



Match Jr.

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Gardening with Pine View

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PHOTO BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

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Thanking our sponsors!



A sign points toward the unlocked gate of the Pine View garden. On days with an open garden, students are given a chance to learn and garden in a calm environment. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS



Fifth grader Henry Wierza's taekwondo instructor ties a belt around his waist. More on his experiences in the martial art in the Sports section! PHOTO PROVIDED BY BRITTANY WIERZA

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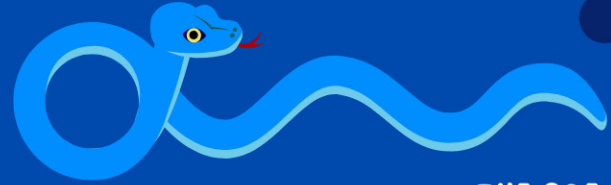
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WHY IS OPENGATE IMPORTANT?

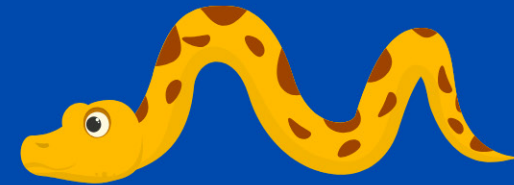
MAKE SURE TO REMOVE...



THE OPENGATE WEAPONS DETECTION SYSTEM IS KEEPING US SAFE! IT PROTECTS US FROM ANY ITEMS THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER OUR CAMPUS.



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GRAPHIC BY JENNA HINCK

STEM Fair Winners! Pine View School Elementary STEM Fair

GRAPHIC BY TERRY SHEN

Giselle Jacob, Janeli Griffith, & Niavy Griffith

Grade 3



Can You Make a Water Filtration System from Natural Materials to Increase Access to Clean Water?

Harvey Sklar

Grade 3



The Fall Factor: Parachute Size Matters

Genevieve Osorio

Grade 5



Picture Perfect: How Smart is AI at Recognizing Objects in Images?

Amp up the music!

by Lindsay Luberecki

She plugs in the amp. Her fingers move across the instrument, finding the perfect places to rest on the strings. She gets the pick in ideal position before strumming a chord.

Second grader Ellie Fielding has been playing the electric guitar for over a year.

"I always wanted to play an electric guitar," she said. "I like how the guitar sounds."

Alisa Fielding, her mother, said that this interest was likely influenced by Fielding's older brother.

"He was playing violin and piano since an early age, so she's been exposed to [music] since she was born," she said.

"She's always wanted to play an instrument."

Fielding has been taking guitar lessons in addition to practicing in her free time. She works on both exercises and songs, including "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Jingle Bells." Her biggest challenge has been some of the difficult chords.

"Some stuff has been hard, like the chord with three fingers," she said.

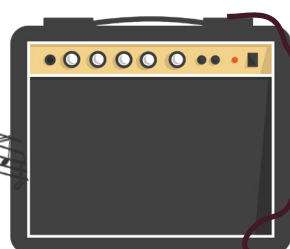
Even with more difficult skills, Fielding is independent and motivated when it comes to her instrument, according to her mother.

"She's very musical and artsy, so she absolutely loves it," she said. "I don't have to stay on top of her practices. She

does it herself, happily and willingly."

Looking toward the future, Fielding expressed an interest in continuing to learn, broaden her skills, and even perform on stage in something like a talent show. Her mother agreed.

"I see her probably participating in a talent show at Pine View," Alisa Fielding said. "I think doing a whole stage performance is totally her thing...[The guitar] contributes to her being happy and that's what's important."



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ALISA FIELDING



Second grader Ellie Fielding strums her electric guitar in her backyard. She has been improving over the past year.

Ballet: Blow them away!

by Aly Zaleski

She's the dancing queen, young and sweet, only second grade; Lottie Darling has been dancing with her ballet group for nearly three years now and is as excited as ever to see where it takes her.

Starting by watching her sisters, Darling has always had someone to look up to in the world of dance. Seeing her parents dance the Sal-sa or hearing stories of her dad, Sumner Darling, and his gymnastics experience, she's had some core influen-



es that have helped her to see a possible path for her future.

"[At gymnastics] we have to do beams... and stretches, which helps me stay on my toes," Darling said.

The connection between these two activities is something that Darling has seen play out through her sisters, so it's something she's been able to appreciate very deeply over her years in ballet.

"My sisters were in ballet and I used to copy the moves they did," Darling said. "It looked very fun and I wanted to be flexible [like them]...now I want to be a ballerina."

As a current Level One student

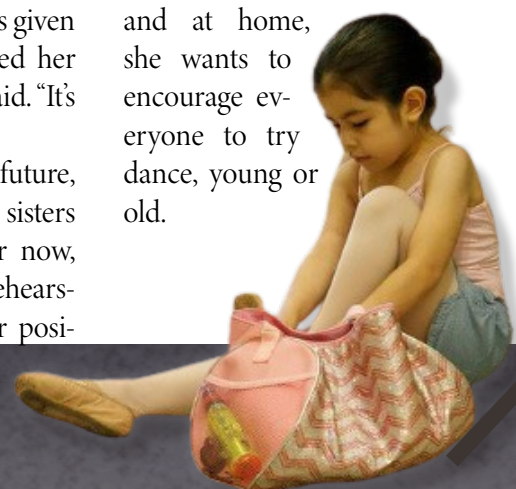
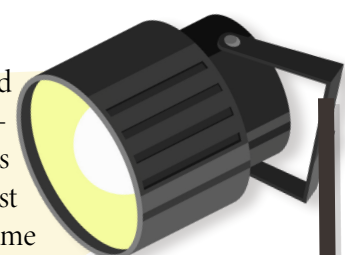
with the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School, Darling is part of a performance-based group focusing on the basics and giving inspiration to the youth from older students. This connection has created a small community at Pine View, giving Darling a fellow company of dance friends that ascends grade and other interests.

"She was scared to put herself out there... and I think that ballet has given her more confidence and helped her meet friends," Sumner Darling said. "It's something she's good at."

As she looks towards the future, Darling sees the path her older sisters took, all continuing ballet. For now, Darling knows that she loves rehearsal, stretches, and practicing her posi-

tions and steps—she loves ballet just the same as she's seen it be loved.

As she prepares for her end-of-year performance and continues her practice both at her studio and at home, she wants to encourage everyone to try dance, young or old.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SUMNER DARLING

Third Grade Showcase



Third grade students put on an original performance of "Elephant's Trunk," the first of many performances that night. The show involved an elephant who didn't like its trunk, but came to realize every part of the elephant is special. PHOTOS BY NIDARSHANA JAYENDRAN

Pianist plays with passion

by Sivan Levy

Through the streets of the Sarasota Farmer's Market, the beautiful sounds coming from Max Myers' piano are instantly noticed as passersby go about their shopping.

In just the third grade, Myers has already started developing a skill and passion for piano.

He quickly connected with the instrument, and has been diligently practicing and playing the piano for two years.

"So, I used to take basic lessons with other people that used to have the piano, and the drums, and the electric guitar, but I liked the piano a lot, so I started taking piano lessons. It's just very fun," Myers said.

Excelling through lessons and playing beautifully at recitals doesn't come without lots of hard work and self-discipline. Along with doing schoolwork, he practices the piano every night, in addition to structured piano lessons on Mondays.

While Myers has only been playing the piano for a short amount of time, the lessons that he's learned from the whole process are some that he can carry with him throughout his life.

"You know, he's learned that it really does take hard work and practice to improve," Caitlin Myers, Myers' mother, said, "and that can be a tough lesson when you sort of want to get something right away."

Myers isn't quite sure how far he

wants to take his passion. For now, though, both he and his mother view it as a fun creative outlet to express himself.

His family has also gotten to witness his hard work pay off, as they've seen him perform at places like the Sarasota Farmer's Market downtown and the center that he used to take lessons at, Elizabeth's Barrel.

In this pro-

cess, Myers has not just learned how to play an instrument, but he's also learned lessons that take many people years to understand: the importance of hard work and that the road to success is not always a perfectly straight one.



PHOTO PROVIDED
BY CAITLIN MYERS

Gardening With Pine View



WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT GARDENING?



**Jasmine
Awadallah**
Fifth Grade

"It's really calming and it's actually really beautiful. When you harvest something, you get that feeling of accomplishment."



**Maxwell
Polinsky**
Fifth Grade

"I like how you get to be out in nature, see all kinds of species, and make the plants."

HOW TO START A GARDEN

1

Pick Out Your Plants!

Do you want to grow flowers? Fruits? Vegetables?



2

Make Space For The Plants

Pick a sunny spot inside of a pot or in the ground for the plants.



3

Add the Soil, Seeds, and Water

Research what kind of soil, how much water, and how much sun your plant needs.



4

Take Care of Your Plants Daily

Plants are fragile and can die easily! Take extra special care of them.



Taekwondo Twist

by Alex Liberman

With two years of experience, a green belt, and practice three days a week, Second grader Henry Wierzba is no stranger to kicking, sparring, and punching. Wierzba is currently a part of the taekwondo leadership program at Transform Martial Arts.

“Being able to see his progress by going through the belts inspires him,” Brittany Wierzba, his mother, said.

Wierzba has participated in competitions and recently traveled to Orlando for one. When doing a tournament, athletes can choose to do form or weapon competitions. His favorite activity is combat sparring



with weapons called Kamas.

“[With] Kamas, you... practice moves and stuff, like turning them upside down and then [with] combat weapons, you just spar people,” Wierzba said, “When we’re doing class, we practice forms where you don’t actually kick people, but you practice doing it and each belt has a different form.”

The Kamas used in martial arts have a long handle with a slightly curved blade at the top, although, depending on the age and experience of athletes, the blade is often made out of plastic or wood.

He also excels at the kicks he has learned, Brittany Wierzba said.

He stumbled upon taekwon-



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY BRITTANY WIERZBA

do after looking for summer camps and plans to continue into middle and high school. Even after just a few years, he is already reaping the benefits of the sport.

“We’ve seen him gain a lot of confidence by practicing and learning how working hard and having a good attitude is really important improvement,”

Brittany Wierzba said, “We’re just really proud of him for working so hard.”



GRAPHIC BY JENNA HINCK

WHICH SPORT BEST SUITS YOU?

1. How do you like to spend your free time?

- A. I like to play by myself and do something calm
- B. I like to play with friends and be active
- C. I like to run around and try hard things
- D. I like to work together with my friends to win



2. How do you like to exercise?

- A. Slowly, like stretching or walking
- B. Playing fun games and moving around
- C. Jumping or running as fast as I can
- D. Playing team games with lots of action



3. Do you like to play alone or with others?

- A. I like being alone
- B. I like playing with my friends but not too much running
- C. I love to be super active with friends
- D. I love working with others to win



4. Do you like to follow rules and play with a team?

- A. I don’t mind as long as it is peaceful
- B. Yes, I like playing with friends but it’s okay if we don’t win
- C. Yes, I like winning and working with others
- D. I love playing with a team and making memories together

5. What kind of fun do you want from sports?

- A. Quiet and relaxing, like stretching
- B. Being active with friends, more casual
- C. Running and jumping
- D. Working as a team to win

RESULTS

Mostly A’s : Swimming, running, or yoga

Mostly B’s : Cycling, tennis, or dancing

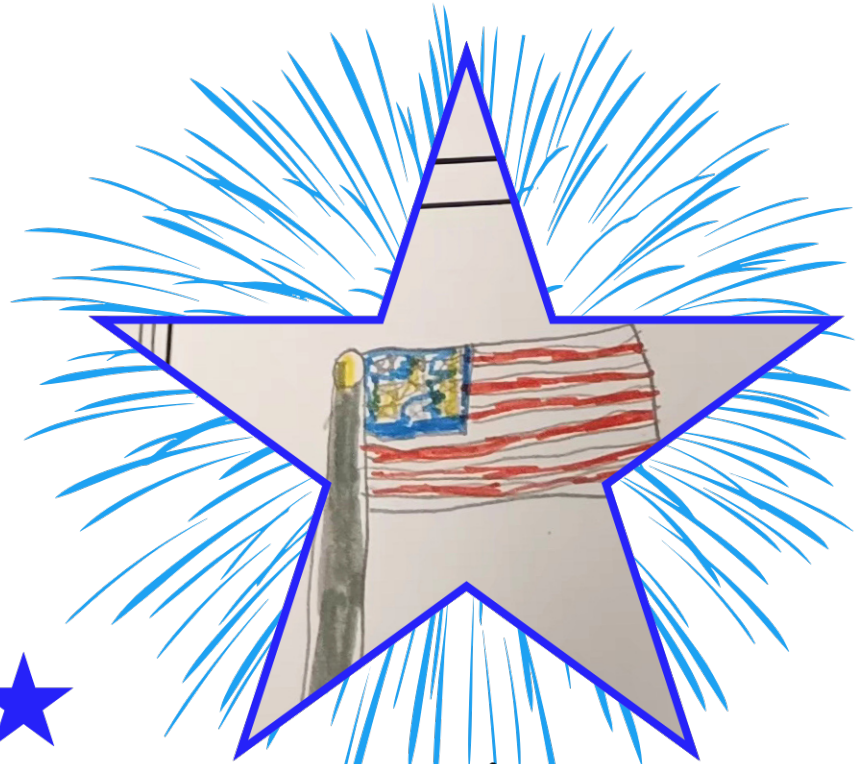
Mostly C’s : Soccer, basketball, or track

Mostly D’s : Football, rugby, or baseball

GRAPHIC BY ANNA ZHANG

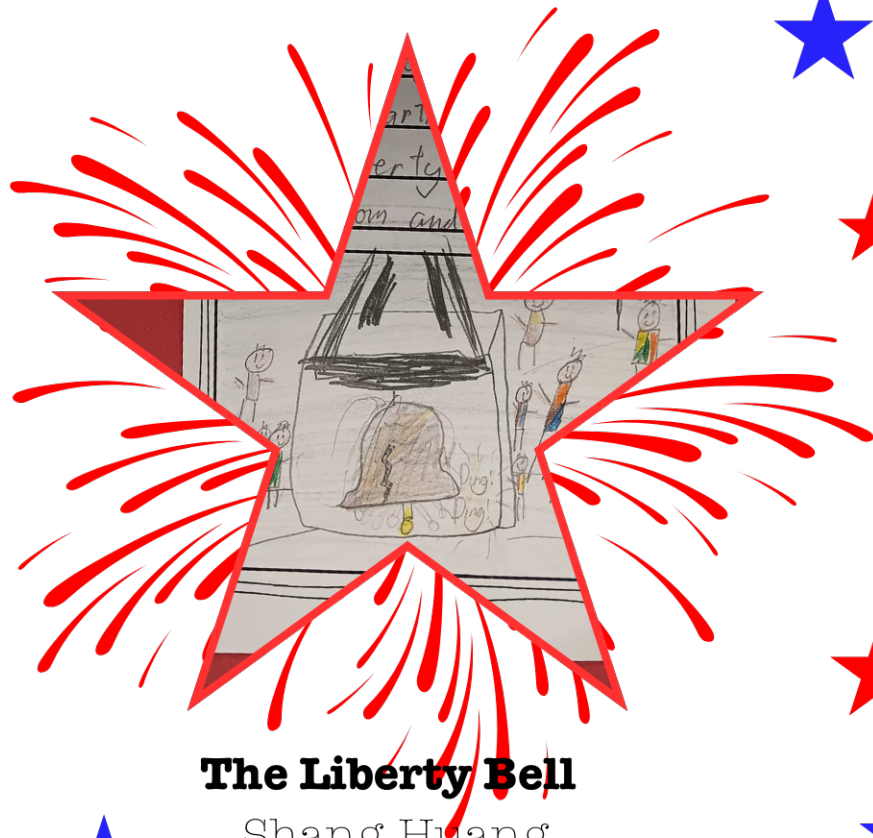
UNITED STATES SYMBOLS!

Second graders in Leslie Stewart's class made posters about the different symbols of the US



The American Flag

Matthew Liu



The Liberty Bell

Shang Huang



The Bald Eagle

Cora Price

10 humor match jr. • March 14, 2025

Stuck in COOLMATH GAMES

by Timothy Nesanelis

After finally finishing today's homework, I had just a few minutes before going to sleep, and I decided to relax with a bit of gaming!

I had typed the website's name into the search bar — coolmathgames.com — and just before I clicked enter, I heard my mom's loud voice echo through my room.

"Head to bed now! You've got school!"

I turned off the computer and went to bed, wishing that I got to play my favorite games.

I was awakened by the sound of a little bell ringing ahead of me. A large, cartoony man in front of me began to speak:

"Can I get a large, half-mixed chocolate freezer with whipped cream and strawberry sauce?"

Without knowing it, I was writing down the man's order perfectly, and when he finished, I had finally realized what was going on.

I was stuck in "Papa's Freezeria," my favorite game!

I had to have been dreaming. I pinched myself but didn't wake up. This was not a dream: my only option was to complete the day's orders.

First, I headed over to the "build station" and picked the size and flavor of the freezer: large and chocolate. Next, I went to the "mix station," where I perfectly mixed up the man's

freezer half-way. Finally, at the "top station," I added the whipped cream and strawberry sauce, stuck the label on the order, and sent it out.

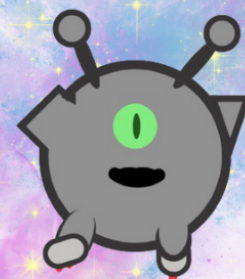
The man looked closely at the drink, checking every detail...and then the score came: 100 percent on building, 100 percent on mixing, 100 percent on top, and... 80 percent on time? This was going to be a lot harder than I thought. But my worries were in vain, as when the next few orders came in, I nailed it.

The day was over, and it was time to go home.

I went to sleep hoping I'd wake up in my bed, but as I slowly woke up, I felt... shorter, and opening my eyes didn't help either. I look down and saw

a circular gray body and a path in front of me. My legs started to move on their own.

Oh no...I'm in "Run 3!" I'm never escaping from Cool Math Games!



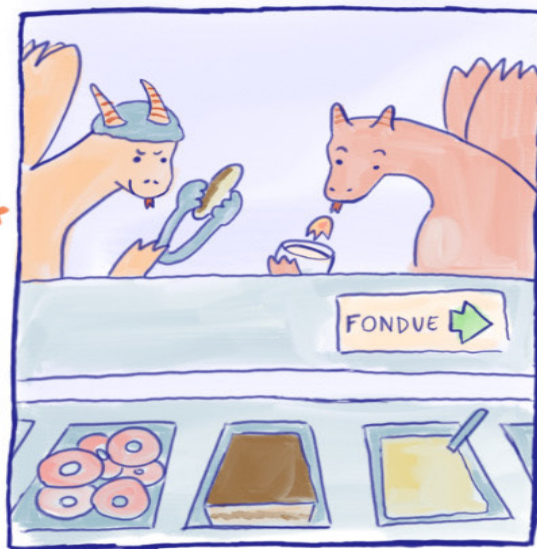
GRAPHICS BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

DREAM PV LUNCHES

Illustrations by Elena Herman



"AAALLL MEAT"
-Selena Bork(3)



"ONLY DESSERT... SERVED
BY DRAGONS"
-Samantha Wagner(3)



"SALAD AND CANDY BUFFET"
-Aven Cunningham & Sofia Silva(3)

GRAPHIC BY SIVAN LEVY

Puns have sprung!

Unscramble the words to finish the jokes!

What did one tree say to the other tree to help it grow?

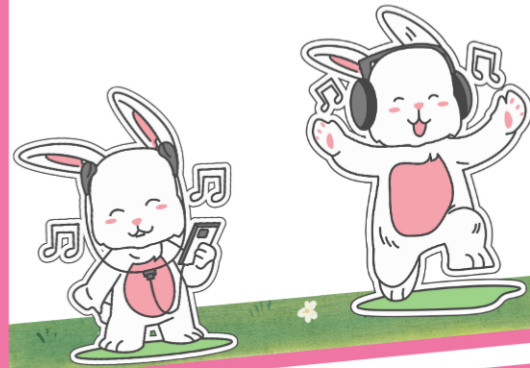
I BE-
IN YOU!
EFLA



What do bees use to comb
their hair? _____!
CYBNHEMOO



What's a bunny's favorite
type of music? _____!
OPHPPI

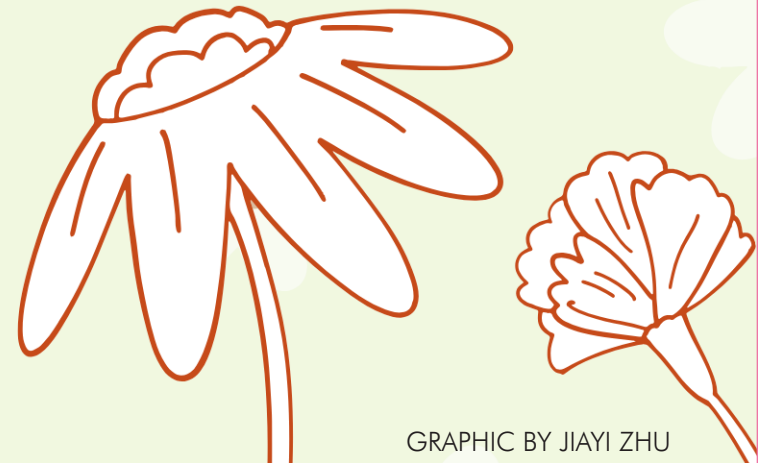


The flowers get along well. They are best _____.
DBUS



ANSWERS (FROM TOP TO BOTTOM): LEAF, HONEYCOMB, HIP-HOP, BUDS

Color in the flowers!



GRAPHIC BY JIAYI ZHU

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[a column]

Do your best and don't distress!



Ava Lenerz,
Match Editor-in-Chief

Let's admit it, with all the homework and tests, school can get stressful. There are many nights when I feel too overwhelmed and like I'll never finish all my assignments. On these nights, I need to take a step back and remember all the positives in my life.

Think back to what you did with your friends that day, or maybe you have fun weekend plans. Basically, thinking back to the good in your life can help change your mood.

I understand that our stressors are very different

since I'm in high school, but not too long ago (depending on how long you consider six years), I was also an elementary schooler, so I know it can feel hard or challenging but you will get through it.

Sometimes my mind starts freaking out at what I should do first because there are so many things to do, but I remind myself I can only do one thing at a time, so I just need to start somewhere. It can help to divide your work and take a short break after each assignment, or to keep an agenda (if you're not already) to track your progress.

So, if you're ever having a bad day or feel overwhelmed, try out some of these strategies, and—I cannot stress this enough—there are always people who love you and care about your happiness, so reach out to them when you need someone to talk to.

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