The Locker

The Wellesley Middle School Newspaper

FALL ISSUE 2011

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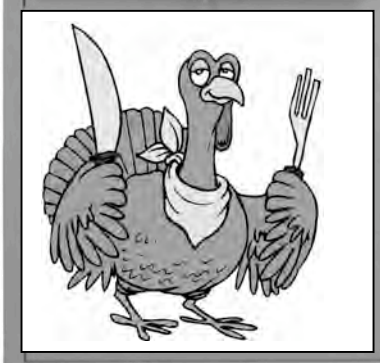


Libya after the War

By Caitlin Chicoski

Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi was killed Thursday, October 20, 2011. He died due to a gunshot to the head, courtesy of Libyan rebels. Moammor Gadhafi had been the leader of Libya for 42 years and was 69 years old. To many Libyans his death is a relief, because it marks for them the end of a civil war. This also marks the start of a new beginning for the Libyan people, and might be a time to incorporate a parliamentary democracy.

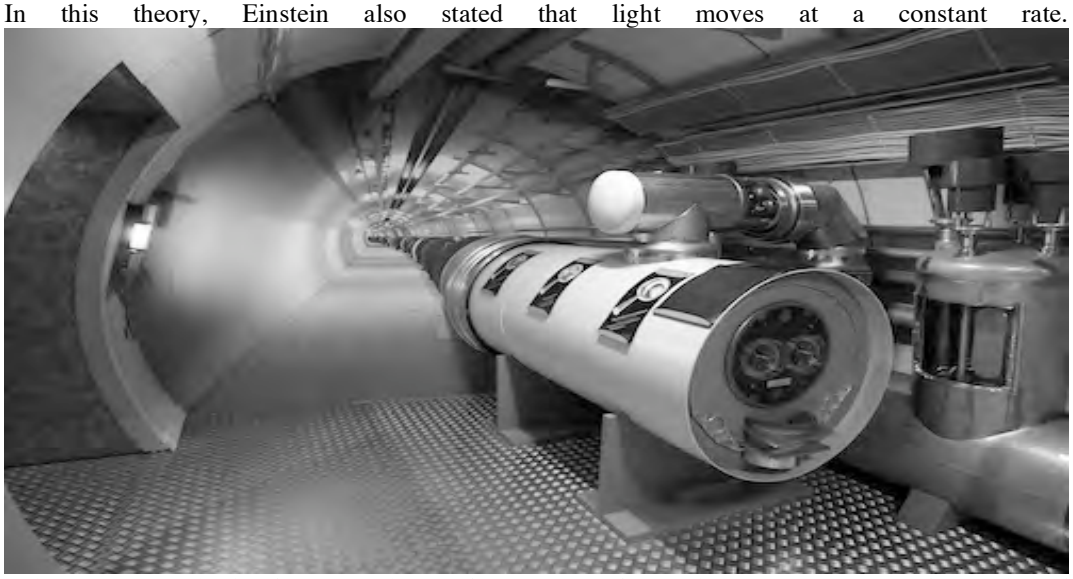
Salah Zlitni, who owns a pizza parlor in downtown Tripoli, says, "If Gadhafi had been taken to court, it would've created more chaos, and it would've encouraged Gadhafi's supporters. Now it is over." Although Gadhafi is dead, it doesn't mean that everything will be easy from here. The road will be rough, but the Libyans believe that they can pull through. *Continued on page 2*

Einstein Proven Wrong

By Alexandra Livadas

In 1905, Albert Einstein invented the theory of relativity. This theory stated that the movement of any object was undetectable. Most importantly in this theory though, Einstein clearly stated that no object could move faster than the speed of light. Could this theory, the one that many physicians have based their research on, be proven wrong?

Light has been proven to be the fastest moving particle. It progresses at 186,282 miles per second. In this theory, Einstein also stated that light moves at a constant rate.



This has been the basis of our knowledge of the growth of the universe, as well as the foundation of our understanding of the human body, as well as the explanation of how and why our world is the way it is.

In a physics lab in Geneva, Italy, physicians have found proof of subatomic particles, called neutrinos, that are able to move six kilometers per second faster than light. *Continued on page 2*

Einstein Proven Wrong

Continued from page 1

The two labs that were collaborating, one in Switzerland, and one in Geneva, proved this theory by conducting an experiment. In this experiment, the physicians fired a beam of light from the lab in Switzerland to the lab in Geneva. Then they shot a beam of light, also consisting of neutrinos, from one lab to the other. Their results showed that the beam containing the neutrinos traveled faster by a difference of 60 nanoseconds.

Two years earlier, Australian scientists discovered that the other side of this theory was incorrect as well. They studied the speed of a beam of light dating back to millions of years ago. They deduced that light was about two hundred times faster than the speed of light today.

Scientists believe that if these statistics prove to be correct, then many ideas, theories, predictions, as well as many well known facts will have to be changed and proved wrong as well. They believe that this can lead to many problems.

The theory of relativity is also known as $E=mc^2$. In other words, energy is equal to mass multiplied by the speed of light squared. If there were to be an object that could move faster than the speed of light, it would require a huge amount of energy. Even though this new discovery of neutrinos could change all of our view on the universe, as well as many other aspects, scientists are also extremely excited by this new idea. If the neutrinos are able to move faster than the speed of light, then they must be able to produce a lot of energy. If scientists were able to use this energy and generate it, we would have an infinite amount of energy. However, no scientists have been able to extract any energy whatsoever.

CERN's laboratory - CERN found out about the speeding neutrinos.

Sources:
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Pending Environmental Disaster in Australia

By Marc deFontnouvelle

Authorities say New Zealand is about to encounter their worst environmental disaster when a whopping 1,400 tons of oil will spill from a 775-foot long Liberian vessel. Large cracks have been forming across the ship's hull after it crashed into the Astrolabe Reef on October 7th, for unknown reasons. Salvage crews have been doing as much as they can to pump oil away from the ominously leaning ship, but they have only been able to pump 85 tons of oil from the ship, and considering the 21° tilt, the ship could topple any minute.

"I think it's a case of getting everything off that you can," says Steven Joyce, New Zealand's transportation minister.

Joyce says that there is little chance that workers would be able to pump all the oil out of the ship before it crashes. Workers were forced to stop pumping last Sunday because the ship looked like it could break apart any minute.

About 300 tons of oil have already spilled from the ship, and over 1,300 birds have died because of the resulting pollution. When the ship collapses, hundreds of thousands of animals could be killed, and the New Zealand government would spend an estimated $4 million on cleanup costs.

Source: http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/oil-spill-ship-rena-on-verge-of-breaking-on-new-zealands-astrolabe-reef/story-e6frg6so-1226165866653

Libya after the War

Continued from page 1

The Libyans' fight for freedom started in February, when anti-government rebellions sparked. Where Libya is heading is unknown even to its people. To some, that is comforting, for they know that their fate will not be in the hands of a hated leader like Muammar Gadhafi, which they have known for years. And to some, it is doubtful, for they don't know whether their wishes for democracy will be granted.

Libya's fate is still unknown, but at least the fate of their hated leader Muammar Gadhafi is known, which is hope to some.

Source:
http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/story/2011-10-23/libya-gadhafi-liberation/50879902/1

Doomed Plane Makes an Amazing Emergency Landing

By Marc deFontnouvelle

Tuesday Nov. 1, a Boeing 767 carrying a massive 230 passengers flying in from Newark succesfully made an emergency landing at Warsaw's airport after they had trouble with landing gear. The plane hovered for an hour above Warsaw's aiprot after discovering its wing flaps and landing gear had failed. A backup system was available for the flaps, but not for the landing gear.

During this hour, the passengers were in a state of shock, and when interviewed spoke of great fear and complete silence on the plane. "There were tears, there were tears," said passenger Hubert Waz.

The plane finally had to land on its belly, but amazingly, the pilot executed the landing perfectly and no one was hurt.

"All safety procedures worked perfectly fine and, thanks to this, nobody was injured," said Leszek Chorzewski, the operator of the plane.

Bronislaw Komorowski, Poland's president, will award state decorations to the crew of the plane after learning about the amazing situation by speaking to the pilot of the plane over the phone.

"To all those involved, I thank you with my heart" Komorowski said.

You can watch a video of the plane's spectacular landing at: http://www.tinyurl.com/thelockerplanecrash

Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/11/01/poland-plane-idUSL5E7M12VY20111101

100,000 Year-Old Art Studio Discovered in Africa

By Julia Zimmer

A 100,000 year old art studio has been discovered in Blombos Cave, South Africa. Researchers found hammers and grindstones that could have been used to make ochre powder. Ochre powder is earth with red or yellow pigments; it was used as paint. Archeologists also found two abalone shells that may have been used to store ochre, charcoal and bones. Since there was pigment found on one of the bones, the bone might have been used for working with the ochre. Since no paintings were found on the walls of the cave, scientists think that the paint was used for body decoration, or for cleaning animal skins. It appears that the sand that blew into the cave, covered all the objects, and preserved them for millenniums preserved all these objects.

Source: www.cbc.ca

San Jose Conjoined Twins Separated

By Marc deFontnouvelle

On Tuesday, November 1st, a group of Stanford surgeons lead by head plastic surgeon Gary Hartman successfully separated Angelica and Angelina Sabuco, two conjoined twins. These twins were fused at the liver, therefore sharing a chest and an abdomen. This made it very hard for surgery to be performed on them, but luckily, they each have their own heart, so it was possible. However, the surgery was not at all easy. It took 6 hours to separate the two twins, and 3 more hours to reconstruct them by placing thick custom-made plates into the place where their sternum would be (they shared a sternum), and grafting pieces of bone onto it. If just one tiny detail of the surgery had gone wrong, the twins could've died of massive bleeding, or if an air bubble went into their venous system, the girls would suffer a heart attack or a stroke. It was very fortunate that both girls survived the rare form of surgery.

http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/11/01/BA1G1LP9D0.D

St. James Church Heat and Water Shut Down

By Chase Ireland

The Archdiocese have shut down the water and heat in the St. James church. Electricity is still enabled in the church. A portable toilet was put outside the church to fit the perish members' needs.

It was on Thursday that one of the leaders of the perish members, Suzanne Hurley, saw a representative of the Archdiocese come in and turn off the boiler. She felt very unsure how the member had gotten in. It was the next day that Suzanne got an email from the Archdiocese Chancellor, James McDonough, saying that it was their decision to turn off the boiler.

In his email to Suzanne Hurley he said, "Our concerns regarding the safety of this facility that have been brought to our attention by our insurer, and we have winterized the church building. This includes deactivating the boiler and draining the pipes that support the heating system. As part of this process, the water has been shut off."

Suzanne Hurley was very disappointed with the archdiocese's decision, but she said, "We will continue," with the Virgil and Sunday services.

Suzanne Hurley said the legal representative of the Archdiocese will file an emergency motion to get the heat re-enabled in the building.

Source: www.wickedlocal.com/wellesley

Bandage Skirts pass the Dress Code?

An editorial by Zimuzo Obiora

"Beauty is worse than wine, it intoxicates both the holder and beholder."
Aldous Huxley

Juicy Couture. Aeropostale. Hollister. Fitch. Abercrombie. These are brands most commonly worn by a majority of the students at Wellesley Middle School. But being a "Fashion Inspector", (though not so high on the Fashion Chart) I've noticed a trend doubling and tripling by the week; "The Bandage Skirt" (also known as the "Tube Skirt")

While some people see it as, "Cute" created by Herve Ledger, Bandage skirts are tight skirts, look-alikes to tube tops, which have the ability to move up and down the body, from the waist, hips and thighs. Although this particular piece of clothing is considered cute, one should ask; are they really appropriate?

One day, on my way to my health class, I over-heard a girl telling another girl that she liked her skirt. The girl graciously accepted the compliment; having caught my attention I glanced at the skirt and noticed a few things were not so cute about the skirt. It was FAR too tight and short. The hem, which was far higher than the dress code, was literally squeezing poor Kimberly's flesh! What scared me the most is that as they neared the classroom, Kimberly pulled the hem of the skirt to a more appropriate length! The skirt is very deceptive, but what can adults do? It's not above the dress code. Most of the time…

I believe that in fashion, you strive to look decent and good. Exposed underwear line and over-exposed legs are not hallmarks of decency or cuteness! Even worse, it is absolutely inappropriate for 12 or 13 year old to be wearing to school.

In this skirt, you wouldn't be able to tell the difference between a bandage skirt or a large, blinking neon sign of your birth certificate showing your date of birth, and street address, because both show more than they need to.

"It's not even a skirt. It's a backwards belt," a 7th grader stated in a heated argument with anoher 7th grader. This 7th grader says that girls who wear those skirts are "hot," "get more

attention," and "end up being more popular." Julia counters "You go to school to learn, not to become hot, get attention, or become popular. And those skirts aren't cute. They're trashy." The tension rises more and more as the argument continues.
School is not only an educational place, it's one of the largest face-to-face social communities, and just as you'd look good on dates, some strive to look good at school, and there is nothing wrong with that. Regardless, there is a thin line between cute, and just plain disgusting, and I believe that that delicate balance is slowly eroding. But you are the judge. Are bandage skirts new fashion trend that should go scot-free? Or are they badly chosen articles of clothing? Unfitting for middle school!

Are the 6th graders the only ones who are new to WMS?

Find out what our current principal Mr. Chisum thinks about the school!

By Shauna Jing

On a sunny Friday afternoon, I sat down with our principal, Mr. Chisum, in his office to find out his perspective of our school. Just like the 6th graders, he is also new to WMS. He was an assistant principal in WHS before he came to join the middle school community. My questions are bolded below with Mr. Chisum's answers.

What do you think of the middle school?
Overall I really enjoy the middle school. It is flowing with great energy. It's a positive environment that kids will like.

Why did you choose to be a middle school principal?
This job actually chose me. I did have a choice to make, and in the end I decided that it would be a great opportunity to learn about the middle school. There are interesting teachers. You get to challenge yourself and push yourself to your limits. Also this job enabled me to stay in Wellesley. I really love this town.

Do you enjoy being a principal?
Yes, definitely. It is a big job but I enjoy it. There are lots of things to make decisions about. I hope I get to work with everyone here and make positive impact!

What impression do you have on the students, especially the 6th graders because they are also new?
The students here are very eager to learn. They think a lot. There's a lot of positive energy flowing from the students. The 6th graders are definitely ready to be here. They like the change, and I am very impressed with them. They are also a test to the good teachers.

What are the similarities and differences between being the high school principal and being the middle school principal?
I actually used to be an assistant principal. The similarities are that every decision I make has to be driven by kids. The core values are the same. Both schools respect academic excellence. The differences are the students are developing at a different stage and pace. I used to work with 15-18 year olds. Now I work with 11-14 year olds. The subject of learning is not just academic here. There are a lot of areas to pay attention to when helping the middle school students to develop.

What do you like about this school and if you could, what would you change to make it better?
I really like the houses and clusters. I also really like the changing classes because that gets the middle schoolers ready for high school. If I could, I would make the lunch situations smoother. I would also want the teachers to have enough time to challenge the students who are ready and to help the students more when they need it.

What's your typical daily job?
My job is mostly having or going to meetings and solving conflicts. I also make lots of judgments. The staff and I try to solve the problems before they actually occur. I try to spend time in classrooms to see how everyone is doing.

What are your goals as being the principal of WMS?
I want the students to have a purposeful understanding of what effective homework actually is. I want students to enjoy school but also have challenges to take up. I also want parents to be confident about the school. Like I said before, everything we do has to support the core values we believe in.

The WMS Green Team is off to a Great Start

By Olivia Gieger

This year the WMS Green Team has started out strong. We are restarting the litter-less lunch program. This year we have many new ideas for the program. You can expect more frequent raffles with better prizes. On top of working with litter-less lunch, the Green Team has been working with the community garden they stared in the spring. We have been mostly cleaning up-pulling the many weeds, taking out dead plants and so on. The members have also been collecting a few pumpkins we have grown. They have many hopes for the future of the garden. such as starting compost, and expanding the growing space. The green team is starting the year out well and is hoping for a year of great achievements.

What's Happening in Performing Arts at WMS

By Nicole Frontero

List of Upcoming Events:

WHS performances of *Hairspray* on Nov. 3rd at 4:30pm, Nov. 4th at 7:30pm, and Nov. 5th at 2:00pm and 7:30pm

WHS Jazz Bands and Choir Concert on Nov. 21st from 7:00pm-8:30pm at The Center for the Arts in Natick (TCAN)

Music Through the Decades on Nov. 25th from 7:30pm-10:30pm

Turn Out The Lights Open House and Yard Sale on Nov. 26th from 12:00pm-4:00pm

Turn Out the Lights Performing Arts Showcase on Nov. 26th at 7:30 pm

WMS *One Act Plays* on Dec. 1st at 4:30pm and Dec. 2nd at 7:00pm

Grade 7 Chorus and Grades 7 and 8 Band Concert on Dec. 8th at 7:00pm

Grades 7 and 8 Orchestra visits the Mass. State House on Dec. 9

WMS Jazz Concert on Dec. 13th at 7:00pm

Grades 6-12 Orchestra Concert on Dec. 14th at 7:00pm

Grade 8 Chorus Concert on Dec. 15th 7:00pm

Grade 8 Band goes to the Mass. State House on Dec. 16th

WMS in-school assembly for Grades 6-8 Strings and Grade 8 Band and Chorus on Dec. 22nd

WMS in-school assembly on Dec. 23rd

Grade 6 Band and Chorus Concert on Jan. 10th

Grades 8-12 Band Concert on Jan. 31st at 7:00 pm

General Announcements:

-WMS students can join the Wellesley Acoustic Ensemble and the Wellesley Soundpainting Ensemble.

Notes:

WMS JMC performances are TBA

Refer to the Wellesley Performing Arts Website for additional information: http://www.wellesley.k12.ma.us/programs/pages/PA/index.html

Going for the Gold

By Sophie Chen

As a talented 16-year-old swimmer, the Shanghai World Championships was Missy Franklin's first international meet, and lets just say… she definitely turned some heads there.

One swim definitely stood out from the others though; Franklin's 200-meter backstroke finals. Winning a gold medal with a time of 2:05.1, she broke the American record she set herself at prelims. Over the course of two swims, she has lowered the old American record previously held by Margaret Hoelzer at 2:06.09.

14-time Olympic gold medal winner Michael Phelps said, "I said this all along: She's a stud. She's super-good. To be able to watch what she's doing, it's incredible…she does it all." Phelps remembered when he was like Franklin, full of energy, never tired, and always happy.

Missy is surely living up to her nickname, given to her by Jack Bauerle, the U.S. women's team coach. Missile Franklin… the best way to describe her.

"I've never been this happy in my entire life. It has been such an incredible meet," Franklin said. "I couldn't ask for anything better." *Source: http://www.shanghai-fina2011.com*

Red Sox Gone Wrong

By Emily Calhoun

The Red Sox team this year was great, which included players like Jacoby Ellsbury, David Ortiz, Dustin Pedroia, Adrian Gonzalez, and Jonathan Papelbon. Everyone expected them to go to the playoffs, and possibly win another World Series. But, after their game on August 18, which the Red Sox won 7-1 against the Kansas City Royals, things began to go downhill.

The Red Sox then went on a four game losing streak. But things kept getting worse. Then they went on a two game losing streak, then five, two, and six. The Red Sox were then scheduled to play against the Baltimore Orioles.

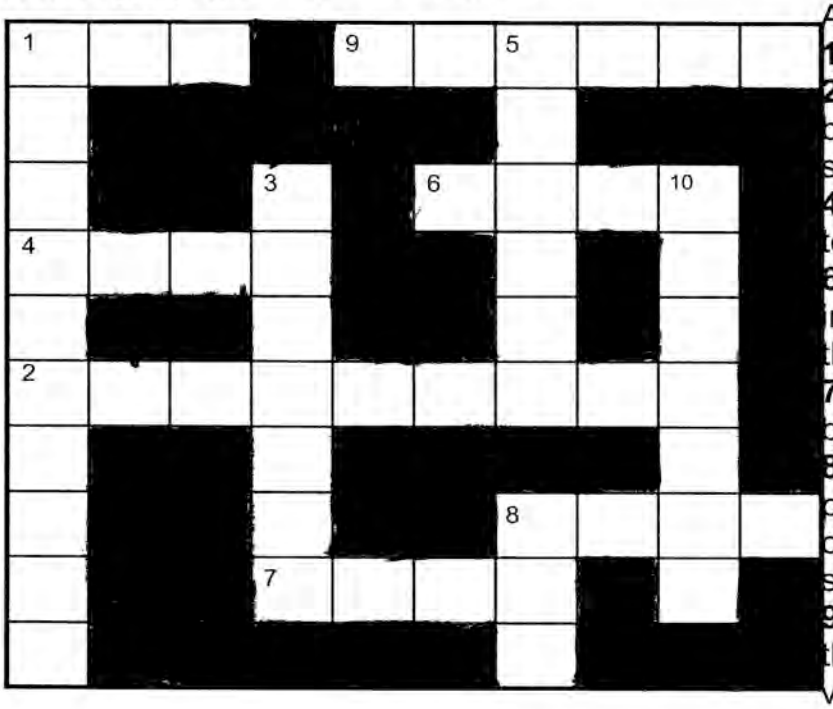
The game started out relatively well. Towards the end of the game, the score was 3-3. In the bottom of the ninth inning, a player on the Orioles got a hit. The Red Sox players were moving as fast as they could to keep the player from scoring. But it was too late. The player ran home safe. The Orioles won 4-3 and Red Sox season was over.

Now, in the beginning of the off-season, some big changes are occurring. On one note, Terry Francona, manager of the Red Sox was fired for the poor season. Second, the general manager for the Red Sox, Theo Epstein, left to take over the same position with the Chicago Cubs. They will start trying to find new managers this winter.

Sources: redsox.com, and wikipedia

Activity Pages

Crossword Puzzle by Kripa Solanki



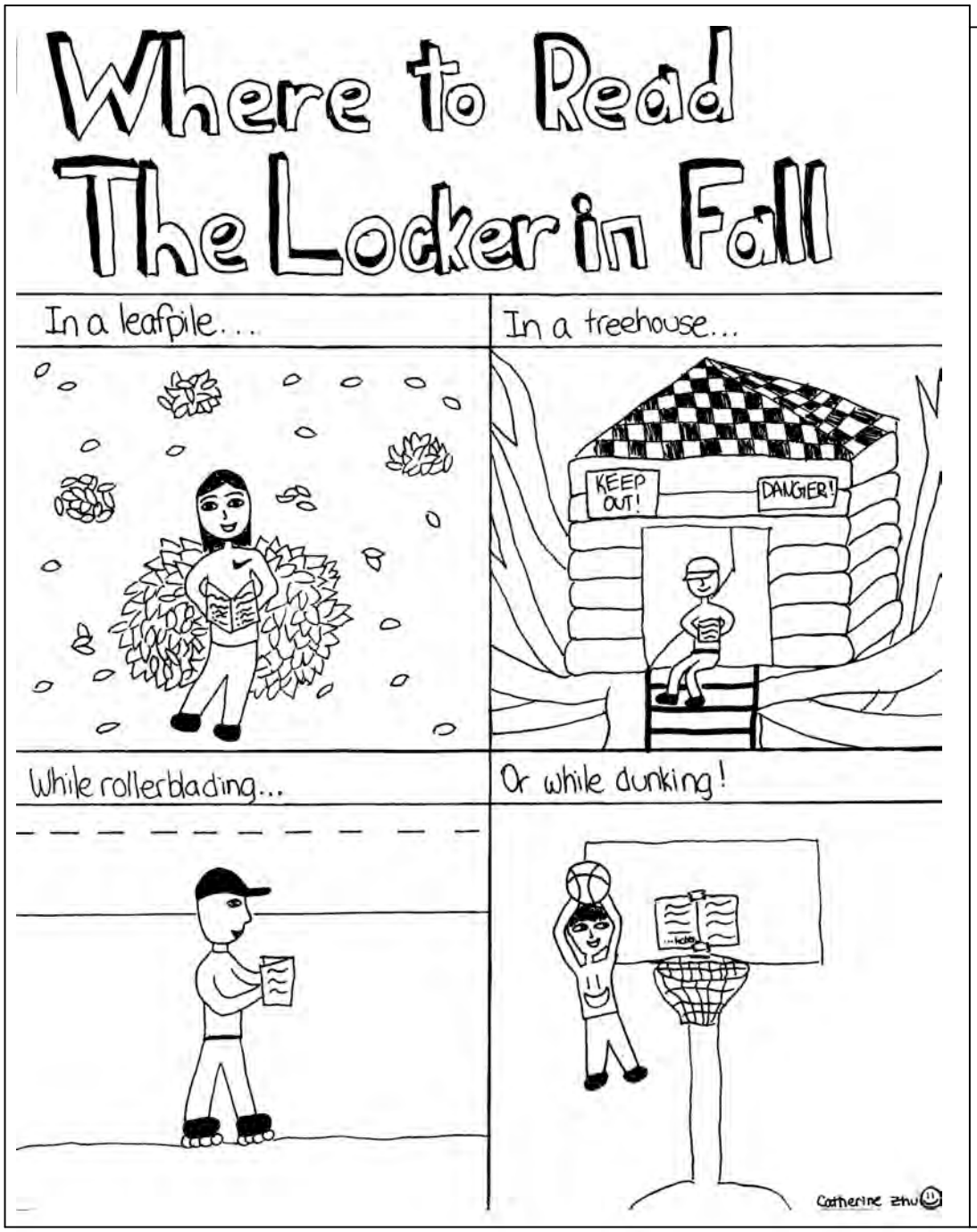
Across:
1. the past tense of "see".
2. A platform you can keep books on. -hint: it is a kind of shelf they have in libraries.
4. To do something again is to...
6. when you divide something into two equal parts, one of those parts is called...
7. A very strong wind. -hint: it begins with 'g'.
8. a very precious metal that people make jewelery and coins out of. -hint: it is not silver.
9. This is a string instrument that is almost the same as the viola but it plays higher notes.

Down: **1.** A board we use in WMS instead of white boards is a ___. **3.** "johnny's mother was _____ delicious food!" -hint: it ends with 'ing'. **5.** The opposite of transparent.
8. another word for jewel. -hint: it ends with 'm'. **10.** To complete a task or a wish.
Example: "Please _____ my one wish!" hint: it has 2 F's and 3 L's.

Fall WORDSEARCH BY Emaan Tariq

N	Y	C	R	B	C	Q	N	J	V
C	E	E	O	A	R	I	A	R	Z
W	D	E	N	S	K	O	E	F	N
O	S	D	W	P	T	B	W	M	O
L	Y	E	M	O	O	U	U	N	E
L	W	U	V	T	L	T	M	G	N
E	P	I	C	A	U	L	N	E	E
Y	Z	O	N	A	E	A	A	K	E
D	L	O	C	D	R	L	E	H	R
L	L	A	F	O	Y	Z	A	L	G

Fall	Orange
Autumn	Green
Cold	Halloween
Windy	Pumpkin
Leaves	Costume
Brown	Candy
Red	October
Yellow	



THANKSGIVING TRIVIA!

1. When was the first Thanksgiving celebration?

   a. 1492
   b. 1567
   c. 1621
   d. 1777

2. Where was the turkey first domesticated?

   Canada
   a. Mexico and Central America
   b. New Zealand
   c. India

3. What is a female turkey called?

   a. a rooster
   b. a cuckoo
   c. a chick
   d. a hen

4. What is a male turkey called?

   a. a larry
   b. a clark
   c. a harry
   d. a tom

Fun Fact:

Big Ben is known very well. The old clock in London is known worldwide. There is big news about this clock. The clock is the new leaning tower. It is not leaning as much as the Leaning Tower of Pisa. If you are in the tower you can feel the building leaning. It is barely leaning though. In 4,000 years Big Ben will lean as much as the leaning tower. So unless you have plans 4,000 years from now to be in Big Ben, I wouldn't worry.

Nicole Franklin

CNN Student News

By Shauna Jing

People around WMS

	Scramble	Answer
1	asnhs.CmsMe	
2	.nMsoos hJn	
3	ciMehdsn.Sr e	
4	MBuf. lowlof	
5	ehcktoL re	
6	A mGy	
7	iteFrsneneCt s	
8	r g.eMBoga	

by Stella Hu

1, one of our librarians
2, the art teacher that runs "the Locker"
3, the female gym teacher, (not Ms. Arcudi)
4, the French teacher
5, the title of this newspaper
6, the 3rd floor, newest gym
7, the after school/in school indoor exercise
8, the math teacher for house WMS

Please Recycle This Newspaper!

TIME

By Alexandra Ebbs

I run to you and embrace your hugs,
You hold me close squishing my lungs.
I see the tears well in your eyes,
I know this is one of our goodbyes.

I see a vision inside my mind,
Of us growing old together, what will we find?
We sit in our rocking chairs and rock back and forth,
And watch up above us how the birds fly north.
The vision fades, and you have left,
You being gone, I will have to except.

My hair starts to grey as time goes on,
Time still passes even though you're gone.
I lay down that night for eternal sleep,
Going up to heaven with one big leap.

I wake up to see your face,
I look around for my house, but there's no trace.
You take us to two rocking chairs,
I smile and look down on two horse mares.
You smile and say, "I love you,"
I turn and say, "I wish we had time to say 'I do'."
We sit in the chairs and rock back and fourth, And watch down below us, how the birds fly north.

Illustration by Allegra Hu

Fall

By Caitlin Chicoski

It is my birthday time so cheer
Definitely Fall
My favorite season of the year
Definitely Fall
Fresh and crisp is the air
Definitely Fall
Schoolwork is not yet a care
Definitely Fall
Thoughts and hopes for the holiday times
Definitely Fall
Pushing in the leaf pile crimes
Definitely Fall
Marking the start of everything new
Definitely Fall
But one thing that is most important about Fall-
I get to see you!

The Ghost in the Attic

By Nicole Franklin

I woke up to a loud bang. “It’s just the new neighbor’s moving in next door,” I thought.

I got out of bed and slowly dragged my self down stairs to breakfast were my aunt was cooking. I heard another bang, but this time it was different. I was coming from upstairs. My aunt didn’t seem to notice though. I knew something was wrong. I started to go upstairs to see what happened. Then something very unexpected happened. I heard a loud and deadly scream. I rushed to kitchen as fast as I could just in time to see my aunt fade away.

I grabbed the phone and called the police as I rushed out the door. I told them everything that had happened. I don’t think they believed me, but the came to inspect the house right away. After four hours of being at the neighbor’s house, the inspection was done. The police said there was nothing to worry about. They thought I was just imaging it. They didn’t know what happened to my aunt though. I decided not to worry too much about what happened. I walked back into the house. Everything seemed. Then all of a sudden the world was gone and there was a scream.
To be continued…

It’s in the Game

By: Kristof Torok

When Mike stepped into the stadium, it was an amazing sight. The courts were as smooth as possible, and the seats were angled towards them. This was Mike’s first tennis tournament, and he was very excited, spite the fact that he was also very nervous. His father and coach both told him, “If you focus on the game, you will be able to win.” But Mike still felt nervous, scared that he wouldn’t win.

“Hey Mike!” shouted out his coach, Ben, “Let’s go and practice some serves before the match!”

Mike was eager to practice, especially serves, since that was his major weakness. Mike got his racquet, and ran to the base line, where Ben was waiting with a bin of balls at his side. Mike started his serves, which were okay at the beginning, but then as time shorted, his serves fell apart.

Ben noticed. “What is the matter with you?” he said, “If you play your serves like that, you will lose the whole entire match, 0-6, 0-6, 0-6!”

Mike looked down at the ball that he was holding.

“I am just nervous about the match,” he explained, “I am just afraid that I will lose the match.”

Ben looked at Mike’s eyes, “Mike, if you have confidence, you can win the game,” said Ben, “And playing a match doesn’t mean that you always have to win. You can learn a lot from losing,” then Ben’s face turned serious, “Not that I want you to lose, but it is all in the game, and most importantly, your confidence” Mike nodded and he resumed serving, feeling less nervous, and he made better serves, feeling much more confidant.

When the day ended, Mike went home with a trophy in his hands. He won his match 3-6, 6-3, 6-1, he never forgot his coach’s advice. Not even when he reached the finals in the French Open 12 years later.

Trick- or- Scare!

By Kayla Reid

Halloween is a special time of the year, where kids can dress up as their favorite characters.

On Halloween this year, kids go to school! During recess, kids start asking about their friend’s costume. Some say it is a surprise others say, wait and see. When the bell rings, kids start bursting home putting final touches on their costumes.
After that, it’s time to trick-or-treat for candy. While walking, two best friends come upon a haunted house.
“ Lets go inside,” said Mandy.
“ Lets not go inside. Remember Courtney?” said Shania.
“Well, that was last year, we are talking about this year! Come on! We will get *extra* candy. What, are you scared?”
“ I am not! Lets go inside.” said Shania proudly.
The two girls went inside.
Shania thought to herself *why did Mandy talk me into it? I’d should of listened to my gut. Curse my softness.*
Inside the haunted house, they saw a ghost flying around, trap doors, flying knives, and booby traps. While walking, they found a room with a cauldron of boiling water. Next to it was a broom being held by a witch.
“ Do not go in there. It’s a trap!” screamed Shania.
“Then you stay right here” Said Mandy.
“ Fine! Remember I warned you.”
“ Trick-or-Treat.” said Mandy.
The which holding the broom turned around to face Mandy “ Hello, I’m making me… a… hot… tub, yah that works. Do you want to test it out?”
“ Trick-or-Treat.”
“ Well, you can’t get candy if you won’t test it out.” said the witch impatiently.
“No thank you,” said Mandy.
“ Come on. Its not like it’s going to kill you or anything.”
To be continued….

Illustration by Kripa Solanki

The Soccer War

By Margaret Bannon

I leap into my dorm, grinning so hard I think my mouth will snap in two. I shriek, seeing the familiar tall, willowy figure of my best friend. She whips around.

"Lucy!" she screams, engulfing me in a big hug. I laugh, and breathe deeply. It's so good to be back!
I notice the two other empty beds. "Oh, yeah, The J+P are gone to a drama school in New York. We get new girls this time- twins. They should be here any minute; Mrs. Clark said that their plane would arrive soon."

Jess and Perry gone? They were hilarious. I know, I know, they really deserve this great opportunity, they are MEANT to be actresses, but still, I will miss them tons!

Just then, in come two girls. Identical red ponytails, jeans, and expensive- looking cashmere sweaters- the only difference I can see are the eyes- one has round ones, full of light and fun, and the other's are gleaming and almond- shaped, like a cats.
"The twins!!" I exclaim.
"Umm, Lucy? Like, duh?" Casey says. Oops, that wasn't a dumb comment, right? RIGHT??
Anyway, the twin with the laughing eyes giggles and introduces herself. Katie is the one with the round eyes, Allie is the cold one. WE chat for a few minutes, but Allie won't say a word.I turn to start doing Casey's hair- a tradition between us. We lesser beings, who were not physically blessed with Casey's thick, dark blonde curls, high cheekbones, smoky blue eyes, and perfect skin, would kill to look like her. She swears that I am pretty, in all my not- brown- not blonde- hair, plain -grey- eyes-ness, but I don't believe her. When I am done, I pull out my uniform. Groan. Back to the itchy blue and grey wool skirt, white Oxford blouse, blue tie, and blue blazer. If they are trying to teach us that we are unique, why do

we all need to be matching? We are halfway down the hall, and already I long for my favorite jeans and green sweater.

Katie is really nice- funny and bubbly, too. We laugh and chatter on our way down to chapel.
What is with Allie though? She won't say a word, and she rolls her eyes at our jokes. What the heck? I mean, there are people who just don't like you, and are rude, but we've known her for all of 5 minutes, and she acts like we insulted her!

I start to feel better after chapel when we enter the dining hall. Macaroni and cheese, warm French bread, and chocolate ice cream- really, who can stay grumpy with that heaped onto their plate? I dive in right away. Do you think three servings are too much? Considering the circumstances, I let myself eat as much as I wanted, but really, I don't ALWAYS do that. Just... sometimes. Er, sometimes, meaning whenever I like the food, meaning, well, OK, always. Fine. But really, is it MY fault that Pinehall has the BEST kitchen staff ever?

After dinner, full and satisfied, I head back to my dorm room. Casey quickly runs to the common room to get hot chocolate from the machine, and we cluster in a circle between our beds, sipping happily.

"So, what do you guys like to do?" Katie asks.
"Oh, I draw, and play field hockey. Last time I didn't make the First Team, but I really want to this year." Casey says."What about you?"
"OH, you know, I run a little, I play tennis, and I like Math."
Wait. I got all of that but the first part. Like and Math just don't go together in my vocabulary. Katie turns to me. "What do you do, Lucy?"
"I play soccer, mostly. I made the 6th grade team last year. Tryouts for the grade teams are tomorrow."
"Oh, you'll do great! Lucy is just modest. She's awesome at soccer. She was the top 6th grade striker last year!!" Casey declares proudly. I can't help it, I grin. Katie grins back, but Allie gives me an evil glare.
"Hey, Alls, you played soccer last year, too, right? Maybe you should try out! I'm sure Lucy could give you some tips!!" Katie says cheerfully. I nod.
"I don't need help. I was the top striker at my school last year, too. You just may find out that it ain't so easy anymore, Miss Top Striker. We'll just have to see about this year, now won't we?" Allie says her voice is like oil-slick, smooth, and icy cold. She leaps up and quietly walks out of the room.

The bang of the door makes us all jump, and slices through the cold silence like a knife. I look around. Casey looks stunned, and Katie, sad and sheepish. I feel anger starting to form in my stomach, like a pot of water just starting to boil. Well, she wants a challenge, does she? Then a challenge she will get. Miss Allie the Great does not know what she asked for.

To be continued…

The Adventurous Adventures of Dina Wilson

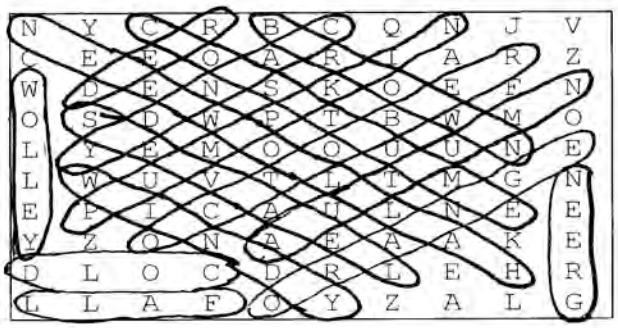
By Anna Muenning

Hi, my name is Dina Wilson. I'm kind of stuck in a pickle right now, but I'll tell you my story. I'll start at the beginning. It was an unusually dark Tuesday morning. As you might have guessed I was going to school. Then suddenly, out of nowhere came five ninjas. They somehow knocked me out and when I woke up, I was locked in cage. All of a sudden a bright light came on. Sitting in front of me was the most evil person you could imagine, multiplied by 88. That man's name was Horatio N. Serpentis. Don't ask me where the "Serpentis" part came from. Then he started asking me questions. For instance, where did I live? What were my hobbies? But the question that really caught me by surprise was what powers do you have? I was outraged. The evilest man alive in my world is asking me if I have any powers?!

I shrieked "I don't have any powers so get me out of this cage and out of this dark room!"

Then the weirdest thing happened. The cage burst open as if on cue. I didn't waste my opportunity. I ran. I unlocked the front door and jumped and ran in a random direction. I had no idea what I was doing or where I was going, but I still ran. I ran until I came to a fork in the road. The left sign said, "Happy Place". The other said "A Nightmare come true". Of course I didn't have time to read them. So I ran right. Probably not one of the best moves I've ever made. The main reason was probably because I have tons and tons of fears. One of my worst fears was coming across wild animals. Just as I thought that a group of cheetahs swarmed around me yellow, fanged, spotted, CHEETAHS!!! Now here I am telling my story to you and a swarm of hungry cheetahs. I ask you two favors. One keep listening to my stories. Two, help me please!
To be continued…

ACTIVITY PAGE ANSWERS



Answer key
Crossword Puzzle
Answer Key

1 s	a	w		9 v	i	5 o	l	i	n
m						p			
a			3 c		6 h	a	l	10 f	
4 r	e	d	o			q		u	
t			o			u		l	
2 b	o	o	k	s	h	e	l	f	
o			i					i	
a			n			8 g	o	l	d
r			7 g	a	l	e		l	
d						m			

ANSWERS FOR THANKSGIVING TRIVIA:

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. D

Scramble Answers:

1. Ms. Chessman
2. Ms. Johnson
3. Ms. Schneider
4. M. Blouwolff
5. The Locker
6. Gym A
7. Fitness Center
8. Mr. Bogage