



NEWS AHOY!



SPRING FEVER

By Grace Wilhelmy

It's that time of year! We are all excited because Spring Break is right around the corner. How will you spend yours?

- Vacation
- Hang out with friends
- Visit relatives
- Sleep in
- Babysit or dogsit to make some money
- Go shopping for spring clothes with the above money
- Sign up for sports and practice
- Get out and enjoy Easter



Or in other words . . . just HAVE FUN -- whatever you do!



EDITORIAL

By SaiPranay Vellala

Hello, Everyone!

Is it just me or does it feel like it has been forever without a newspaper? Well, you won't feel like that anymore because Mrs. Owens is back from her hip replacement surgery, and we are back in business! We just made a new exciting edition of RRMS's News Ahoy!

Do you like winter? Well, Spring is right around the corner, and we've probably seen the last of our snow days for the year. We've had five already. (Thanks, Dr. Shoaf!)

While Spring is coming, St. Patrick's Day has come and gone; and it was celebrated in many ways. One traditional symbol of St. Patrick's Day is the Shamrock. "Shamrock" is the common name for several different kinds of three-leafed clovers native to Ireland. One estimate suggests that there are about 10,000 regular three-leaf clovers for every lucky four-leaf clover. Legend says that each leaf of the clover means something: the first is for hope, the second for faith, the third for love and the fourth for luck.



In this wonderful edition of the newspaper, there are riddles, awesome stories, and mouth-watering recipes. Have fun reading!!!

Editors-In-Chief

Grace Wilhelmy & SaiPranay Vellala





OUR PET GALLERY ...

We dedicate this issue to three of our best friends ...



FREO GERLACK

Mrs. Gerlack's 8-year-old dog who passed away in October.

BANDIT EDWARD OPETT

Mrs. Opett's 18-year-old cat who passed away in August.

CODY WODZISZ

Mrs. Wodzisz's 16-year-old dog who passed away in February.



This is **PARKER**, Mrs. Fancher's dog. Parker is a very sweet two-year-old havanese. Parker has a very unique trait ... he purrs like a kitten.



This is **BUDHA**, Dima & Dasha Cohan's 1-year-old lab mix.



This is **LOTTIE**, Mrs. Schmit's 7-year-old lab mix. Lottie came from a local rescue group who took her in because she was abandoned. Now she gets spoiled!



This is Mrs. Lakatos' dog, **MONA**. She was born in the wild (referred to as feral) so everything about humans was new to her. Her big brother Pierce has been a great role model to show her how great a human family can be. She loves her roots (the outdoors) but is so grateful to have a loving family and to be able to sleep inside - especially this winter! She's making excellent progress learning not to be so timid with humans.



This is **STEVIE RAY**, Ms. Feador's 2-year-old golden retriever.



This is **CINDERELLA**, Mrs. Opett's 6-month-old new kitty.



This is James Swingos pet snake, **CAI**. Cai is a 6-month-old Brazilian Rainbow Boa Constrictor. When Cai becomes full grown he'll be 6 feet long, 2 inches thick.



This is **BUTTONS**, Sam Barrow's 1-year-old shiapoo, a mix between a schitzu and a poodle.





This is **SAVANNAH NEVAEH**, Mrs. Owens' new puppy. She found it on a 4-lane highway. Nevaeh is heaven spelled backwards because she literally died and went to heaven because Mrs. Owens just happened to be in the right place at the right time. She's a lucky little puppy.



This is **MADDIE**, Mrs. Gerlack and Arden Gerlack's new four-year-old lab.



This is **CHUBBY**, Anna Jaffe's 4-year-old yorkshire terrier.



This is **FIONA**, Ashley Tillett's 8-year-old chinese crested and below is **RASCAL**, Ashley's 8-year-old chinese-crested/poodle mix saying, "Hi".



This is **MILLY**, Mazzi Drinkwater's kitty.



CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL

By: Aleksandra Dunjic



A Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is a graceful and elegant dog. They are in the Toy breed group and come in a variety of colors from red to black. These affectionate and loving dogs are about 10-18 lbs. and 11-13 inches high. The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is gentle, but they can do well in agility and hunting events, along with swimming and are natural retrievers. This breed is best suited for a pampered indoor life and is an extrovert. These dogs are spirited and vocal, hate to be alone, and have no patience for unruly children, despite being gentle. The Cavalier must be brushed weekly and special attention should be given behind the ears. They are prone to allergies, deafness, cataracts, and diabetes, also. Highly intelligent and eager to learn, the Cavalier can be trained in hunting, agility, and do well in competitive obedience. Cavalier King Charles Spaniels are excellent and fun-loving dogs! They are well-balanced and love people. Just ask Mr. Gifford.



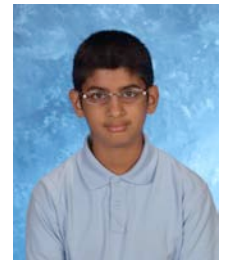
This is **SCAMP**, Mr. Gifford's dog. Scamp is a two-year-old **Cavalier King Charles Spaniel** who loves to be around people.



JUST WHAT KIND OF DOG IS SAVANNAH NEVAEH??

Well, Mrs. Owens wanted to know since Savannah is growing like a weed. When she

first got her she was just 6 pounds -- and eight weeks later she's 40 pounds and still growing! So Mrs. Owens went to her vet and for \$88.00 he swabbed Savannah's mouth and did a DNA on her. But right before the vet swabbed her mouth, Mrs. Owens gave her a bacon treat -- so she hopes the results won't come back that she's half pig!



WHAT EXACTLY IS DNA?

By SaiPranay Vellala

We all have DNA in our bodies. They make us all what we are! DNA actually stands for deoxyribonucleic acid. It looks like a really long spiral staircase which is called "Double Helix". This Double Helix is found in every single cell in our bodies. It is made up of sugars and phosphates. These are connected by four chemical bases. These four bases are: Adenine, Cytosine, Guanine, and Thymine. The DNA gives the cell instructions for its functions and describes the life plan of the whole organism. The discovery that every molecule of DNA is a Double Helix was one of the great scientific breakthroughs of the 20th century. Maurice Wilkins and Rosalind Franklin built the foundation for this discovery in 1953. Francis Harry Compton Crick, James Dewey Watson and Maurice Hugh Frederick Wilkins won the Nobel Prize for their discoveries about the molecular structure of DNA and its significance for information transfer in living material.

Fun Facts about DNA:

- The DNA ladder usually twists to the right.
- If you unwrap all the DNA you have in all your cells, you could reach the moon 6000 times or the Sun 30 times!
- Humans are 99.9% genetically identical -- only 0.1% of our genetic make-up differs.

So what is Savannah's DNA results??? Well ...

“NICE PUPPY!!!” . . .



Rylo, the Rocky River Police Dog, waits patiently to “attack” Mr. Gifford who’s getting suited up to demonstrate to Mrs. Crites’s Health class just what Rylo can do.



Run, Mr. Gifford, RUN!!!



Uh-Oh . . .Mr. Gifford is DOWN!



“Okay, Rylo,
you can let go
of me now!”
NICE PUPPY!



can run faster than you can normally drive on the street. He is trained to bite and hold -- not to attack. Rylo’s training outfit weighs 30 pounds. Rylo is so fast that even giving Mr. Gifford a head start, Rylo took him down within 30 seconds. Rylo may be trained to smell out drugs, but he is an extremely friendly dog!

JUST ASK MR. GIFFORD! :)

by Terri Sack



Oh NO ... DON'T DO IT, MS. LIBERATORE!



On March 3rd, March 23, and February 10th, the Rocky River Middle School had a special guest, the Rocky River Police Dog, **RYLO**. Rylo is an eight-year-old German Shepherd. He has been living with Officer Selong since he was ten weeks old! Rylo is trained to smell out six different drugs. He



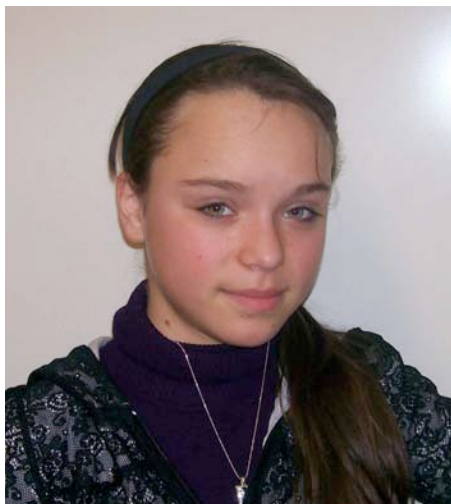
Welcome New Students!



**6th Grader,
River
Whitnable**



**7th Grader,
Tomes Smith**



**7th Grader,
Nadia
Cuevas**

IT'S A GIRL!



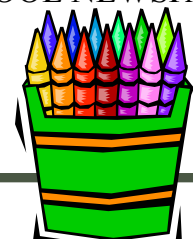
Mr. Purdy, our 8th grade American History teacher, is the proud father of:

**REAGAN
ELIZABETH
PURDY**

Reagan was born on February 9, 2011 at 1:30 a.m., was 21 inches long, and weighed in at 8 pounds. *Congratulations, Mr. Purdy!*

Did you know . . . you can see the newspaper on line and in **COLOR! Here's how . . .**

- Go to our website: rrcs.org
- Under the **SCHOOLS** tab, drag down and click on Rocky River Middle School
- Click on the **NEWSLETTERS** tab on the left-hand side
- You will see RRMS Student Newspaper
- Click on the issue you want to see and . . .
- **VOILA! THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER IN **COLOR!****



IT'S A BOY!



Mrs. Winterich, our office secretary, became a proud grandma when her son, Scott (and Angel) gave birth to:



Kian Patrick Winterich

on 3/19/11. Kian weighed in at 8 pounds, 13 oz and was 21 inches long.

Congratulations, Grandma Winterich!

8th Gr. STUDENT OF THE 2ND QUARTER GOES TO...



JOHN ST. PIERRE

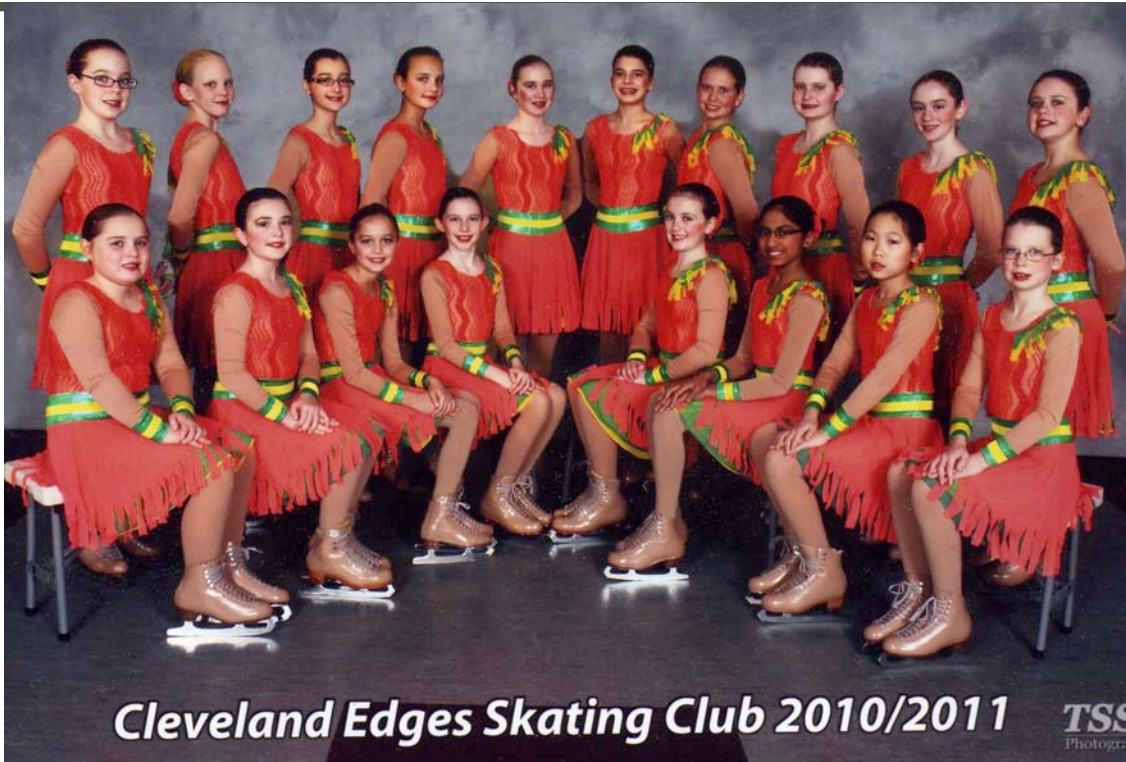
Congratulations!!!

WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?



By 6th grader, Anna Vergon.

Every weekend I go to Ellicottville, New York to ski race. Skiing is extremely fun and exciting. Every weekend in New York I train for a slalom race, which is small turns around tall poles; or a giant slalom race, which is big turns around gates. In ski racing, you ski around poles or gates as quickly as you can and whoever gets the fastest time without missing any gates wins. I have done very well this year in my racing, and have qualified for many races -- one which was out of state! If you like skiing, this is a great unique sport that is super fun and one that you may come to love -- just like I did!



Nationals by Martina Blazevic

From March 3-5, the Cleveland Edges Juvenile team went to Nationals to compete. It was the first time in 13 years a youth team went to Nationals from Ohio. The competition was in Ontario, California. Before the competition started, our team went to Rodeo Drive and saw very fancy stores, cars, and even the Hollywood and Beverly Hills sign. It was a lot of fun! For every competition, we make door signs for our teammates and put them up on each other's hotel room doors -- which we did before we competed. When the Juvenile competition started, we competed against 13 teams and skated 11th. In the end, we placed 8th. The entire trip to California was a nice experience and we hope to do even better next year!

WHERE DID THE OFFICE GO?

by Clare O'Toole

As you know, if you need something from the office these days, you have to go to the guidance area to get it. What you may not know is why it is that way. On December 14th, when Mr. Gifford got to RRMS in the morning, he discovered that a pipe had burst and water was EVERYWHERE -- on the floor, on the secretaries' desks, in Ms. Hampel's office, and in the Xerox room. The office had to be immediately closed, and so did the middle school.

Everything in our main office was damaged: furniture, carpet, the walls, and all the office supplies. Luckily, the guidance office was willing to recreate the main office within the guidance office. One of the secretaries says that working in guidance has been enjoyable, but it will be nice to move back to the regular office.

The only things needing to be replaced are carpet and furniture, which, once ordered, will take 6 weeks. Hopefully, the office will be back to normal soon!



**HANNAH MAZZEI
PLACED 17th IN THE
WORLD ... QUALIFIED
AGAIN FOR THIS
YEAR'S WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS IN DUBLIN, IRELAND!**



By Hannah Mazzei

At age five, I started Irish dancing at the Burke School but never thought about how far it would take me or even how good I could be.

I always watched the older girls, and as everyone else did, I looked up to them. So many of them went to the World Championships overseas and not in a million years did I think I would ever be that good. Only the best of the best qualify for the World Championships. But competing in the Oireachtas, or the Mid-West U.S. Championships, got me to Nationals at the age of nine.



Because of this placement, I qualified again for this year's World Championships in Dublin, Ireland this April! There are also 12 others who qualified to go from our dance school.

Preparing for this takes months and includes practice at least six days a week including Sundays. We also incorporate muscle and core conditioning and strengthening, and we do a lot of stretching. Eventually, we will also have to get spray tans, wigs, LOTS of makeup, and a new dress leading up to the competition.

Although this consumes most of my time outside of school, after all the hard work and dedication, I wouldn't trade it for anything!



By the time I was ten, I finished 5th in the Oireachtas, qualifying for the World Championships in Scotland (ten was the youngest age at which you could qualify). At this competition, I was just glad to be there. But after dancing, I found out I had placed 17th in the WORLD!





MARDI GRAS/FAT TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2011

by SaiPranay Vellala



Mardi Gras is a great festival. It is celebrated on the Tuesday before Ash



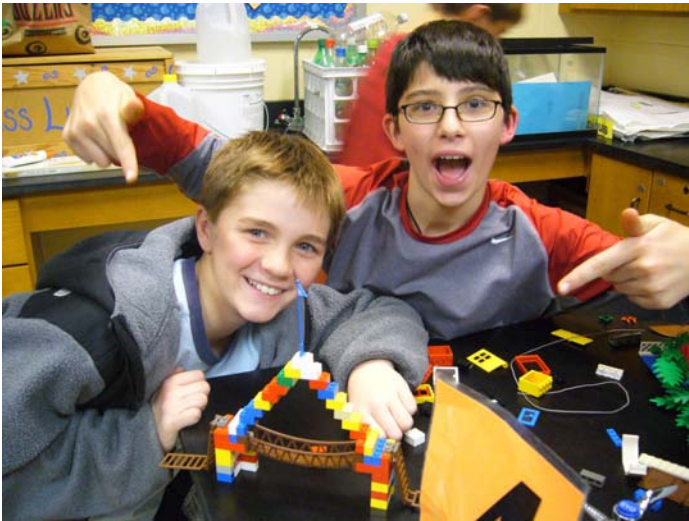
Wednesday. Interestingly, Mardi Gras is actually French for Fat Tuesday. This name was given because people would eat as much as possible before fasting for Lent. Lent is an observance where Christians give up something in the name of Jesus. As you probably know, the date for Easter changes each year and so does Mardi Gras! In fact, Mardi Gras is 46 days before Easter. Early French settlers came to Louisiana and introduced Mardi Gras. The first Mardi Gras was celebrated by French soldiers back in 1703, in



the city of Mobile, Alabama. But by the 1820's, Mardi Gras was included in New Orleans culture. There is a lot of fun stuff that you can do on Mardi Gras. You can go to parades and get doubloons, trinkets, beads, and more. In addition, you can go to dances (balls). You can eat all kinds of food. One of the most common is the King Cake. It is a scrumptious cake with purple, gold, and green icing, the colors of Mardi Gras, with a small baby Jesus inside. Next year's date for Mardi Gras is **February 21**. Don't forget to celebrate!



RRMS BRICKMASTERS ...



We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Sometimes we have a theme (like "Underwater" or "Battles" or "Movie"), sometimes we have a "Challenge" (we had a bridge challenge a few weeks ago where we had to build bridges within certain parameters and we had to successfully roll a golf ball from one end of the bridge to the other). Sometimes we just have "free build" days. Mrs. Juhasz, the advisor, keeps a blog with information, slide-shows, etc. at:

rrmslegoclub.blogspot.com
CHECK IT OUT!

We had a t-shirt design contest and Kevin Burns (7th grader) designed the winning logo. We got shirts printed and are waiting on their arrival! We call ourselves the "**RRMS Brickmasters**". We have anywhere from 20 to 30 kids at each meeting. Come join us!



HOOPS FOR HUNGER HUGE SUCCESS

By *Monica McDonough*



There is no denying that the 2011 Hoops for Hunger fundraiser was a smashing success! Records were broken, heads were shaved, and Bay was sent home in defeat. When Rob

Hendricks, the founder of Hoops for Hunger, informed us that his goal was \$30,000, the adults in charge were decidedly less than optimistic. But with generous sponsors, consistent student donations, and maybe a few bribes, Rocky River and Bay City Schools set a record of \$45,000.

Over the course of two and a half weeks, students in both Bay and River brought in donations to feed the hungry and be entered in a raffle. Prizes such as spiritwear, VIP seating, and Indians tickets were very effective incentives. The homerooms were also promised a Danny Boys Pizza Party if they achieved 100% participation.

But undoubtedly, the most exciting part of Hoops for Hunger was its conclusion in the Rocky River High School boys' game against Bay. Senior Kyle Dunn was draining the three-pointers, largely contributing to River's victory. The only thing more satisfying than beating their rivals was clinching the WSC Championship.

Even if you are not a basketball fan, the half-time show was worth the wait. The Irish barbers and the barbers of Bay raced to shave the heads of two educators from River and two from Bay. Excited spectators looked on as Mr. Gifford's head was left as shiny and bare as the gym's hardwood floor! I'd also like to have a moment of silence for Mr. Zerbey's beautiful curls. The light reflecting off their heads was blinding!

Underneath all of the rivalry and head-shaving, Bay and River Schools accomplished a much more important goal. Thanks to everyone's generosity, many people's stomachs are full tonight. Helping the Cleveland Food Bank was a greater victory than any WSC title.



Word Origins

By: Aleksandra Dunjic

- -Able, -ible: Worth, ability (solvable, incredible).
- Clam, Claim: Cry out (exclamation, clamor).
- Cred: Believe (incredulous, credit).
- Form: Shape, resemble (conform, perform).
- Gor: To gather, bring together (category, categorize).
- Meter: Measure (meter, thermometer).
- Mono: One (monotheist, monopoly).
- Poli: City (metropolis, politics).
- Quip: Ship (equip, equipment).
- Retro: Backwards (retrospect, retrorocket).
- Soph: Wise (sophisticated, philosophy).
- Vac: Empty (vacant, vacuum).
- Vol: Will (malevolent, volunteer).
- Zo: Animal (zodiac, zoology).

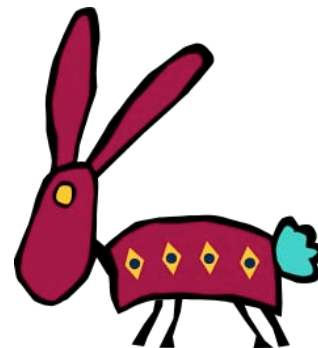
Origins of words in the English language come from many different languages; mostly Greek and Latin.

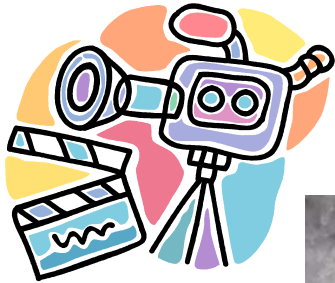
Some Latin origins are:

- Bene, which means well (benefit, benevolent)
- Cent-um, meaning hundred (century, percent, cent)
- Fin-is, to end or limit (finish, finite, define)
- Liber, meaning free (liberty, liberate, liberal)
- Maxim-us, which means biggest (maximal, maximize, Maxim)
- Mar-e, which means sea or ocean (marine, maritime)
- Voc-o, to call (vocal, revoke, vocation)

Greek roots:

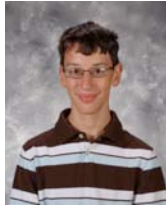
- Auto, self (automobile, autograph, automatic)
- Bi-os, which means life (biography, bionic, biology)
- Dem-os, meaning people (democracy, demography)
- Mania, madness (mania, maniac, kleptomania)
- Phon-e, meaning sound or speech (telephone, phonics, microphone)
- Tele, which means afar or distant (television, telephone, telescope)
- Tri-a, three (trident, tripod, triple)





Movie Reviews

by Manny Marotta



Upcoming Movies for the Upcoming Year

2011 is here! We celebrated last year's movies at the Oscars (Academy Awards) a few weeks ago, and now it's time for this year's movies. It's a promising year for great movies, such as these, which are coming out in the Spring of this year:

Rango (Came out March 4, Rated PG, 107 minutes)

This new feature by Nickelodeon Pictures and Dreamworks is the story of a chameleon named Rango, who is facing an identity crisis. He finds his way into the Mojave desert and a law-less town, where he becomes elected Sheriff. Suddenly, he is faced with the task of reigning in the town.

Mars needs Moms (March 11, PG, 114 Minutes)

This sci-fi action movie from Disney showcases the adventures of Milo, who finds out how much he needs his mom after she is taken by aliens because of her maternal abilities. Milo must now travel to Mars to rescue his mother from her peril, with the help of an underground spaceman named Gribble.

Rio (April 15, PG, 122 Minutes)

This high-flying comedy from 20th Century Fox is about a Macaw named Blu, who believes he is the last of his kind. When he learns that there's another Macaw, named Jewel, he sets of to find her. There's only one problem, though. She lives in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Soon, Blu embarks on the adventure of a lifetime.

Entertainment by Tom Brown



CHUCK NORRIS FACTS:



*Chuck Norris can tie his shoes with his feet.

*Chuck Norris has the heart of a child. He keeps it in a small box.

**Jaws* made its last cinematic appearance in

1987. Coincidentally, Chuck Norris developed a liking for sushi in 1987.

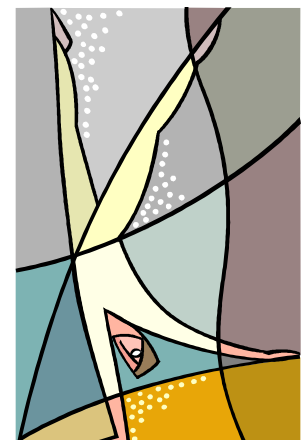
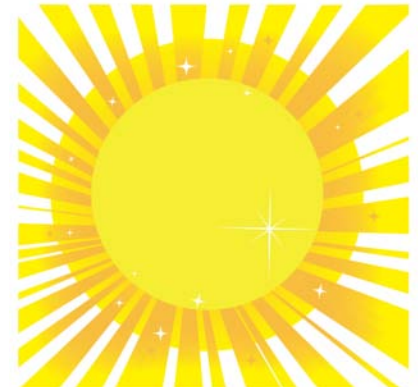
*The Black-Eyed Peas were originally called The Peas, until they met Chuck Norris.

*Dr. Manhattan walked on the surface of the sun. Chuck Norris walked *inside* the sun.

*The eternal conundrum "what happens when an immovable object meets an unstoppable force" was finally solved when Chuck Norris punched himself in the face.

*Chuck Norris can drown a fish.

*Chuck Norris can do a handstand with both hands tied behind his back.





**If you would like to support your school,
help out in the community and
meet new friends...
Builders Club is for YOU!**

**Find out more about joining
Builders Club.
We meet every Wednesday in the
Media Center – 7:45 – 8:05**

Builders Club...getting through the winter

The Builders Club has been very busy this winter helping out the poor by helping out with Hoops for Hunger, giving holiday food baskets to Rocky River residents in need and helping out Rocky River classmates in need. Builders Club has a lot of activities planned for the spring, as they will be taking a trip to the animal protection league to help out with the animals, helping at an assisted living facility, pennies for patients to help leukemia and they are working on a project for Earth Day.

Builders Club, along with RRMS LRC group, continues to recycle. So far the Recycle program at RRMS has been a HUGE success and they thank everyone for their support. The more paper collected the more money for RRMS!

As you can see, we have a lot more activities planned for the rest of the school year. If you are interested in helping out, come to our meeting! We meet every Wednesday morning at 7:45 to 8:05 in the media center.

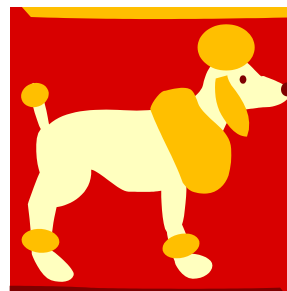
Cheesy Jokes



*By: Olivia
Loparo
and Aleksandra
Dunjic*



- What did Delaware at the Basketball game?
Idaho, Alaska. Maybe her New Jersey.
- What is a foot’s favorite candy?
“Tootsie” rolls!
- What do you call cheese that isn’t yours?
Nacho cheese!
- What do Elephants do when they stub their toe?
Call a toe truck!
- What do you call an Elephant with bananas in its ears?
Anything you like; it can’t hear you!
- What do computers have to take care of?
Their pet mouse!
- What should you do when it rains cats and dogs?
Be careful not to step on a poodle!





HOW TO STAY HEALTHY

By Grace Wilbelmy

This is the time of the year when everyone is in contact with the flu in one way or another. It's important that we all know how to keep safe. Here are some tips that I hope will help you:

- *Wash your hands often.
- *Don't share drinks.
- *Eat healthy.
- *Drink juice and lots of water.
- *Get plenty of sleep.
- *Get fresh air.
- *Take showers to keep clean.

The most important thing is to stay away from someone who you know already has the flu.

SNOW DAYS ...

12/13, 12/14, 2/1, 2/2, & 2/25 AND THE CHANGE IN THE LAW

By Clare O'Toole

This winter was a cold and snowy one. It caused several snow days in December and February, and there was also an ice storm. The law in Ohio used to be that we only got three snow days before making them up, but because of this winter's conditions, the new governor changed the law to having five free snow days. The bad news is that we've used our five days already, but keep smiling, because school ends on June 8th, as originally planned.



HAPPY SPRING!



Savannah's DNA results turned out to be:

75% labrador retriever

and the other 25% wasn't in the DNA data base. So I guess we'll never know! Perhaps she's 25% . . . bacon! :) (Continued from Page 5)

A POEM . . . *By Julia Inks*

ROCKET BUILDING

I'm building a rocket.
As soon as I'm done
I'm taking my friends
on a trip to the sun.

But what do you mean
that the sun is too hot?
Oh well, I suppose
I'll just pick a new spot.

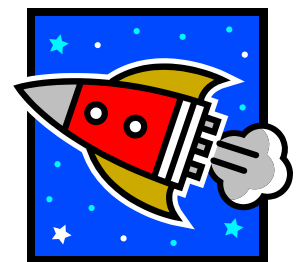
I'm building a rocket.
I'm finishing soon
and taking my friends
on a trip to the moon!

But what do you mean
that the moon has no air?
Well dang, then I guess
that we can't go up there.

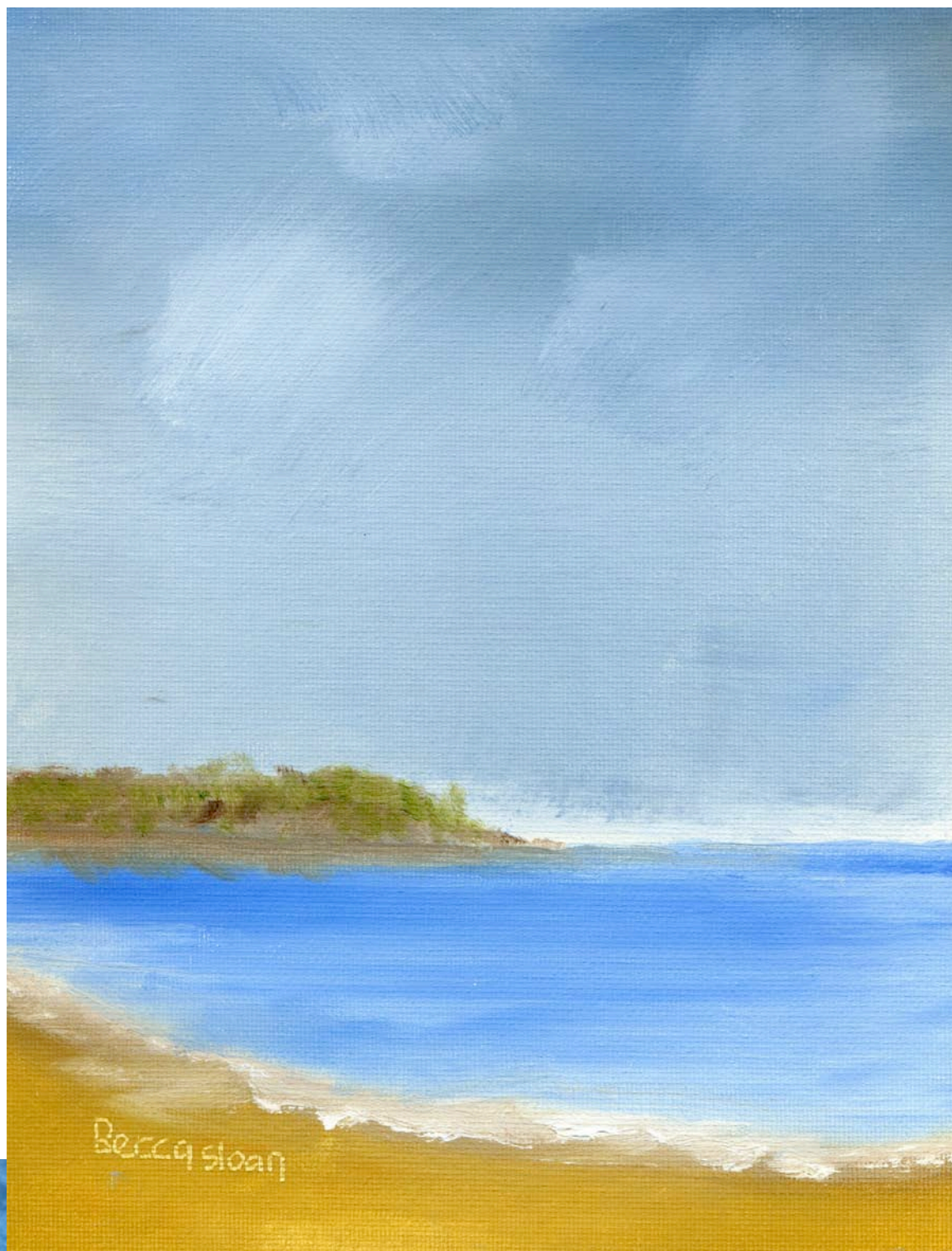
I'm building a rocket.
It's going to fly.
I'm taking my friends
way up high in the sky.

But what do you mean
when you ask how we'll land?
This rocket is harder
to build than I planned.

To heck with the rocket.
It's out in the shed.
I'm taking my friends
out for pizza instead.



our art gallery . . .



by Becca Sloan

Spring-Tastic Recipe . . .

by Maddie Rowley

Hey! Here's a recipe for my favorite cookie, **Madeleines**, from Madeline.

You do need a special pan, but it's worth it because they taste amazing!

You need:

2/3 cup flour
1/4 tsp. baking powder
1/2 cup butter - melted and cooled
2 eggs
1/2 tsp. orange extract
1/2 tsp. shredded orange peel
1 cup powdered sugar

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350
Spray Madeleine pan with non-stick spray.
Sift flour and baking powder in a small bowl (set aside).
In another bowl, beat eggs, orange extract, and orange peel with electric mixer (high speed for 5 min.)
Gradually beat in powdered sugar.
Beat another 5 minutes.
Gently fold in flour mixture and melted butter until smooth.
Spoon mixture into Madeleine pan until 75% full.
Bake for 8 min. or until edges are light brown.
Let them cool in the pan for about 2 min.
Loosen cookies with butter knife.
When cool, sprinkle tops with powdered sugar.

Makes about 24

Enjoy!



Madeleine pans are only about \$13, but its worth it because they are easy to make and so delicious!



Some Jokes . . .

by Patrick Morse

Why were the astronauts unable to land on the moon?

Because the moon was full.

What do you call a sleeping bull?

A bulldozer.

What makes it so difficult to drive a golf ball?

It doesn't have a steering wheel.

Why did the golfers yell at each other?

They were teed off.

Why did the golfers buy a new club?

Because he had a hold in one.

Why is "U" the happiest letter?

Because it's always in f-u-n.

What lottery did the broom win?

The sweepstakes.

Why should you never run behind a bus?

Because you'll get exhausted.

How do oceans greet each other?

They wave.

Why was the ocean so mad?

Because it has been crossed so many times.

What kind of pets make music?

Trumpets.

What do you get if you cross a chili pepper, steam shovel and a poodle?

A hot diggety dog.

What did the envelope say to the stamp?

Stick with me and we will go places.

What goes up and down at the same time?

A stairway.

What do you get if you cross a pony with two dimes and a nickel?

A quarter horse.

Why do little league baseball players make good pals?

They always go to bat for you.

What has 18 legs and catches flies?

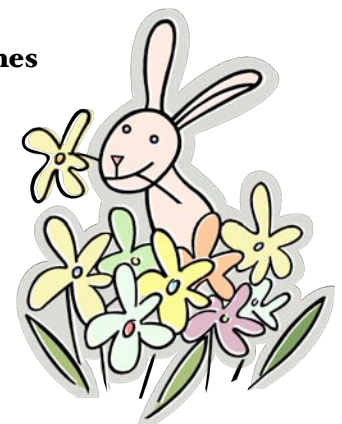
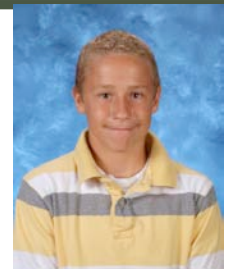
A little league baseball team.

What invention allows you to see through walls?

A window.

What do frogs use to take notes?

Lily pads.



STARS . . .

a short story . . .

by Lexi Jonesco



“How long?” My voice was shaky and my mind wasn’t right. I didn’t hold in my tears and I started to cry as the doctor said,

“She’s going to leave us tonight.” I nodded. The doctor took my silence as his cue to leave. I stifled my tears and left my hospital chair. I walked down the hall like a ghost. Not feeling, not seeing. I was empty. I pushed open the door to her room and felt joy in my heart. To my surprise, she had a twinkle in her eyes.

I managed to walk myself to her bedside and bend down by her side. She held up a shaky hand to tell me not to speak. She opened her mouth and words flew out, slow and shaky, but still understandable.

“I know that I am leaving you behind, but don’t worry, I’ll be fine. I’ll be behind the blue skies, among those beautiful stars.” She smiled at me as I hummed a tune from the back of my mind. I nodded at her to continue, closing my eyes. “Cause in the sky, oh so high, there are beautiful stars which shine the night. I’ll be dancing in the clouds and I’ll be singing in the rain. Among those beautiful stars.” She held out her hand as she went. I was too late to hold on. She took her last breath and I started to cry again.

I stood from my position and opened the window. It felt like one of those sad movies when you just can’t stop crying but you forget about it because it was just a movie. It was like that, but I knew this pain and sadness would never end. I opened the window as a few nurses started to take her away.

“Sir, we’re going to need the room in about 30 minutes.” I nodded and she left closing the door. I looked out the window and there she was, shining in the sky, with the stars . . . just as she’d said.

I looked around the sky, all the stars were beautiful. They’re all dancing in the clouds and they’ll be singing in the rain.

FIVE YEARS LATER

I laid in my bed. The cancer was spreading and I knew I had only seconds. So I took my last breath and I was in the sky. We were dancing in the clouds and we were singing in the rain.

I saw a beautiful face through the dancing stars.

So we danced in the clouds and we sang in the rain. Among those beautiful stars.

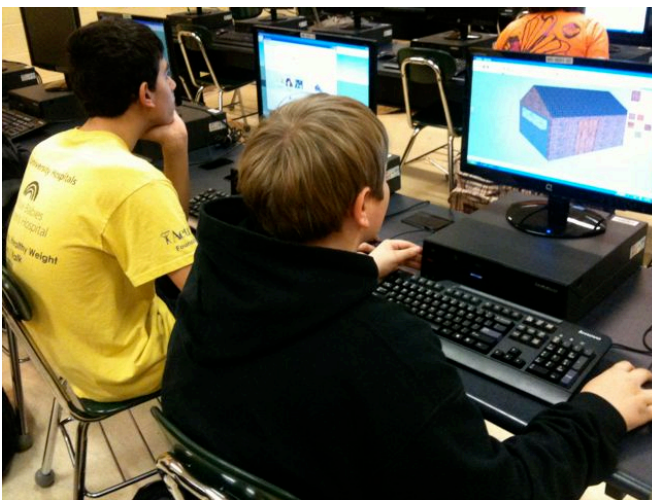
*This story is a songfic, which means it was based off a song. In this case, the song is “Stars” by Greyson Chance.



RRMS Tech Club . . .

Mr. England's technology club has been meeting for the past few weeks. The club explores areas of Google Docs along with other Google programs that we don't have time for in Technology class. Currently the club is working with Google SketchUp and creating 3D shapes and structures.

Work and projects will be posted soon. The club also offers free lab time to work on projects for other classes. If you might be interested in joining, it is never too late! See Mr. England if you have any questions.



LUKE AND LAYNE'S ADVENTURE!

By: Libby Kurfis

Once upon a time there was a friendly and nice elf named Luke. He was an aqua colored elf about as tall as a bush, and he wore a yellow hat and yellow overalls every day, and his overalls had many pockets which always had tools in them. His shoes were made of white silk and had golden stars at the point, and the stars were magical.



Luke lived with his friends in a giant red and white polka-dotted mushroom that he made into a house. The mushroom house was huge and he

built everything on the inside all by himself. Luke's house had ten rooms, and all the elves living in Luke's house got to make their room look however they wished it to be. The house was in the forest of Never Say Never Land, a colorful and magical land where the sun was always shining.

One day Luke decided to create a new path around his house. He set off into the forest to collect smooth, round, shiny pebbles. Luke filled up all of his pockets in his overalls and started the journey back home. As he was walking, one of his pebbles fell out of his pocket. Luke went over to pick it up and he saw something that caught his eye. It was a pear shaped object, and it seemed to be painted. Luke walked over to get a closer look at it.

Upon closer inspection, Luke realized it was a doll. It was a different kind of doll than he'd seen before. The doll did not have any arms or legs but it had a beautiful painted-on face. Luke wanted to meet this doll, so he decided to put his shoes to use. He clapped his hands five times, spun in the air, stomped his feet, clicked his heels together, and shouted "NEVER SAY NEVER!"

Luke looked over at the doll and he stood her up. He saw her eyes blink and a frightened look on her face. Luke said, "Hello, I'm Luke."

The doll said nervously, "Hi, I'm L-I-I-layne and I'm a matryoshka doll. Where am I?"

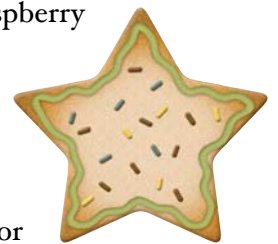
"Well, it's very nice to meet you, Layne. You're in Never Say Never Land", said Luke.

"How the heck did I get here?" asked Layne.

"I made you come to life with my magical shoes," answered Luke.

Layne seemed confused. She did not know what it was like to be alive. Layne was happy to be alive, but she did not know what she was supposed to do. Luke said, "Come on with me!" and skipped off. When he turned around, he saw that Layne had not moved. Luke walked back to see why she hadn't moved. She did not know how! Luke helped her figure out how to waddle side to side to move, and soon enough they were on their way.

Luke showed Layne around Never Say Never Land. First he took Layne to the fruit field and gave her a yellow raspberry to eat. Next Luke took her to the cookie trees and they picked a star shaped sugar cookie with diamond sprinkles. Lastly he took Layne to the huge Never Say Never Wishing Flower and they both made a wish. Layne wished for arms and legs. Luke wished for a bigger house so that Layne could have a place to stay.



As they headed home to Luke's mushroom house, Layne started to feel a little funny. She felt like she was getting taller. Then Layne realized her arms weren't painted on anymore - she could move them! Layne's wish was coming true! She tried to walk but then she fell over. Luke helped her get up and taught her how to use her new arms and legs. Layne was so happy she skipped around.

They headed towards Luke's house and soon enough they could see it. They felt the ground start to shake, and before their very eyes the mushroom house grew even bigger! Now Luke's wish came true! They ran towards the house and went inside, and they saw that there was another room for Layne to have. The room was purple and Justin Bieber posters were everywhere and that made her sooooo happy! Then she met everyone in the mushroom house, they made dinner out of purple lettuce and blue mushrooms and then everyone went to sleep.

The next day Luke needed to go and get water from the secret spring and Layne wanted to come even though it could be dangerous. The spring was the best water you can get in Never Say Never Land, and no one knew about it except the elves. Unfortunately you had to go through the ogre territory to get there. They went on their journey to the spring after they ate papaya pie for breakfast. Luke wore plastic overalls with water pouches instead of pockets, and a plastic hat with waterproof boots. He had to leave his white silk shoes at home.

As they walked, Luke told Layne to walk behind him and stay where she was when they got to the ogre borderline, so he could make sure no ogres were there. After Luke walked away, Layne heard something coming and she froze. She couldn't move or call for Luke. Then Layne saw an ogre!! He was gigantic and frightening, and he had green skin and very pointy ears. Layne stayed very still but she knew he saw her. She wished she had never come to life and ended up here.

The ogre bent over and picked up Layne who was as still as a rock. "Well, well, well, what do we have here?" asked the ogre whose name was Chumsy. "I think I'll take this little dolly home for my little girl, Cindsy." He had no idea that the doll was alive!

When Luke went back to get Layne, he saw that she was not there! He looked everywhere, and then he saw ogre footprints. They were as big as a tree. Luke knew he had to find Layne so he followed the enormous footprints. They took him to a gigantic tree house. He looked for a window to see if Layne was in the tree house, and he saw her with a little girl ogre. Even though she was a child, she was much larger than a 10-foot tree.

Luke did not know what to do. He sat down, threw his hat off and scratched his head. Then he saw all the tools in his hat fall out. He had an axe, a hammer, nails, and magical rope that would go as long as he needed it to. He used the axe to cut steps up the side of the tree house to just outside the window. He used the hammer and nails to build handlebars and he used the magic rope to make a zip line right from the window to out the other side of the tree house. Luke grabbed onto the handlebars and pushed off. He flew through

the window, grabbed Layne out of the little girl's hand and almost made it, but then they fell.

When they fell, the little ogre girl clapped her hands with excitement. Luke started to dance for the girl and made her laugh, so the ogre girl set he and Layne by the window and let them leave. She waved goodbye, and they ran out the window and down the magical rope. The ogre dad, Chumsy, was standing there and Layne and Luke ran right past his feet.

After they were away from the tree house, Luke realized they still needed to get water from the spring. They both ran to the spring and put



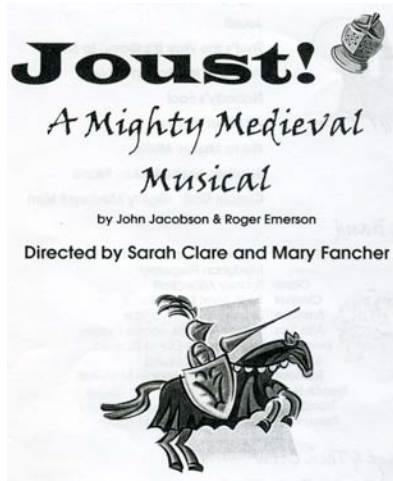
water in Luke's water pouches. Luke started to leave, but Layne noticed something shiny in the spring. She called Luke back and told him that she thought there was gold in the spring! Luke spun in the air. He took a bunch of gold from the spring and put it in his hat. Luke and Layne headed to the mushroom house to tell everybody about their adventure. Although Layne was frightened about what happened, it was exciting for her to be alive.

As Luke and Layne told their friends about the day they had, they realized that they did not want to go back to the life they had before. They wanted adventures every day! Luke and Layne made a plan. They would use their gold to buy everything they needed to set off for a life of adventure.

And so they set off on their journey . . .
Next stop - Somebody To Love Land!!

THE END

Rocky River Middle School presents



March 11 & 12, 2011





JOUST, A MIGHTY MEDIEVAL MUSICAL!

The Commons was filled with the songs of damsels, knights, jesters, French ladies, and squires! The musical included King Arthur and his quest for music, as well as peace on earth.

Altogether, over 80 students contributed in the cast, stage crew, and pit band -- making the musical great! The cast even did a flash mob at DariQueen -- which you can check out on You-Tube. Arthur was played by Brandon Schumacker; and Merlin was played by Lucy Bowers. As the cast would say,

“Mighty Medieval Men!”

by Brandon Schumacker



Maroon & White Night March 18, 2011

Thank you, Mr. Kirchner, a Dad, who came to lunches on Tuesday dressed as "The Pirate" promoting Maroon & White ticket sales which began on Wednesday, and a very special thanks to all the moms and dads who made Maroon & White Night

a HUGE success. . . Fun photos by Mrs. Mylett.













RRMS TALENT SHOW

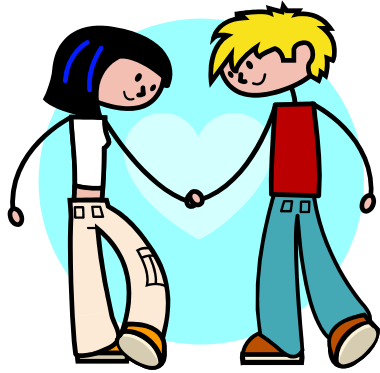
Thursday, October 28, 2010

- *Grace Combes - "Photographs"
- *Marlee McGorray - "Somebody to Love"
- *Jasmine Sims - "A Fist Full of Glitter"
- *Clare O'Toole - "Happy Talk"
- *Katie Mediate - Irish Dance
- *Dana Way - "Defying Gravity"
- *Briar Golladay, Margo Bush, Michelena Ballas - Comedy Skit
- *Grace Janosik - "Beautiful"
- *Shuchi Sharma - Tae-Kwon-Do Demo
- *Jaymie Pampush - "One Time" with guitar
- *Winnie Gao - "Clair de Lune", Piano
- *Katie McDewitt, Olivia Loparo - Cheesy Comedy Skit
- Declan Fishback - "You So Fine"
- *Alex Kavalec - "My Favorite Things"
- *Bridget Akin - "Dynamite"
- *Megan Radanovich, Gillian Esdon, Emily Soltes - Spice Girls Dance
- *Elise Pichola - "Here Comes The Sun"
- *Claire Duncan, Bridget Schneller - "Impossible"
- *Ethan Heald, Gaby Hammarlund, Valerie Griffiths, & Lea McClure - Lea & the Bones
- *Wesleigh Stryker, Chloe Stryker, Ava Valore, & Evie Tsigas - Popular Skit
- *Maria Klek, Emma Fischer - "Reflection"
- *Lauren Ritvo, Kim Taylor - Karate Demo
- *Brandon Schumacker - "Thank You For The Music"
- *Calista Lewis, Catherine Troy, Angela Pujolas - Dance



STUDENT COUNCIL DANCE

3/25/11



Students danced the night away to a

**HIPPIE
THEME**





CHOIR PERFORMS AT KENSINGTON ON MARCH 30, 2011 *By Grace Wilhelmy*

Everyone did a wonderful job at the concert. The costumes from the 60's were awesome, and the speaking parts were so clear and were so well said. I am sure that Kensington loved all the singing and dancing going on. I know, too, that Mrs. Fancher loved it because she told us what a great job we did. I am so glad that the concert went really well, and it was so exciting to see all of our fifth grade teachers again!

**Up Close With Brad Stevens,
Head Basketball Coach of Butler University**

By: Grace Wilhelmy



Brad Stevens is the head basketball coach at Butler University. This is his second year making it to the NCAA Championships. Last year he played Duke and lost. The score was 33-35, meaning that they lost by two points. This year, Butler is playing the University of Connecticut



(UConn).

I know Brad because he is married to my cousin, Tracy. I see him in the summer at his home in Indianapolis and at Christmas when he comes to visit with his family. When we see him, we also see his wife, two kids (Brady and Kinsley), and in the summer we also see their shihtzu dog, Mack. Brad is very quiet, polite, and nice.

Brad played basketball in college at DePauw, where he met his wife who was a Rocky River City School District alumna. After college, Brad received a job offer at Eli Lilly and thought since he played basketball in college he would like to coach basketball instead. Brad took a coaching job as a volunteer and worked his way up to head coach. Brad is the youngest coach to ever take his team to the finals two years in a row.

Brad has been doing a very good job and he is doing what he loves, so it's a win-win for him and his fans. He has made a wonderful, remarkable trip to where he is now in the tournament. In the next issue, look forward to some questions that Brad Stevens himself has answered for News Ahoy!





Rocky River Middle School Bike to School Challenge May 9 – May 27

Sponsored by:

**RRMS Fitness Department, Fuel up to Play 60, Century Cycles,
Raleigh Bicycle, Chipotle, Honey Hut, Bay Lanes and RRMS PTA**

THE MORE YOU RIDE, THE MORE YOU WIN!

***Free Chipotle BOGO burrito voucher just for riding the first day, May 9th**

***Free Bike to School T-shirt for riding to school 4 days (pick up at Century Cycle)**

***Free Honey Hut ice cream after school if you ride on May 13th**

***Free game at Bay Lanes for riding on May 27th**

*GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES INCLUDING:

- **One of TWO BRAND NEW BIKES** from Century Cycles
- **A season-pass to Cedar point** for biking every day
- **Chipotle party** for you and 25 friends
- **Bicycling accessories (lock, bags, lights and more)** from Century Cycles
- **Gift packs** from Raleigh Bicycle
- **Honey Hut \$100 summer ice cream certificate**
- **Gift packs** from Main Street Cupcakes
- **Bay Lanes bowling party** for 10 people
- **2 FREE Indians tickets (behind home plate)** from STO
- **And more...**

Ride for your HEALTH. Ride for the ENVIRONMENT.

Ride for the FUN of it... RIDE ON!



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Layout: Special thanks to Dr. Dianna Foley