway line, there used to be two elevated train companies, the first one was the MRC (Manhattan Railway Company opened in 1868) and the BMT (Brooklyn Manhattan Transit opened 1885). Once the subway opened, the MRC changed it's name to the IRT (Interborough Rapid Transit) in 1904. In 1932, the IND (Independent Subway System) opened. In 1967, the 3 transit systems came together and created one transit system with new colors. In 1979, the New York City Transit was created with colors representing each trunk, Example: the (A), (C) and (E) trains are blue on the map. That represents the 8th Avenue Line. The (N), (Q), (R) and (W) trains are yellow on the map, which represents the Broadway Line and so on.

There are so many expansions happening for the subway. The most recent one was the Second Ave Subway phase 1, where the (Q) train extended to 96 St. on Second Ave. Phase 2 is when the (Q) train will expand to 125 St. on Lexington Ave with the 4, 5 and 6 trains. Phases 3 and 4 introduce the (T) train that will go to Lower Manhattan at Hanover Square.

I would love to talk more about the subway, but I will leave it there. Stay tuned next time to learn more about the IRT (also known as the A division).



FUN IN THE PARK

## My Thanksgiving by Jett Zimmer.

On Thanksgiving I went to visit family in Connecticut. We played a football game called Turkey Bowl. I was wearing a Tyreek Hill Miami Dolphins shirt. We all practiced before the game, so we were warmed up and ready. Most of my family played but some stayed inside. I kicked the ball and the game began! There were lots of touchdowns, interceptions, throws, catches, runs, wins, losses, and fun! The final game was tied, next touchdown would win, the ball came to me, and I scored the winning touchdown! No matter if we won or lost, we all had fun, and we were ready for the Thanksgiving dinner!

## My Favorite Book by Gabriela Feferbaum.

If you need a good book to read, I have a suggestion for you. Do you know the amazing book series 'The Wayside School'? There are four books in the series, starting with 'Sideways Stories From Wayside School' I have read all four books and really enjoyed them. The books are set in a school that was supposed to be built with one story but instead is thirty stories tall, with one classroom on each floor. One of the main characters is a teacher called Mrs. Jewls, my favorite character is DeeDee. If you are looking for a funny book, you will love this series!



# Winter Attractions

**By Voltaire Godvin Griset & Luka Tinaj**

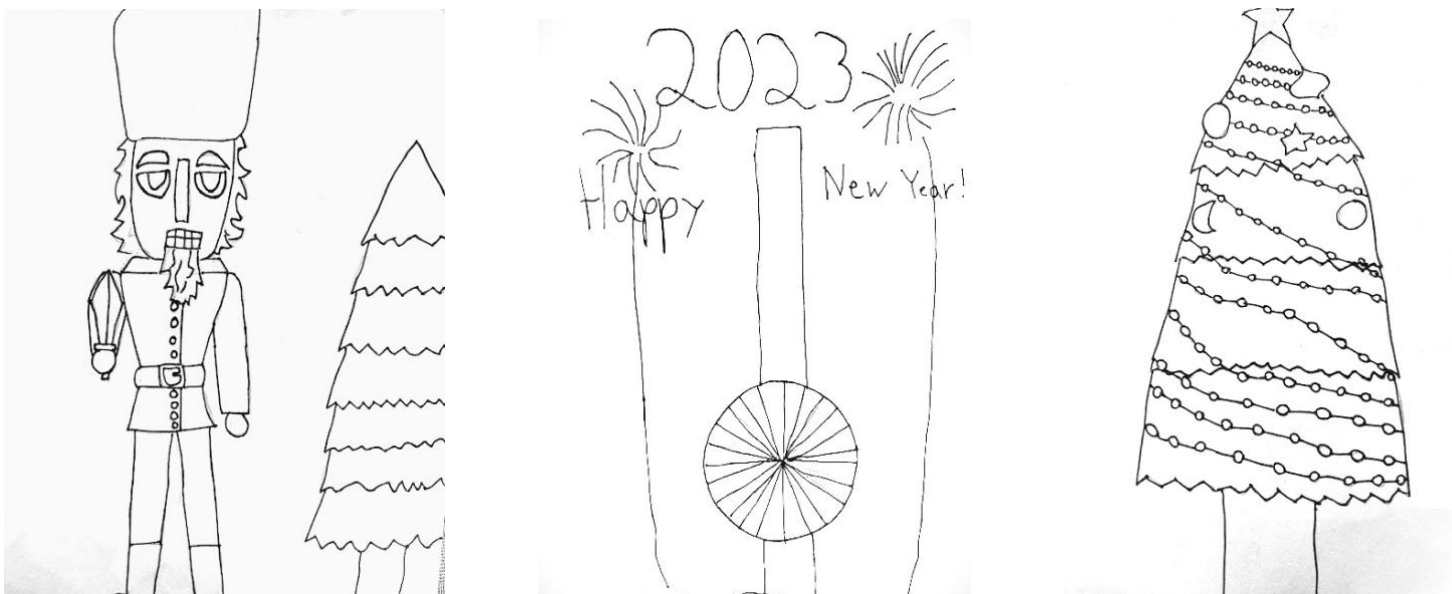
New York City is a special place in winter and there are so many fun winter and holiday themed attractions.

One Winter Attraction is "The Nutcracker" at New York City Ballet. It's not just a ballet, there is an amazing story behind it. I'm not going to spoil it for you but there is a **GIANT** Christmas tree in the show. For 2 whole hours you feel like you're in a magical Christmas World. If you happen to be by Lincoln Center, then you will see hundreds, maybe even thousands of people trying to get seats for this very special show. "The Nutcracker" is so good that people from all over the world come to New York, just to see this show.

Bryant Park is another great winter attraction. Bryant Park is a fun ice-skating rink with a Winter Village (it's actually a large section of booths that are shops). The ice-skating rink is so much fun that I am speechless! Whenever they smooth out the snow there's a machine that says, "Powered by hot chocolate." It is also very popular; the tickets sell out as fast as a cheetah mixed with a fighter jet. Now, onto the Winter Village, they have amazing donuts, hot chocolate, and pork dumplings. But they don't just sell food; they have Christmas tree ornaments and toys too.

The last Christmas themed attraction is, The Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree. located between 49-50 street in Rockefeller Center. This year, the huge Norway Spruce is about seventy-five feet tall. About five-hundred-thousand people visit this tree every year. That is 16.936 times smaller than the population of New York City!

These are only some of the many winter attractions in New York City, they are big and small, and you can find them everywhere.



**All Artwork by Élan Owens-Smith**

**From four & fifth grade and everyone at ARS, Happy Holidays!  
See you in 2023**





# ROBERTSON RAG



Spring Trimester 2022

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newspaper Club  
Faculty Advisor: Kate Cannon

## Graduation Special

# GET TO KNOW... THE FIFTH GRADE!

Interview with Winter, Sofia, Danie, Jasmine, Elle, Cash & Oliver by Ms. Cannon

### Winter Willis

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
WW: In 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Ms. Leff gave us a big cake!

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
WW: My favorite activity is playing GaGa.

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
WW: Don't pull out your hair extensions!

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
WW: No uniform, to be able to express myself more.



### Sofia Ortiz

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
SO: When the guinea pig in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade had babies! Fun fact: Ms. Goodman still has one of those babies, Mr. Pants.

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
SO: Playing GaGa.

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
SO: Don't cut your own hair!

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
SO: No uniform, trying a different style

### Danie Audry

KC: What is your favorite memory of ARS?  
DA: Playing GaGa!

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
DA: My favorite is P.E.

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
DA: Don't be friends with mean kids and don't let others influence you.

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
DA: Being able to go out for lunch.



### James Levine

Congratulations James!

One of our favorite memories of James, is when he took on the role of 'Head of School' for the day, Great job!

Wishing you all the best for middle school.





CONTINUED.....

Jasmine Strong

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
JS: Playing with the younger kids at recess.

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
JS: My favorite sport is basketball.

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
JS: Live life to the fullest!

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
JS: More independence.



Elle Strong

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
ES: The GaGa tournament!

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
ES: My favorite activities are playing soccer, reading, and solving the Rubik's Cube

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
ES: Spend more time with my twin sister, Jasmine.

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
ES: Participating in Robotics Club



Cash Kennedy

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
CK: When Mr. Jackson gave me a football.

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
CK: Playing football with Mr. Jackson

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
CK: Go to ARS sooner!

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
CK: Playing football with my friend Quincy.



Oliver Rathbone

KC: What is a favorite memory of ARS?  
OR: The GaGa tournament, especially when Zev beat a whole team!

KC: Do you have a favorite subject, sport, activity?  
OR: My favorite activity is Mountain Biking.

KC: What advice would you give your kindergarten self?  
OR: Don't be so open, keep some things to yourself

KC: What are you most looking forward to in Middle School?  
OR: Being able to go out for lunch.







# FIFTH GRADE MEETS KINDERGARTEN

On Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> Fifth grade visited Kindergarten for a special art project. Ms. Paley’s kindergartners were learning all about Mo Willems for their ‘Author Spotlight’ unit. To tie in with this unit, and to the delight of all, Ms. Paley started by reading an Elephant & Piggie book, ‘I broke my trunk!’ Next our kinders and fifth grade paired up for the art project. The classes joined forces to make Elephant & Piggies bookmarks! Helping each other master some origami, the students were soon folding, cutting, gluing, and drawing. Much fun was had by all, and the fifth grade especially enjoyed traveling back in time to the kindergarten classroom! Thank you to Ms. Paley for hosting.

Here is what everyone enjoyed: “I liked fifth grade visiting” **Garvey**. “It was fun” **Ga-In**. “I liked cutting” **Ga-Yoon**. “Making the faces” **Elinor**. “Making them with Cash” **Lolo**. “Meeting Oliver” **Alexander**. “Making the bookmarks” **Madeleine**. “The folding” **Itsuki**  
“It was fun being in kindergarten” **Sofia**. “It was fun, the kids are cool” **Winter**. “I had fun helping, as I love helping people” **Jasmine**. “It was fun to play with the kids” **Elle**. “It was a lot of fun helping” **Danie**. “It was fun, the kindergartners were very independent” **Oliver**. “I liked helping Lolo” **Cash**



# SPRING AT ARS



Brian, *The YoYo Guy* visit



Book Fair



Jonathan Jacobs, Author Visit



Earth Day



# POET'S CORNER

Our school is lovely, a very nice place.  
Going to ARS puts a smile on my face.  
But it's almost the break for the summer  
I'll miss all my friends – thats a bummer.  
Still, when I return it's a new time to learn..  
In a new grade with new friends – what a stunner!  
*By Elize Pierre (2nd)*

A young girl named Ariana  
Confessed she'd want a banana  
She was ever so nice  
Yes, like sugar and spice  
And then she sang out "Hosanna"  
*By Ariana Roman (2nd)*

Ako popped a balloon!  
It made her sister swoon  
It was like popping corn  
But she didn't warn  
So Kiko said "that was too soon!"  
*By Ako Willis (1st)*

'Today'  
J'aime écrire un poème je sais,  
mais, je ne pas sûr quel sujet  
c'est bien de penser  
Et puis, L'essayer  
Un très beau poème  
Pour "today"  
*By Mirabeau Godvin Griset (1st)*

*Ode to Juli Guzman Charleston (4th)*  
There was a young girl named Juli  
Who went to the ARS school-ee  
She was pretty and smart  
And happy of heart  
Oh – everyone loved our Juli

*Ode to Roger Rubenstein (1st)*  
Roger Dodger's a handsome young man  
He loves to read all he can  
With Hudsyn his buddy  
In the library they'll study  
His super fan favorite : Dog Man

I paint how I feel  
My feelings are real  
And just like my poem  
When I write it. You'll know 'em

Today, I say: have a wonderful day!  
It's time to go away and play!  
Hurray!  
*By Elize Pierre (2nd)*



# FIELD DAY

“Field day is one of the most exciting days of the school year. It allows all students to exhibit school spirit and engage in friendly competition. This year students participated in physical and wellness activities to determine which team would be victorious. After some thrilling moments, the day ended in a tie and a pizza party. We want to thank everyone who attended field day; your energy was amazing.” - **Coach Mike Jackson**





# CARNIVAL FOR JACARANDA

By Madame DeVault



“The Jacaranda School is deeply imbedded in the hearts of the ARS community.”

[www.jacarandafoundation.org](http://www.jacarandafoundation.org)

This year we did not have our traditional carnival due to COVID, but we found that a Jeopardy game, learning to count and say some traditional greetings in Chichewa, along with dancing some traditional dances (thanks, to Elsie Juwayeyi) art projects and selling some special Malawi goods, has kept the spirit of giving going. The thank you video sent by the Jacaranda students was a showstopper! It really made the entire fundraising event; people were so moved.

**ARS fundraising efforts for the Jacaranda School for Orphans this year reached an all-time high of \$3000.00, Thank you!**

# JEOPARDY!

By Kristen Picciotto

In honor of our sister school, Jacaranda in Malawi, Africa, Junior Kindergarten, and Ms. Picciotto put together an ‘Animals of Malawi Jeopardy’ game for the whole school to play. We chose five categories of 20 animals and made clues to go along with each. We printed out pictures of every animal and put them on a posterboard. Over each picture we put a cue card with either 100, 200, 300, or 400 points written on it. We put the questions and answers into a binder for the host. On carnival day, every class visited the JK classroom to play our game. We had a three-way tie in kindergarten as well as in fourth grade, everyone did really well. Special shout out to third grade who did research before playing and were the only class to complete the entire game. Congratulations to all our winners.





# Let The Games Begin...Again!

“The GaGa tournament has supported school spirit and has brought everyone closer together” Coach Mike Jackson

Due to the overwhelming popularity of the Winter GaGa tournament, GaGa is back for Spring! Last term’s champions, The Panthers, are back and hoping to retain their crown. This term, they will be up against three new teams, The Fire Bolts, The Black Vipers and The GaGa Snipers. Will the pressure prove too much for the current champs or will they again rise to the occasion? The tournament is once again spearheaded by Mr. Jackson (PE/Health teacher) on Thursdays in Extended Day.

**The Panthers** (Isatu, Ella, Jasmine, James, Kiko, Nash)

**The Fire Bolts** (Elle, Olivier, Sofia, Sabina, Voltaire)

**The Black Vipers** (Cash, Élan, Paris, Winter, Zev)

**The GaGa Snipers** (Braeden, Danie, Emma, Josiah, Kaylee, Oliver)

To spice things up before the final, Coach Jackson held a ‘free for all’ on Thursday 9th, as the name suggests, every player was playing for their own GaGa glory, this was a test of individual strategy and skill, no one to pass to and no alliances! Fourth grade swept the board, Isatu took 1<sup>st</sup> place followed by Ella in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Braeden in 3<sup>rd</sup>, our 3 winners all received medals.



**The final GaGa game of the school year will be held on Thursday, June 16 ..... look out for the winners!**

## *ARS summer vibes!*



**We will miss all our friends and teachers at ARS, we hope everyone has an awesome summer! – Fifth Grade**





# ROBERTSON RAG



Winter Trimester 2022

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newspaper Club  
Faculty Advisor: Kate Cannon

## GET TO KNOW...

Interview with Ms. Emma Hedrick by Sofia Ortiz and Winter Willis



Sofia and Winter conducted an interview with Ms. Hedrick on 02/25/22.

S&W: Hello Ms. Hedrick, what is your clothing/fashion style?

EH: I like vintage, unique, one-of-a-kind pieces, my favorite era is probably the 90's.

S&W: What is your dream vacation?

EH: Bora Bora, looks so pretty, beautiful beaches and I love sunny weather!

S&W: What is your favorite season and holiday?

EH: Christmas is my favorite holiday, but summer is my favorite season.

S&W: Where were you born?

EH: I was born in New York.

S&W: What was your favorite subject in school?

EH: Theatre, I attended a performing arts school and love performing, I also liked history.

S&W: What is your favorite drink/meal?

EH: Iced coffee is my favorite drink, even in winter. Breakfast is my favorite meal, all breakfast food!

S&W: Do you have any pets?

EH: I am adopting a dog! He is shelter dog and should be here in 2 weeks, his name will be Wonton.

S&W: What do you value most?

EH: My friends and family, health and my home.

S&W: Do you have a favorite book?

EH: *Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler.

S&W: Do you have any hobbies?

EH: I collect vinyl records, I started collecting when I received a record player as a gift. I now have about 250 records, all alphabetized!

S&W: Do you have any goals you would like to accomplish?

EH: I would like to travel more; I was supposed to travel in 2020 but covid stopped all travel plans.

S&W: What is your favorite TV show/movie?

EH: *A Ghost Story* is my favorite movie and I also like the Anime TV show, *The Legend of Korra*. *Friends* was probably my favorite show when I was in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, as my mom would watch it.

S&W: Do you have any siblings?

EH: Yes, I have an older sister, she is 2yrs older and her name is Abby.

S&W: Do you speak any other languages?

EH: I speak conversational Spanish, I lived in Barcelona, Spain, when I was twenty for 6months.

S&W: What is your favorite song/music?

EH: My favorite genre is probably R&B, but I enjoy all types of music. My favorite artistes are Ariana Grande and Kehlani

S&W: Did you work in other jobs before joining ARS?

EH: Yes, I have worked as a summer camp counselor for the 92<sup>nd</sup> street Y and as an usher on Broadway, I saw a lot of shows!

S&W: Do you play any sports?

EH: I used to play a lot of sports, tennis, basketball, softball but I injured my knee and should not risk any more damage.

Thank you, Ms. Hedrick for taking the time to answer all our questions.





# FRIDAY ASSEMBLY & SCHOOL NEWS

Happy New Year! On January 7<sup>th</sup> we held our first assembly of 2022! Ms. Parson held a scavenger hunt; 10 items were to be brought to her office by the end of the day. Among the items were: any item that uses energy, a book with a “Z” in the title and anything that is buoyant. The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade proved especially speedy at gathering the items! Next, Ms. Kelly and the fifth grade brought us a very informative assembly about Ancient Greece and democracy. The following week we were treated to a video from the Dance Club, Ms. Yi and the girls from 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade worked hard on their dances, bravo! To close out January, we enjoyed a mini concert by the ARS singers. Led by Señor Roldán, they delighted us with three songs; ‘The Ants Go Marching’ followed by ‘Puff, The Magic Dragon’ and finally ‘Jingle Bell Rock’ What better way to warm our hearts on a cold January morning.

February was kicked off by Ms. Lyu’s Mandarin classes celebrating Lunar New Year. All grades took part, and we were informed and entertained by songs in Mandarin, the history of the Lunar New Year and even a puppet show. We wish everyone good luck in the year of the Tiger! Of course, we all felt the love of our community on Valentine’s Day. Many students dressed in festive colors and there were hearts galore! Ms. Nolan and the fourth grade brought us a special Valentine’s Day assembly. Facts, skits in Central Park and an adorable rendition of “Let’s Call The Whole Thing Off” left us all with a warm glow. All month long we celebrated Black History Month, some grades did projects on important figures in history and Ms. Kelly and 5<sup>th</sup> grade brought this all together with their assembly. The students worked hard on their research, and we all learned so much about some inspiring, exceptional people in activism, sport, science and music. At the end, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade all signed a pledge to work toward social justice and continue the work of the people of the past. Also, in February Ms. Paley organized a drive to collect gently used blankets and towels for an animal shelter. Thanks to your generosity ‘Towels for Tails’ was a huge success. Coming up on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> a special assembly from the Animal Care Centers of NYC, we may get see some of the furry friends we have helped.

March began with Ms. Juwayeyi and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade (and a little help from Danie Audry) with an assembly on... geometry no less! Has there ever been a geometry assembly before? They also gave us what could be, the catchiest tune about angles, there was even an angle dance routine, we are all smarter thanks to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade .... *oh, oh, oh, oh angles* 🎵. Next came a double treat from 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. First, Ms. Esterly’s class acted out a story about a young tiger tasked with a writing assignment - what makes you special? Great costumes, great acting and a great story from third grade! Next up, Señor Roldán and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade gave us “Good Vibrations”, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade shimmied, whirled and strutted to the Beach Boys classic. Señor Roldán will lead every grade in a choreographed dance, so watch out for more fun dance moves in the coming weeks. Closing out assemblies in March will be Ms. Yi and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, where will they take us this year? In March we also celebrate Women’s History Month, every grade takes time to learn about women who have contributed so much, to all aspects of our lives and who have paved the way for future generations. Another highlight for March, organized by Madame DeVault, will be... drum roll please... The ARS talent show. We cannot wait to see our students showcasing their many talents!!

**Lastly, we hope everyone has a wonderful Spring Break!!**





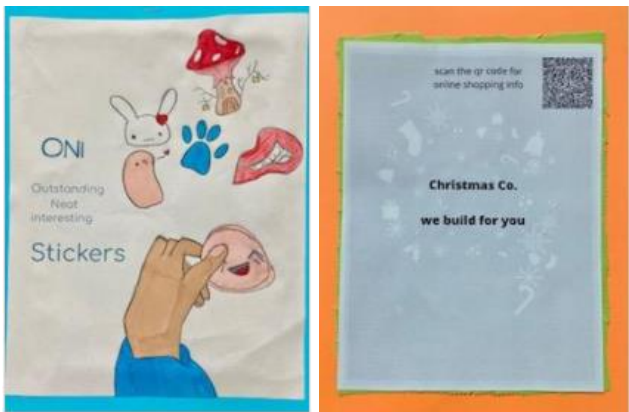


# ENTREPRENEUR FAIR

BY FIFTH GRADE

The Entrepreneur Fair took place between Thanksgiving and Winter Break. Students created a business plan for a business, some with business partners and some going it alone. After surveying potential customers for interest in their product or service, they set to work creating the products and stocking store shelves. They had to consider many things before starting their business, such as costs for materials, time management, customer interest, pricing, profit, customer service. Students conducted surveys afterwards to get feedback on their customers' total shopping experience. Fifth graders were very reflective at the end having learned a great deal about the complexity of starting your business. **Ms. Jennifer Kelly**

“My business was ‘ONI stickers’, I learned how to run a business and how to deal with cash” **Sofia Ortiz**. “My business was ‘Tye Dye Queen’, I learned how to run a business and what hard work it is and I sold out!” **Jasmine Strong**. “Our business was ‘Stickers & Me Slime’ we learned teamwork and organization” **Winter Willis and Danie Audry** “Our business was ‘Christmas Co.’ we enjoyed making and selling our ornaments, it was really fun to sell, but hard work too” **Elle Strong and Oliver Rathbone**.



# INDOOR RECESS...ON A CHILLY DAY





# POET'S CORNER

Some people like to fish  
I say make a wish  
If you don't know what to do?  
Make a wish –  
It might come true  
*By Garvey Parker (Kindergarten)*

Monday was St. Valentine  
When everyone says “will you be mine!”  
*By Emma Mesaye (3rd)*

My name is Roger  
I'm an Artful Dodger  
I know what I'm worth  
Like “The Last Kids on Earth”  
*By Roger Rubenstein (1st)*

Bodie Bodie Bodie  
She likes sugar plums  
(She's not dopey!)  
*By Mirabeau Godvin Griset (1st)*

Bodie has a clementine  
It is now hers – it once was mine  
She waited and looked  
And now?  
It's time to dine!  
*By Voltaire Godvin Griset (3rd)*

Is there any man  
Who can  
Rhyme about  
A Tucan?  
Yes, you can!  
*By Elize Pierre (2nd)*

I love Grenada  
My family come from there  
It's warm and sunny  
  
But, oh New York – Brrrr!  
It's winter in the city  
I prefer the sun  
*By Kaylee Matheson (3rd)*

I love cheeseburgers  
They are my favorite food  
(with some french fries please!)  
*By Braeden Giles (4th)*

I love dogs and cats  
Especially when the purr  
But dogs wag their tail  
*By Emma Mesaye (3rd)*

Books! So may words!  
History, Adventure or  
Black History Month!  
*By Hudsyn Pujols (1st)*



# 100 Days!

On Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade celebrated 100 days of school! Both classes took part in varies activities to celebrate this milestone. Kindergarteners participated in, race to 100 math game with dice, made ‘100 days smarter’ crowns and wrote about what they would do with \$100! “Give it to my dog” Give it to my mom” and “Buy 100 Legos” are just some of the answers! 1<sup>st</sup> Graders made portraits of how they would look at 100, made structures using 100 Lego bricks, brought in and counted their own collection of 100 things and finally, wrote 100 words I know. Here's to the next 100 days!



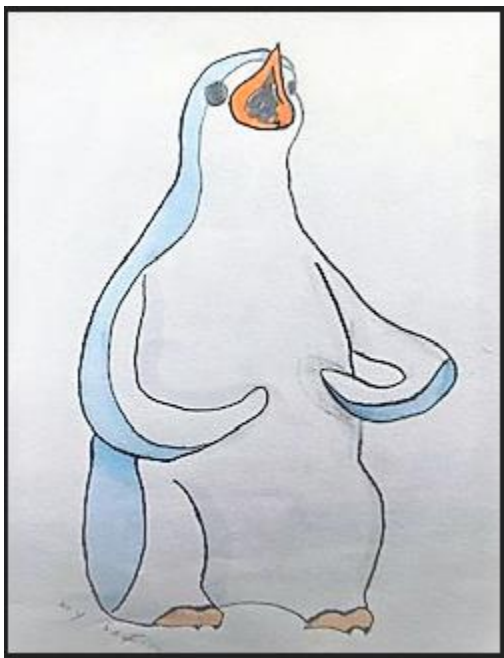




## Penguins by Danie Audry and Sofia Ortiz

Penguins can't fly, but they sure can swim, penguins' flippers help them swiftly glide through the water. Penguins are speedy underwater and are deep-sea divers. When a penguin dives into the water, it can reach a speed of four to seven miles an hour. Emperor Penguins can dive to depths of 1850 feet and stay under for more than 20 minutes. Most penguins spend half of their lives on land and the other half in the sea.

Most penguins pass away after 15-20 years. Between the time of hatching and the growth of its waterproof feathers, a chick depends on its parents for survival, before it can survive on its own. Penguins eat krill, fish, and squid. Penguins need to watch out for leopard seals, fur seals, sea lions, sharks, and killer whales. There are 17 different species of penguins, such as: Adelie Penguin. Gentoo Penguin, Chinstrap Penguin and Emperor Penguins. All penguins live in the Southern Hemisphere, mainly in the frigid tundra of Antarctica and sub-Antarctic islands. They survive in cold climates, thanks to their thick feathers and blubber under their skin.

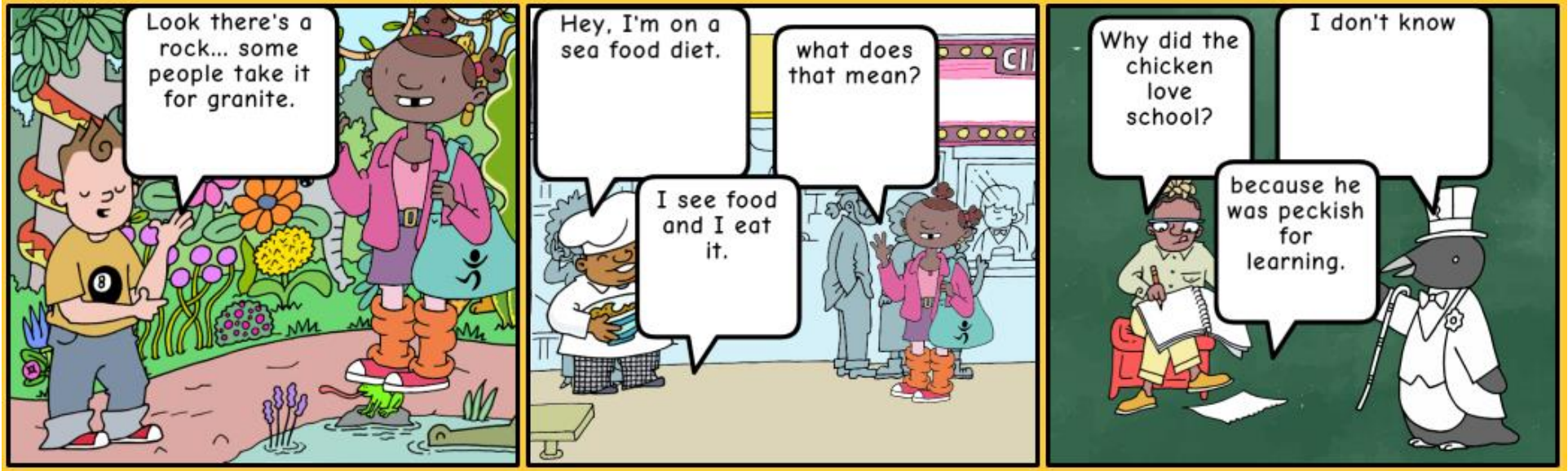


BY SOFIA ORTIZ



BY DANIE AUDRY

## Comic Strip by Elle Strong and Oliver Rathbone





# Let The Games Begin!

by Jasmine Strong and Cash Kennedy

“The gaga tournament has supported school spirit and has brought everyone closer together” Coach Mike Jackson

Hello ARS and welcome to the Gaga tournament! Gaga is a game of strategy, where the goal is to get your opponent out, by hitting their leg with a soft ball. Gaga is a sport invented in Israel by Israeli counselors. People feel competitive while they are playing Gaga, it is a fun sport!

Mr. Jackson (PE/Health teacher) is hosting the ARS gaga tournament on Thursdays in after-school, for students in grades, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. There are four teams taking part, they are:

- The Panthers** (Isatu, Ella, Jasmine, James, Kiko, Nash)
- The Ninja Pandas** (Braeden, Voltaire, Winter, Danie, Sabina, Élan)
- The Salty Lions** (Oliver, Elle, Zev, Emma, Kaylee)
- The Dark Winners** (Cash, Josiah, Paris, Olivia, Sofia)

- Firstly, you need to know the ARS rules for playing Gaga.
- Sportsmanship counts/ be a team player
  - If you can’t wear your mask (covering nose and mouth) you cannot play
  - You can double touch on a catch
  - You can hit the ball out of someone’s hand
  - You can tag with the ball
  - If the ball touches the wall, after you have touched it, that’s a double touch
  - Do not hold the ball for more than five seconds
  - Do not throw the ball aimlessly
  - No knee bending
  - No screaming
  - HAVE FUN!!!!

- We asked four of our fellow gaga players four questions:
1. What do you most enjoy about the Gaga tournament?
  2. What is the best thing that happened to you in the tournament?
  3. What are you looking for in the finals?
  4. Who is your mentor/who do you look up to?

- Kiki Willis (2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)**
1. *I love winning!*
  2. *One of my highlights is when I caught a Cash ball, I felt surprised and happy!*
  3. *The match ups.*
  4. *Isatu, she’s my team captain and she encourages me.*

- Zev Engleman (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)**
1. *The thrill of winning!*
  2. *I got 4 Panthers out in 30 seconds!*
  3. *Seeing the Prize.*
  4. *Oliver, he is my captain and supports the team.*

- Élan Owens-Smith (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)**
1. *Releasing energy.*
  2. *When I managed to get Cash out twice!*
  3. *Just to take part.*
  4. *Winter, she is my team captain, and she encourages me.*

- Ella Thurston-Vargo (4<sup>th</sup> Grade)**
1. *Winning! And I love playing.*
  2. *The time I was on my own against three opponents and I got them all out!*
  3. *To win!*
  4. *Isatu, she is a good player and a good captain!*

The finals will be held on Thursday, March 10 ..... Who will be the ultimate Gaga Champs!!



The Salty Lions



The Panthers



The Dark Winners



The Ninja Pandas





# ROBERTSON RAG



Spring Trimester 2021

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newspaper Club  
Faculty Advisor: Kate Cannon

## GET TO KNOW...

Interview with Mr. Rinat by Sofia Ortiz and Winter Willis



Sofia and Winter conducted an interview with Mr. Rinat on 5/14/21.

S&W: Hello Mr. Rinat, what is your dream vacation?

R: I would love to go to New Zealand.

S&W: Do you have siblings?

R: Yes, I have one brother and two sisters, they all live in Uzbekistan.

S&W: What is your favorite drink?

R: My favorite drink is tea, made in a teapot. In Uzbekistan we drink lots of tea to keep cool, as the summers are extremely hot, temperatures can reach 110 degrees!

S&W: Do you have a favorite dessert?

R: My favorite sweet treat is Dunkin Donuts.

S&W: What is your favorite movie?

R: The Terminator, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

S&W: Do you have any pets?

R: No, I have no pets, but my favorite animal is a dog.

S&W: Do you have any children?

R: Yes, I have one son, he is 33 and works for the US postal service and one daughter, she is 30 and a doctor, she is a speech therapist working with children.

S&W: Mr. Rinat, you have built many things for ARS, such as the windmill and a bridge, what is your favorite?

R: My favorite is the arch at the entrance to school, I built the arch and painted the figures on the sides (pictured in photo).

S&W: You are an engineer, what does an engineer do?

R: An engineer helps design and build things, such as roads, tunnels and bridges, it helps to be good at math.

S&W: What is your favorite fruit?

R: Watermelon.

S&W: What are some of your traditional foods?

R: Plov is a traditional Uzbek meal, it is made of rice, meat and carrots.

S&W: Do you have a favorite color?

R: My favorite color is violet; you can make this color by mixing red and blue.

S&W: How many languages can you speak?

R: I can speak Tatar (this is my mother tongue), Uzbek, Russian, Kazakh, English and I can understand Turkish.

S&W: Do you have other jobs?

R: Yes, as well as working at ARS, I also work helping restaurants in the evenings.

S&W: What do you do in your free time?

R: I do not have a lot of free time, but I like soccer. I used to like to play, and I enjoy watching my favorite teams, Real Madrid and Liverpool.

S&W: What is your favorite Holiday?

R: Christmas

Thank you, Mr. Rinat for taking the time to answer all our questions and for everything you do for our school.





# FRIDAY ASSEMBLY & SCHOOL NEWS

Spring has sprung! We returned from spring break with a renewed energy, ready to take on the last term of the school year. In our first assembly on April 9<sup>th</sup> the Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade delighted us with their spring poems. It was a true collaboration between the classes and the students used all of their senses to invoke spring in their poems. ‘I smell flowers that smell like bananas mixed with cherries’ and ‘I hear birds singing and bees buzzing. I also hear a truck and a bus’ are just two lines from their poems, that bring spring in the city to life. Next, Junior Kindergarten kept the spring theme going. The ‘Spring Detectives’ showed us how to look for signs of spring. Some signs they found; trees begin to bud, flowers begin to bloom and seeing butterflies and bees. JrK also created some colorful, vibrant, flower paintings. Happy spring to you too JrK!

The next three assemblies were a veritable trip around the world. First, Señor Roldán and his class treated us to all they have learned in Spanish. The students demonstrated their language skills, by holding conversations, counting and naming parts of the body, bien hecho! Next, we were off to France with Madame DeVault and the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. In Paris we met La Famille Dupont. With creative illustrations, the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, in their impeccable French, told us all about the Dupont family and their magnificent mustaches! Finally, we landed in China with Ms. Sparks and the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Their assembly ‘What was ancient China?’ took us back in time where we learned about many important figures in Chinese history. The second grade, in elaborate costumes, demonstrated their command of Mandarin, as well as history. Starring Mulan, King Chu, Lao Zi and more, we learned many facts about ancient China and discovered the importance of dragons to Chinese culture. On May 21<sup>st</sup> Mr. Lewis gave us Poetry at Dawn. Students from all grades, recited their favorite poems or their own, original compositions. We even had a Japanese poem from Itsuki & Saki and a French poem, courtesy of Voltaire & Mirabeau (with a special appearance by Ms. Parson). It was wonderful to see all our budding poets. On May 28<sup>th</sup> we heard a splendid rendition of ‘Ode to Joy’ played with precision on the xylophone by Isatu, Ella and Juli. Then, Ms. Nolan demonstrated how to make delicious tacos, using a variety of ingredients and reminded us all to eat healthily, no junk food! Before the end of year, the final assembly will be for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Everyone has worked so hard and been so innovative this year in putting together assemblies over zoom. Thank you, to all the faculty and students, who persevered and managed to bring us wonderful assemblies in our new normal. Here’s hoping that we can all be together again soon, singing our school song, as we celebrate our school community at 8:45, every Friday morning! We would like to give a special mention to Olive Rivera-Cudd, who is graduating this year. Olive said, “I don’t really know what I will be doing for my graduation, but I am grateful for being in this school and I may not know what the future holds, but I will not forget this school” Good luck Olive in all your future endeavors and please come back and visit everyone at ARS!



Happy Summer!

Feliz Verano!

Bon été!

Kuàilè de Xiàtiān!







# WAKING UP TO SPRING

BY SOFIA ORTIZ & DANIELA AUDRY

Hedgehogs are small mammals, easily recognized by their spines, they hibernate during winter and awake in spring. Hedgehogs wake after hibernation with such drastic weight loss, they initially wake very disoriented and weak. They appear sleepy because they are very wobbly on their feet. Their body temperature drops from 35 degrees to less than 10. Their breathing slows to the point that a hibernating hedgehog, may only take a few breaths once an hour. Brain activity pretty much shuts down, apart from one small area of the autonomic-nervous-system, which stays alert to monitor vital signs and potential threats. Hedgehogs are primarily omnivores. They eat a diet that comprises small snakes, insects, mice, slugs, snails, worms, and frogs. In addition to consuming proteins obtained from meat, they also eat plant materials.

In the wild, hedgehogs can be found naturally in Europe, Africa, Asia, and by introduction in New Zealand. European hedgehogs thrive in grasslands, woodlands, and meadows. You might think that if you are going to have a hedgehog as a pet, you should get another to keep him company. But this is not recommended, as Hedgehogs are solitary animals, in the wild they live alone. This animal cannot always be kept in a cage. Although the cage will be its main habitat, it must be taken out every so often to walk around the house, they do not make good pets for children. The lifespan of hedgehogs is 2-5 years, and the average litter size is 5 hoglets.



Picture by Sofia



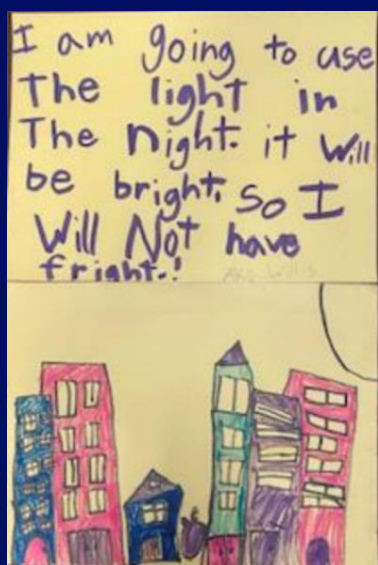
Picture by Daniela

## 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR ART





***POET'S CORNER***



by Ako Willis (Kindergarten)

*The Rain* by Liane King (Elize's aunt)

Oh how beautiful  
the rain is, as it clatters  
on the roof and washes  
my window pane.  
Oh beautiful rain.

The rain pours from the  
sky like big tears dripping  
from it's eye. It waters  
and cleans the land. It's very  
nice to see you rain.

The rain switch and swatch  
soaking up the earth.  
Then, it refreshes everything.  
The flowers grow. The plants  
are fed and our waters are filled.  
It is amazing. What a great delight,  
to see the rain.



Illustration by Elize Pierre (1st Grade)

*Roses* by Elize Pierre (1st Grade)

Roses are blue, violets are red.  
I love ARS, how about you?!



**FIELD DAY**

“Field day was a great way to showcase our school spirit. Seeing our students participate in challenges while maintaining communication, teamwork and good sportsmanship is an example of their holistic development. I would like to thank all the families and staff that helped make this event a huge success” - Coach Mike Jackson







# My Favorite Vacation by Jacob Rodriguez

During spring break, I went with my family to a resort in Pennsylvania for vacation. I was with my parents, grandparents and my brother and sister. The resort had lots of fun activities inside and out. One of my favorites was the water slide, it was so big. Going down the slide, I went so fast, it was so scary I thought I would pass out but also so much fun! Outside there was a big hill filled with artificial snow for tubing which was also great fun. I played laser tag with my family and other children, and I came in fourth place.

Our vacation was also a treat for mine and my brother’s birthday. My brother’ fifth birthday was in March and my tenth birthday was in February. We had strawberry short cake birthday cakes, I had a basketball shape, and my brother had a superhero. Breakfast was my favorite meal there, especially the pancakes. I really enjoyed all the activities at the resort and I would love to go back in the winter, to try skiing on the big hills, but the best thing about the vacation, was family time.



FUN IN THE PARK!

# CLEARSIGHT AND SILKWINGS

BY ELLE STRONG & OLIVER RATHBONE

There are many different tribes of dragon in Wings of Fire, but SilkWings are our favorites. SilkWings have unique powers, no other dragons can spin silk. SilkWings are unique dragons and have colorful wings like butterflies. SilkWings live on Panatala along with HiveWings dragons. The HiveWing tribe are the dominant tribe and came to power during the Tree Wars, defeating the Leafwings and enslaving the Silkwings. Although, Silkwings can be powerful and they do not like the HiveWings, they are controlled by their queen, Queen Wasp. Silkwings do not start off looking like the one pictured below, they first go through something called, a metamorphosis at the age of seven or eight, then they get to fly and become beautiful creatures.

Now to Clearsight, Clearsight is a female dragon who has the power of foresight. She came to Pantala and over time her descendants diverged into the SilkWing and HiveWing tribes. That makes it so surprising that HiveWings enslaved Silkwings. Like any other NightWing dragon, Clearsight can see any possible future. Before her death, she created the ‘Book of Clearsight’ and most dragons that live on Pantala worship and pray to her for guidance and wisdom, she also has a temple in one of the HiveWings hives. We hope you have enjoyed reading about our favorites, make sure to read Wings of Fire over the summer, we are sure you will enjoy it as much as we do!





# JACARANDA

## Interview with Madame DeVault by Cash Kennedy & Jasmine Strong



**“With very little, one can change a child’s life.”**  
[www.jacarandafoundation.org](http://www.jacarandafoundation.org)

- 1. What does Jacaranda mean to you?**  
It’s an opportunity for me to care for other people and make a real difference by helping the Jacaranda orphans find their way out of poverty.
- 2. How is ARS helping the school?**  
ARS is helping The Jacaranda School for Orphans by raising awareness and funds for the school, in order to help them purchase much needed medical, housing, and educational supplies. With the help of ARS, Jacaranda students are clothed, housed, fed, receive a free primary and secondary education, are graduating and going to college on full scholarships, are learning a vocation so they can work and are building bright futures.
- 3. What were some challenges that Jacaranda had to overcome?**  
The school began in a four-room house, in a small town in Malawi, Africa. Fifty children sat on the floor without desks, learning from student teachers while the founder, Marie Da Silva, worked as a nanny in the U.S. spending a third of her monthly salary to keep the school running.
- 4. What do you provide for Jacaranda?**  
I work with other adults who are dedicated to the school. Because I am an educator, I can help the school with professional development workshops. The teachers at Jacaranda do not have access to the same ongoing teacher training we have in the U.S. I am happy to provide this service to help the teachers who in turn help the students. I speak regularly with Marie and her husband Luc the director of the school, in order to be aware of their current needs.
- 5. How did Jacaranda start?**  
Jacaranda started when Marie lost many of her family members to a pandemic and children in the town where she grew up, were left without anyone to care for them. She not only opened the school to her family members but other children in the village who needed help too.
- 6. When did you start helping Jacaranda?**  
I started helping the Jacaranda School in 2002 when it first opened. About seven years ago I introduced Marie Da Silva who became a CNN hero in 2008 to the ARS community. The students immediately were taken with her kindness, warmth, and deep love for children, not to mention the thrill of meeting a real live hero!
- 7. Why did you start helping Jacaranda?**  
When I was in elementary school, I was always encouraged to help others through volunteer work and community service. This is something that always meant so much to me and continued throughout my formative years and beyond. I knew Marie before tragedy struck her family and wanted to support her in turning her vision into a reality. She has been a great inspiration in my life as well as my family’s. Her leadership, dedication, compassion and enormous love for her fellow human being are all qualities to be admired and revered.







# ROBERTSON RAG



Fall Trimester 2021

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Newspaper Club  
Faculty Advisor: Kate Cannon

## GET TO KNOW...

Interview with Mr. Hilguard by Sofia Ortiz and Winter Willis



Sofia and Winter conducted an interview with Mr. Hilguard on 11/12/21.

S&W: Hello Mr. Hilguard, when did you start your teaching career?

RH: I started in 2006, I was a music counsellor, then an assistant teacher.

S&W: What is your favorite part about teaching?

RH: Watching students click with the subject, that is always exciting.

S&W: What do you do in your free time?

RH: Music! It is my biggest passion, I have a recording studio in my apartment,

S&W: If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

RH: I would be Morph, from the X-men, he can absorb other superpowers and shapeshift.

S&W: What was your favorite subject at school?

RH: Social studies and history.

S&W: What is your favorite meal?

RH: Any Jamaican cuisine, such as oxtail, rice and peas, I like spicy food.

S&W: Do you have any pets?

RH: Yes, I have a dog called Huxley and a cat called Danger. Huxley is a pit-bull rescue, he is 8yrs old and Danger is 5.

S&W: What is your dream vacation?

RH: Berlin, Germany, my wife has been and said it's a great city for music and dancing.

S&W: Do you have a favorite book?

RH: My favorite is *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley, I read it after college. It is a scary vision of the future; I also enjoyed *1984* by George Orwell.

S&W: Favorite ice cream flavor?

RH: I just can't choose.

S&W: Have you always taught science?

RH: No, I started in early childhood, I have also taught music and coached basketball, this is my first year teaching science.

S&W: What is your favorite movie?

RH: 'Back to The Future,' part 2, there is a recap of the original in part two, so it's like watching both films.

S&W: Do you have any siblings?

RH: Yes, I am the oldest, I grew up with my two younger sisters, but I have seven siblings in total.

S&W: Do you have a favorite tv show?

RH: I like Peaky Blinders, it is set just after WW1, for me, this is an interesting period in history.

S&W: What is your favorite song/music?

RH: It is extremely hard to choose, I like all genres of music, my favorite instrument is the guitar and someone who inspires me is Jimi Hendrix, he was a phenomenal guitar player.

S&W: When did you start making music?

RH: I started making my own music when I was 19, with my friends.

S&W: What is your favorite season and holiday?

RH: Summer! I like Christmas because of the Christmas carols and all the good feeling.

Thank you, Mr. Hilguard for taking the time to answer all our questions.





## FRIDAY ASSEMBLY & SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back and a hearty salutation to our new faculty and staff members, Emma Hedrick, Alyssa Shapiro, Jiaoyue Lyu and Ryan Hilguard. On Friday September 10, 2021, the new school year began with the Kirking of the school, a traditional Scottish blessing. Led by a traditionally clad bagpiper, the whole school paraded around the block, culminating in the blessing by Rev. Lindsay Borden. September also brought another annual event, photo day! Madame DeVault and her son Jaffé made sure everyone was prepared by hosting an assembly on photography. We learned about the history of photography, and we were introduced to some eminent photographers such as Tokihiro Soto and William Wegman. Our photographer, Nicolas Manassi had no finer subjects, than the students of ARS!

October assemblies were kicked off by Ms. Kelly and the fifth grade. They spoke about fables and recreated one of Aesop's famous fables, *The North Wind and The Sun*. The morale of this fable is as relevant as ever, persuading with kindness is always better than with rudeness. Next up was Ms. Juwayeyi and the fourth grade. To tie in with their math curriculum, they had a visitor from ancient Egypt, Cleopatra no less! With help from their royal visitor, the 4<sup>th</sup> graders explained hieroglyphics and how they were used as a form of written communication. Ms. Esterly and the third grade brought us, 'all about community.' We learned how community helps us and how we can help our community. We are grateful for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and all our students, faculty, staff, and families that make up our ARS community. The pace in October did not slow, as second grade had breaking news. While studying the biodiversity of rivers, the second grade's time traveling correspondents transported us back to some of the ancient world's largest rivers. We learned how important rivers are to civilization, both then and now. In the end, the time travelers had to make a hasty retreat from a herd of woolly mammoths! Of course, October would not be complete without Halloween. Ms. Nolan and the second grade presented the history of Halloween costumes: did you know, Darth Vader was a favorite in the 1970's, due to the popularity of the Star Wars film? In the afternoon, we held our Halloween parade, princesses, witches, cute dogs, and superheroes marched around the block to the delight of our families and neighbors. Thanks again to the Parents Association for providing some ghoulish treats!

November assemblies began with Ms. Goodman and first grade bringing us 'how to write a story, 1<sup>st</sup> grade style'. The first grade showed us how they construct a story. Try asking who, what, where, when, how, and always think of a good title, happy writing! In honor of Veteran's Day, Ms. Paley and the Kindergarten showed us all the ways that they are brave. You have to be brave to raise your hand in class, cycle a two-wheel bicycle for the first time and to slide down the big slide. What great dancers we have in kindergarten, with some truly 'brave' moves. On November 7<sup>th</sup>, our very own Bram Lewis took part in the New York City Marathon. 26.2 miles for ARS, congratulations Bram! What better way to close out November assemblies, than with Ms. Picciotto and the Junior Kindergarten. JrK taught us about Sensory words and how they are used to describe our experiences. They used the park, their classroom, and the school to demonstrate these words. They found a 'spiky' pencil a 'cracked' branch and a 'teeny' seed. To round off November, we celebrated Thanksgiving. Each grade reflected on all that they are thankful for, and Ms. Kelly and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade had a special treat for all the faculty. With coffee, cookies, and other treats, they made us all feel so appreciated, thank you!

Coming up, we have an assembly from Ms. Nolan on cooking and our Holiday Concert. The concert will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary. The repertoire will consist of old favorites, new classics and maybe a surprise or two.. Fa La La La La La La







DEMOCRACY

BY FIFTH GRADE

On Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup> to Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup>, the fifth grade went on an extended field trip to the New York Historical Society Museum. The topic was ‘Democracy from Ancient Greece to today.’ Everyone agreed it was a great experience and they learned so much over the four days, here are their thoughts:  
“An email came to me from the NYHS about its Democracy Program aimed at fifth and sixth graders. I jumped on the opportunity to be there in-person since students could not go on any field trips last year. The program used inquiry-based learning, gave guided tours of the museum, and had students dress in togas like the ancient Athenians. I was really impressed! I, along with the students, also learned printmaking. It was a great four days!” **Ms. Jennifer Kelly**

“In Ancient Greece, people voted in an Agora, a giant public space, they would talk about a topic and then vote. This is how democracy started” **Sofia Ortiz**. “Voting is important around the world, so people’s voices are heard” **Jasmine Strong**. “I learned about print making and how important it is in spreading ideas” **Winter Willis**. “I learned about democracy and how important it is to vote” **Dani Audry**. “The value of voting and how important it is to share opinions” **Elle Strong**. “It is easy to change someone’s mind, if you have a good argument” **Cash Kennedy**. “I did not know that democracy was invented in Ancient Greece, it’s amazing that a system that old is still used today” **Oliver Rathbone**.



4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ART



Braeden Jiles



Ella Thurston-Vargo



Isatu James



Juli Guzman-Charleston



# POET'S CORNER

*Christmas Wonderland* by Elle Strong (5<sup>th</sup>)

It's a christmas wonderland  
full of joy and wonder.  
With snow flowing in the air  
and Santa flying through the clouds  
Christmas time is right now.  
The time when we hang our stockings up  
hoping for joy, putting ornaments on the  
tree and hoping for presents.  
This is a christmas wonderful, wonderland.

Roses are red  
Violets are blue

A grumpy monkey  
Belongs in a zoo!  
*By Emma Mesaye (3rd)*

Itsuki is my brother  
Anna is my sister  
When they are a little older  
We can play twister.  
*By Saki Kondo (2nd)*

My name is Drini  
I am not teeny  
I am not a turtle  
But, I can leap this hurtle  
*By Drini Bulica (1st)*

My little name is blue  
My last name is Pujols  
I'm going to rhyme, it's true  
So, i'm inventing moo-holes  
*By Hudson Pujols (1st)*

Little puppy  
how you are so sweet.  
I can hug and play  
until the day is done.  
How fun, how fun  
It is to play with a dog.  
They will listen to all that  
you have to say  
as long as you give  
some love and  
TREATS, TREATS, TREATS.  
*By Elize Pierre (2nd)*

Violets are blue  
Roses are red  
Sometimes in the morning  
It's hard to get out of bed  
*By Ayla Bali (1st)*



# The People's Garden

Off to the garden... If you didn't know about this lovely urban oasis, you will now! The People's Garden is a community garden located on Amsterdam and 111th St. ARS students were excited to attend again a few weeks ago. All were happy to see plant life still alive and birds singing. Once students began to dig and plant their bulbs, nature was awakened, worms and roly polys came out to say hello! If you are ever in the area, please visit, you can sit and have a chat under the amazing trees and wonder if you are in New York City!

– Ms. Jill Nolan







# My Dream Vacation by Cash Kennedy

This article is about a place I would like to go and why I think you should go too, Canada! A big reason why you should go to Canada is that you can see polar bears there. Unlike in other countries, where it’s rare to see a polar bear, you can see them a lot in Canada. In fact, there are 16,000 polar bears in Canada. Churchill in Canada is a wonderful place to see polar bears, even in summer. Canada is also home to grizzly bears and grizzlies can be found all over Canada. You can also go whale watching and see beautiful whales dive around as you sit or stand in a boat. You can climb a beautiful mountain and enjoy the views wherever you go.

If you climb the Canadian Rockies, at the right time of year, you may be able to see the Northern Lights. You can talk to a friend, as you look at the beautiful colors. As well as all the amazing nature to see, you can visit Toronto. Toronto is Canada’s biggest city and with so much to do there, you will never get bored in Toronto. These are just some of the reasons why I would like to visit Canada, I hope you would like to go too!



THE JOY OF FIRST SNOW



# THE FUTURE?

## Drone Cycle by Elle strong.

You may ask what a drone cycle is? Well, it is a motorcycle and a drone combined together. It is battery powered, so we don't waste gas and it is ecofriendly too. It is perfectly safe as it is for kids too. The Drone Cycle will know your needs as it is smart too. It will have a built in GPS, so you cannot get lost and a supercomputer for all other apps. Coming to you in out in 2022-2023! This is my vision for the future, this is how we will get around instead of regular bikes and scooter. To make it work, it will need an egg-shaped drone body 6x bigger drone propellers and wheels that are 4x bigger than regular wheels.

## Motorized Shoes by Oliver Rathbone

In case you don’t know what I mean by Motorized Shoes, I mean shoes that move on their own with the power of a lever. This is how to operate it; by pushing a joystick forward on the right side of the controller, your right foot moves forward. If you pull the joystick back on the right side of the controller, your right foot moves backwards, same thing for the left side. It is also battery powered and will come with 2 batteries, a charger, and a fireproof bag for battery safety. The shoes will glide and get you to where you need to be, faster than walking.



# 'Tis The Season

## **Hanukkah by Winter Willis**

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday celebrated on Sunday, November 28, and ends on Monday, December 6, lasting for eight nights. Hanukkah is celebrated by Jewish people around the world, Hanukkah is also called the festival of lights. It commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple of Jerusalem in the second century B.C.E. by the lighting of a candle on each day of the festival. Nine candles in total are placed on a Menorah, four on each side and one in the middle, used to light all the other candles. Hanukkah means 'dedication' in Hebrew, playing with dreidels and exchanging gifts are other Hanukkah traditions.

## **Christmas by Jasmine Strong**

Christmas is a Christian holiday honoring Jesus. It is celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus Christ on December 25<sup>th</sup> each year. From millions of homes worldwide to the White House, the Christmas tree is a tradition that owes its popularity in part to a popular British queen, Queen Victoria. The first recorded celebration of Christmas was in Rome on December 25, 336 C.E. In the 3rd century, the date of the nativity was the subject of great interest. As well as Christmas trees and decorations, there are lots of Christmas traditions. Father Christmas also known as Santa Claus, delivers gifts to children all over the world on Christmas Eve.

## **Kwanzaa by Dani Audry**

Kwanzaa is a holiday that is celebrated by African Americans and consists of seven days of celebrating, ending with a feast and gift giving. Kwanzaa is celebrated on December 26th, and it ends on January 1st of the new year. Kwanzaa is not actually a religious holiday, but a Cultural holiday that celebrates 7 principles. The 7 principles are unity, self-determination, responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. Kwanzaa was first celebrated in 1966 and is based on traditions from various parts of Africa.



## **All Artwork by Sofia Ortiz**

**From fifth grade and everyone at ARS, Happy Holidays!  
See you in 2022**