

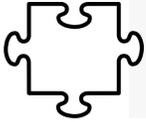


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New Paltz Middle School

# The Mirror

***The Mirror* Staff Thanks You For Reading!**



Consider joining *The Mirror* next year! Here's why you should:

You get to write about school events and sports!

You get to spread news about cool TV shows and books that you find!

You get to hang out with your friends!

It's really fun!

You get to learn to type!

You get to write about things that interest you!

We have parties after we release each edition!

You can choose what you want to work on!

— from *The Mirror* Staff

## My Spring Break to Grand Cayman By Ethan Wayne

For my spring break I went to Grand Cayman. Grand Cayman is an island south west of Cuba and Florida. Grand Cayman is a tropical island that has lots of fun things you can do. For example, you can go snorkeling or scuba diving. Grand Cayman also has a turtle farm where they raise turtles. They kill half of the turtles to eat and set half free. Grand Cayman also has lots of snorkeling spots. I went snorkeling at Spot's Beach, Seven-mile Beach, Smith's Cove, and many more places.

Grand Cayman's national symbols are the Cayman Parrot, sea turtle, Wild Banana Orchid, and Silver Thatch Palm. The capital of Grand Cayman is Georgetown. Caymanian people speak English just like Americans. The time in Grand Cayman is Eastern Standard Time, but they don't have Daylight Saving Time. There are three Cayman Islands. There is Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, and Cayman Brac. The climate in Grand Cayman can range from 60° F to 80° F in winter. The temperature in summer is around 90° F. There is not a lot of fresh water in Grand Cayman so they take the water from the ocean and change it to fresh water. There are only two hospitals in Grand Cayman. One of the hospitals is new, and they say that soon a lot of Americans will be going to Grand Cayman to get surgery.

One cool fact about Grand Cayman is in the 1700's there were ships from England trying to outrun a big storm. They tried to go into Grand Cayman and stay overnight but the barrier reef surrounding Grand Cayman was in the way and they couldn't see it because it was night. What ended up happening was the ships from England ended up hitting the reef and the ships sunk. The Caymanians heard screaming and immediately ran outside to see what was going on and the Caymanians saved all the people on the ships. One of the people on the ships was the Queen of England's niece Victoria. The Caymanians took care of the people from England for two months and the Queen took away their taxes. So now Caymanian people don't have to pay taxes! Grand Cayman is a very fun place and there is lots to do. Whether it's hiking or scuba diving you will always enjoy it.



### I CAN READ IT! CAN YOU??

fi yuo cna raed tihs, yuo hvae a sgtrane mnid too. Cna yuo raed tihs? Olny smoe plepoe can. i cdnuolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd waht I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in waht oerdr the ltteres in a wrod are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is taht the frsit and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it whotuit a pboerlm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mniddeos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt! if you can raed tihs sahre it.

### Suggested by Rachel Reinking

Have you ever wondered what the human mind is capable of? Wondered why you sometimes don't notice when you misspell words? Read this passage, and your mind will be blown when you realize what game your brain is playing on you!



## Global Water Dances By Rachel Reinking

The average American uses 100 gallons of water per day. That's 36,500 gallons per person in an average year. With a little over 321,000,000 people currently living in the US, that is 1,171,650,000 gallons used in the United States alone *in a single year!* Clean water is a resource that everybody needs but not everybody has. Clean water is also something that we Americans take for granted. There are many organizations that fight for clean water for everyone, and globally, it is a big problem. There are many ways to help people get clean water, but there is a certain one that I, myself, find very interesting.

Global Water Dances is an organization that helps to raise clean water awareness in a fun and fresh way- through modern dance. Over 70 communities from six continents participate in this inspiring event. The dancing will begin in the Pacific Rim and roll westward through the time zones. The goal of Global Water Dances is "to revere, renew, and inspire solutions for our precious resource of water." People can either watch the third biennial event live online on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 or they can participate in this global event. My Improvisation and Composition class at Barefoot Dance Center created a dance with a guest teacher named Jill in honor of and to the music of Global Water Dances. It was very fun to put together a combination of steps we called "rock hopping", "the river", and "one through four water poses", plus it made me feel great that I was doing the dance for a good cause. To learn how to raise awareness for clean water organizations and have lots of fun dancing at the same time, go to [www.GlobalWaterDances.org](http://www.GlobalWaterDances.org).

## Leap Second By Rachel Reinking

Almost everybody knows what a leap year is- an extra day added on to the end of the month of February that occurs every four years so we can catch up to the rotation of Earth. But a leap *second*? Now, that might be new to you! This is going to be the 26<sup>th</sup> leap second in recorded history, and it will occur on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Leap seconds only happen at the end of June or December on specially appointed years. This leap second will happen so Earth's rotation can catch up to the atomic time. It is basically be a mini-leap year. Unlike leap years, though, leap seconds do not happen at regular intervals. According to the *Times of India* blog post, they occur because "Earth's rotation speed varies irregularly in response to climatic and geological events." The leap second will not be like skipping a second, though. It will be more like "smearing" away the extra second. Many major companies, like Google, are bracing themselves for the many glitches and crashes that will accompany this leap second. There will be many things, such as transactions, that will appear they are coming from the future due to this tiny time leap. Fortunately, most companies and businesses are prepared because there was also a leap second in 2012. Join the whole world holding its breath due to this rare time jump on June 30<sup>th</sup>.



## **New Faces: Meet Some of Our Teachers!**

### **Getting to Know Mrs. Costello**

**By: Sean Nielson**

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: I grew up in Brooklyn, New York

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: My favorite food is seafood or prime rib.

Q: What's your favorite color?

A: My favorite color is blue!

Q: What is your favorite animal? Why is this your favorite animal?

A: My favorite animal is a Giraffe not for any particular reason just because it is cool and unique looking!

Q: Do you have any pets? If so what is his or her name? (or their names?)

A: Yes, I have a dog named Ollie. He is a rescue dog, 5 years old, and a Mutt.

Q: What is your favorite activity?

A: My favorite activity is going to the beach!

Q: Where did you go to College?

A: I went to SUNY New Paltz.

Q: How long have you been teaching?

A: This is my twentieth year teaching.

Q: Where else have you worked? Have you taught anyone else?

A: I have worked at PS 241 in Brooklyn, NY and I also have worked at a Catholic school in Brooklyn, NY. I started teaching in Brooklyn where I taught for 5 years. Now I have been teaching here in New Paltz for 15 years.

As the interview went on we asked Mrs. Costello for a few fun facts about herself. The first fun fact was she swam with sharks in Punta Cana which is in the Dominican Republic. She also has triplet girls who are 12 years old and in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Mrs. Costello has talked to David Wright on the phone (NY Mets 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman)! She once dressed up as a Rubik's cube for Halloween!

# Reviews

## ***Unbroken*** **By Charlotte Freer**

*Unbroken* is a very gripping, eye opening book. It's a true story about an Olympian turned World War II pilot who survives the impossible. Louie Zamperini was a Olympian who ran in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He did not earn a medal, but he was a subject of much media attention because he ran his first lap in 56 seconds. He also had a picture taken with Hitler, which was taken before the world's eyes opened about who Hitler really was.

He was set to run in the 1940 Tokyo Olympics but they were canceled when WW2 broke out. He joined the Air Force. One day he and two other pilots were on a mission to find a missing pilot and their plane broke down in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. They floated, adrift for forty seven days before they were rescued. One of them did not make it.

As it turns out, the people who rescued them were the Japanese. They were taken to a POW (Prisoner of War) camp. The hardships they endured made them wish they were dead. *Unbroken* will keep you up all night reading and teach you what it really means to suffer.

Warning: *Unbroken* is a real story and may upset you because the abuse in the POW scenes is graphic. You might possibly lose faith in humanity for a period of time also.

## **The Mortal Instruments Review** **By Eliza Behrke**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like in a world where vampires, werewolves, and warlocks existed? Just read *City of Bones* by Cassandra Clare! It will get you hooked on The Mortal Instruments series. *City of Bones* includes magical creatures, but there are also demons which need to be contained. That's the job of Shadowhunters. This book is about the journey of fifteen-year-old Clary Fray as she tries to uncover the secrets kept about her family and who she really is. It all starts when Clary visits a nightclub and sees some shady figures attacking a boy. Then, her mother mysteriously disappears. Clary is forced to solve the mystery, even if it means that she loses everything.

## **Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children** **By Viviane Tirone**



This book is a creepy and interesting novel. It revolves around Jacob, a 16 year old kid who travels to Cairnholm Island

after his grandfather's mysterious death. There he meets the "peculiar," a sub-species of human who are born with amazing powers. The peculiar live in a time loop where they have stayed the same since 1940. Jacob must help the children after their teacher is stolen by Hollowgasts and Wights. This book is filled with vintage, haunting photos that makes it even more creepy!

## **Summer Book Suggestions from the Staff** **Typed by Olivia Baker**

- *Rebels by Accident* by Patricia Dunn
- *The Dangerous Days of Daniel X* by James Patterson
- *Spy School* by Stuart Gibbs
- *Lunar Chronicles* by Marissa Myers
- *The Moral Instruments* series by Cassandra Clare J
- *Wonder* by R.J Palacio
- *Percy Jackson* series by Rick Riordan
- *Bubble World* by Carol Snow
- *Paper Towns* by John Green
- *Harry Potter* series by JK Rowling

## **Pitch Perfect 2** **By Viviane Tirone**

This sequel is awesome. This time the Bellas are seniors. After a terrible wardrobe malfunction that gets them suspended and replaced by the German team, Das Sound Machine, they get one last chance to prove themselves: win the world championship. This has never been won an American team. With an aca-mazing cameo from the real acapella group Pentatonix, this movie is really aca-mazing!

# Jokes!

Chosen By: Sean Nielson

Q: What happens if you eat yeast and shoe polish?

A: Every morning you'll rise and shine!

Q: What do you get if you cross a cat with a dark horse?

A: Kitty Perry

Q: What do you call security guards working outside Samsung shops?

A: Guardians of the Galaxy.

Q: What does a nosey pepper do?

A: Gets jalapeño business!

Q: What do you call a fake noodle?

A: An Impasta

Q: What's the difference between a guitar and a fish?

A: You can't tuna fish.

Q: Why was the baby strawberry crying?

A: Because his mom and dad were in a jam.

Q: What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?

A: A nervous wreck

Q: What do you call a sleeping bull?

A: A bulldozer!

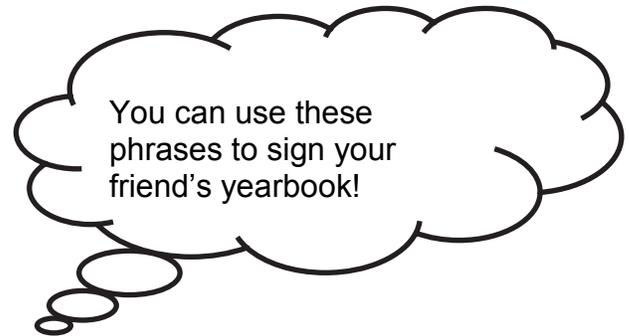
Q: What season is it when you are on a trampoline?

A: Spring time

Q: What pet makes the loudest noise?

A: A trum-pet!

# Spanish Phrases!



¡Vamos a la playa! -  
Let's go to the beach!

Me encanta el verano. -  
I love summer.

Por fin las clases han terminadas -  
Classes have finally ended

Have a great vacation -  
Que pases unas buenas vacaciones...

## Summer Book Suggestions from the Staff

Typed by Olivia Baker

*Rebels by Accident* by Patricia Dunn

*The Dangerous Days of Daniel X* by James Patterson

*Spy School* by Stuart Gibbs

*Lunar Chronicles* by Marissa Myers

*The Moral Instrument series* by Cassandra Clare

*Wonder* by R.J Palacio

*Percy Jackson series* by Rick Riordan

*Bubble World* by Carol Snow

*Paper Towns* by John Green

*Harry Potter series* by JK Rowling

*The Swap* by Megan Shull

## Van Etten Enrichment Science's Trip to the Moon!

By Viviane Tirone



Ms. VanEtten's class went to an amazing field trip where we went to the moon, ate freeze dried ice cream, and sat in a chair used to train real astronauts. This was at the *Town of Ramapo Challenger Center*. There were two sections: Mission Control and Shuttle. I was in the Shuttle first. We got assigned in pairs and there was one pair in Mission Control and one on the Shuttle. We got really

cool blue jackets with mission patches on them! The mission was to find a way to safely land on the moon. Each team did special steps and each time we completed a step, it would show up on a computer in the Shuttle. It was super realistic and there were even warning lights if something went wrong, such as a carbon filter malfunctioning. I was in the Probe team. We had to retrieve a probe in the airlock, assemble it, weigh each part, and made sure the probe was working correctly. After the mission, we had lunch. There were mission patches, t-shirts and space candy for sale in the gift shop! We found out that you can go there for a summer camp and for parties too. If you would like to go, this is the website: [www.llhvcc.com](http://www.llhvcc.com). It was super fun and I'm glad our class got to go!

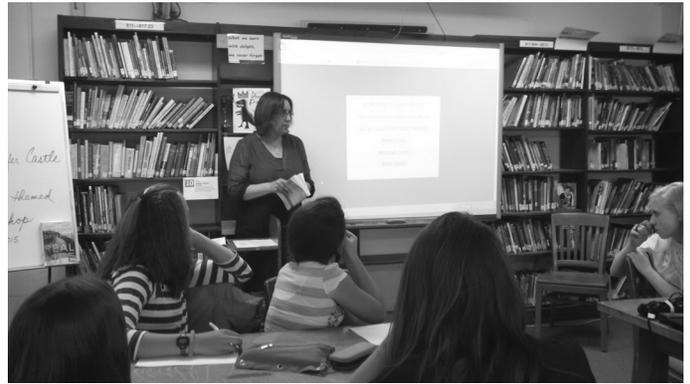
## Ocarinas

By Rachel Reinking

Most people have never heard of ocarinas. I had actually never heard of them until I got one of my own. But now I love mine, and I love playing songs on it. An "ocarina" is the official title for a clay flute. They range from big to small in size and soprano to tenor in pitch. My ocarina is glazed light blue, and it is strung on a blue satin. It is a soprano ocarina, so it is rather small and high-pitched. The ocarina songbook that I have has many songs, ranging from Bach's "Third Minuet" to "Amazing Grace" to the "Flintstone's Theme Song." To learn more about these amazing instruments, go to [www.ocarinaworld.com](http://www.ocarinaworld.com).



## Author Visit to the Middle School!



On Wednesday, May 6th, 22 eighth graders attended a writing workshop with local author Jennifer Castle. The theme, "Writer's Craft," aligned to the 8th grade curriculum. Guided by Ms. Castle, students enthusiastically wrote their own stories.



## Things to do When it's Hot Out.

By Talia Feinsod

1. Have a sponge war!
2. Put an icecube down someone's shirt!
3. Make ice cream/ eat ice cream!
4. Watch *Frozen* with the AC on full blast!
5. Take a cold shower/ ice bath!
6. Run in the sprinkler!
7. Go to the pool!
8. Drench yourself in water and then sit in front of a fan!
9. Sing into your hair-brush!
10. Have a splash war in the pool!
11. Make gazpacho, a cold soup with tomatoes, cucumbers, basil, and parsley! Google it!
12. Sneak up on each other with a bucket of ice water!
13. Unintentionally take the ice bucket challenge!
14. Wash your parents/neighbors car with a hose and a rag!
15. Wring out drenched wash clothes over a friend's head!
16. Play video games!
17. Read a book!



# Recipes!

## EASY CANDY ICE CREAM SANDWICHES

**TOTAL TIME:** Prep: 25 min. Bake: 10 min. + freezing

**MAKES:** 12-15 servings

### Ingredients

Brownies (1 box)

4 cups Snickers ice cream, softened

1 bottle (7-1/4 ounces) chocolate hard-shell ice cream topping

### Directions

1. Prepare, bake and cool brownies according to directions on the box. Cut brownie in half height-wise. Spread ice cream over one brownie half. Turn over remaining brownie half; place over ice cream. Cover and freeze for 2 hours or until firm.

2. Cut into bars, squares or desired shapes. Drizzle with ice cream topping; let stand for 1-2 minutes or until topping is set. Wrap in plastic wrap; freeze on a baking sheet until serving.

Originally published as Candy Bar Ice Cream Sandwiches in *Simple & Delicious*

**By: Annsley Fischer**

## Crispy Star Pops

**TOTAL TIME:** Prep: 30 min. Cook: 15 min. + cooling

**MAKES:** 15 servings

### Ingredients

8 cups miniature marshmallows

6 tablespoons butter, cubed

12 cups Rice Krispies

12 Popsicle sticks

1 cup white baking chips

1/2 teaspoon shortening

Red, white and blue sprinkles

### Directions

1. In a Dutch oven, heat marshmallows and butter until melted. Remove from the heat; stir in cereal and mix well. Press into a greased 15x10x1-in. baking pan. Cut with a 3-in. star-shaped cookie cutter. Insert a wooden pop stick into the side of each star; place on waxed paper.

2. In a microwave, melt white chips and shortening; stir until smooth. Spread over stars. Decorate with sprinkles. Yield: 15 pops.

Originally published in *Country Woman*

**By: Annsley Fischer**

# 8th Grade Trip!!!



## ***The MirrorStaff***

- Olivia Baker
- Jordan Bailin
- Fiona Bevan
- Kyle Branco
- Eliza Behrke
- Mena Bonagura
- Briana Carlini
- Cameron DiBernardo
- Lexcia Eisenhardt
- Talia Feinsod
- Annstley Fischer
- Charlotte Freer
- Ben Fromm
- Andrew Geher
- Alana Gerber
- Patrick Hono
- Jacob Ingrassia
- Jack Kaplan
- Adam Koplik
- Mark LaBorde
- Brett Longo
- Elizabeth Medrano
- Arianna Moore
- Zaky Musso
- Frankie Natoli
- Sean Nielson
- Ashlyn O'Hara
- Shane O'Haron
- Cristian Pannuto
- Frank Pecoraro
- Nicole Petfield
- Rachel Reinking
- Calla Savelson
- Nicole Steinback
- Ashley Thacker
- Evan Trifilo
- Paula Trifilo

**Congrats  
8th Graders!  
We'll  
Miss  
You!**

**Advisor  
Valerie Hughes**

**A special thanks to  
Karen Heaning!**



**New Paltz  
Middle School  
196 Main Street  
New Paltz, NY**