

# The Match



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# THE MATCH

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FRONT PAGE: Because of COVID-19, it's easy to fall into boredom, however creating a garden is a great solution. Check out how to create your own garden in this Match edition's Features!

GRAPHICS BY GRACE JOHNSON

RIGHT: Fifth-grader Raleigh Lovewell poses next to her horse, Pixie. Lovewell braided Pixie's mane to keep her cool on a hot day.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY GRETCHEN LOVEWELL



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*Fifth grader Benjamin Jiang received a perfect score at a mathematics competition.*

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*Listening can not only be used in the classroom but also applied to life.*

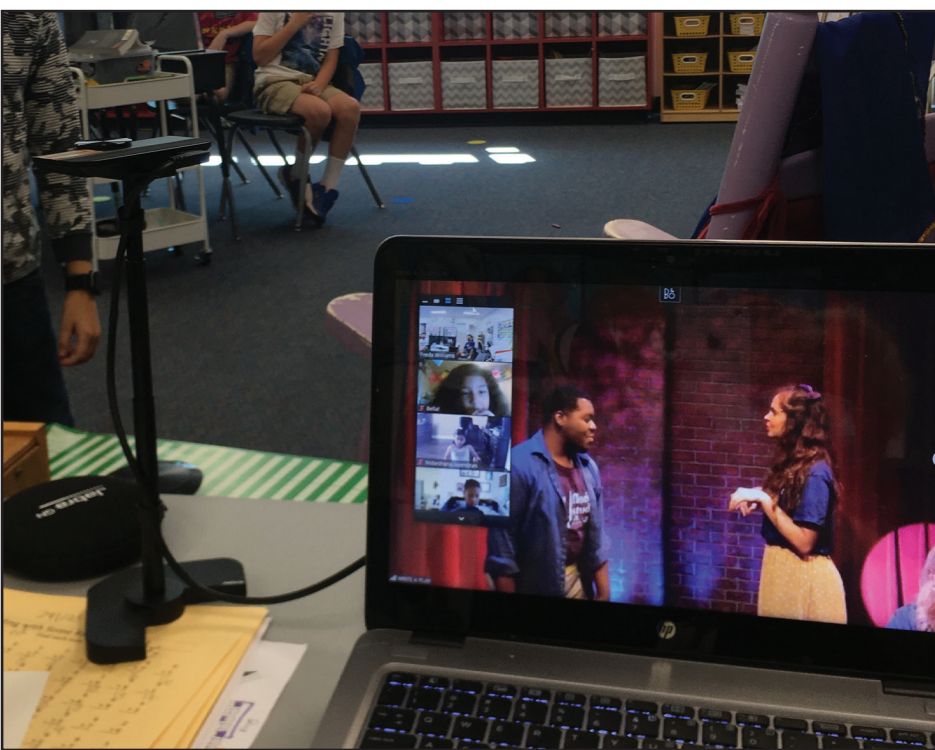


TOP: Zachary Kurnov poses with a soccer ball after playing with his team Next Generation.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY GARY KURNOV

LEFT: Actors from Florida Studio Theatre perform via zoom. Because of the pandemic, Freda Williams introduced her students to online field trips.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY FREDA WILLIAMS





# Field Trip Fun Isn't Done

by Sarah Catalano

While the ongoing pandemic prevents this year's students from experiencing field trips as they were, third-grade teacher Freda Williams has turned it into an opportunity to incorporate fun and enrichment directly into her classroom. From Greek gods, to playwrights, to circus clowns, Williams' students interact with artists and experts, all through the class ActivPanel or their home computers.

This past month, the class visited with Mote Marine educators to study the habitats and behaviors of sea turtles.

"I thought it was interesting at Mote Marine that they taught us about sea turtles and a lot of other facts and what we should do and what not to do on the

beach," third-grader Aarya Patel, one of Williams' students said.

At the start of the school year, many local programs began offering virtual tours at reduced cost or for free. So far, Williams' has taken her students on virtual "field trips" to Florida Studio Theatre, the Circus Arts Conservatory, Ringling Museum, Mote Marine and the Van Wesel.

"Normally we would go do the Write-a-Play program for Florida Studio Theatre, and that normally has two field trips — one to go in the fall where they act through a regular show, and one in the spring where we see them perform the kids' shows," Williams said. "So that was really kind of a hit that we couldn't do that, but they did have a virtual op-

tion and the kids loved it — the actors interacted with them and they wrote plays together."

Williams also received a grant from the Education Foundation for a virtual field trip with the Circus Arts Conservatory. Traditional and remote students interacted with circus artists over a zoom meeting to complete challenges and watch an educational video combining circus arts and science. Afterwards, students crafted their own Rube-Goldberg style machines to put the principles they had learned into practice.

"It was mainly chain reactions," third-grader Simon Carpenter said, "like trying to have a chain reaction do something like knock a ball into a basket or see how many dominoes you can knock over."

"I think it helped them gain some confidence," Williams said. "There had to be a beginning, middle, and end, and going through that process. I think, helped build up their confidence to try other science experiments and STEM projects in the future, just because some of them had never done anything like that before. And I think part of science is the ability to take risks and try things out and



Third-graders intently watch the actor and actress from Florida Studio Theatre in their classroom. Because of COVID-19, many of the normal in-person field trips have shifted to an online format.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FREDA WILLIAMS

not be afraid."

While students can no longer see reptiles up close or watch their plays acted out in front of them, exploring new environments while staying in the classroom has had some benefits.

"I think it's a plus because instead of just walking around and following [the tour guides] you can sit down and watch the TV," Patel said.

Both Carpenter and Patel agreed that they were grateful to be able to see plays and participate in activities without the risks of gathering in-person.

Williams partnered

with the Van Wesel on March 2 to host a virtual family arts night for grades two through eight.

She also hopes to hold virtual field trips to Crystal Springs and Selby Gardens corresponding with the class units on animals and plants, respectively.

"We're trying everything we can... If there's virtual options, the kids do enjoy it... They're excited, they're focused, they're wanting to participate in the activity and that's what you really want. As a teacher that's what makes you really happy, when the kids are happy and learning," Williams said.



From the ActivPanel, a staff-member from Mote Marine Aquarium speaks live to third-grade teacher Freda Williams' class. Williams has offered and will continue to offer online field trip experiences for her students during the pandemic.



## District establishes Cultural Proficiency Committee

After months of debate between parents, students and school board members surrounding race in Sarasota's schools, Superintendent Dr. Brennan Asplen has created a 21-member "Cultural Proficiency Committee" in an attempt to bridge divisions. Below are some of the goals of the committee.

---

### **Goal: combat racism in schools**

Address concerns of teachers, parents, and students who believe there are racist attitudes within Sarasota County Schools

### **Goal: combat alleged indoctrination of students**

Address concerns of teachers, parents and teachers who believe students are being "indoctrinated with left-wing ideology" in schools

### **Goal: collaborate with Director of Innovation and Equality**

Coordinate work with Dr. Harriet Moore, newly-named Sarasota County Schools Director of Innovation and Equality (The Committee officially assembled when Moore began her official role March 1)

### **Goal: encourage unity within the school district**

Acknowledge all sides of the debate over racism in schools and determine (as a team) the best way to move forward for Sarasota County students

# The D.A.R.E. Demise

by Peyton Harris

Founded in 1983 in California, the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program's mission statement is "Teaching students good decision making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives." Since its inception, 70,000 police officers have taught the program to over 200 million K-12 students.

Pine View has been offering the program for decades, well before Principal Dr. Stephen Covert took charge of administration.

to drugs. The secondary goals of the program are to build the students' social skills.

Under Pine View's most

lost federal funding in 1998 after a number of studies released showed the program was actually counterproductive to the goal of steering students from

DARE offers. To teach the program, DARE requires a teaching license as well as a certain number of hours of teaching courses. To receive the license, SROs and police officers must pay to take the classes, as well as pay for class materials, and the eventual license.

D.A.R.E. teaches students to develop peer resistance and say "no"

cent school resource officer (SRO), Deputy Hudson, DARE graduated around 800 elementary students. Since Pine View is unique in its K-12 structure, Hudson was able to connect with the students as they graduated the D.A.R.E. program and he continued to interact with them throughout the rest of their Pine View experience.

With his departure, however, came the school-wide discontinuation of the program. According to Covert, Pine View was one of the last elementary schools in the county to discontinue the program—a majority stopped offering the program after the economic downturn in 2008.

The DARE program

drugs. Once psychologist, William Colson, argued that the organization heightened students' drug awareness so that in the future students would have a piqued curiosity of the drugs they learned about. Further studies showed that, in reality, DARE provided little to no impact on students' drug use or lack thereof.

In 2010, following government reports that discredited its effectiveness once again, after losing federal funding, the organization's operating revenue dropped from \$10 million in 2002 to just \$3.7 million in 2010.

When Officer Bobianski took over in 2020, he was not licensed to teach the specific curriculum

There's also the cost of the DARE "graduation" ceremony and T-shirt every student receives, which the Pine View Association (PVA) has been financially supporting for years. With the discontinuation of DARE, Officer Bobianski has replaced it with his own cost-efficient anti-drug presentation, drawing from both elements of DARE and other anti-drug programs.

"The anti-drug message is the same without the whole buying their products and using their acronym. [I'm] not sure about addressing the short comings [of DARE]. It's the same type of Anti-drug message geared towards middle school," Bobianski said.

# DARE

## MISSING:



## WHAT HAPPENED TO D.A.R.E.?



## IN BRIEF

### Peramathon cancelled, Python Run limited

by Sarah Hassan

Yet another of Pine View's traditions has been cancelled this year due to the pandemic: The Peramathon. Initially, the annual event was to take place online March 6 to 13 to help incorporate the remote students; however, since there was a shortage of volunteers and the online alternative didn't seem as successful an option, the Pine View Association (PVA) had to alter their plans by canceling the Peramathon as a whole and mainly focusing on the upcoming Python Run.

While Peramathon only

incorporates Pine View students on the track, Python Run encompasses the entire community, inside and outside of the school.

The Python Run will be held on April 10 at Pine View. Cancelled last year because of the lockdown, this year there are differences from the previous years. First of all, the usual food items will not be distributed; rather than bagels and cream cheese, individually wrapped snacks and drinks such as granola bars and water bottles will be given to participants to reduce the spread of germs. Further,

the grand award ceremony, where there would normally be podiums and photographers, will not be held at the end of the run. The winners will be able to pick up their medal, trophy or gift certificate on a specified table in order to leave soon after the race ends.

"We are encouraging the family and the students who normally participate in Peramathon, [and] we would like to see them come and run a Python Run this year," PVA board member and Co-Race Director of the Python Run, Camillia Mankovich said.

### Free lunch program extended until June 2021

by Brianna Nelson

In the face of unprecedented financial difficulties, food insecurity, and uncertainty felt nationwide, Sarasota County Schools rolled out the Free Meal Program beginning this school year. Set to be phased out on December 31, 2020, the district extended the program until the middle of the summer.

In late 2020, the United States Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA) announced it would extend the Free Summer Meals Program into June 2021 in the face of continued stress on families due to COVID-19. Despite being called the Free Summer

Meals Program, it is being used year-round and is known for its incredible flexibility, allowing for take-home meals, feeding non-students under 18, and not being bound by a school or district's free or reduced lunch proportions as other programs have been.

"In my 25 years of working in Nutrition Services I have never seen any [school nutrition program] this flexible," Director of Food Nutrition Services at Sarasota County Schools Sara Dan said.

Through this extension from the USDA, the county was able to extend the program as well.

"Right now with COVID,

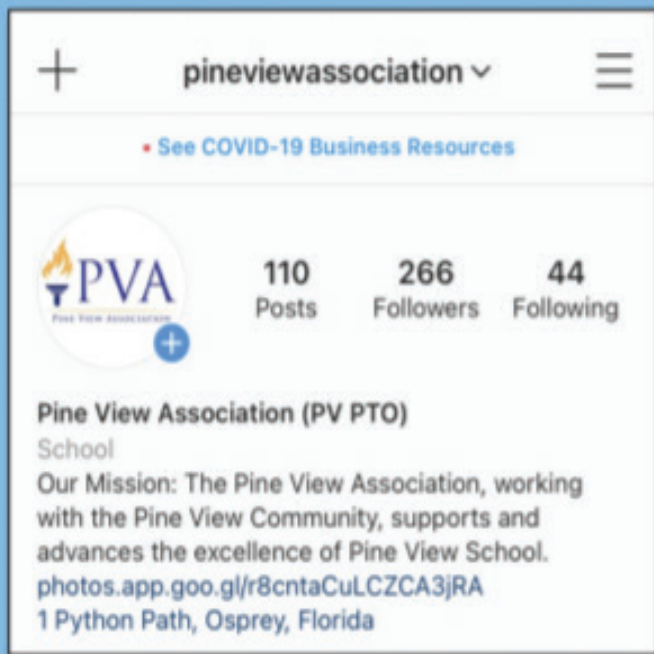
it has impacted families in different ways, whether it's hunger, health issues, or loss of income and it's just the right thing to do," Dan said.

The Free Meals Program offers the same availability and accessibility as it did before its extension, detailed in the November 2020 issue of The Match.

Currently, there is yet to be information on if the program will be extended into the next school year. Dan and other staff with Food and Nutrition Services expect more information from the USDA in the next month and believe their verdict will be based on the state of COVID-19.



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# Amazing Adaptations!

Book-to-movie adaptations can be hit-or-miss sometimes — some are even better than the book, while others seem to be telling a completely different story. Here, the Match staff gives our thoughts on three of the most popular movies that originated as books.

GRAPHIC BY LORA RINI



## 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone'

by Isabella Gaskill

As an avid reader, I tend to like the book better than the movie. A lot of stories originally told on paper don't translate well to the big screen, and many book-to-movie adaptations feel as if they are missing something. But there are some movies that I think do justice to their books, and the Harry Potter franchise is the perfect example. For now, I will mainly be focusing on "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" and why I think that movie was such a great success.

Director Chris Columbus was taking on a big project by doing the first movie, as this would test if the Harry Potter universe could successfully translate onscreen. If you are

familiar with "Percy Jackson" by Rick Riordan, you may know that the first movies of that series ended up doing poorly, and no other movies were made. The success of the Harry Potter cinematic universe was reliant on the success of this first film. And, of course, the franchise became a global success.

One of the strongest aspects of "Sorcerer's Stone" was the setting and the tone. Avid fans got to see places like Hogwarts and Diagon Alley for the first time, and the movie

nailed those settings. The music and cinematography gave the whole film an air of magic, which drew audiences in and left them hungry for more.



The movie showed how intricate this magical universe was and how much was yet to be explored, setting up the subsequent movies.

The movie also had a powerhouse cast who would go on to become household names, including Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, Rupert Grint, and Maggie Smith. Each character was perfectly cast and so unique that it was easy to immediately invest in them and their stories.

Audiences would keep coming back not just to see more of the magical universe, but to follow each character and watch them grow throughout the movies. Almost every char-

acter, even those which just a few lines, gained dedicated fans that skyrocketed the franchise's success.

The Harry Potter movies are arguably the most successful book-to-movie adaptation yet, and for good reason. They created an atmosphere that kept audiences hooked for years, and their success continues today. The tone of these movies and their faithfulness to the characters are something that film makers can learn from in the future.



Rating: 5/5 Torches



# 'Wonder'

by **Olivia Hansen**

I'm guilty — I usually like the book better than the movie. But I have a few exceptions — “Wonder”, by R.J. Palacio being one of them. This New York Times best-seller highlights the journey of fifth-grade student Auggie Pullman, who struggles with different facial features that held him back from going to a regular school until the beginning of the book. The book begins and ends with Auggie's point of view, with the perspective of his sister

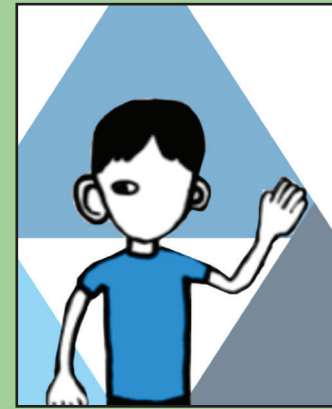
and other kids at his school throughout.

In my opinion, the most interesting aspect of the structure of this novel is hearing his sister's point of view. Auggie's sister, Olivia, is a freshman in high school who often feels as if she is not important, as her parents' attention is constantly being absorbed by Auggie. Hearing her point of view adds a deeper aspect to the novel, as we can further understand her relationship with Auggie and her parents.

The movie resembles

the book almost perfectly — although it leaves out a few things. For instance, a significant moment in the book is when Auggie loses his headphones at a school retreat — crucial for character development and a deeper insight to Auggie's struggles.

Also, the movie leaves out the scene during which his family gets a new dog. All in all, despite the few differences between the book and the movie, both are incredible, especially when wanting to learn more about those with



different facial characteristics and experiences.

R.J. Palacio does a great job of exemplifying the hardships students like Auggie go through, all while emphasizing that even though you may look different, we are all people at the end of the day.



The movie provides insight to struggles of those who are unconventional looking, showing that it's what's on the inside that really matters.



**Rating: 4.5/5 Torches**

# 'The Cat in the Hat'



by **Eva May Elmer**

Everyone knows the story of “The Cat in the Hat”, by Dr. Seuss, which follows Sally and her brother who are left at home on a rainy day while their mother is out, bored and unhappy. When the Cat in the Hat comes to cheer them up,

he causes chaos while he's at it.

The book is relatively short, with cartoon-like illustrations and a fun storyline. The movie is 1 hour and 25 minutes — it's live action, but it still has the fun storyline that makes Dr. Seuss so well-loved. A few modifications

were made like giving Sally's brother a name and following the mother more in the movie, rather than her being absent the entire time.

The movie is classified as a family comedy, and I completely agree. “The Cat in the Hat” is good for the whole family because people of all ages will get a laugh out of it.

There's so much I love about this adaptation. To start off, I really enjoy the fact that the story wasn't changed, but rather expanded. The way that the mother character is included more, along with the coloring choices made for this movie, were ingenious.

It's so vibrant and has many different complementary color pairs, which makes

it pleasing to the eye. Spontaneous, slightly odd outbursts, like when the Cat in the Hat finds himself in an arena with a bull during a musical piece, keep the movie fun and interesting.

Now that you know what I like about the adaptation, I'll delve deeper and tell you what I'm not particularly fond of. As I previously mentioned, it's a live action movie, as opposed to the cartoony drawings in the book. I don't hate the live action cat, but it's definitely not my favorite looks-wise. I'm not saying it to judge a movie by only one of its many aspects, by any means, but something about the features and proportions just doesn't sit right with me.

Also, I understand Dr. Seuss is slightly eccentric, but the way some of the effects were portrayed wasn't my cup of tea. The sofa jumping scene and some of the cake batter splatter scenes were a little too animated for a live action movie.

That being said, the pros overwhelmingly outweigh the cons for this adaptation, and I would definitely recommend watching this movie if you love “The Cat in the Hat” or you just want a movie that will make you laugh.

GRAPHICS BY KAI SPRUNGER



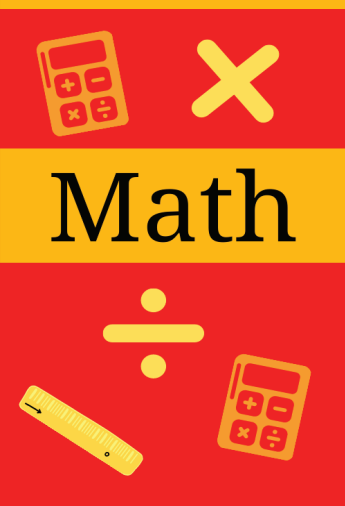
**Rating: 4/5 Torches**

# The Results are in: Elementary Fan Favorites

by Lora Rini

The Match staff surveyed elementary schoolers of all ages to find the most well-liked aspects of pop culture. Some of the results will shock you...

**FAVORITE SUBJECT**



Math

A graphic for 'FAVORITE SUBJECT' with a yellow background. It features a red banner with a calculator and a multiplication sign, a yellow banner with the word 'Math', and another red banner with a division sign and a calculator.

**FAVORITE MOVIE**



STAR WARS

A graphic for 'FAVORITE MOVIE' with a grey background. It features a purple banner with a yellow star and the words 'STAR WARS', and a background of various planets.

**FAVORITE HOBBY**



Art

A graphic for 'FAVORITE HOBBY' with a pink background. It features a green banner with the word 'Art' and a background of colorful paint splatters.

**FAVORITE SONG**



A Million Dreams

A graphic for 'FAVORITE SONG' with a purple background. It features a blue banner with the words 'A Million Dreams' and a background of a night sky with stars and a roller coaster.

**FAVORITE SPORT**



Soccer

A graphic for 'FAVORITE SPORT' with a yellow background. It features a purple banner with the word 'Soccer' and a background of soccer balls.

**FAVORITE SPECIAL**



PE

A graphic for 'FAVORITE SPECIAL' with a purple background. It features a green banner with the letters 'PE' and a background of various sports balls.

**FAVORITE TV SHOW**



SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS

A graphic for 'FAVORITE TV SHOW' with an orange background. It features a pink banner with the words 'SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS' and a background of seashells and starfish.


**FAVORITE BOOK**



Harry Potter

A graphic for 'FAVORITE BOOK' with an orange background. It features a blue banner with the words 'Harry Potter' and a background of a lightning bolt and glasses.

**FAVORITE MUSICIAN**



TAYLOR SWIFT

A graphic for 'FAVORITE MUSICIAN' with a light blue background. It features a red banner with the words 'TAYLOR SWIFT' and a background of red lips and flowers.

**FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM**



TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

A graphic for 'FAVORITE SPORTS TEAM' with a red background. It features a grey banner with the words 'TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS' and a background of a football and a pirate flag.



# DIY: Pet Rocks

by Kai Sprunger

*Whether you're allergic to animals or your parents won't let you have a pet, have no fear because pet rocks are the perfect replacement! They never make a mess and are quite tame; they are very intelligent and learn the tricks like 'sit' and 'stay' really easily, as well. An added bonus is that rocks are immortal, which means that you'll have a great friend by your side for the rest of your life.*

## 1. Find a lonely rock to adopt

You can find a pet rock pretty much anywhere. Rocks live everywhere outside: beaches, backyards, forests.

If you want a rock that you can carry everywhere with you, a small rock would be perfect. Small rocks are great to hide and travel with as they can fit in your pocket easily. A bigger rock would be better if you want a rock that you can hug or paint. Bigger rocks can also be very helpful as they can hold open

doors or act as bookends. If you're still conflicted about what size rock you want, you can always go with a medium rock. These rocks share some of the qualities of both small and big rocks.

## 2. Wash your pet rock

When you find your rock, make sure to clean it when you get home because some rocks can be covered with dirt or sand. Go to a sink and use soap and water to clean it. After you wash your pet rock, you can dry it with a paper towel.

## 3. Name your pet rock

After you clean your rock, you should give it a name! However, naming is quite hard; it's easier said than done. One way to name rocks is to go by what they look like. For bigger rocks, you could name them 'Boulder;' meanwhile, for smaller rocks, 'Pebble' would be a perfect fit. You can also name your rock after animals, plants, and objects. Naming your pet rock a human name such as 'Bob' is also a nice choice.

## 4. Paint your rock (Optional)

It's up to you whether you want to paint your rock or not. Once you've gathered your supplies for painting, you should think of what you want to paint. You can use any paint you like for painting; however, I'd definitely recommend acrylic paint.

Start off with painting your rock one solid color. This solid color is called the base coat. Once you've painted the base coat on



your rock, you'll need to wait until it dries. Repeat this process two more times to achieve the best results.

After painting your base coat three times in total, your rock is now ready for whatever you want to paint on it. Be creative with this step. You can paint animals, patterns, words, or anything you like!

## 5. Make a house for your pet rock (Optional)

You should give your pet rock a shelter because, like you, they need a place to live! You can use a cardboard box, recycled items, a dollhouse, and more as a home for them.

Instead of throwing away paper towel rolls and plastic water bottles, you can use these to make a huge mansion for your

rock. If you don't feel like making a home for the rock, they can also live on the corner of your desk or on a shelf!

## 6. Spend time with your pet rock

Make sure that your rock doesn't spend all of its time at home. You can spend time with your rock by bringing it on walks, to the movie theater, to the park, to school and more. If you cannot allocate much time to spend with your pet rock, you should consider getting another. This way, these rocks can keep each other company while you're away. Pet rocks make amazing pets, especially since they are low maintenance, but still, make sure that you care for them. Always remember to be a responsible pet rock owner!





## Focus on Growth



*Starting a garden can be intimidating. Deciding what to grow, where to grow it and how much sunlight it needs may feel daunting. Not to fear, though. We're here to help! Breaking down the process into some simple steps will help you grow whatever you want easily, while still having fun.*



### Step 1:

Decide where the garden will be located. Take a look at how large or small the garden can be, whether it be in garden pots or a plot in the ground. Look at the available sunlight, as well. Try to choose an area that has ample light. If your house does not have much sunlight available, no worries! Some plants require less light.

### Step 2:

Decide what you want to grow. There are a multitude of plants to grow. You could choose flowers, fruits, vegetables, herbs or even trees. Do you want something pretty to look at or do you want to grow food?



### Step 3:

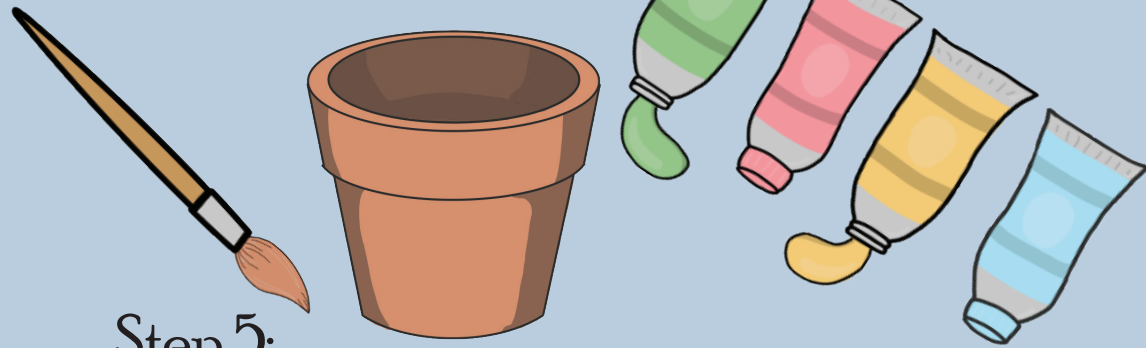
Do some research. Different plants require different growing conditions. See what types of plants can grow with the parameters given in the step above. Tomatoes require lots of light, while daffodils can grow with partial sun. Check how often your plant requires watering. A good tip is watering the plant when the soil feels dry. See what materials you need, too.





### Step 4:

Gather the materials. Home Depot and Lowe's have everything you need, from pots to soil to seeds.



### Step 5:

If you are using a pot, decorate it! Paint a cool design on it, so while it grows, it will still look pretty. Once the plant is ready, you will have a cool pot and a gorgeous plant.



### Step 6:

Fill your newly decorated pot with the soil and plant the seeds.

### Step 7:

Be patient. Most flowers take about three months to bloom and vegetables take even longer to harvest. Keep an eye on it. Make sure you check on the plant each day to make sure the soil is still moist.



# Listening to Classical Music: where to start?

by Leo Gordon

Most young people are reluctant to listen to classical music. Seen as outdated, boring, and all the same, classical music is one of the least-acknowledged musical genres of our generation.

Despite these stereotypes, it's important to give classical music a fair chance. Through it, we can learn so much about history, culture, and emotion. Classical music can be the soundtrack to any scenario in your head, and that's the beauty of it. There are infinite possibilities for how to interpret it.

For those who are interested in exploring a new genre of music, here are some great places to start your classical music journey. Each piece is available on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music, and more. Get listening!

Pictured below is Vienna, Austria, revered by many as "the city of classical music."

## "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik," Mozart:

You almost definitely know this one. It's one of Mozart's — and classical music's — most well-known pieces. Composed in 1787 in Austria, its name translates to "Little Night Music" in English. The piece is known for its lively, joyous qualities and unforgettable melodies. In listening to the first few seconds of the piece, its opening melody is instantly recognizable.

## "Toccatina and Fugue in D minor," Bach:

Most often associated with corny horror movies — if you know *Dracula*, you

know this piece. It's probably the world's most famous organ piece, and serves as a great introduction to classical music's potential to inspire emotional responses. The dramatic introduction, filled with dissonant chords, has made "Toccatina and Fugue" one of Bach's most well-known works.

## "Symphony No. 5 in C minor," Beethoven:

Many musical historians cite the first four notes of this piece, "ba, ba, ba, boom," as the most famous of all time. The piece was written in 1804, around the time when Beethoven discovered that he was going deaf. Beethoven is said to have told a colleague that the four notes represent the door knocks of

his doomed fate. This piece's iconic history and association with Beethoven's decline in health make it a cornerstone of classical music.

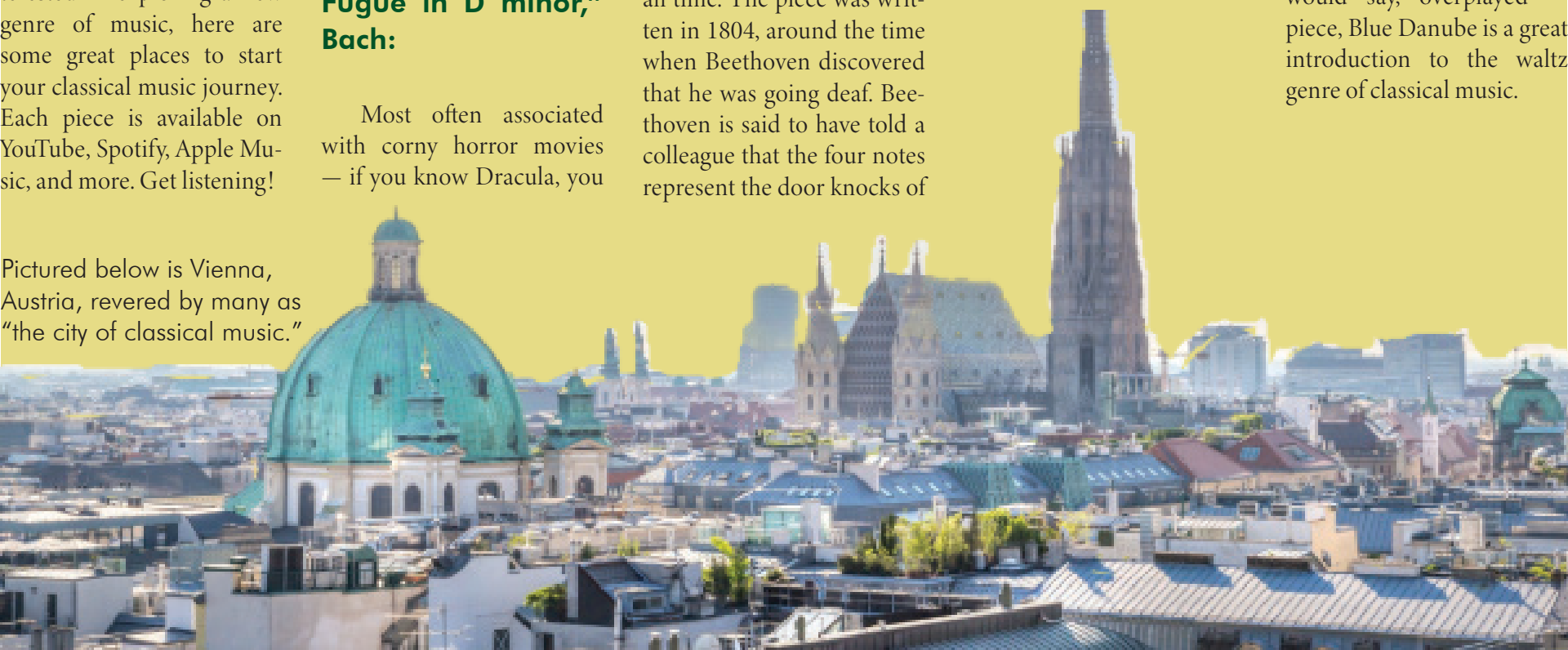
## "The Four Seasons," Vivaldi:

Vivaldi's most famous group of pieces, the Four Seasons is well-known for its distinct separation between movements, each of which represents one of four seasons. Vivaldi's ability to successfully integrate the emotions of spring, summer, autumn, and winter into his

music makes this work especially recognizable.

## "The Blue Danube Waltz," Strauss:

Probably the least-recognizable name on this list, Strauss' "Blue Danube Waltz" is the soundtrack to every standard ballroom movie scene. In fact, it is the most famous Waltz of all time. The piece was written to symbolize the Danube River, which flows through the city of Vienna, Strauss' home city. Though it's an extremely popular — and, as some would say, overplayed — piece, Blue Danube is a great introduction to the waltz genre of classical music.





# Cartwheeling through COVID

by Alyson Mizanin

Gymnastics may be widely known as a sport of flipping and tumbling, but its teamwork and friendship-building aspects can't be overstated for second-graders Lyla Ochsendorf, Anya Parks, and Paulina Nesanelis. The sport bridges the differences between the three girls—with bridges, backbends, and cartwheels in the mix.

Parks has been involved in gymnastics since her two older cousins introduced her to the sport about four years ago. Before COVID-19, Parks regularly practiced at local YMCAs. Because of the pandemic, her practices at the YMCAs have stopped; that said, she still makes regular use of the bar attached to a trampoline in her home.

Ochsendorf's love for gymnastics came on her own accord. Prior to COVID-19, Ochsendorf was more soccer and swimming-oriented. Though she still plays those sports, her focus turned to gymnastics as quarantine went underway. It was for that reason that she ended up pursuing recreational lessons at Acro Fit in Sarasota starting in August. Ochsendorf goes to Acro Fit each Tuesday and the occasional Saturday, and practices in her home when she has free time.

"Lyla backbends, cart-

wheels, and round-offs all over our house and yard all day. She just loves it," Ochsendorf's mother, Kristy Ochsendorf, said. "She's gained a lot of flexibility and upper-body strength from it. Besides those physical gains, working in a team to cheer the other girls on as they master their skills has given her a passion."

Getting involved in gymnastics was different for Nesanelis. Though she did gymnastics when she was younger, she quit because she was afraid of doing certain moves. She started this school year off as a remote student; when she came back to school, she was eager to make new friends. Upon connecting with Parks and Ochsendorf, Nesanelis rediscovered her love for gymnastics and started participating in their club at recess.

The trio has been playing together ever since.

Their gymnastics club is based on teaching each other specific moves and learning from the other girls.

"I'm teaching them how to do kick-overs now, but we all learn from each other. We're all learners in the club and we just do whatever gymnastics we want," Ochsendorf said.

"I started doing more moves because Anya and Lyla started teaching me. They inspire me to do more gymnastics," Nesanelis said.

Because of the club, they have become closer friends and more skilled gymnasts. The girls hope that once life returns to normalcy, they will be able to compete on gymnastics teams to further their abilities and learn from other girls.



Second-graders Anya Park (Left), Paulina Nesanelis (Middle), and Lyla Ochsendorf (Right) pose in front of the playground that their gymnastics club meets at during recess. Gymnastics has brought them closer together as friends. PHOTO BY LILY QUARTERMAINE GRAPHIC BY NAINA CHAUHAN

## A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO A PLANT-BASED DIET

### WHAT IS IT?

A plant-based diet is an eating pattern where you predominantly eat fruits and vegetables, as well as whole grains and natural fats. You can still drink milk or eat meat, but you consume proportionately more plant-sourced foods.

### WHY SHOULD YOU TRY IT?

- better mental health
- improved physical function
- decreased risk of frailty in older adults
- lower risk of heart disease, metabolic syndrome diabetes, certain cancers



SOURCE: HARVARD HEALTH PUBLISHING

### ATHLETES WHO FOLLOW IT

- Former NFL player Colin Kaepernick
- Global tennis star Venus Williams
- Heavyweight boxer Mike Tyson
- 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup champ Alex Morgan

### EXAMPLE DIET

- Breakfast: Rolled oats with strawberries and bananas
- Lunch: Homemade pizza with olives, mushrooms, onions, feta cheese, bell peppers, and tomatoes
- Snack: Hummus with baby carrots
- Dinner: Pesto pasta with greek salad



### NOTE!

Remember with any new diet make sure to first consult your parents and your doctor! While this works for some people it's not right for everyone.

# The Battle Between Animation and Live Action

## pro-animation

by Zoe Merritt

Do not let “The Emoji Movie” ruin children’s animated movies for you. The experience of being transported to a new world that feels entirely different from our own is unique to animation, especially in comparison to live action.

Sometimes, special effects can enhance the experience of live-action, but too they often pull you out of the story and cross into the uncanny valley.

Of course, animated films can be a quick cash grab. Frankly, it’s disappointing. Just because kids can watch a lousy movie, it doesn’t mean that they deserve to. Like their elders, young people deserve movies that are fun and silly but animated well and with strong writing behind them.

Instead of wasting your time with animated films that underestimate you, why not watch animated movies that are truly unmatched in style and story? Two 2D animation studios captured my attention: Cartoon Saloon and Studio Ghibli.

Lesser known, Cartoon Saloon’s use of perspective, color, and style is unique to them, as are the stories they tell. An Irish studio, traditional Irish folkloric elements and history are at the center of their films. You may recognize

their latest film, “Wolfwalkers,” which weaves a beautiful tale of friendship, myth, and historical events with their intricate hand-drawn style. You may also know their older movies: “Song of the Sea” or my favorite, “Secret of Kells.” These movies are both layered and simple in theme and plot, focusing on friendship and familial complexity. Watching a Cartoon Saloon film is like flipping through paintings.

Studio Ghibli also makes 2D films with gorgeous art and story, similarly centering on friendship. Hayao Miyazaki, the director behind Ghibli movies like “My Neighbor Totoro” and “Ponyo,” shows that kids experience conflict and understand more than we give them credit for in his films.

Projects like those by Cartoon Saloon and Ghibli are labors of love that leave impacts.

To put it simply, one cannot execute the same level of fantasy with live action as with animation. It’s the meeting of beautiful visual, magical escapism, and characters with the same problems that you or I face that makes this medium truly superior.

## pro-live action

by Lily Quartermaine

B a n g !  
F l a s h !  
B o o m ! A  
f a n t a s t i c



GRAPHIC BY LILY QUARTERMAINE

touristic imagery flashes before your eyes. It’s almost as if you were actually there with your favorite superheroes. Because of the choice to film the movie live action, it all seems so real!

Not only are live-action films more immersive, but they can also be more realistic.

Take the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), for

example. The movies present themselves as a spectacle of live-action cinema, complete with battles, dynamic characters and special effects. The epic potential and heroic capacity of these films could be captured in no other way than live-action cinema. The same realism and immersion would be impossible to achieve without the actual settings and actors to portray their roles.

Live action also offers a realistic side to cinema that isn’t achievable through animation. Through live action we are able to see real life stories portrayed in important ways. Documentaries, for example, are able to provide real life perspectives and stories. The same reality cannot be achieved through animation, which, of course, is not real.

It’s also easier for people to see themselves in a live-action character. Again, the MCU is a good example of this. Black Panther, the first movie with a black superhero in the titular role, was a monumental revelation for young black kids everywhere. Finally, they had a real life superhero that looked like them, and that they could see themselves as.

Superhero movies allow the younger generation to believe that they are capable of anything. There are many other characters in the MCU that

provide representation, too: Valkyrie is a woman of color, Professor X is paraplegic, Daredevil is blind, etc. There are so many real-life struggles portrayed in these live-action films that could be animated, but most certainly not to the same level of reality.

Most notably, live-action movies give us unmistakable feelings that animated movies do not. While we are leaving the theater there is a distinct feeling of hope, fear, or sadness. Whatever feeling it may be, live-action movies give us these emotions because of the reality in them. Because we see actual humans pursuing these events, we think it’s possible for us to do too. That sense of possibility is incredibly important when it comes to motivation and living your life.

That doesn’t mean you should jump into a toxic vat to become Harley Quinn, or buy a Gucci trench-coat to dress like Sherlock Holmes; however, perhaps you might hold open the door because Captain America inspired you to be a good citizen, or be nicer to the quiet kids in class because you watched a documentary on social anxiety.

P.S.- if you happen to see the Match staff playing with a bunch of crazy looking spiders, don’t worry; it’s just because we saw “Spiderman.”



# Diversity's Effect on Elementary Schoolers



by **Odelia Tiutyama**

In 1954, *Brown v. Board of Education* held that racial segregation of children in public schools was unconstitutional. Over 65 years later, racial diversity remains forefront in educational settings as it effectively reduces prejudice and encourages friendships across group lines.

As mandated by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Coleman Report put a twist on *Brown v. Board*, suggesting that socioeconomic school integration — intermixing students of various familial

backgrounds — could increase academic achievement more than any other strategy.

On the governmental policy level, taking these steps to achieve diversity is admirable as there are significant benefits associated with diversity in education. However, the individual outcomes for students depend on how diversity is actually addressed in the classroom.

When elementary students work in a diverse environment, creativity and better education are promoted as those with differing view-

points collaborate to create solutions. If students are surrounded by those who come from the same socioeconomic and racial background, the knowledge obtained from collaboration is limited.

A recent study in the journal “*Child Development*” illustrated that in schools with a diverse setting, students are able to learn about different cultures and backgrounds, allowing them to feel a greater sense of comfort with the differences. In turn, students feel more comfortable with themselves and more pre-

pared to take on the world as they enter middle and high school.

However, while increasing diversity is the first step, acknowledging it in the classroom is perhaps more critical.

Teachers can help students understand that while everyone comes from different backgrounds, we are fundamentally the same and should be treated with respect regardless of skin color, religious views, gender, or economic background. When educators and administrative leaders think crit-

ically about how diversity impacts education, it allows students to accept diversity and promote it.

Addressing the issue of diversity in the classroom and choosing to promote diversity at school is an important part of being a student. Pine View is already full of students and staff with diverse and amazing backgrounds and abilities. All you have to do is start getting to know the peers around you and highlight their unique stories.

GRAPHIC BY FELICITY CHANG

# Lovewell's Love for Horses

by Felicity Chang

It smells like dirt. A length of fresh soil – packed down into the ground by passing vehicles – cuts a path through the surrounding greenery, ending at a parking lot. Sitting next to a hay barn is True Blue Farm's riding stable; six to eight wooden stalls line either side and a tack room stands at the very end. Next to the tack room,



Raleigh Lovewell poses with Willow. She is the "head" of her herd and was rescued from a neglect situation. PHOTO PROVIDED BY GRETCHEN LOVEWELL

a couple of names are scribbled on a large whiteboard where, every other Saturday morning, fifth-grader Raleigh Lovewell checks to see which horse she will be riding.

It all started in the summer between second and third grade, when she attended her first summer camp with horses. Later on, at age eight, Lovewell started

volunteering at the Sixteen Hands Horse Sanctuary with her mother, Gretchen Lovewell.

"We wanted her to volunteer, to be around horses, before she started riding them because they're big, big, powerful animals," Gretchen said. "And, we liked the horse sanctuary because they use all-natural horsemanship. So, they kind of teach you how to communicate with the horses in a really natural way."

Gretchen said she grew up with horses and thinks this is a good approach.

"We thought it was a good way for her to kind of earn her lessons," she said.

Lovewell's riding lessons usually last around an hour, and recently, she has been staying afterwards to help out around the barn.

Upon walking into the tack room at True Blue Farm, she gets a saddle pad that fits the size of the horse that she plans on riding, along with an English-style saddle, brown leather slightly worn from use. She then fetches the horse's girth and bridle, hanging loosely from metal hooks on the wooden walls.

After tacking up – preparing the horse for riding – Lovewell heads into a sand arena for her lesson.



Fifth-grader Raleigh Lovewell stands with her favorite horse, Drew. Lovewell's interest in riding began after she attended a summer camp.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY GRETCHEN LOVEWELL

During one of her lessons, she encountered a unique situation.

"I got there. I went to get on the horse, and I realized, 'Wait a minute, the stirrup is broken.' And, [my instructor] just told me to do it anyways," Lovewell said. "Somehow, during the canter, I didn't lose it, but I had my foot in a really weird position trying not to lose it ... I didn't have the position going over the jumps – when I did the oxer, I lost the stirrup. The horse I was riding was still going, so I went from a trot to a canter all the way around, like, half

a lap with one stirrup missing."

When it comes to helping out around the riding barn and volunteering at the sanctuary, Gretchen said she's observed a lot of growth in her daughter.

"I noticed her at both barns kind of taking charge, like, she knows what needs to be done and she just will do it," she said.

"Most of the people at the sanctuary are adults, but it's kind of fun to watch her competence grow, talk to the adults and not be intimidated or nervous around them."



# Fifth-Grade 'Footballer'

by Gabriele Navickis

It's halfway through a game on a warm Saturday. Parents, siblings, friends and coaches are gathered around the field, awaiting the next goal. The sun is beating down and the perfectly green grass makes everyone's skin itch. Fifth-grader Zachary Kurnov is running up, kicking the ball closer and closer to the next point and GOAL! Kurnov kicks the ball over the goalie.

Before joining his current team, Next Generation, Kurnov played at FC Sarasota, and over the years he has been able to make so many new memories from playing soccer.

"I remember when I scored my first goal for this

team, and it was really cool," Kurnov said, looking back on past memories from playing.

To go play soccer, Kurnov and his teammates, many of whom come from Venice, go to 17th Street.

"When we lived in New York, he started with little leagues playing a couple months here and there... but [started playing] more seriously, probably when he was seven," said Lauren Kurnov, Zack's mom, who graduated from Pine View High School in 1997.

Kurnov practices three times a week on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays after school.

"We go to the whole

Tampa Bay Area for tournaments, and also sometimes away games, we never really go south," he said.

Kurnov has been playing as a left and mid-fielder ever since anyone could remember. With him being left handed and left footed, it made sense for him to establish them as his main positions.

His favorite soccer team is Ajax, the team that represents Amsterdam.

"[Zack] has more knowledge of other countries...I feel like it's really gotten him interested in the world outside of just the US, because soccer is just such an international



Fifth-grader Zachary Kurnov, in light blue, drives the ball toward the goal. Kurnov began playing soccer on a little league team, and now plays for Next Generation.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY GARY KURNOV

sport," Gary Kurnov, Zack's dad, said.

Overall, playing soccer has been a rewarding experience for Kurnov and his family.

"I think it's great. We love that he plays soccer. Learning how to work with others, and leadership skills, and teamwork — it's a great thing for kids," Lauren said.

## Beautiful Smiles for a Lifetime

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## Welcome to The Match's Poetry Slam

by Anna Labiner

*No matter your age or experience, anyone willing to put pen to paper can create a beautiful poem. Successful young poets such as Amanda Goreman, who recently read her poem "The Hill we Climb" at President Biden's inauguration, prove that age does not have to be a restricting factor in producing beautiful literary works of art. The Match's first 'Poetry Slam' features some of Pine View's finest young poets and why they enjoy this form of artistic self-expression.*

### What do you like about poetry?

"I like that you can use illustrations and that it's all creative... I think it teaches you that you can be creative, and also, if you have a moral, it can help you learn the moral and go on with life."

-Anneliese Rometsch Grade 3

"The mind can get more creative with poetry and you can get more ideas of how to make your writing better... When you start using poetry, people start listening to your stories."

-Sangi Doshi Grade 3

"What I like about poetry is that it all rhymes... [in a poem] there should be an animal or something that you can explain or do, or make up. In poetry, you can even make up some words."

-Saniyah Sheikh Grade 3

### Cinquain Poems:

Arpan Lobo Grade 3

Pranaam

Smart, Thoughtful

Helping, Caring, Loving

Always looking out for me.

Brother

Jeffrey Hills Grade 5

Cool

Very Different

Colorful, and Weird

Something Cool, and New

Portrait

Autumn Racine Grade 5

Hinata

Purple eyes

Cute Pink cheeks

With a round head

Hinata

Anjalee Lobo Grade 3

Avanee

Clever, Nice

Loving, Helpful, Amazing

Loving mom that's helpful

Mummy

### Regular Poems:

"ROACHES"

By Louie Goncalves and Miles Cuff Grade 3

Roaches, roaches stuck in my garage,

And they're overlarge.

Nobody to call.

Going to have to brawl.

Then my cat rips'em to shreds.

Puts them in death beds.

And when I come with my vacuum

One starts to zoom.

Can't catch up to it.

Then my cat bit it

So, he starts to swallow.

"Spit that out Apollo!"

"SCIENCE"

By Anneliese Rometsch and Saniyah Sheikh Grade 3 (shortened)

Science is so cool!

It makes me want to think.

I wonder how other scientists

Discovered the extinction brink!

Gases float around,

while solids stay in their shape.

Liquids slish and slosh around

And do always reshape!

The beaker holds action,

And Newton's Laws of Motion.

When that apple fell on his head

Sir Newton had a notion.



# Why is the Earth round?

[student question submission]

Question submitted by Sawyer Haenel



by Tiffany Yu

Covered in an exuberant array of blue oceans and vast continental land masses, this “goldilocks” planet is one of eight in our solar system—you guessed it, it’s Earth! If you, like many other students here at Pine View, have been living on Earth, you have probably heard a million times that the Earth is round and constantly spinning. While many conspirators have theorized that the Earth is flat, the planet we call home is, in fact, a sphere! While there is proof to back the statement, it brings into question: why is the Earth round?

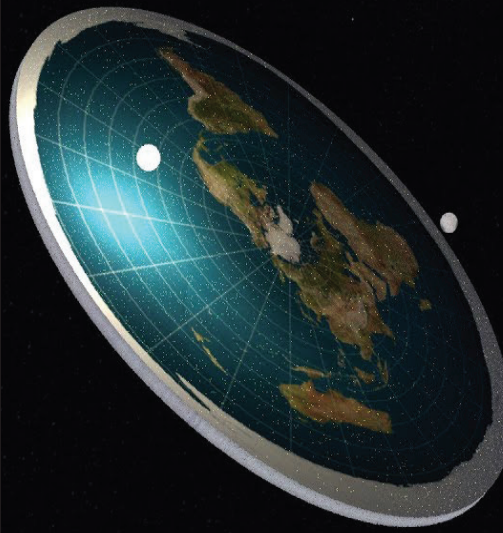
In short, we can thank gravity for our spherical shape. Gravity is a force of attraction that pulls bodies of mass together—think of a big magnet, attracting other, smaller magnets: that’s just

like how gravity works. For smaller objects, like the newspaper you are reading this on right now, gravity exerts negligible amounts of force; to you it just feels like a little weight. The force may be tiny, but when you take that mass and increase it to millions, or even trillions of tons, the effect of gravity exponentially increases.

Our Earth started out as a great mass of swirling gas and dust, then accumulated more mass around this center of gravity by pulling larger particles into its core. Eventually it created, according to University Today, “the most efficient shape”—a sphere! While the Earth isn’t perfectly round as you may see with globes and other scale models, the Earth’s mountains and valleys are part of what make it unique. Gravity has this effect on all the masses in our galaxy: the stars that dot our night skies, the moon, and our other neighboring planets.

While our planet may not be the only sphere floating around in space, our planet is very special. Not only does it have the perfect conditions for life, thus being the only “goldilocks” planet we know of, but because it has you!

## Flat Earth



GRAPHIC VIA HARRY EVETT

## Reality



GRAPHIC VIA SIYAVULA

# The Arm-wrestling 'Match' of the Century

by Joanna Malvas

As we have reached the turning point of the decade, beyond wrestling with Mrs. Rona (COVID-19) and all her issues, it's about time that we address the tussle of the century: the arm wrestling match of the Gordon twins.

For many of you who may not know, twelfth-graders Ben and Leo Gordon have dominated the Pine View campus since the second grade. Trailblazing their own legacies throughout elementary, middle, and now high school, the two have forever etched their mark upon Pine View's elementary newspaper, *The Match*. These twins reached the competition of their lives March 11, 2021. Who will win?

Leading up to the match, the twins adequately trained and prepared. Despite having a rigorous academic schedule, Leo always made time to enhance his physical strength throughout his day.

"I would

go up to my friends and offer to carry their backpacks and textbooks in between class periods. People thought I was being really nice, but if I'm being honest, it's all part of a day's work in training," Leo said.

On the other hand, Ben trained by building his mental strength, as a major aspect of wrestling is endurance. Every morning, to alleviate his stress, he would talk to his beloved plants in the corner of his room.

"Mental strength is just as crucial as physical strength. Without it, there's no motivation in preparing. I think that the plants really speak to me in that way," Ben said.

Finally, the two seniors took their places at the notori-

ous picnic table located in front of MLC 5. It was an abnormally breezy afternoon, which only heightened the chills and nervousness of both of them. Despite not having an in-person crowd to cheer them on, the

whole Pine View campus anxiously spectated from home as the historical match was virtually streamed.

The journalism adviser, Chris Lenerz, stood at the front of the picnic table, ready to referee.

"On my mark. Ready, set, go!" Lenerz shouted, blowing a whistle and initiating the round.

Leo spared no second putting all his strength into the first pull. With Ben losing his grip at the start of the match, his hand was nearly halfway to hitting the table's surface. Nevertheless, the match was not over yet. Before Leo could fully push Ben's arm against the table, their arms locked at a standstill.

In that moment, Ben breathed in and gradually pushed Leo's arm to the other side. Ninth-grader and *Match* Layout Artist, Kai Sprunger, watched the sequence in awe.

"At the beginning of the wrestling match, we all thought Leo was going to win. But then, out of nowhere, Ben pushed back! Everyone went crazy,"

Sprunger said.

And, she was right. On the live Zoom call, an influx of comments flooded the chat, with emoji reactions visibly being displayed on each screen.

## EPIC BATTLE

However, just as Ben was gaining momentum, Leo, once again, made another instant forceful push. Already a minute and 30 seconds into the round, both Leo and Ben were exhausted trying to make their final stand. Tensions were rising, and everyone in the journalism department who had made their bets were quaking.

Unfortunately for Leo, he had made his final push and his energy was spent. Slowly, Ben exerted more and more pressure onto Leo's hand again, but this

time, successfully pressing Leo's arm into the picnic table. Ben, though worn out, was victorious.

"I told you beforehand, it's the plants. People thought I was crazy, but look at me now! I can finally leave this campus knowing that I beat my brother," Ben said.

While this may have seemed to be a devastating defeat for Leo, his soul was not devastated whatsoever.

"Sure, my brother won; I'll give him that. But now, I'm looking into backpack weightlifting," Leo said. "The only bad part about this whole experience is now I have to continue carrying backpacks for the other people that I had offered it to."

The Gordon twins are now pursuing other endeavors in the last semester of their high school career. Yet, the wrestling match will forever be remembered in the hearts of the *Match* staff. The twins walked Pine View's campus so that all of you elementary students could run.





# Ponty the Python's Resignation

by Isabella Kulawik

Dear Assistant Principal, Roy Sprinkle,

I am writing to you with deep sadness to resign from my position as the Pine View Mascot, the Python. I have accepted a position at a new school that is desperate to have my expertise in the occupation of mascots. As you know, I graduated from Harvard University, majoring in Mascot etiquette and performance. It is disappointing to see the little appreciation your school has for me— no pep rallies, football team, or any sports teams in general apart from middle school! As a python, I came to this school to be appreciated, to be loved, but now I feel like chopped liver.

All this neglect has made it come to this, a letter informing you of my necessary resignation. The ending is bittersweet, though. As I plan to leave this school I cannot help but feel a sense of regret that I will allow you to put your next mascot through the same awful experience I faced as a lonely, miserable and underappreciated python.

If you are still confused about my reason for the request I will give you specific examples of the school's carelessness with me. I have yet to debut my performance at a sports game, have multiple self-portraits made, and have only one giant paper mache version of me. There should be at least two!

Anyway, farewell Pine View School. I will surely enjoy the actual team spirit at my new school. I am never coming back, even if you give me a raise in my salary— I will not waiver. You have ruined my confidence in the gifted human race. Enjoy your new mascot, nerds!

Yours sincerely,  
Ponty the Python



PHOTO BY SARAH CATALANO

# MASK MISHAPS



GRAPHIC BY MAHITHA RAMACHANDRAN