

# Match Jr.

Animals of  
Pine View  
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## Match tries: Playground Games!

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PHOTO BY KATERINA MAZZO

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# MATCH JR.

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Thanking our sponsors



A Cuban Tree frog hangs on the side of a pole just outside of Building 17. The Cuban Tree frog is just one of many animals that call Pine View's campus its home. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS



Third grader Moussa Pekker proudly shows off his gold medal at the AAU Junior Olympics. Pekker took up the sport last January. PHOTO PROVIDED BY SITORA PEKKER

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# Bobby Velasquez

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR

**What did you do before coming to Pine View School?**

"I was a guidance counselor in Seminole County"

**Tell me a little about yourself?**

"...I've been a school counselor, this will be my fifth year."

**Whats a fun fact about yourself?**

"I love food, sports, going to the beach, [and] I'm always happy to talk about life."

**Why did you become a guidance counselor?**

"I became a counselor to help people to get to what their goals are faster with less stress in between."

**What are you looking forward to this year?**

"Just getting to know people, I'm still new, getting to know where kids are at certain times and putting faces to names."



GRAPHIC BY KATERINA MAZZO

## Welcoming third grade teacher Katelyn Jordon:



**Tell me about yourself:** "I graduated from college in 2022 from Florida Southern College in Lakeland with my Bachelor's in education. I was a kindergarten teacher for two years...and I'm doing my third year of teaching here."

**Why did you become a teacher?:** "I started as a biochem[istry] major...and I realized I did not really like being in a lab. I decided to go with my gut instinct, which was to go to school for teaching. And I'm very, very glad I made that decision."

**What's been your favorite part about teaching at Pine View so far?:** "The students

for sure. They're very, very bright, and it's nice to see children that are so excited about going to school, and the staff here is wonderful. Everybody is very organized and structured, and most importantly, all the fellow teachers and the principal are very helpful."

**What are you looking forward to this year?:** "I'm really excited about the upcoming projects. My students are doing STEM fair, so that will be really exciting to see...I'm just excited about the memories that we'll all make with the kids and seeing them grow academically and probably grow in height as well, but that's what I'm most excited for, for sure."

GRAPHIC BY JIYAI ZHU



## From Viewer to Doer

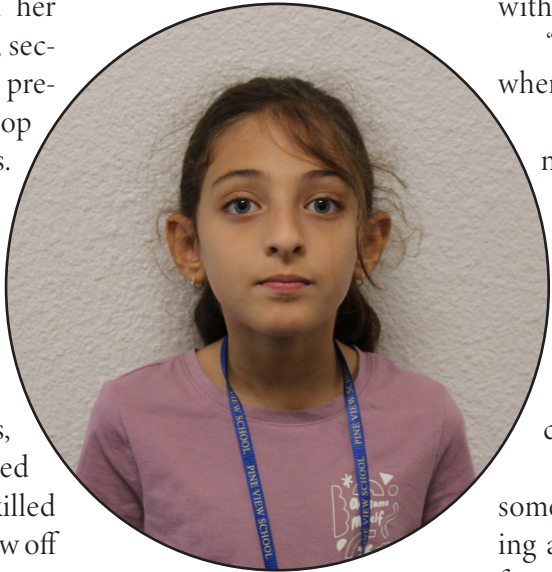
by Madelyn Bailey

Watching and listening to her instructor teach her class a new dance move, second grader Kayla Matta prepares to try a new Hip Hop dance involving flips. Matta started dancing near the beginning of the school year at Stage Door Studios in Sarasota.

Even before she started dance classes, Matta had been inspired to start by watching skilled dancers on YouTube show off their moves.

"I saw some content that people do dancing and I usu-

ally copy their moves," Matta said.



Since starting lessons, Matta has learned how to

take skills learned from the internet and expand them with new techniques.

"We're learning tricks where we flip," Matta said.

Although learning new skills comes with challenges, Matta's second grade teacher, Melissa Germanio, is confident that Matta will continue to persevere through any difficulties she may face.

"If she struggles with something, she keeps working at it and she doesn't get frustrated" Germanio said.

Matta's determination and patience can be seen by

all of her classmates during the school day.

"She's very friendly and outgoing and a good friend to everybody.

She never gets upset with any of the other kids, she's pretty easy-

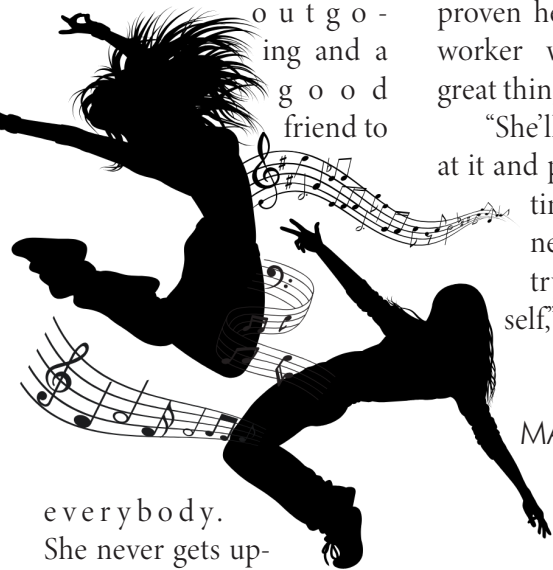
going" Germanio said.

Inside and outside of the dance studio, Matta has proven herself to be a hard worker who will achieve great things.

"She'll just keep working at it and practicing and putting the work in that needs to be done to try and improve herself," Germanio said.

PHOTO BY MADELYN BAILEY

GRAPHIC BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS



## MAKE YOUR OWN TRICK-OR-TREAT BAG!

\*Parental guidance advised. Use scissors with caution

### Materials:

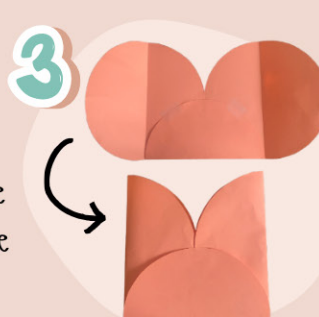
- ★ Orange paper (3)
- ★ Green paper (1)
- ★ Scissors\*
- ★ Glue or tape
- ★ Coloring supplies



Fold all circles in half. Cut out a leaf pattern on one half of the green circle. Make sure not to cut off too much!



Glue or tape the back of the green circle to the back of the bag. You may also add a stem.



Cut out three orange circles that are about 6 inches long. Cut out one green circle of the same size.

Glue or tape the orange circles together as shown to create a paper pouch.



Decorate your bag. Happy trick-or-treating!

GRAPHIC BY JIAYI ZHU



# The Best Bedtime Stories

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

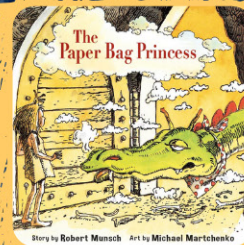


**"Where The Wild Things Are"**

by Maurice Sendak

We're all wild things inside, especially Max, who is king of the wild things.

Don't you want to learn about his kingdom?



**"The Paper Bag Princess"**

by Robert Munsch

Sometimes the princes we want to marry are bums. Elizabeth learns this after her castle is burnt down by a very haughty dragon and she has to save her prince.

Stellaluna



**"Stellaluna"**

by Janell Cannon

Stellaluna is a young fruit bat who is adopted by some very kind birds. However, birds and bats are very different. Can Stellaluna's bird family and bat family set their differences aside to become friends?

GUESS HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU



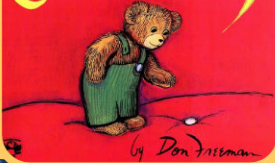
Sam McBratney illustrated by Anita Jeram

**"Guess How Much I Love You"**

by Sam McBratney

I bet you couldn't guess how much little Nutbrown Hare loves big Nutbrown Hare. I'll give you a hint: it's very, very much.

CORDUROY



**"Corduroy"**

by Don Freeman

Corduroy is a bear who wants very badly to have a friend, but how will he be bought if he's missing a button?



GRAPHICS BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

# ANIMALS OF PINE VIEW

## FROGS



The Cuban Tree frog on the left hides in the grass from predators, but the brave frog on the right hops on the side of the poles holding up the awning that connects to Building 17. During the hurricanes, this species of frog could be heard making loud croaking noises. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

## SQUIRRELS



An Eastern Gray squirrel snacks on the crumbs of a student's leftover lunch in the Quad. Animals are not supposed to digest food meant for humans, so please clean up after yourself and throw your waste into the trash can. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

## LIZARDS



The Brown Anole lizard is pictured on sidewalk and climbing the tree near Ethan's Rock Garden. The Brown Anole is not native to Florida, and it is considered an invasive species. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

## SNAKES



A Southern Black Racer snake peaks out from underneath the colorful panels on the walls of Building 4. Be careful around small, dark spaces, as snakes will often make these places their homes. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

## PV ANIMAL WORDSEARCH

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

- RABBIT
- FROG
- PYTHON
- LIZARD
- SQUIRREL

- OSPREY
- ANT
- SNAKE
- EAGLE
- GRASSHOPPER



## An Olympic-Sized Advance

by Jakob Roche

There's an Olympian at Pine View School. In August, third grader Moussa Pekker traveled to North Carolina to compete in the AAU Junior Olympics. In his division, he brought home the gold.

"It's actually a really big event," his mom Sitora Pekker said, "Once a year, they have the AAU Junior Olympics ... it was quite intense."

Pekker took up fencing last January, just like his two older sisters.

He does epee fencing, which is one of the three major branches of fencing. In epee fencing, the entire body is a valid target area. Which means, unless any tournament-spe-



cific rules say otherwise, he can hit any part of his opponent's body with the point of the blade to score a point.

Since the epee is the largest and heaviest type of fencing sword, it's common for someone to immediately counterattack. But before Pekker can start attacking and counterattacking, there's something he must do.

"You have a wire that you connect to your blade, and then you plug it into the strip," he said.

Once his epee is hooked via a ground wire into the piste (what the fencing play area is formally known as), any hits he makes can be registered. All in all, he's done this for 106 tournament matches.

Pekker said that especially before starting a match, "you get nervous a lot, and your heart starts pumping."

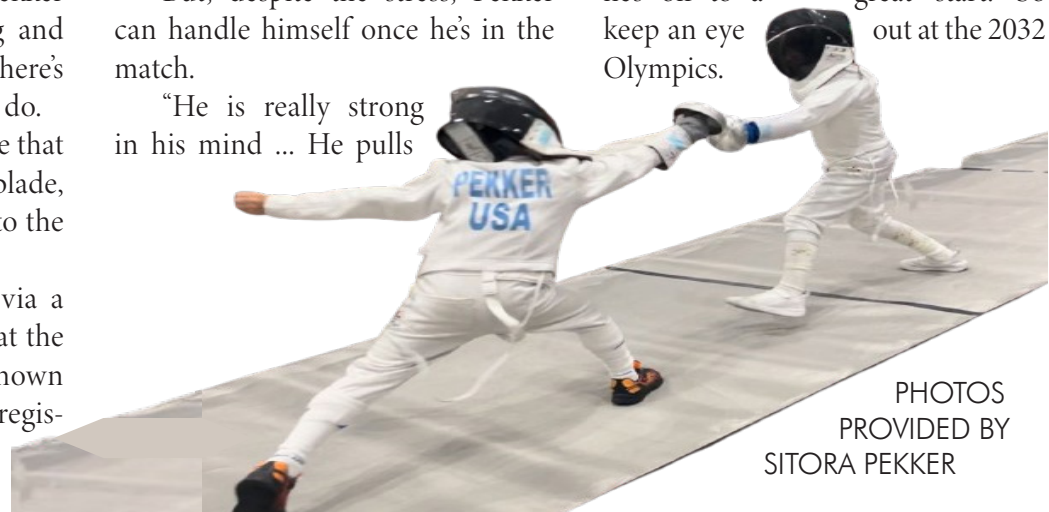
"It's a very stressful event. It's hard to picture it with words. You just constantly have tension everywhere," Sitora Pekker said.

But, despite the stress, Pekker can handle himself once he's in the match.

"He is really strong in his mind ... He pulls

himself together whenever needed, and it's a really tough sport mentally. I truly respect that about him," Sitora Pekker said.

Pekker is many years away from being eligible to compete in the official Olympic Games. But right now, he's off to a great start. So keep an eye out at the 2032 Olympics.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SITORA PEKKER

## Match tries: Playground Games!

by Jenna Hinck

As high schoolers, the Match Staff remembers all the fun games we used to play in elementary school. We decided to play these games together all these years later.

The Match staff consists of Editor-In-Chief Ava Lenerz, Asst. Editors-in-Chief Ana Easter and Timmy Nesanelis, and Layout Artists Anna Zhang and Jenna Hinck. Now, let's introduce the games.

The first game we played was "What time is it, Mr. Fox?"

In this game, the players ask "Mr. Fox" what time it is. The time the fox says is the number of steps the players must take towards him. If the players ask what time it is, and the fox says, "LUNCH TIME!" Then they must run away and try not to get caught. If they are caught then, they join in as foxes.

In our game, Nesanelis was the Mr. Fox. We had so much fun with this game and the students on the playground saw and wanted to join in! Pretty soon, we had almost the whole playground of kids playing with us.

The other game we played was Four Square. The squares represent King, Queen, Rich and Poor.

The objective of the game is to

bounce the ball in someone else's square and make it difficult for them to rebound your bounce into another square.

If the ball lands in your square and you can't get it or it double bounces, then you are out, and everyone moves up a ranking in the squares.

Lenerz was in the lead most of the game, as King, but soon enough, all the Match Staff had reached King's square.

The Match had a lot of fun reminiscing on their days in elementary school playing on the playground. It's crazy how fast the elementary school days go by.

Playing these games was a nostalgic experience for all of us. We hope you go out and play these games if you haven't already!



"Mr. Fox" Timothy Nesanelis shouts out the time as Ava Lenerz, Jenna Hinck, Ana Easter, Anna Zhang, and five second graders walk diligently towards him. By the end of recess, about thirty kids had joined the Match staff for an incredibly exciting game of "Whats Time is it, Mr. Fox?" PHOTO BY KATERINA MAZZO



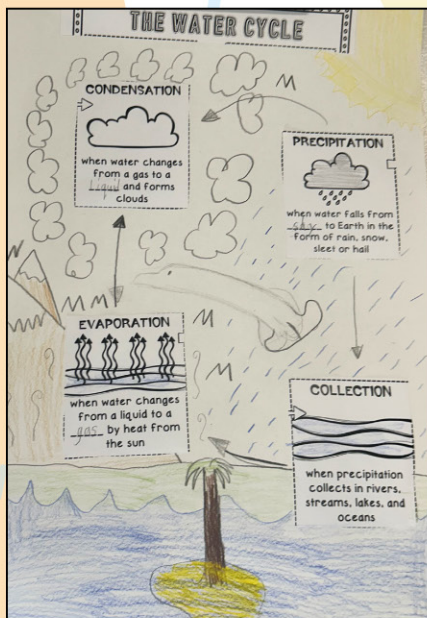
# A Shower of Creativity

Leslie Stewart's second grade class created posters showing The Water Cycle

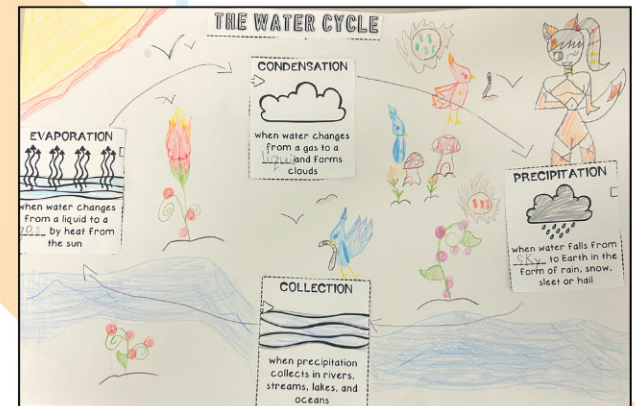
By Vesper Lee



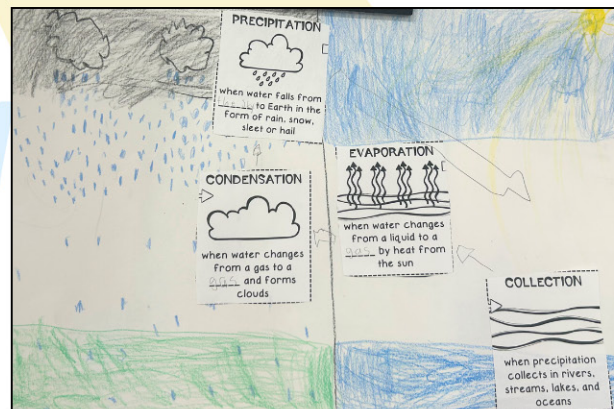
By Matthew Liu



By Qiuchen Liang



By Ellie Fielding





## Spooky Switch-up

by Lindsay Luberecki

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a grown-up for a day? For some elementary students at Pine View, this question became reality.

With Halloween approaching, a group of third graders decided to dress up as their teachers for a costume party.

"We wanted to be our teachers for the day!" third grader Fayk A. Dolt said. "I wore a skirt and a sweater, my friends wore dresses, Pine View shirts, etc. And it was great—a totally normal day! Until..."

The next morning, things changed.

"On my nightstand, instead of water, there was a Pine View Tervis Tumbler full of coffee," third grader Imes Tuck said. "Then, it was like a force possessed me to make my own breakfast and drive myself to school!"

Tuck, Dolt, and three other students were seen behind the wheel that morning.

"I felt like I needed to get to class to make sure my lesson plan was together, and then it hit me!" Dolt said, "Somehow, I had woken up as a teacher!"

The five third graders who were

stuck as teachers led their classes the whole day, but it was a day unlike any other. Math lessons were replaced with ice cream parties, recess lasted four hours, and read-alouds turned into sing-alongs.

"Maybe it was the coffee, but I was really excited to teach!" Tuck said. "By the end, though, I was exhausted. I think I'm better off being a student."

When Wednesday morning rolled around, the third graders woke up—nightstands normal, lesson plans out of their minds. But the strangeness wasn't over.

"When I got to school, I made a joke about when I was a teacher," Dolt said. "Everyone looked at me like I had three heads," no one had remembered anything unusual about the previous day.

It seems that Dolt, Tuck, and the three other third graders are the only ones who remember the Tuesday when teachers and students switched. So, to the readers, we ask: do you remember?

GRAPHIC BY LINDSAY LUBERECKI



## THE KOALA DILEMMA

The truth about koalas that they won't tell you.

eXPECTATiON

REALiTY



GRACEFUL CLIMBER



CLUMSY MESS



KIND AND PEACEFUL



LOUD AND OBNOXIOUS



GRAPHIC  
BY ALY  
ZALESKI

SMART DIETERS



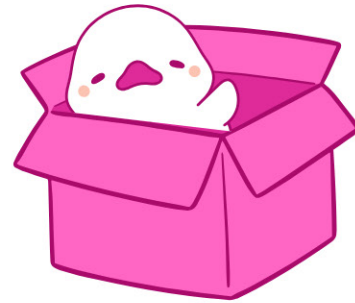
DOESN'T KNOW WHAT A LEAF IS



# PUNNY POEMS

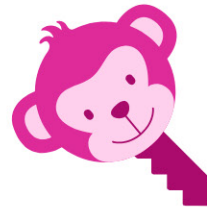
BY ELENA HERMAN

I put all my ducks in a box,  
Then threw in some cheese and some socks,  
They quacked and yawned,  
put the socks on,  
now they're warm cheesy quackers that talk!



Today when my teacher asked me,  
"Which letter is wet and salty?"  
I thought and thought  
and thought a lot  
and then proudly answered "the C!"

My breakfast banana was locked--  
I nearly slipped, I was so shocked!  
My mom told me  
"the thing you need  
is a mon-key to get it unstopped."





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## [a column]

## Seize the day and have fun!



Ava Lenerz,  
Match Editor-in-Chief

Before I start giving any advice, here is a little about myself. My name is Ava Lenerz and I am a junior at Pine View School, and I have been here since second grade. I am the Editor-in-Chief of this newspaper, so I hope you enjoy it!

Anyways, with the start of the new school year, there is so much to look forward to. From the wax museum to BizTown, the fun never ends in elementary school.

Because that's what this time really is about for you—

having fun.

Over the summer, my sister, who just began second grade at Pine View, was asking me about my experiences when I was her age so many years ago.

Thinking back on it, I was reminded of all the good times I had, the friends I made, the games I played, and so on.

That's when I realized something important: elementary school is the time to make mistakes and see what you enjoy without stressing. You are meant to be having fun and live in the moment.

The memories you are currently making will stick with you for years to come, so make sure you can look back fondly on them.

Now as the everlasting Latin phrase 'Carpe Diem' suggests, seize the day and live life to the fullest!

## We want to hear from you!

As a student-run newspaper, we'd love to receive any suggestions or comments you might have for us! To reach us you can write a letter and ask the office to give it to Mr. Chris Lenerz or email him on Outlook.

-The Match Staff