

# Match Jr.

Pine View School • 1 Python Path • Osprey, FL 34229 • (941) 486-2001

## New Year, New Playground

Page 3



PHOTO BY ELENA HERMAN

Dancing to New Friends  
[entertainment pg. 5]

Wu ranks on the rink  
[sports pg. 8]

Playground Potions  
[humor pg. 11]



# MATCH JR.

## news

[p.3]

New Year, New Playground

Welcoming Mrs. Stanley  
entertainment

[p.4]

Fall Crafts

[p.5]

The 'Keys' to Happiness

Dancing to New Friendships

## features

[p.6 & 7]

Happy Fall

## sports

[p.8]

Wu Ranks on the Rink

Harmony on the Court

## student corner

[p.9]

'Charlotte's Web' Drawings

## humor

[p.10]

Hissing Havoc

[p.11]

Playground Potions

Halloween Jokes

## focus

[p.12]

Old Becomes New

Thanking our sponsors



Third-grader Mona Wu works on her turns at ice skating practice. Wu has been skating since the age of four. PHOTO PROVIDED BY CHERYL ZHAN



Second-grader Alejandro Gutierrez works on his swing with his tennis coach. Tennis is one of the many extracurriculars Gutierrez partakes in. PHOTO PROVIDED BY SARAH MONSALVE

## Match Staff: Editor-in-Chief

Jiayi Zhu\*

## Asst. Editor-in-Chief

Ava Lenerz, Elena Herman

## Layout Artists

Ana Easter, Timothy Nesanelis

## Torch Staff:

**Editor-in-Chief** Isabella Kulawik\*

**Asst. Editors-in-Chief** Sanya Patel\*, Kai Sprunger\*

**Copy Editor** Kai Sprunger\*

**Managing Editor** Terry Shen

**News Editor** Lindsay Luberecki\*

**News Asst. Editors** Alex Lieberman, Sora Fancher

**Sci-Tech Editors** Terry Shen, Jakob Roche

**Entertainment Editor** Robyn Schoenberg

**Entertainment Asst. Editor** Colette

Freeman

**Sports Editor** Sanya Patel\*

**Sports Asst. Editor** Megan Ma

**Humor Editor** Aly Zaleski\*

**Opinion Editor** Allie Chung\*

**Opinion Asst. Editor** Madelyn Bailey

**Adviser** Christopher Lenerz

**Principal** Dr. Stephen Covert

## PVTorch.com Staff:

**Director of Digital Media** Nathan

DeSouza

**Social Media Editor** Melissa White

**Web Copy Editor** Sivan Levy

**Graphic Designer** Andrew Ashby

**Webmaster** Emmy Li

## Spark Staff:

**Editor-in-Chief** Ava Lenerz

**Asst. Editor-in-Chief** Timothy Nesanelis, Sora Fancher

\*Denotes member of editorial board.

Match Jr. covers topics, issues, and events of relevance to students grades two and three. Match Jr. is published four times a year by Pine View School and maintains membership in the Florida Scholastic Press Association. Press run is 500 copies. Copies are provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff. All content is subject to prior approval by administration.

**Reader input.** Submit story ideas, comments and questions to the editor of the publication. Address general comments and questions to the Editor-in-Chief at jiayi.zhu@pineviewtorch.com.

**Sponsorships and subscriptions.** To be a sponsor or purchase a subscription, email terry.shen@pineviewtorch.com. The Match reserves the right to refuse any sponsorship.

# New Year, New Playground

by Robyn Schoenberg

Every day, elementary students at Pine View look forward to recess. The old playground stood strong as the social center for second-grade and third-grade students for years. It saw games, friendships, and drama, but all these things took a toll on its structure. Paint was peeling, monkey bars squeaking, and its age started to show. Now, a new and improved framework has taken its place.

Near the end of April, the school district informed Pine View they were due for an upgraded playground. There was a meeting set up with Asst. Middle School Principal Melissa Abela, who oversees

facilities at Pine View, the district member in charge of the project, the district facilities manager, and second- and third-grade teachers.

The teachers had the chance to add their opinion on what should be changed and what should stay the same. One big topic of conversation was something that students have been wanting for years: swings.

"We were worried about kids jumping off of them and not using them correctly, and we totally thought the teachers were going to be like, 'we don't want swings, they are too dangerous.'"

"It was the opposite; they actually wanted the swings."

Rules were put in place regarding the swings and students have been great at following them. Swings were a hit according to Abela.

Besides the swings, many new features were incorporated, including a musical element, elaborate rope webs, spinning seats, a massive slide, and even an elevator.

"You usually get a line to go down the elevator," Sara Kolsky, a third-grade teacher at Pine View, said.

Even with all these new enhancements, students noticed something was missing: the dome.

"The kids used to love climbing on that. That actually was in pretty good condition

because it had been installed later... and we had told them that we were going to keep it," Abela said. "Well, inadvertently, they ripped it out."

Abela reached out to the district afterward, and now a brand-new dome is on its way. It is expected to be installed near the beginning of November.

One of the difficulties met in the process was timing. The playground was ripped out early in the summer because it was supposed to be done before the school year started, but it wasn't finished until after the school year started.

"Our first week of school was a little hairy and chaotic because we didn't have a play-

PHOTO BY ROBYN SCHOENBERG



A student climbs the new blue structure. It is a replacement for the old jungle gym.

ground for the kids to play on yet," Kolsky said.

Despite the challenges, this playground has been a huge success. Abela is excited by the new playground and optimistic about its future.

"I feel confident, I'm happy that that the students have a really safe place to play on. So, that right there, that's what makes me happy," she said.

## WELCOMING NEW FACES



**CASSANDRA STANLEY**  
**THIRD GRADE**

GRAPHIC BY JIAYI ZHU

**Tell me a little about yourself:** I taught in Orlando for about a decade... and then my husband and I moved [to Sarasota] after we had our first child, and I stopped being a teacher to be a mom for a while. I have three kiddos, they are all here at Pine View. I did a lot of volunteering here, loved it, kept up my certification; I knew I eventually wanted to go back to the classroom, and this year just felt like the perfect time to come back.

**Why did you become a teacher?:** After college, I wasn't sure; I had two paths along the way. One was the FBI and Secret Service... I loved it, it was fabulous, [but] I was like, "I'm not sure if this is what I want to do." I started to become a substitute teacher, and I loved it, so I went back to college and got my degree in education to go into teaching.

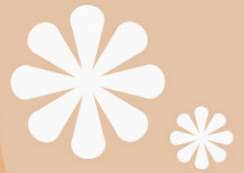
**What has been your favorite part of teaching here so far?:** The students, they're amazing. Everyone is so driven and focused and they're excited to be here, they love learning...there's nothing quite like the Pine View community... everyone is working towards the common goal. And I've gotten to see it from a parent perspective and now from a teacher perspective, which I think is pretty special.

**What are you looking forward to this year?:** I'm excited about the Third Grade Showcase. I'm so excited about doing the parade in October, I love that. It's always been so fun to watch as a volunteer and as a parent, so I'm excited to help my students come up with their idioms and create their costumes... All the tradition here — there's so many wonderful things that happen.

**Is there a fun fact about yourself you'd like to share?:** I love to be on the water. My favorite place is to be in the ocean or traveling.



## Fall Crafts



Always ask an adult for  
help when crafting

Step 1: Draw faces on empty milk jugs  
or water cartons  
Step 2: Put lights inside for a spooky  
glowing effect



Step 1: Glue apple-shaped red paper onto a  
popsicle stick  
Step 2: Add brown puffy paint to the top of  
the paper and spread sprinkles around the  
paint



Step 1: Glue leaves, small nuts, or drawings to  
pumpkins  
Step 2: Insert toothpicks into the pumpkins and  
attach more decorations like acorn caps to the end  
of the toothpicks

Happy Halloween!





# The 'Keys' to Happiness

by Jakob Roche

As she sat beside her mother, third-grader Aradhana Narendran heard a key being pressed as a note echoed out of the piano. Soon, a trickle of notes turned into a melodious cascade of sound. Narendran knew right then what instrument she wanted to play.

Narendran grew up listening to her mother playing. When she was around three years old, she started to play the piano as well. She started by playing songs that caught her attention.

"It was an opportunity to let her skill out," Akila Chandran, Narendran's mother, said.

Some of the first songs that Narendran started to play were songs in Tamil, her mother's native language. Although Narendran couldn't understand the lyrics, the melody captured her attention.

During recitals, Narendran said she feels happy with her fingers on the piano's keys. She's comfortable even if she makes a mistake. After all, "...everyone makes mistakes."

What's most important to Narendran is bringing melodies off the sheets of music for the audience to enjoy.

"I go on the stage and I start playing the piano and I get lost, I just like playing it in front of the people," Narendran said.

Narendran believes that people with talents should pursue them and not be afraid to showcase them. For now, she plans on following through with that path to showcase her own talents and continue to do what makes her happy.



Posing for a photo, third-grader Aradhana Narendran prepares for her first recital. She has been playing the piano for five years. PHOTO PROVIDED BY AKILA CHANDRAN

"I don't think about my own happiness from playing a song. I care about the people who are hearing the song. If they're happy with it, I'm also happy with it," she said.

# Dancing to new friendships

by Colette Freeman

Since the first time she stepped on stage to dance, second-grader Evelyn Carlson has felt pure excitement. With her extensive list of classes — including lyrical, jazz, tap, ballet, and hip-hop — she certainly has a large skill set when it comes to the art.

Carlson has been dancing since she was two years old, and has moved from Art and Soul Dance Company to Stage Door Studios. Throughout her dancing career, she has met some of her closest friends and learned many useful skills throughout the numerous styles she partakes in.

For Carlson, the main goal is to capture the audience's attention, and convey whatever feeling it is the piece is trying to express. Although there are many great things about each style of dance, Carlson still has her favorites.

"I like hip-hop and jazz," said Carlson.

These styles tend to have a freer and more expressive range compared to ballet, for example.

In the classes Carlson takes at Stage Door Studios, there are many opportunities for her to meet lifelong friends that share her love for dance. This is how she met her friend Leilana, a third-grader at Pine View School.

"She joined a month later than everybody else, so at the time I didn't even know her, but

then when I moved to Pine View, she was here," Carlson said.

Carlson's teacher, Leslie Stewart, also noted Carlson's and Leilana's bond. She mentioned seeing the girls hug and play together.

Additionally, Stewart described how Carlson's dance training has come in handy at school recently, namely in practice for the "Schoolhouse Rocks" performance at the end of the year.

"She was very good, and she kind of helped the other kids with their moves," Stewart said.

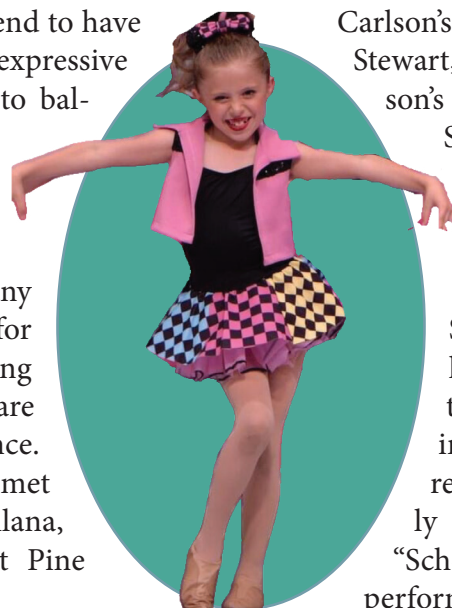


PHOTO PROVIDED BY EVELYN CARLSON

"...Some of the boys didn't know what to do, so she was very helpful with that."

Carlson's friends are always there to support each other when they go through struggles or need help. Even with her experience, Carlson still faces challenges here and there.

"Mainly just trying to stay with the dance, because when you fall it takes a few seconds out of the dance, and then you have to keep up with it," Carlson said.

Being a dancer is not easy work, but when she gets to go on stage and perform, she said it's ultimately worth it.

"When it's time for recitals, I feel really excited because it's the end of the season, and you can do all of the dances that you've learned over the year," Carlson said.



# Happy Fall!

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT FALL?



"I LIKE THE COOLNESS OF IT BECAUSE IT IS VERY HOT IN FLORIDA."

-Evelyn Carlson, Grade 2

"THE SMELL OF AUTUMN."

-Jiselle Jacob, Grade 2

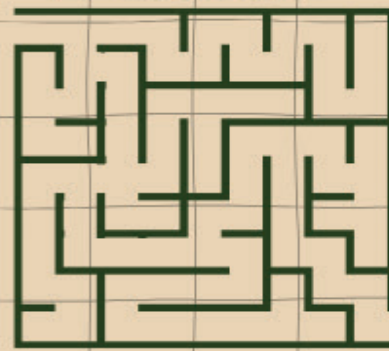
"WHEN IT'S COLD AND I JUMP IN PILES OF LEAVES."

-Grayson Migliore, Grade 2

"I LIKE THE LEAVES WHEN THEY FALL DOWN."

-Niko Davidovic, Grade 2

## MAZE



## WORD SEARCH WORD BANK

APPLE PUMPKIN TREAT

HALLOWEEN SCHOOL PIE

TRICK TREAT LEAVES

COLD AUTUMN

## FALL WORD SEARCH

A	E	A	P	R	T	A	P	P	L	O	P	N	P
C	P	C	A	R	L	S	W	U	C	U	M	T	T
C	L	P	S	I	N	S	C	H	O	O	L	P	N
T	O	A	L	L	T	M	H	I	L	H	O	L	L
R	O	H	O	E	O	H	U	P	D	A	H	O	H
E	I	E	L	T	A	A	H	T	L	U	P	U	A
A	T	D	K	L	L	C	P	L	U	O	S	O	P
T	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	E	C	A	T	P	N
O	M	E	A	L	L	I	C	O	I	U	I	K	E
S	L	W	N	E	O	W	D	I	L	P	U	N	H
T	K	P	E	A	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N
S	R	E	V	L	A	U	A	O	K	R	P	I	O
L	E	A	V	E	S	A	P	T	L	A	A	C	E
L	E	I	T	R	I	C	K	W	I	N	O	A	L

## FALL TO-DO LIST

- COLLECT COLORFUL LEAVES
- EAT PIE
- TAKE A BIKE RIDE
- CARVE A PUMPKIN
- GO TRICK OR TREATING
- GO APPLE PICKING
- DRINK APPLE CIDER
- WATCH A SCARY MOVIE
- READ A BIG BOOK
- MAKE S'MORES





## Wu ranks on the rink

by Sora Fancher

Amidst the warm Florida sunshine, the Ellenton Ice and Sports Complex transforms into a frozen



Posing for a picture, third-grader Mona Wu attends figure skating practice.

paradise. At its heart, third-grader Mona Wu figure skates. In her sparkling blue leotard, she cuts across the crisp ice, performing loops, turns, and jumps to the soft sounds of a piano. All the while, cold nips at her nose and her perseverance stays fiery.

Wu's journey on the ice began three years ago when she was just four, followed by a two year break due to the pandemic.

"Now I'm learning to do tricks like the full loop, like the jump," Wu said.

Cheryl Zhan, Wu's mother, brings another perspective on why Wu enjoys figure skating. Zhan sees it as ballet on ice.

"Mona enjoys skating also because of the speed, tricks, music, the movements, and it being a cool activi-

ty in hot Florida," Zhan said.

Wu practices at Ellenton Ice and Sports Complex, where she is part of a program called Learn to Skate USA and practices with a private coach. Wu said getting second place in the Orange Blossom Regional Figure Skating

competition as a proud moment.

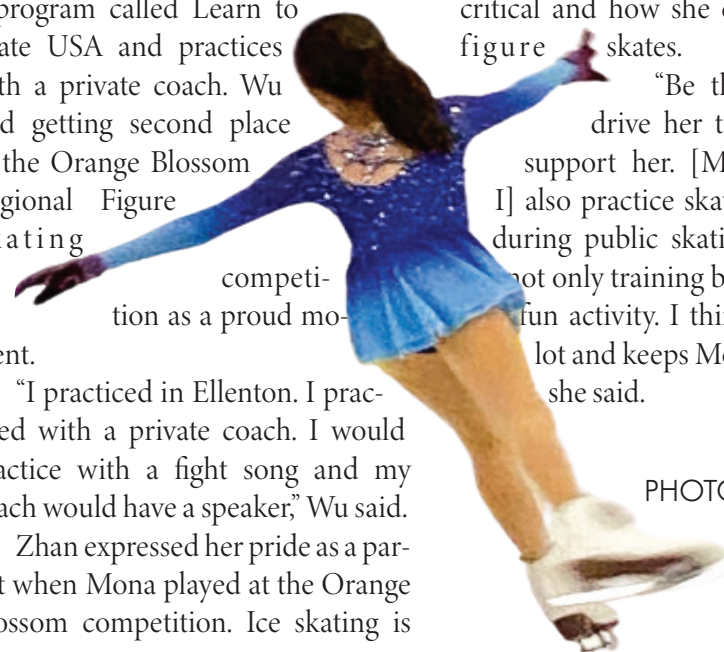
"I practiced in Ellenton. I practiced with a private coach. I would practice with a fight song and my coach would have a speaker," Wu said.

Zhan expressed her pride as a parent when Mona played at the Orange Blossom competition. Ice skating is

also a family activity for Mona and her family.

Zhan describes how support is critical and how she does so as Wu figure skates.

"Be there for them, drive her to the ice rink, support her. [Mona's dad and I] also practice skating with them during public skating hours. It is not only training but also a family fun activity. I think that helps a lot and keeps Mona motivated," she said.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHERYL ZHAN

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SARAH MONSALVE

## Harmony on the Court

by Melissa White

Thoughts of hopping into a time machine to become a kid genius have crossed everybody's minds. Second-grader Alejandro Gutierrez is the living representation of those thoughts. Throughout his life, he hasn't ever stopped being active — Gutierrez seems to grasp all chances

he can.

He has mastered time management, becoming a tennis player and piano player while managing schoolwork at just seven years old.

It can be a struggle to organize his schedule between tasks and free time. However, Gutierrez always seems to pull through, which is impressive at



At tennis practice, second-grader Alejandro Gutierrez works on his swing.

such a young age.

"He knows he can't play tennis anymore if he doesn't do his schoolwork," said Gutierrez's mother, Sarah Monsalve.

He is playing for his fourth year and is now in the green dot category, a category typically for older students. He plays in tournaments in Sarasota and St. Petersburg. When he isn't competing, he spends his time with his coach at Next Generation Academy.

"Alejo saw his sister play since he was in a stroller and decided he wanted to play too," Monsalve said.

Though he competes against kids much older than him, he has never lost his hope.

"When you start, it's a little hard,

but it gets easier," Gutierrez said.

Monsalve has noticed some changes in her son's attitude throughout his time playing. She feels as if his hobbies have made him a better person.

"He is more confident, and it has definitely taught him to manage his time," she said.

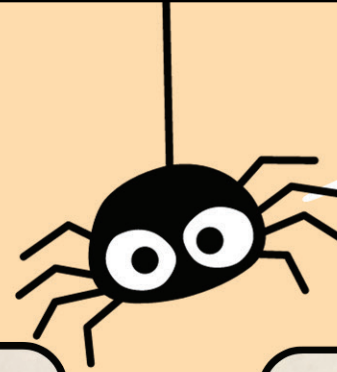
Gutierrez's parents are both immigrants from Colombia. With the intent of seeking better lives and opportunities for their family, they encourage their children to strive for the best, knowing how minimal the opportunities are back in their country.

Gutierrez's main goal right now is to become a pro tennis player. It seems he has had a great start.



GRAPHIC BY JIAYI ZHU

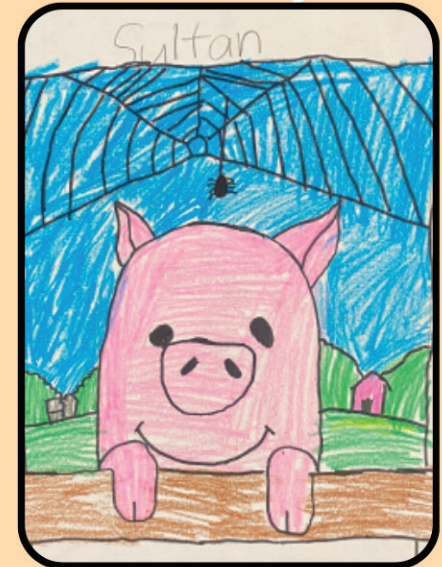
# CHARLOTTE'S WEB



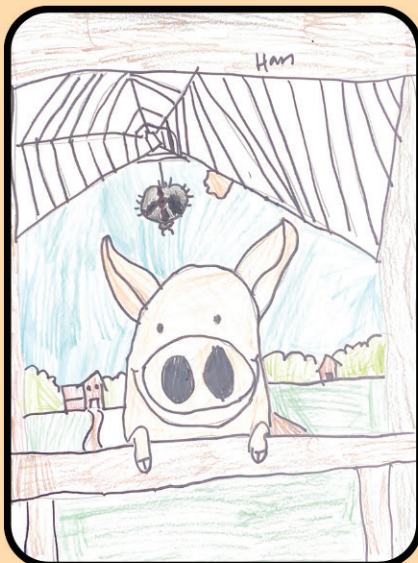
Second-graders in Mrs. Lengyel and Ms. Stewart's class recently read the novel, "Charlotte's Web" and drew their own pictures, which corresponded with the story.



**Shannon Harding**  
**Mrs. Lengyel**



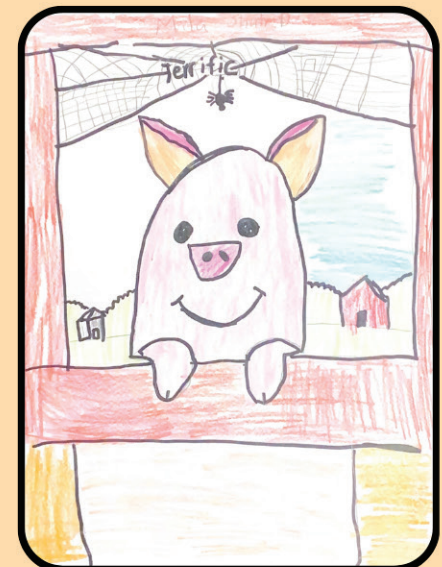
**Sultan Rouzi**  
**Ms. Stewart**



**Han Song**  
**Ms. Stewart**



**Austen Ellsworth**  
**Ms. Stewart**



**Mila Summa**  
**Mrs. Lengyel**



# Hissing Havoc: Revenge of the Python

By Isabella Kulawik

Slithering across the dark campus from his spot hanging in the Student Union, the blue and gold scales of the python shimmered under the lamp lights.

Ponty the Python, Pine View's mascot, was astonished at the sight before him. As he gazed into Building 17, he noticed the lack of python finery. The emblem on the floor was covered with only a measly book, and as his search continued, he found nothing that even resembled a snake. He began to shake his head, in a movement that almost resembled shaking his head but was more of a

wiggle.

"Thissss ssssimply will not do!" said the Python.

He started to hatch a plan. He would have to destroy Building 17. Having come from his place in the Student Union, he began to wrap his 45 foot long body around the rooms.

"If they don't have me in the decorationssss I will just have to decorate it with myssself," the python hissed.

He passed through the swings and down the slides, crossed past the blue buildings, and trampled through the grass! Making his way into the classrooms, his tail strummed the ukuleles upon

Mrs. Adamson's wall.

As he twisted and turned down the hall, his grip tightened and the walls began to shake. His plan was working: no longer could they ignore their fabled mascot. However, whilst the ceiling creaked and moaned, the Python began to contemplate his decision. He figured that they would probably fire him as a mascot if he were to destroy the building, and he quickly relinquished his hold.

The Python then thought of his second plan of action — vandalism. Having somehow acquired spray paint, his fangs pressed against the tip of the can and painted a crude picture of a snake. He continued, marking his territory here and there, stopping only to admire his work.

As he approached the third floor, a series of footsteps echoed in the stairwell, each louder than the last. The Python started to rush his work, hoping to quickly finish before he was

caught. Nonetheless, Officer Williams caught him blue and gold handed.

"Alright, drop the spray paint," Williams said with a slight chuckle.

With a hiss, the Python spit out the spray paint and rushed to the exit, moving faster than a student finishing their homework in the last minute before class.

"Wait, stop right there!" Williams said.

Ignoring the command, the Python continued on his trek to the Student Union, unraveling himself before he was caught.

"You foolsssss sssshall never catch me!"

After escaping the

clutches of the law, the Python began to curl himself into his position, and looked forward to another day of watching over students during lunch. He enjoyed seeing their friendships form and hearing their laughter throughout the room. Meanwhile, Officer Williams was stuck erasing the marks the python made across the walls.

If you look hard enough, you can still see the blue and gold stripes, but you didn't hear it from me!



GRAPHICS BY ISABELLA KULAWIK



# Playground Potions

by Elena Herman

Salutations, students. I am Meerie the Witch, and I am famously known for my powerful playground spells. Recently, I broke into Pine View School to look for juicy new ingredients. Instead, I found a place full of bright young students, and I thought to myself: these are the future witches and wizards of the world. And so, I have decided to share with you some of my most useful potions.

Please remember, these potions are not for eating or drinking, because merely brewing them will give you their powers.

## SPOOKY SPEEDY SPELL

- 5 dry leaves
- 1 small rock
- 3 thin twigs
- 10 blades of green grass
- a handful of dirt

To prepare this potion, you must first arrange your leaves and twigs in a circle. Then, make a pile of grass in the middle of your circle and place the small rock on your bed of grass. Lastly, take a handful of dirt and dump it in the circle while saying “I

will run as fast as the wind.” Poof! You are now the fastest kid on the playground.

## ANTI-BLUE BREW

- 4 wet mulch pieces
- 2 thick sticks
- 1 pretty stone
- a pinch of dirt

This is a potion that will make you feel a little bit better when you are upset. To prepare this potion, start by placing your thick sticks next to each other on the ground. Then,

balance the wet mulch pieces on top of the sticks in a row, so that it looks like a ladder. After, you must put your pretty stone in the center of your stick ladder. Finally, sprinkle a bit of dirt upon your stone and say four things that you like about your life out loud. Now you should feel better.

Please be careful when gathering the ingredients. I hope that you all have fun making these potions, and I look forward to seeing the spells that Pine View students will soon create. Bye-bye, and good luck!

GRAPHIC BY ELENA HERMAN

# Halloween Humor





## A special thank you to our sponsors...

Our publication would not have been possible without the gracious support of our sponsors. We sincerely thank you for your contributions.

## Platinum Sponsors

The Salvation Army's After School Program - Venice, FL

## Silver Sponsors

Sallapudi Orthodontics

The Fancher Family

The Nesanelis Family

## Bronze Sponsors

IHG Hotels and Resorts

The Bailey Family

## Family Sponsors

The Majorsky Family

The Levy Family

Riva Cleaning Service

The Ma Family

The Spica Family

The Lindbloom Family

The Cirka Family

## [a column]

## Old Becomes New



Jiayi Zhu,  
Match Editor-in-Chief

Before the beginning of every school year, I always look forward to buying new school supplies. When I was younger, I remember excitedly picking out perfectly sharpened pencils and crisp notebooks, insisting that I absolutely needed a new box of crayons, even though I had some from last year. At the time, this was perfectly reasonable because my torn, dirty box of missing crayons was obviously no fit for the new school year.

Years later, I still lose my supplies all the time. But now, I realize it's bound to happen, and that's okay.

While every new year is a fresh start, it is also a continuation of experiences. Each missing crayon in the box represents your latest drawing or colorful story. In other words, something "old" and "used" becomes new and original.

The rounded edges of my old eraser represent the mistakes I've made to perfect my math homework. The dulled

tips of my colored pencils remind me of all the artwork I've made. The more I use something, the more that it becomes dirty and old. The more I use something, the more value it holds in my heart.

Things change, and sometimes things go missing. That's okay. It's bittersweet, but it's possible to fill in these gaps with what you do have. I can always mix blue and yellow if I lose the green crayon.

Losing things made me appreciate the things I had. What if I lost both the green and blue crayons? I would be forced to color in yellow trees and grass. What if I had an argument with my best friend? I would have no one to laugh with at lunch. It's important to remember the true value of the things around you during difficulties. Change means that many things don't last forever, including both good and bad, so appreciate every second.

With every new year comes additional brushstrokes, colors and shapes on your life's canvas. However, it will never be the same crayon, paintbrush, or pencil. Every experience is important, even if it goes missing later.

As we near the end of the third month of school, remember to appreciate every colorful memory you will make throughout the year.