

The Westampton Eye

Aaliyah T., Editor in Chief • Hailie Anne W., Design Editor
Editorial Staff: Alexis C., Assata A.S., Saniya S. • Ms. Soult, Advisor



Our School Play: The Wizard Of Oz

By: Alex M. and Saniya S.

WMS' drama department hosted their annual play this year, and this time it was The Wizard of Oz. The drama department worked really hard to put the show together. We contacted Mr. Condoleon, Mr. Tornquist, and the leading roles to get their input on the production and the process. The production took place on March 16 through March 18.

Brendan C. enjoyed his role as the Cowardly Lion. "I'm grateful that Mr. C. and Mr. T considered and picked me for this part," he said. "Rehearsals have been both hard work and fun!" On the topic of his costume, he said, "My costume looks awesome (and fluffy!). I'm going to be sweating in that thing."

Megan R., with the lead role of Dorothy, said that she was very excited. "Last year I was cast as Rapunzel. That's when I started to realize how much I love theater. When I got casted as Dorothy this year I was beyond excited, I was on cloud 9. But it sunk in and I realized how much of a commitment it was. But it's worth it, to be with my second family doing what I love."

Alainna, a stage crew member, put up decorations for the bulletin board. Mr. C worked with Brinda P., Megan R., Brendan C., Gabe W., Kaitlyn O., Justine S., and the ensemble on stage.

In addition, we interviewed Mr. C about this year's cast.

- Q. How many years have you been doing the drama department? **6 years.**
- Q. What would be your first choice for next year's play? **Hairspray or Guys and Dolls**
- Q. Have this year's group been fun to work with? **Great group. They worked really hard.**
- Q. How did you choose the roles for the play? **Two days of auditions.**
- Q. Was rehearsing the play harder or easier than last year's *Into the Woods*? **Technically it was much harder this year.**
- Q. How are the costumes and props compared to past years? **Different, but just as good.**



Gold Satori

By Brendan C.

Since the beginning of the school year, a handful of 8th graders who were part of the ROGATE program and earned either a Bronze or Silver Satori award last year are now taking part in an extensive program called Gold Satori. They took the topics they chose to research last year and continued their research, as they had to complete community service based on their topic, and then branch out to many different options, including publishing an article on their research, extend the research they started last year and present a revised version of their presentation, or even taking the SATs (yes, those SATs). For example, I continued my topic on classic mythology

and its presentation in modern-day media, I scheduled and hosted a Greek myth-themed Lego build for kids at the county library. Aryana M., another student involved with the program (whose thesis was that modern Americans attempt to multitask, while it is impossible for humans to do so), also decided to take the SATs, but chose to publish an article pertaining to her research on teenink.com. Both she and I hope to complete our research and obtain our awards later in the school year. Other students in the program are Brinda P., Ami'yannah D., and Gabriel W.



Star Students

Brinda P. (by Zaya M.)

Every year, an eighth grade student gets chosen from a school in Burlington County. This year a student from WMS won! Congratulations Brinda P!! We interviewed her; here are her thoughts: Brinda was chosen by Gary Hoffman. She said she was surprised, excited and happy. According to Brinda, she had to write an essay which took her from the end of December to January 17. She needed to give thought in the essay so it would stand out to Hoffman. Brinda is very excited and now gets a dinner with two guests.

Brendan C. (by Ian M.)

The SAT (or Scholastic Aptitude Test) is a standardized college entrance exam constructed by College Board. Recently, an eighth grade received an exceptionally high score on the SAT, even though the assessment is for high schoolers. The scholar? Brendan C! Brendan scored a 1150 out of 1600, which is 150 points above the average high school Junior. Upon asking Brendan, "How has this made you feel?" he responded, "I worked extremely hard to achieve this, and it seems that it paid off, so I feel accomplished. I studied for hours at a time hoping to not fail, and what resulted was a score higher than what I could have imagined." Once again, congrats to Brendan!

Aryana M. (by Hailie Anne W.)

Aryana M., an eighth grade honors student, recently was published. Yes, **officially** published, on the Teen Ink website. This was a component to her Gold Satori research, a research program she performed in 7th grade for ROGATE. Last year her research won silver at the regional competition, and this year she hopes to earn the gold. You can read her article online at: <http://www.teenink.com/nonfiction/academic/article/pffac8262063b98e9/Can-You-Multitask/>

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ROGATE Exposition

By: Alexis C. and Saniya S.

If you're in seventh or eighth grade, you've probably noticed that some of your peers have been leaving their classes to go to the library to participate in a program called ROGATE. ROGATE stands for Research Opportunities for Gifted and Talented Education. About sixteen students from the seventh and eighth grade participate in this program. Each student is to research and present a critical issue or a topic about which they are passionate.

ROGATE students had to obtain primary source interviews from professionals in the field of their subject. In addition, ROGATE students had to cast surveys within their school; many of which you may have answered in Google Forms.

For the past few weeks, students have been working hard to put together their final presentation and speech as it is around the time for dress rehearsals. The regional exposition in which ROGATE students will be formally presenting their topics will take place on May 22, 2017 at Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ. Good luck to all students in ROGATE!

Open Mic Night

By Alexis C.

On February 24, WMS held its annual Open Mic Night and Art Viewing. Open Mic Night is an event held at WMS where students may showcase their talents freely. Simply put, Open Mic Night is similar to the Talent Show, only a bit more laidback, with less pressure on the performers and a less serious air. According to performer Zaya M., "It was amazing. It was casual but fun at the same time." Several other students besides Zaya performed, with acts varying from singing to playing instruments to even stand up comedy!

The complete list of student participants is as follows: Max B., Michael H., Antoine B., Troy S., Nevaeh B., Alana L., Zaya M., Krysten W., Megan C., Kaitlyn O., Nia P., Sanai J., Sophia A., Collin S., Theo R., Emmanuel I., Kristina P., Chelsea D., Kayla P., Solaya M., Sophia G., Gabby K.

In addition to the performances, Mrs. Greeby had an artwork display, which showcased a few of the projects made by our talented student body. There was also a concessions stand, with one free hot chocolate and one cookie included in admissions.

Battle of the Books Competition: Grade 5/6

By Zaya M.

Battle of the Books is a school club in which students read a certain number of books for a book list, write questions, and compete against different schools about those books. WMS holds a competition every year at another school. There was a 30 question test to determine who would get into the competitive team. The 7 who made it scored the highest on their quizzes. The lucky 7 were; Zaya M. (captain), Juliana P. (secretary), Sam O., Carter W., Ashley M., Ben P. and Julia W. (alternate). Each member was assigned 3 books out of 15 books in total.

On March 13th, WMS students in fifth and sixth grade who were chosen for the Battle of the Books competitive team competed against teams. The competition was at Cinnaminson Middle School. At the competition, Zaya M. was captain. She states the answers of the questions. Juliana P. was secretary. She got to write down every answer of each question. There were two rounds which were each fifty minutes. According to Ashley M., "Both rounds went by super quickly. After the battle, we thought we only did one round!". After the battle, each team got pizza and dessert.

Then, the results got in. Westampton got excited; they were not called up with the honorable mentions, so they had gotten either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place. The teacher called 3rd place. The anticipation was building — Westampton got either 1st or 2nd place. Then the teacher called 2nd place. Everyone was shocked. Westampton won **FIRST PLACE** in the battle!



STREAM Fair

By Hailie Anne W.

STREAM (science, technology, research, engineering, the arts, and math) is an enrichment program open to fifth and sixth grade students with eligible test scores, grades, and teacher recommendation. Each week, students complete a research project and lab activity with Ms. Soult in the library media center. These projects comprise the students' portfolios.

On Monday, March 27, students showcased their final projects in WMS' first

STREAM Fair, a science fair with projects ranging from psychology to chemistry. All projects needed a research component to tie-in the skills learned throughout the year in STREAM, but students were allowed to choose their own topics and make their own labs at home. Some showed video presentations, some in-person demonstrations, and others included photographs of their science projects to be reviewed by both student and teacher judges.

The fair was open all day for students and staff to explore. At the end of the day, three projects were announced as overall winners. They were:

- First place: Carly S., "Vitamins vs. Vitamins"

- Second place: Jordan F., "Colored Flowers"
- Third place: Jimmy T. and Theo R., "Soda Explosion"
- Honorable Mention "Students' Choice Award": Abby B. "Volcanic Chemical Reaction"

Teacher judges included Ms. Soult, Mrs. Greeby, Mrs. Marra, Mr. Andris, and Mr. Scheffold ("Mr. Bill"). Judges examined a variety of criteria, including creativity, research, and scope. All students who participated earned a certificate of achievement.

Congratulations to all STREAM students!

Spring Book Fair

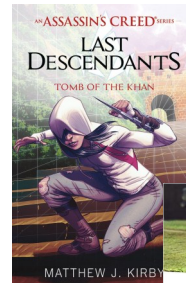


By Aaliyah T.

The November book fair snuck up on some students, but you all have a chance to redeem yourself. On May 16-19 WMS will be hosting their spring book fair. Classes will go down to the library for approximately 25 minutes during their language arts class to purchase books. Books prices can range from about \$2-\$25. All of the proceeds from the book fair will directly go to benefit our

school library. At the book fair there will be action packed thrillers, teen dramas, books about heroes, and today's most popular picks. You can view this year's featured reads online at <http://bookfairsfiles.scholastic.com/flippingbooks/S17-MS-booklist/S17-MS-booklist.html>

In addition to books, the spring book fair will also feature cool pencil case supplies and even journals. The goal for this book fair is to raise even more money than we did last book fair, and there will be raffle tickets with each purchase. The raffle will give one lucky student winner a breakfast party during school for up to six of their closest friends. Let's make this book fair even better than the last.



Battle of the Books Competition: Grades 7/8

By Hailie Anne W.

On March 17, 2017, six seventh and eighth graders travelled to Cinnaminson Middle School. Why? To show off their reading skills in the regional Battle of the Books competition.

As Zaya noted, Battle of the Books is a reading enrichment club. Every year, students are assigned a list of 15 books. At the 7/8 grade level, books are intentionally chosen to have very similar themes, characters, symbols, and motifs. The questions are complex and very difficult to answer.

Each team has 30 seconds to discuss, solve, and write down their answer to be

scored. Questions are asked rapid-fire for two 50-minute rounds. It gets intense!

This year our 7/8 team earned an honorable mention. Team members were: Hailie Anne W. (captain), Aryana M. (secretary), Brinda P. (co-captain), Aaliyah T., Melanie N., Emily S., and Sara T. (alternate). Congratulations, readers!

If you are interested in joining Battle of the Books, please see Ms. Soult to obtain a reading list. Students may begin reading over the summer.

Star Students

Aaliyah T. (by Alexis C.)

Aaliyah T. is an exceptional straight A student who participates in 8 school activities. Recently, she has been chosen to be the representative for WMS in Tech Trek, a week-long summer program for aspiring female engineers. When asked to describe her feelings on being selected for Tech Trek, she said, "I am honored to be a part of the (Tech Trek) program, and I will represent our school well." Congratulations, Aaliyah!

STEAM Tank Finalists (by Hailie Anne W.)

STEAM Tank, an innovative contest similar to Shark Tank, challenged students across the state to solve an issue challenging today's world. Fifteen finalists were chosen for South Jersey, and three of those teams were from WMS! Good luck to the following students at the regional competition on May 5. We hope you all make it to the state finals!

- Ami'yannah D. and Aryana M.—"Robo Doggie"
- Emily S.—"Auto Tune for Instruments"
- Alexis C. and Aleksandra K.—"Breathalyzer Buddy"

We would like to congratulate Dr. DiSalvio and Ms. Giordano on receiving the Staff Spotlight for March/April. These teachers have made an outstanding impression on their students.

Be sure to vote for the May and June Staff members on our Google Form, sent to your WMS G-Mail.

March Spotlight: Ms. Giordano

By Krysten W.

Our March Staff Spotlight winner is fifth grade teacher, Ms. Giordano. Here is what she had to say.

What subject do you teach? I teach fifth grade language arts and social studies. I am also the NJHS advisor.

What are your expectations out of your students? First and foremost, I expect my students to be kind, caring, and compassionate individuals. In addition, I expect my students to follow and pursue their dreams. I hope that I am able to instill a love of reading and writing in my students.

What grades have you taught and which one is your

favorite? I have taught fourth and fifth grade, but I prefer teaching fifth grade because I get to teach my two favorite

subjects.

How many years have you worked at WMS? I have worked at WMS for three years.

What were the events that led up to your teaching career? I have known that I wanted to be a teacher ever since I was in first grade; I had an amazing, caring teacher who really inspired me. I attended The College of New Jersey to get my undergraduate degree in teaching, and then I went back to school to get my degree as a reading specialist from Fairleigh Dickinson University. I have always loved school.

What are some of your hobbies? Some of my hobbies include reading, running, traveling, and trying new restaurants.

How do you feel being picked for Staff Spotlight? I feel honored that I was chosen for Staff Spotlight. I also feel very lucky to be able to do something that I love every day. My students mean the world to me!

April Spotlight: Dr. DiSalvio

By Saniya S.

Dr. DiSalvio has taught at WMS for a total of three years. Although this is his first year back, Dr. DiSalvio taught at WMS during its 2009- 2010 and 2010- 2011 years. He teaches 7th and 8th grade general music, Wind Ensemble, String Ensemble, Jazz Band, and 4th grade band down at Holly Hills.

Dr. DiSalvio's hobbies are, obviously, playing music. He plays a plethora of instruments including but not limited to the saxophone, horn, clarinet, flute, piano, percussion, violin, and more. Being active is an additional hobby of his that is accompanied by a weekly goal of exercising five times a week at the gym. In his spare time, Dr. DiSalvio enjoys juggling and occasionally plays video games.

He has taught all grades ranging from elementary school, to middle, to high school, in addition to numerous universities. He has even taught music to a 65- year old

retiree. Teaching music is an honor, no matter what age it's for, therefore, Dr. DiSalvio doesn't have a favorite grade or age group.

From his students, Dr. DiSalvio expects his students to reach out of their comfort zones. As like many situations in life, music is often located outside of a person's comfort zone. Music is about overcoming these obstacles and pushing through in even the most dire situations.

The root of Dr. DiSalvio's music career stemmed from his fourth grade experience when he joined band. " Ever since then, I've immersed myself in music in every aspect of my life. From performing in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, and Italy in high school, as well as at Yankee Stadium, Giants Stadium, and in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, through my college years performing with other amazing musicians, as well as my Master's and Doctoral Degrees, it all started in 4th grade when I first picked up a saxophone."

All in all, Dr. DiSalvio was thrilled to be chosen for this immense honor, and is thankful for all the students who voted for him.

A quote that Dr. DiSalvio always lives by is ten words long, each consisting of two letters. "If it is to be, it is up to me."



We would like to congratulate Ms. England and Mr. Condoleon on receiving the Staff Spotlight for May/June. These teachers have made an outstanding impression on their students.

May Spotlight: Ms. England

Interview By Riley S.

Many of you know Ms. England as the Student Council Advisor, but did you know she also teaches every grade at WMS? *The Westampton Eye* interviewed her about winning the Staff Spotlight and her thoughts on teaching:

How long have you been teaching? I am currently in my fourth year of teaching. I began my teaching career right here at Westampton Middle School!

Why did you become a teacher? I actually thought I would never want to be a teacher when I was growing up because my mother is a teacher. I wanted to be different than her and had an interest in cooking and food, so I almost went to school to become a Dietitian. However, my

parents always spoke in secret about how pursuing teaching would be a strong career path for me. I came to this realization on my own as a Junior in high school when I helped to plan a fundraising dinner for an organization known as Parents of Autistic Children (POAC). Student Council helped me to realize that what I really wanted to do in life was help people, work with children, and help to shape the future!

What was your favorite subject in school?

Even though I teach mostly math, I was actually a very artistic student. I loved Language Arts, and feverishly wrote poems when I was in middle school. I was in the honors Art program in my high school, and enjoyed studying foreign languages.

What advice do you give your students?

Any of my 5th grade students will tell you I'm constantly reminding them to KISS (Keep It Simple, Silly)! Sometimes in life we make things more complicated than they need to be. I also try to teach my students the importance of being kind without seeking recognition for it.

What activities do you do in your spare time?

In my free time, you can find me at home training my puppy, painting with watercolors, studying for graduate school (I'm getting my Master's to become a Reading Practitioner and will be done in August! Yay!), cooking, practicing light yoga, and dreaming of when I can hike again.



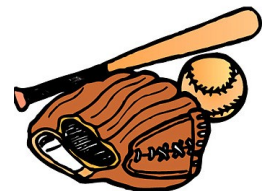
June Spotlight: Mr. Condoleon

By Ian M.

You asked, we delivered: for the last Staff Spotlight of the school year at Westampton Middle School, the *Westampton Eye* sent out a survey asking students which teacher they thought was special. After we collected the results, the newspaper staff found out who won: Mr. Condoleon, an 8th grade Inclusion teacher!

Upon asking Mr. Condoleon, "How long have you been teaching?" he said, "This is my sixth year. Time flies!" When inquired, "How long do you think you'll remember this moment?" he replied, "I'll remember it forever!" Lastly, when

asked, "What advice do you give to your students?" he responded, "I tell them to respect the talent and put in serious work. I'm a strong believer of hard work paying dividends in the future. Whether its in the classroom, on stage, or on a baseball diamond, I expect them to work as hard as they can. In my six years, the amount of growth and results I've seen has been tremendous." Congrats to Mr. Condoleon!



Women's History: Frida Kahlo

By Noor E.

Kahlo de Rivera was a Mexican painter, widely known for her self-portraits.

Revered as a feminist icon, Kahlo was also known for pain and passion, and bold, vibrant colors in her paintings. Kahlo once stated "I paint self-portraits because I am so often alone, because I am the person I know best". According to biography.com, Frida Kahlo was born with the name Magdalena Carmen Frieda Kahlo y Calderón. Kahlo was born on July 6, 1907, and was raised in Mexico city. she later died on July 13, 1954, shortly after her forty-seventh birthday. Kahlo studied at the Mexico National Preparatory School. She paints nature and her pain.



The Two Fridas



Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird

Birthday Biography: Mr. Hockey

By AJ G.

Gordie Howe was born on March 31, 1929 in Floral, Saskatchewan, Canada. Howe played in the NHL for a record 26 seasons, and played 6 seasons in the WHA. Howe is most notable for playing on the Detroit Red Wings of the NHL. He also played for the Hartford Whalers in his last season in the NHL. Sadly, on June 10, 2016, he passed away due to a stroke. He was 88 years of age.

The start of Howe's NHL career was when he was 15 years old. According to

the [World Biography](#), the New York Rangers invited Howe to a pro try-out, but the director of the camp was not impressed. He said he would never make the major leagues. Despite his rejection, the next year, the Detroit Red Wings offered Howe a try-out; Coach Jack Adams was very impressed, and gave Howe his first pro contract.

When he joined, he was assigned to Detroit's minor league team in Omaha, Nebraska. He exceeded their expectations, and played in the big leagues (NHL) the following season. He played 25 seasons with the Detroit

Red Wings and had 793 goals, 997 assists, and 1,790 points. He played 6 seasons in the WHA and had 174 goals, 334 assists, and 508 points. He played one last season in the NHL with the Hartford Whalers, and finished his career with 801 goals, 1,023 assists, and 1,850 points. He is 2nd all-time in goals, 9th all-time in assists, and 4th all-time in points.



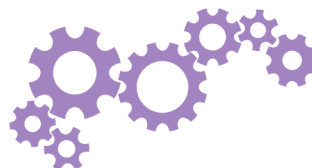
STEAM Tank

By Alexis C. and Ian M.

Have you ever seen Shark Tank? If so, you're going to love this! Recently at Westampton Middle, some of the top ranking students are attempting to change the world in a program we call "SteamTank". SteamTank is similar to Shark Tank, except SteamTank is designed for Grades 5-8, and is only available to New Jersey residents. The plot of SteamTank goes as follows: students will first go to a regional competition. They will present their ideas to a panel of judges in hopes of persuading them to chose their idea to move on to the state competition. Students will submit a Google Document to their advisor. According to the Steam Tank contest rules: "Entries will be accepted via a Google Doc. The deadline for receiving completed applications was March 17, 2017. The U.S. Army and NJSBA (New Jersey School Boards

Association) will evaluate all entries and invite teams to participate in the regional competition. Entrants will be notified of the decision by March 31, 2017." The participants are

- **8th grade:** Brendan C., Hailie Anne W., Ami'yannah D., Aryana M., Emily S.
- **7th grade:** Aaliyah T., Aleksandra K., Alexis C., Kyle M., Logan B., Nicholas M., Saniya S., Saul W., Ian M.
- **6th grade:** Abigail B., Aidan S., Hannah P., Harshveer B., Jimmy T.
- **5th grade:** Antoine B., Nick M., and Zaya M.



Sports Poll

By Tony T. and AJ G.



This is the March/April sports poll about the MLS cup and soccer teams. The team that had the most votes was the L.A. Galaxy 20. The second most votes was the Philadelphia Union with 16 votes, and the team with the third most votes was the New York Red Bulls.

- 1.L.A. Galaxy= 20 votes
- 2.Philadelphia Union=16 votes
- 3.NY Red Bull=9 votes
- 4.New England Revolution=8 votes
- 5.Toronto FC=7 votes
- 6.NYCFc=5 votes
- 7.Seattle Sounders=5 votes
- 8.Portland Timbers=4 votes
- 9.FC Dallas=3 votes
- 10.Orlando City FC=2 votes
- 11.Colorado Rapids=2 votes
- 12.Los Angeles FC= 2 votes
- 13.Chicago Fire Soccer Club=1 votes
- 14. Sporting Kansas City=1 votes
- 15.Atlanta United FC=1 votes
- 16.Minnesota United FC=1 votes
- 17.Columbus Crew SC=1 votes
- 18D.C. United=1 votes

Spring Sports

By L'Nasia B.

Are you looking for a fun way to be active this spring? Consider some of these exciting sports and their benefits!

Soccer - can increase kicking skills.

Softball or Baseball - Improve your hand/eye coordination and improve your swing.

Lacrosse - improve teamwork and throwing/handling.

Golf - hitting skills; patience.

Swimming - pace, stamina, and hard work.

Track - improve running abilities and increase stamina.

Basketball - pace and teamwork; focus.

Football - teamwork; concentration and coordination.

The sports above should be very fun and active to play outside this spring.

Being active in your life is important to be healthy, and gets you exercise. Exercising is important because it will increase your stamina and can challenge you in many ways. Running, jumping, cycling and other activities are a good way to work out in the nice weather.



Important Websites

By Assata A.S.

Here are some useful links that I have used for projects or writing. Most of these websites are used in 8th grade and 7th grade classrooms. They are useful for everyday things, and always work last minute!



- School work
Grammarly.com
Biography.com
Thuerdsas.com
Dictionary.com
Newsela.com
Wordhippo.com
History.com
Google.com
Westamptonschools.org
- Studying
Quizlet.com
Desmos.com
Kahoot.com
Edmodo.com

- Inspiration
quotegarden.com
Brainyquote.com
Pinterest.com
Picmonkey.com

- Reading
Shmoop.com
Cliffsnotes.com
Sparknotes.com
Nytimes.com

- Entertainment
Netflix.com
Pandora.com
Vevo.com
Weather.com



Quirky Holidays

National Sibling Day

By Krysten W.

Date Celebrated: April 10

National Sibling Day is a day where you cherish your brothers and sisters. Even though you might not notice it, siblings are a blessing to anyone because if you're having a hard time, they're there for you. National Sibling Day is a day to appreciate your siblings for all they've done for you. According to holidayinsights.com, it's a great time to be thankful for your siblings. You can get in touch with your siblings by sending cards. Send cards, go visit, call them or even send flowers. According to Claudia A. Evert, President and Founder of this day, it was "initiated National Sibling Day after the tragic deaths of her brother and sister." So, go and be grateful for your siblings and spend a whole day loving them!

Make Your Own Holiday Day!

By L'Nasia B

According to holidayinsights.com, Make Your Own Holiday Day is celebrated on March 26th, 2017 this year! On this day, people all around the world are able to make up their own holiday to celebrate. Any idea you can imagine! This is a day to express ideas into a holiday. Usually, millions of holidays are on this one day because of everyone's ideas.

For example: Have you ever heard of, "Submarine Day," "Proposal Day," "Waffle Day," "Puppy Day," or even "OK Day?" Probably not, but you can make up holidays on this day, too.

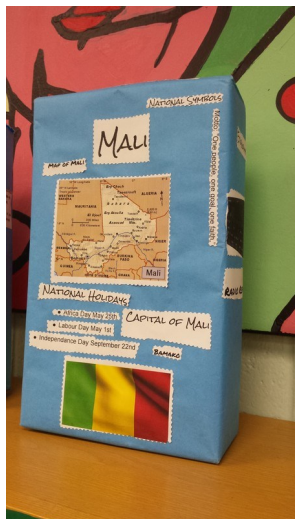
This fun event can be official or just to play around. The government can actually approve of a holiday if the Supreme Court commits to the idea. But if you don't want to go through all the work of setting that up, you can stick to having a wild imagination of a holiday and just celebrate it personally. This day is for everyone and anyone to make their own unique, creative holiday that expresses them! Have fun creating!

Global Connections

By Aaliyah T.; Photos courtesy Ms. Soult

On Tuesday, March 21, 2017, at 9:00 am, Madame Fassoukoye, a high school teacher from Mali, came to visit our school. The select chorus greeted her with two songs along with the aid of the wind ensemble percussion. Afterwards, students Aryanna M. and Brinda P. read the story of *Sundiata*, the lion king. At the conclusion of their story, I was able to have a sit-down interview with our two visitors.

Madame Fassoukoye explained what school in Mali was like. The classes are slightly larger than ours, but the students interact very similarly to how we do. Madame Fassoukoye then presented a slide show explaining life, traditions and culture of people for Mali. Madame Fassoukoye then traveled to Holly Hills and RVRHS. She later returned for a tour around the school led by the STUCO officers as well as the President and the VP the multi-cultural club.



Advice

By Sophie L.

"My best friend is moving away and I probably won't ever see them again. I'm really upset about it. What should I do?"

Answer: First, before they move say that it was nice having them as a friend. I would ask if they are moving far. If they move far, you could possibly try and have a conversation with letters. If they happen to be somewhere near, you should ask your friend where they are moving. Then, you can probably have a play date or hangout sometime. You can also keep in contact with them with a device. Don't forget the future; you guys could end up in the same high school. Life can't always be the same; you could make new friends and have other old friends. I hope this keeps your friendship together and keeps you in contact with your friend.

Students on National Winning Dance Team Perform at 76ers Game

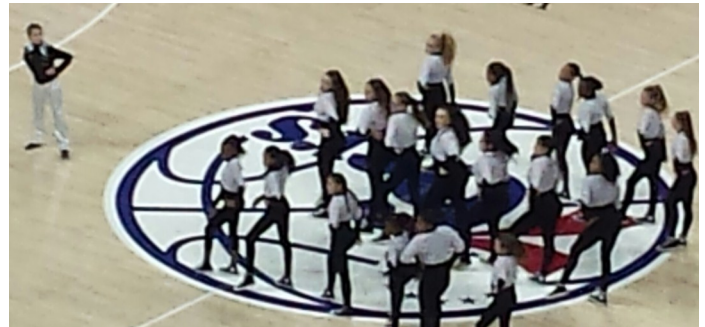
By Hailie Anne W.

Eighth grader Hailie Anne W. and seventh grader Kylee A. performed with their competitive dance team at the February 24th 76ers game. Dansations Competition Team, aka DCT, performed in the pre-game show. The dance they performed was called "Yonce," which was award winning and placed first at every competition as well as Nationals in 2016. As Kylee A. describes "I was excited and nervous at the same time."



I, Hailie Anne, feel like it was one of the best experiences of my life. Showing up to the stadium on Friday night made us feel like stars. When we waited in the back we were all giving each other pep talk until we were called onto the

court. Our coach said that we performed with so much passion it amazed her. Great opportunities will happen for everyone just like this opportunity for DCT and their members.



Review: Outrageous Acts of Science

By: Alexander M.

Outrageous Acts of Science appeals to minds of all ages, demonstrating all kinds of different "Acts of Science;" it shows how the person performed the stunt and also explains the science behind the act. It's not just chemical experiments; one episode showed two adults building a fully functional jetpack! Another featured a hoverbike, made by Colin

Furze, a recurring scientist and home garage inventor. This means he invents things in his garage. In one amazing experiment, a home scientist took bowling balls and put them on a pendulum to make art. In an episode called Super Humans, a trapeze artist flew around on a fabric connected to the top of a bridge! According to IMDb, this show has a rating of 7.4/10. New shows air every Wednesday at 9 o'clock on the Science Channel.

I do recommend this show to all the science brains out there.



Review: Middle School: The Worst Years of My

By Nicholas M.

Are you looking for a family friendly movie to watch with friends? I recommend watching the movie *Middle School the Worst Years of My Life*. The movie is based of the book James Patterson's Middle School the Worst Years of My Life. It is rated PG so it is appropriate for most

audiences. *Worst Years of My Life* is about a kid named Rafe Khatchadorian (played by Griffin Gluck) who goes to a new school called Hills Village Middle School with his sinister principal, Principal Dwight (played by Andy Daly) who has a whole book of very strict rules. Meanwhile, Rafe has a crush on a girl named Jeanne Galletta (played by Isabela Moner). According to the

Rotten Tomatoes website, *Middle School* only earned a 57% approval rate. Despite the review, I enjoyed the movie. So if you're looking for a family and wondering what movie to watch, I totally recommend you watch this movie.



Career Fair *By Alexis C.*

"I've had a long day at work." We've all heard this at one point or another, and most of us want to find a job where we come home not exhausted, but excited and thankful for our career choice. Over 50 professionals came to talk about the job they love to do and what is required of students who wish to pursue said career. Loan officer Ester Hubler, social worker Lisa Pinkerton, project manager Kelsey Pagdon, Pharmacist Maulika Patel, Nurse Ali Pasquarello, Academic Counselor Amber Henley, graphic designer Kevin Pagdon, architect Scott England, lawyer Linda Hynes, realtor Maureen Smith-Hartman, entrepreneur Karen Maier, entrepreneur Taamika Johnson, hospitality

specialist Antoine Avignon, health practitioner Jacquelyn Eckert, Director of Community Relations Stacey-An Easy, Craig Farnsworth from the Fire Dept., L.T. Rogers from the Police Dept., Mayor C. Andre Daniels, chef Jeff Duda, Senior Recruiter and Field Operations specialist Alexis England, Community Partner and Volunteer Coordinator Jen Myers, Restaurant Owner and Proprietor Pat O'Connor, civil engineer Chris Marra, media production expert Tara Gordon, lawyer Scott Goldstein, oncology nurse Erika Viggiano, CPA Evan Rosenthal, Army E4 specialist John Merritt, PA Kristi Kehoe, Operations Manager Dwayne Jennings, software engineer Kevin Montgomery, photographer Jennifer Ludwig, business development man-

ager Todd Smith, Environmental Scientist Teresa Schittone, Director of Marketing & Product Development Anthony Petruzzi, aircraft avionic technician John Schadt, Architect Daniel Schittone, Politician Tennille McCoy, R&B Recording Artist Bradd Marquis, Clothing Designer Tony Jackson, Craig McGill responsible for camera production for Good Morning America, doctor Shinnette McRae, musician and Broadway actress who stars in the Broadway Musical "The Color Purple" Carrie Compere, civil engineer Cameron Corini, and eCommerce Marketer Meaghan McCarthy. all participated.

EGOT

By Brendan C.

Anyone who thinks that I either left my caps lock on, doesn't know how to spell, or both should probably continue to read this. EGOT is an acronym for "Emmy" (award for excellence in TV), "Grammy" (Music), "Oscar" (Movies), and "Tony" (Broadway), and is used as a noun for people who have won these 4 prestigious awards.

According to People.com, only

12 people have been able to do this: Richard Rodgers, Helen Hayes, Rita Moreno, John Gielgud, Audrey Hepburn, Marvin Hamlisch, Jonathan Tunick, Mel Brooks, Mike Nichols, Whoopi Goldberg, Scott Rudin, and Robert Lopez.

Today, there are still many dozen artists who are only one award away, including, according to the LA Times, James Earl Jones (Oscar), Dick Van Dyke (Oscar), Al Pachino (Grammy), and, most recently, Hamilton scribe Lin-Manuel Miranda, who will not only EGOT, but MacPEGOT, which is the original EGOT along with a Pulitzer Prize and a MacArthur

Fellowship Award. Doing this would make him him the first person in history to do so, yet all he needs is the O: an Oscar.

At the time of publication, the ceremony is still 3 weeks away, and he is currently nominated for Best Song, as he wrote some of the music in November's "Moana".



Students Abroad: Dominican Republic

By Zaya M.

In early February, I was fortunate enough to go to Nickelodeon resort. This wasn't just any Nickelodeon resort, it was in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic! When we first got there, I got a slime smoothie! Our room had a pool on the balcony and we could swim up to a restaurant. Other than that one, there was 9 more restaurants, a waterpark, a kid's club, and 6 pools.

According to TripAdvisor, Nickelodeon has a four star rating. The resort was the

size of a village! We went to every single restaurant. The first one was called Space Walker. Obviously, it was space themed. The waiters and waitresses were dressed in spacesuits and goggles.

The next restaurant was WokWok. It was Asian themed. There was a ginger cake which was very spicy! Another restaurant was Zest. It was a buffet with Mediterranean food. Next was Lighthouse. This was another buffet with American food. Furthermore, there was Brgrs.PH. This was a unique burger joint. Afterward, we went to Verdello.

This was an ornate Italian restaurant with delicious pasta and salads.

There was also a waterpark. We got slimed three times! We had to sit on a bench and the employees counted down from 5 and pulled a lever to slime us!

The trip was so exciting. It was a once in a lifetime experience!



Students Abroad: New York City

By Zaya M

In late March, I traveled to New York City. On the first day, my family drove to the Statue of Liberty. We spent the whole day there checking out the statue. First, we went on a boat to get to Ellis Island. There was a museum about the history of the Statue of Liberty. We didn't spend too much time there. We then took a boat to the statue. Traveling up the 354 stairs was so tiring. When we got on the base, the wind was blowing like

crazy! My hat flew off when I was 151 feet up! The statue was a great experience, even though it was outrageous.

After visiting the Statue of Liberty, I rode the subway to NYC. My family checked into our hotel and it was really nice! Our room was right on the city and it was such a nice view. We spent the week at the hotel going to fun places like the art museum, I saw the real Starry Night! I also visited, Also, the American Girl store, the Hershey's Chocolate store,

the M&M's store, and so much more. According to TripAdvisor, the American Girl Store has a 4.5 star rating.

On Friday it was my birthday. Since we were in New York City, we decided to go to the Today Show. At first, we were behind a lot of people, but we finally got front row spots. I got on TV on the Today Show and I was so happy! The trip was so much fun!



Students Abroad: Orlando

By Nicholas M.

Three summers ago, my family went on a week's vacation to Orlando, Florida. The main reason why we went to Orlando was to go to Legoland Florida, but we also visited other places, too. My personal favorite place on the trip was Wet'N'Wild. Wet'N'Wild is a super cool waterpark that has loads of thrilling waterslides for the entire family. My favorite slide was called Mach Five. Instead of a tube or body slide, it is a mat slide. You lay head first and there are two handles on the mat to hold on. There are three different slides but they all end up in the same spot. The slide ends with the

person shooting out into the pool. It is super fast and fun. Sadly, they are closed permanently. But you can go to Volcano Bay, another Universal Studios waterpark. Another place we went to was Legoland, a Lego-themed amusement park. They even have a drivers school for kids around the ages of 6-13 according to the Legoland Florida website. First, you wait in line to get your picture taken for your "license". Then you watch a little video that shows you the basics of driving and safety tips. Then there is the fun part. You get in a Lego car and you start driving around a track with obstacles like stop signs, traffic lights, and intersections. Finally, you get out of the car and get your

"license." (Note that this is not a legal license). If you're wondering where to go for a vacation, I recommend you go to Orlando.



Students Abroad: Ireland

By Riley S.

Every year I am privileged enough to go on a trip with my mom to a different country or continent. The first year we traveled together we went to Ireland. While in Ireland went to Dublin, Killarney, and Galway. We were in Ireland for 7 nights and 8 days. Surprisingly, many of the restaurants we saw were similar to the ones here,

like McDonald's, and Burger King. We went to a different part of Ireland every day. For example, one day we went to the beach, but unfortunately the weather isn't always the best in Ireland so it was super windy when we went. Another place we went was on a trip in our tour bus to look at the different islands that was as big as like 3 volcanoes. One Of the islands that we saw was were "Star Wars the Force Awakens" was taken. Every day was really rainy and cold. We

also went to 3 different hotels. One of the ways that you can see all the cities and towns we went to is to look up www.ireland.com



100 Things to Do This Summer

By Aaliyah T., Editor-in-Chief

1. Celebrate the ending of school
2. Travel
3. Start a collection
4. Pick up a new sport
5. Pick up a new instrument
6. Find a new hobby
7. Try a new food
8. Master an old hobby
9. Find your hidden talent
10. Raise money for a cause you support
11. Make a list of things to do in summer
12. Go roller skating
13. Keep a scrapbook
14. Become more flexible
15. Get stronger
16. Plan an event that isn't actually going to happen
17. Write a novel
18. Start a YouTube channel
19. Make a new friend
20. Redecorate your room
21. Inspire people
22. Go to the beach
23. aprender un nuevo lenguaje (learn a new language)
24. Go to the zoo
25. Go to an aquarium
26. Go to a museum
27. Go to a circus
28. Go swimming
29. Go hiking
30. Go fishing
31. Build pillow forts
32. Write a song
33. Try to set a world record
34. Bake and decorate a cake
35. Have a movie marathon
36. Make music videos
37. Make a lemonade stand
38. Go a day without using your phone
39. Write poetry
40. Invent something
41. Run a marathon
42. Plant a garden
43. Make balloon animals
44. Build a treehouse
45. Do internet challenges
46. Get in contact with an old friend
47. Face a fear you have
48. Set up a picnic
49. De-stress
50. Change your style
51. Go surfing
52. Create a new dance
53. Learn to sew
54. Visit the library
55. Host a bake sale
56. Host a barbeque
57. Improve your balance
58. Learn the difference between affect and effect
59. Try a new workout routine
60. Invent a smoothie
61. Learn not to fail at DIYs
62. Go to a local festival
63. Create your own brand
64. Have a water balloon fight
65. Learn to say the alphabet backwards
66. Volunteer
67. Go to the beach
68. Don't procrastinate summer homework (just kidding)
69. Improve your diet
70. Play outside
71. Have a photoshoot
72. Test as seen on tv products
73. Make ice cream in a bag
74. Sleep
75. Make a movie
76. Make a painting
77. Learn to juggle
78. Make waffles
79. Try kitchen science experiments
80. Make origami
81. Bake different kinds of s'mores
82. Learn to paint your nails
83. Get a job
84. I am running out of ideas
85. Binge watch tv
86. Make duct tape flowers
87. Redecorate your home
88. Make slime
89. Enter a contest
90. Tie dye shirts
91. Create a fashion line
92. Still running out of ideas
93. Reminisce about your childhood
94. Go to Medieval Times (in Lyndhurst)
95. Ride roller coasters
96. Go ice skating
97. Join newspaper (please!)
98. Finish a puzzle
99. Go on vacation
100. Have Fun

WMS Creativity Showcase

Submissions judged by Hailie Anne W., Ms. Soult, Mrs. Ferrell (writing) and Mrs. Greeby (visual arts)

Wilson
By Assata A.S.

My love for basketball will never drain.
First thing I pick up last thing I put down.
I will get on a plane cause' you're my main.
Yeah, main priority a sphere that's brown.
Some people like to say it's just a game.
I like to believe it a little more.
It's about aim, the nickname, and the fame.
When I step on that court, it's now my floor.
Practice, practice to thee I give my time.
I give basketball my blood sweat and tears.
I give it one hundred until halftime.
Have been playing basketball for twelve
years.
I don't plan on stopping push comes to
shove.
Basketball is the only thing I love



"Colorful Animals" by Zaya M.



"Landscape" by Matthew R

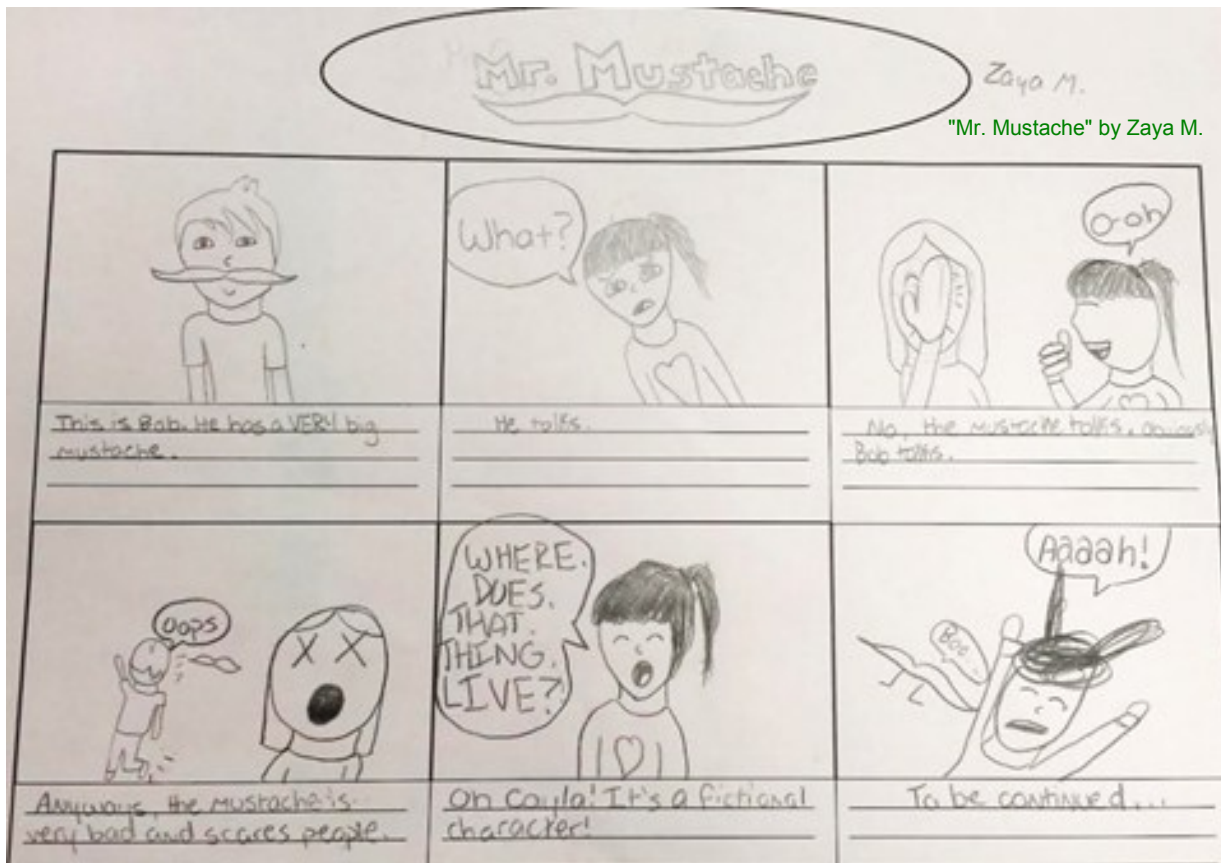


"Papyrus" by Miriam S.



"Martin Brodeur" by Anonymous

Comics



A Note From Your Editors

"Newspaper meetings were some of the highlights of my year. Nothing could ever make me happier than telling them they used the wrong year." ~ Aaliyah T., Editor-in-Chief

"I really enjoyed working on the newspaper this year. It was a wonderful experience and I learned a lot about publication layouts. It is a great creative outlet and I think you should join if you enjoy writing." -Hailie Anne W., Design Editor

"Being a Newspaper editor has been an exceptional experience; I am truly grateful to have been able to see young writers blossom and develop into extraordinary authors. Thank you for providing an audience to these brilliant students!" -Alexis C

Final newspaper last statement from Assata A.S. — "it's been quite a ride. Your time at WMS will go fast so make your mark and join newspaper."

I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the editorial staff for Newspaper club this school year. It is such a rewarding experience knowing that I have made an impact on students who truly have a passion for writing. Next, with all my heart, I sincerely thank the readers; thank you for pushing a purpose behind my writing. ~Saniya S.

A Note from Your Advisor

Dear Readers,

I hope you enjoyed reading each edition of the *Westampton Eye* this year, as we have enjoyed researching and sharing our stories with all of you. You, the reader, are why we write: to share our passions of storytelling and to spread information responsibly.

I also want to recognize not only the growth of each of our writers this year, but also the hard work and dedication of our editorial staff. Without you five, we couldn't have the *Eye*!

I hope you all enjoy your summer, and that you continue to read our school paper next year. We would love to have you join us as writers, too!

Thank you for sharing this journey with us,

Ms. Sout