



THE WESTAMPTON EYE

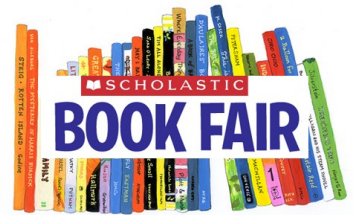
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Logo by Alexis C.

Spring Book Fair Follow Up



By: *Miranda C.*

The Spring Book Fair has come and gone, and many new titles were available this year. The Teacher Preview Day was on March 23, while the Book Fair for students began on March 26 and ran through March 29. One was able to attend the Book Fair during their Lunch and Language Arts period with their class on their class' selected day, or during lunch period. The theme for this year's Spring Book Fair was "Paws for Books - Come, stay, and read a great tale!" If you were interested in signing up to help with the book fair, sign-ups were held in February. You had a choice of marketing crew, advertising crew, or merchandising crew. Some new titles that were available were Greetings from Witness Protection!, From You to Me, and Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Getaway. If you like a little chill in your spine try , To Catch A Killer... It's to die for! Also, for those who love action check out, Projekt 1065: A Novel Of World War II. For those who like a little romance, Love, Life, and the List is the perfect love story. The book fair's prices varied from \$0.50 through \$40.00. We continued our All For Books fundraiser during the book fair. Through this program, Scholastic matched our monetary donations via the The Scholastic Possible Fund, which distributed books to children through organizations such as the Kids in Need Foundation. Let's get reading!

Battle of the Books Competition Results

By: *Steve A.*

In our last edition, we talked about the Battle of the Books program. On March 19, the six competitive members from the 5th and 6th grade team traveled to Wilbur Watts Intermediate School to compete in the County Championship, and they didn't disappoint. The Westampton team came in third overall. They weren't far behind the top two teams, being two points out of second place and five out of first. I sat down with the advisor, Ms. Soutl, and members of the team and asked a few questions about the experience. When asked about how she felt that Westampton placed in third, Ms. Soutl said she is very proud of the 5th and 6th team for placing third, and that they "worked very hard to prepare {for the competition}...". I also spoke with Zaya M., the secretary for the team. Tasked with the responsibility of writing down book titles and their authors in a span of thirty seconds, Zaya says, " Some questions definitely had more pressure on me than other questions." After the battle, all the teams had a small pizza and dessert party before winners were announced to celebrate their hard work. Congratulations to the teams!

Adviser's Note: Our 5/6 winners were Steve A., Zaya M., Jake W., Lucy A., Jalia D., Marren R., and Aniya W. (alternate). Congratulations to our 7th and 8th grade Battle of the Books team for placing 6th out of 17 Burlington County public and private schools on April 11. Team members included Aaliyah T., Harsh B., Rosalena G., Ashley M., Sam O., and Ben P.

Quirky Holidays

By Krysten W.

You may not have known this, but April 13th will be this year's National Peach Cobbler Day (How delicious it is!). Peaches are one of America's favorite fruits. When one puts peaches into a cobbler recipe, they've got a great treat, of which people will be asking for more. Peach Cobbler is a deep dish fruit pie, made with peaches and biscuit dough. According to Holidays Insight, this scrumptious dessert has a long history; Holidays Insight says "...back in the 1800's, American settlers traveling to the west, did not have the ingredients to make a then-popular suet pudding. They used peaches and dough to cobble together this tasty fruit pie." Peach Cobbler Day was created by the Georgia Peach Council in the 1950's, to encourage the consumption of canned peaches. Canned peaches can be enjoyed any month of the year.

Quirky Holidays

By Jake W.

Do you enjoy biting into a juicy hamburger once and awhile? Well, there is a holiday just for you! National Hamburger Day! This holiday appears on May 28th, and encourages you to eat a hamburger for lunch and/or dinner. Since this holiday is celebrated in summertime, encourage your parents to go outside and grill. You can add so many toppings that meet your desired taste! You can choose to get a hamburger at a fast-food restaurant or make one at home. Some fun facts about burgers is that the world's largest burger weighs 2,014 pounds. According to HolidayInsights.com, the creator of this holiday is currently unknown, but the originator of the burger is still debated to this day but it's likely that it was made in Hamburg, Germany, hence the name. In addition, Americans alone consume 50 billion hamburgers per year. Also, McDonalds sells 75 hamburgers per second. That means that they sell 4,500 burgers per minute and 270,000 burgers sold per hour and 6,480,000 burgers sold per day. Another fun burger fact: Sonya Thomas holds a record for eating a 9 pound cheeseburger in 27 minutes. In conclusion, hamburger day should be a day to celebrate and eat juicy hamburgers.

Earth Day

By Gabriella W.

Littering is the act of making a place untidy with rubbish or a large number of objects left lying about. When we litter we injure marine organisms and can even poison them. We leave waste in landfills, bodies of water, and even on the streets and highways. It seems we live in a world of pollution, but on Earth Day we can help change that! On Sunday, April 22, you can participate in various activities such as planting trees, picking up trash, and volunteering at a community center. There are many different organizations that help clean up efforts annually that would love for you to volunteer. Another good thing to do is go outside! You don't have to run around, but you can read a book, listen to music or even ride your bike. Instead of driving, for example, you can ride your bike to run errands. Earth Day has been around since 1970 and this year will be the 48th anniversary. As you can see, Earth Day is a great way to participate in a event that can help to change the future.



Arbor Day

By Zaya M.

Arbor Day is a holiday celebrated on the last Friday of April. Arbor Day is celebrated for the caring of trees. This began in 1872, according to KidsPlayandCreate.com. The governor of Nebraska, Julius Sterling Mormon, wanted people to plant more trees. This task was very successful, as one million trees were planted that day. Later, in 1970, Richard Nixon made Arbor Day an official holiday. Today, many states have different dates for Arbor Day. Most of the U.S. celebrates on various dates in April, this year, April 27th. Hawaii celebrates on the 1st of November. All in all, Arbor Day is a earth-friendly holiday for people all around the country.

Cinco De Mayo

William M.



Cinco De Mayo takes place each year on May 5. It is a celebration of the Mexican victory against the French empire at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. The victory was a surprising one for Mexico, because there were about 6,000 well-armed French troops against 4,000 poorly-armed Mexican troops. Although it is a celebration for Mexico, other countries celebrate it for fun or to support of Mexico. In the United States, it is a celebration of Mexican culture. On this day, people usually eat Mexican food like tacos, nachos and more. The name translates to “Fifth of May” in English, however most people refer to it in Spanish as Cinco De Mayo.

Teacher Appreciation Week

By Max B.

Throughout the first full week of May, you can express your appreciation for a teacher or mentor that means a lot to you during Teacher Appreciation Week.

Sometimes it’s hard to come up with ideas for teacher appreciation, so I gathered a few that might make a teacher smile. For example, you can give them office supplies such as scissors, markers or sticky notes. To make these supplies cute, you can put decorations, write puns (teachers love puns) or wrap them in wrapping paper. You can also give them a Starbucks or Dunkin Donuts cup or gift card, which you can also put puns on. Most teachers will also appreciate homemade baked goods such as brownies or muffins. I would suggest not using frosting since they will be difficult to travel with.

I’ve talked a lot about putting puns on gifts. Though, coming up with puns can be hard so here are a few examples. “We need s’more teachers like you”, “I donut what I would do without a teacher like you.” You can have a picture of a rock and a ruler and have the ruler say “you rock” and the rock says “you rule.” You can have another one that says: “Nuts about teaching,” and give them nuts. You can give your science teacher a card and write “I make terrible science puns, but only periodically.” That is how you can let your teacher know that you appreciate them and maybe make them smile a little more.

School Play Review

By Julia W.

This year's school play was High School Musical Jr. The main characters included Avery H. starring as Troy Bolton, Rosalena G. starring as Gabriella Montez, Gabrielle F. starring as Sharpay Evans, Antoine B. starring as Ryan Evans, Theodore R. starring as Chad Danforth, George R. starring as Coach Bolton, Areanna B. starring as Mrs. Darbus, and Lucas R. and Max B. starring as the two main skater dudes. However, credit also goes to the ensemble characters and stage crew. Nick M. states "It was well worked and had that middle school twist." I was part of the play, too, and did not get to see it in action; however, I would say it was great from my perspective. Riley S. agrees, stating "It was great!" A special thanks goes to the supervisors of the Drama Club, run in part by Mr. Condoleon and Mr. Tornquist. Also, choreographers Mrs. Jessica, Mrs. Gordon, and Mrs. Melissa. Lastly, a big thanks goes to the one-man lighting team, Mr. Scott. Overall, the play was a hit!

Junior Model UN Trips

By Steve A.

The Junior Model UN took two trips in April to prepare for their final trip in May. But what will they do? Where will they go? What *is* Junior Model UN? I sat with the advisor of the program, Ms. Soult. First, I asked what the club actually does. Ms. Soult says that it is a mock United Nations, hence the name. It is the enrichment program for seventh grade and eighth grade here at WMS. Twenty students participate in this program every Wednesday. At the meetings, they "... learn about cultural diplomacy (and) ... research about current global issues." I also sat down with students that are part of the program to gain their perspectives. The Junior Model UN isn't completely modeled after the real UN, though. For example, the positions in the UN, such as Field Service and National Professional Officers, aren't held anywhere in the Junior Model UN. Students also had lots of fun, one saying, "It is fun to be able to learn how different countries around the world work together and unite to prevent another World War."

Kids Cook: Crêpes

By: Zaya M.

Ingredients:

½ cup of flour
½ tablespoon of sugar
2 eggs
¾ cups of milk

This recipe makes 4 crêpes.

Directions:

1. Combine the ingredients into a bowl.
2. Mix until you get a mixture that resembles thick milk.
3. Let the mixture sit for 2 minutes, and in the meantime, spray non-stick spray on a skillet over a medium heat, add a touch of butter, and spread it around the skillet.
4. Take the bowl and spread a little bit of the mixture the same way you did the butter.
5. After about 30 seconds, take a spatula and flip the crêpe.
6. Set the crêpe on a plate and add some filling on the inside (ex: ice cream, Nutella, fruit)
7. Enjoy!



Book Review: Big Nate (graphic novel series)

By Matthew K.

Big Nate, originally created as a syndicated comic strip by Lincoln Peirce, and recently adapted into a series of eight novels. It is a fantastic comic, yet in my opinion, a weak series of books. The comics center on Nate Wright, an impulsive, egotistical sixth grader and his various attempts to attain fame and fortune. The concept itself isn't all that bad; the comedic potential is nigh-infinite. The novels are a hodgepodge of plotlines clumsily expanded from the comics. Books 1-5 suffer the most from the lack of originality as they are copied and pasted from the comic strips, albeit with higher-quality art. Books 6, 7, and 8 are a bit more creative: new characters, better dialogue, and plots less openly reminiscent of the comic. However, this creates a problem on its own: the comic was grounded mostly in reality; the later books are bizarre hybrids of down-to-earth humor and ludicrously happy endings (Nate and friends win on Field Day, Nate becomes best friends with the new kid, Nate gets a girlfriend, etc.). At times, it feels like wish fulfillment for an the author's lackluster childhood. SCORES: 1/10: Book Two, Five, Seven, Eight 3/10: Book Three, Four, Six. 6/10: Book One.



Movie Review: Black Panther

By Jake W.

Black Panther came out on February 16, 2018. It is rated 97% out of 100% on the popular media-rating site, Rotten Tomatoes. This movie is about a superhero who becomes king and leads Wakanda, his home nation. An enemy named Killmonger defeats him in ritual combat and becomes king. Will Black Panther fight back or will he give up? Watch the movie to find out! The actor who plays Black Panther is Chadwick Boseman. The actor of Shuri, Black Panther's sister, is Letitia Wright. The actor of Killmonger is Michael B. Jordan. I watched the movie myself and thought it was really funny and there was a lot of action. It is rated PG-13, so a parent or guardian should watch it with you. Spoiler alert; My favorite part is when Black Panther comes back to defeat Killmonger. My least favorite part is when Killmonger beats Black Panther in a fight. My favorite characters are Shuri and Ulysses Klaue. One reason why I like Shuri is because she is very funny. A reason why I like Ulysses Klaue is that he is funny and I like the actor who plays him. Did you know that the total money they made was \$501,105,037? This number is still growing and may even break records! They recorded this movie in Iguazu Waterfalls, Misiones, Argentina and Atlanta, Georgia. Black Panther is a good movie, and a must-see!

Videogame Review: Rocket League

By Nick M.

Do you love soccer and cars, and wish that they would both be in the same game? Well, then Rocket League is the game for you! Rocket League is a soccer based game with rocket-powered cars. You play in teams of 1, 2, 3, or 4 and the objective is to score the most goals in a five minute match. You can customize your car with parts that you unlock by finishing matches, such as new decals, a new car body, or a new paint finish. What is great about Rocket League is that there are so many ways to play it. You can play on your PC, Playstation, Xbox, and the Nintendo Switch, according to Wikipedia.com. Also, the game is cross-platform so one never will run out of people to play against. One can level up to increase their rank in the game; the player starts out as a Rookie, then they go to a Semi-Pro, then Pro, followed by Veteran, Expert, Master, Legend, and if they are exceptionally good (and never leave their house), Rocketeer. I have played this game several times, and I never seem to want to put down my controller and stop playing. The game is so addicting, I could lose hours when playing this game. It feels like ten minutes just went by, when in reality, it has been multiple hours. I highly recommend you get this game, as you will not be disappointed.

Lego Review: X-Wing Rebel Starfighter (from *Star Wars*)

By RJ O.

Legos are the perfect toy for many reasons. You can create and destroy structures made of them, and they come in many shapes, sizes, and colors. Today, the bricks and pieces usually come in sets. One of my personal favorite sets is the *X-Wing Rebel Starfighter*, which is from the *Star Wars* series. This set comes with Luke Skywalker, R2D2, Jek Tono Porkins, as well as R5D3. It is rated for children 8-14. The set has 560 pieces and two cockpits: one for the droid and the other for the pilot, which can be either Luke or Jek. On each wing there is a blaster, and on the back there is a black piece that you can turn, which would put the starfighter into 'battle mode'. The retail value for the fighter is \$59.99. The X-Wing was first sold in the USA on Feb 12 and Jan 12 in the UK. Personally I love this toy and I would definitely advise a Lego or *Star Wars* fan to buy it.



Thanks for being
a great teacher!



April Staff of the Month- Mrs. Cianfrone

By: Aniya W.

For the month of April, the staff member of the month is, Mrs. Cianfrone. She is a 8th grade teacher who teaches Honors math. In all, she has been teaching for 14 years, but only 12 of those years have been in Westampton Middle School. Here are a few questions and answers with Mrs. Cianfrone.

Q: Do you love teaching math?

A: I love teaching math! My favorite part is helping my students to understand new and challenging concepts and showing them how everything they learn is relevant to their future!

Q: Do you like working with the kids?

A: Absolutely! I have worked with kids my whole life. As a babysitter, camp counselor, Sunday school teacher, and now as a math teacher.

Q: What is your favorite and least favorite type of math to teach?

A: Algebra is my favorite thing to teach and geometry is my least favorite.

Q: What do you do on your free time?

A: In my free time I love to cook and spend time with my family.

Q: Do you have your own kids?

A: Yes, I have 3! Ryan is 7, Jack is 4, and Carly is 2.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: Anything Mexican.

Q: If you could pick one word to describe yourself, what would it be?

A: The word I would describe myself as is analytical.

Even though I am not her student, she sounds like a great person and the best teacher you could ever have. Congratulations, Mrs. Cianfrone!

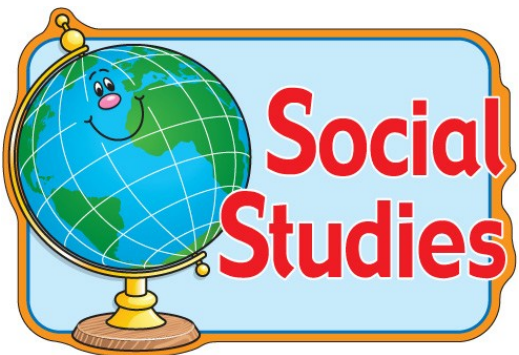
May Staff of the Month- Mr. Powers



June Staff of the Month– Mrs. Donnelly

By Lucy A.

The students at WMS voted Mrs. Donnelly staff member of the month for the month of June. Mrs. Donnelly is a sixth and seventh grade teacher. For her sixth grade students, her favorite project to do is “Africa in a Box,” and for seventh graders she likes “Civil Rights in a Bag.” Her favorite sport to watch is football. Mrs. Donnelly loves to teach social studies, because it’s her favorite subject. I asked her to explain her experience here at WMS in three words and her response was, “Rewarding, dynamic and fun.” She describes herself as “Honest, hardworking, and helpful.” I understand why the students chose her for Staff Member of the Month. I can tell she is loving and kind.

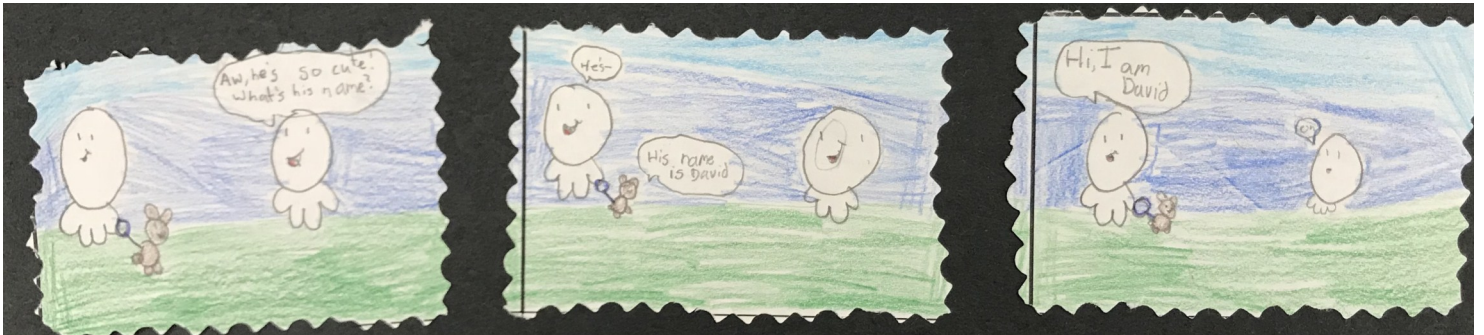


Teach
Love
inspire



Comic: "David"

By Katie M.



Travel: Iceland

By Riley S.

For the past few years my mom, grandpa, and I have gotten to travel to different countries. So far, we have been to Ireland, France and Switzerland. This year we are going to go to Iceland. In Iceland, we are going to see many fascinating things that most people have not had the chance to. We are leaving the week school ends. That time of year in Iceland is so expensive that there isn't one open hotel room in the whole island! We will be doing many exciting things in Iceland such as hiking, going to the hot springs, and traveling on the Golden Circle. The Golden Circle is a road that circles the perimeter of the island. We will also see the Northern Lights. Although they won't be as bright as they would be in the winter, hopefully we will still get to see them. On our first day in Iceland, we will be welcomed to Reykjavik (Iceland's capital city). After the orientation, we will be visiting the Blue Lagoon which is known as the most authentic and renowned natural spa in Iceland. I am very much looking forward to going to Iceland this year.

Travel: Niagara Falls

By Tej P.

Almost everyone has been stuck on one question: "Where do I want to go for vacation?" A possible answer could be Niagara Falls! Niagara Falls is a waterfall located on the border of the United States and Canada. The word Niagara means "The Strait." If you aren't satisfied with just being at the falls, you can participate in an activity called "Journey Behind the Falls. The "Journey Behind the Falls" is when you can ride a boat at the bottom of the falls for amazing views and pictures. The best time to visit the Falls is in the late Spring and the early Summer when the temperature isn't too high. Niagara Falls is an especially fun place to visit with your family. Did you know Niagara Falls ranks fifth among waterfalls in the world by its average annual flow rate? Or that there is a river under Niagara Falls? Lastly, Niagara Falls is 167 feet tall. Now you won't hesitate when you are asked where you want to go for vacation!

Fun Things to Do Over Summer Break

By Alex P.

Have you ever had nothing to do over the Summer and plan on being a couch potato? Well, here are some things to do over summer break...

Go to the local zoo.

Going to the zoo will get you outside. You will also get to learn about animals and maybe want to become a zoologist.

Get soaked in a water park.

When going to the water park you can bond with your family and have a wild ride.

Have a sleepover with your friends.

Having a sleepover with your friends is a great way to get to know each other better. Also, try not to stay up all night, as not enough sleep is bad for you and can get you sick.

Volunteer for community service.

Volunteering for community service is a great way to get out and help your community, and maybe meet some new friends.

Make homemade pizza with natural ingredients.

Make in pizza with natural ingredients is a great way to have a good pizza with your friends and stay healthy

These are just a couple of things you can do and have fun over the summer vacation. So don't just sit on your couch and watch T.V all day. Go outside and have some fun!



8th Grade: What I Wish I Knew In Fifth Grade

By Alexis C.

The fifth grade is a difficult time for many students. The simultaneous fear and excitement of change can be overwhelming. Often, a student may overexert themselves, believing it to be the only coping method for middle school. They may underperform, not realizing that middle school holds you to higher standards than elementary school. I wish I had known that there is a happy medium of study and personal time. I'd like to have known that receiving a 90 isn't the end of the world, and that studying well is only part of being a well-rounded person. Additionally, it's okay to ask for help. Too many times I or friends of mine have done poorly because we were too embarrassed or felt that we were not close enough to a teacher to ask for help. Teachers want to help you! I wish I'd taken more advantage of their knowledge and known that you don't need to rely entirely on yourself to pass a class. The insight of your peers is similarly valuable. A fellow student may say something differently than your teacher, thus making something that was once incomprehensible insanely easy to understand. As you might ask your teacher for help, don't be afraid to ask friends! If I could tell my fifth grade self one thing, it'd be this: study, pay attention, and ask for help, but also let yourself take breaks. Life shouldn't be dedicated completely to studying. Devote time to studying, but also time for yourself!

Looking to Next Year

By Rajvir S.

It seems like a long time away, but next year is not far. Yes, summer hasn't begun yet but you can not help but wonder what is going to happen next year. As we know, our 8th graders will become 9th graders and go off to high school, so let us wish them the best of luck! There will be new 5th graders coming from Holly Hills. Hopefully, another amazing year of sports at WMS sports will be upon us! Another year of special assemblies to guide and enrich our lives will be scheduled for us. You will have new teachers and they will be like all Westampton teachers: magnificent, kind, and amazing. There will be another set of clubs such as Newspaper, Environment Club and many more. Next year will bring the start of another great year at Westampton Middle School.

Students of the Months Lists

Compiled by Nick M.

January

Grade 5

Gabe R.
Amanda B.

Grade 6

Tony T.
Maahi P.

Grade 7

Sam O.
Jadyn J.

Grade 8

Xavier G.
Alexa D.

Musician of the Month

Imani M.

Gold Card Winner

Will M.

Special Guest

Nia P.

February

Grade 5

Alex P.
Marren R.

Grade 6

Max B.
Brooklyn S.

Grade 7

Carter W.
Anna C.

Grade 8

Logan B.
Nia P.

February (cont'd.)

Musician of the Month

Keyonna C.

Gold Card Winner

Gabe P.

Special Guest

Alexis C.

March

Grade 5

Misael R.
Lana G.

Grade 6

Ryan S.
Sky F.

Grade 7

George R.
Abby B.

Grade 8

Kyle M.
Aleksandra K.

Musician of the Month

Alex P.

Gold Card Winner

Ashton D.

Word Search

By Aaron B.

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

Sunny
Picnic
St. Patrick's Day
Joyful
Green

Bloom
Bugs
Soccer
Rain
Easter

Beautiful
Clouds
Flowers
Outside
Fun

CREATIVITY SHOWCASE

By Matt R.



CREATIVITY SHOWCASE

By Riley S.

