

THE MIRROR

New Paltz Middle School Student Newspaper
Edition II

January 2007 Edition

SCHOOL NEWS

AIDS Quilt

Sara Treumann

In 1987, a new wonder of the world began its crafting. The AIDS Memorial Quilt is a poignant keepsake. With a quilt square for every person dead of AIDS, this monument is one of colossal caliber. Each square can be a different theme, a different size, and a different name. But every piece has one thing in common. Every person, from the oldest grandparent, to the youngest baby, died from AIDS, and every one of them had someone who cared.

The last time the AIDS quilt was displayed in full, was at Washington DC in 1996. It covered more than half a square mile, extending from the White House, past the National Monument. Ever since then, the quilt, which weighs 5 tons, has become too large to display in full.

On Wednesday, November 26, and Thursday, November 27, New Paltz Middle School's eighth graders went to view a small portion of the quilt. Even as small as it was, the entire exhibit room was filled with huge frames with quilts hanging on them. It was then that the enormity of the amount of deaths AIDS has caused became evident.

Upon arrival, each student was given a sheet to find a teenage girl's quilt. Also they were asked to look for a teenage boy, the youngest person, and the oldest person. They also found job positions and other things that they decided were interesting. "I think the AIDS quilt was very memorable and I can

never forget those kids that were less than a month old," an eighth grader commented when asked.

After looking at the quilt blocks for forty minutes, the students went to a room where they talked with a person who was HIV or AIDS positive. These unfortunate victims shared their stories and talked about how they

went through life. Some of them showed the amount of pills they had to take in a month.

The AIDS quilt is something that, unless you see it face to cloth, you'll never be able to extend your mind to comprehend its size. It is momentous in the physical world and in the mind of the spectators and creators. On the bus ride back, many were left thinking, "It can happen to anyone. Even me."



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<http://www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us/local>



7TH & 8TH GRADE WINTER CONCERT

By Matthew Landolfa and John Robb

On December 12th, the seventh and eighth-graders took the stage in this year's winter concert. Starting with performances by the seventh grade chorus including the songs "Oh How Lovely is the Evening," "Happy Days," "Kum Bah Yah"

(accompanied by Sara Treumann and Mia Wilson on guitar) and ending with "Mince Pie or a pudding." The seventh grade band performed three compositions including "El Toro", "Winter Wonderland" and "El Capitain". Blake Edwards, seventh grade tenor sax player said "Overall, it was a very good performance."

After the seventh grade exited the stage, the 8th grade chorus began. They started with the pieces "Chairs to Mend" and "Make New Friends" followed by "Prayer for Africa" and "The Souling Song" (Accompanied by Mia Wilson on Piano and Sara Treumann on guitar). The eighth grade band did four songs, one which was done by a wind ensemble, "God Rest Ye Merry Gentleman" and three more songs including "Hosts of Freedom March", "Smooth" and "Sleigh Ride" with the trumpet "Horse Whinny" solo by John Ferrante.

Interview with Ms. Pines

By Jackie Hart

1. Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Vestal, NY-a little town outside of Binghamton, NY

2. Where did you go to college?

I went to Cornell University for my undergraduate degree in human development. I also went to Hofstra University for my Masters in school counseling.

3. Do you like it here?

I **LOVE** it here. The middle school is a lot of fun and challenging for me.

4. Did you teach any where else before?

I was a crisis counselor at Binghamton High School. They have over 2000 students!!! I worked with grades 9-12. I dealt with a lot of tough situations.

5. What was your first job?

If you mean as a kid, then my first job was a life-guard at a Jewish community center. I made \$4 an hour and I was 14 years old.

6. What are your hobbies?

I enjoy reading, shopping, being with my friends and family. I play the guitar and like to sing. I also like to do things outdoors. I enjoy traveling too. I have been to Greece, Italy, France, Spain and the Netherlands. I would like to visit Germany and Russia. My favorite TV show is Scrubs.

7. How long have you been teaching?

This is my first job as a school counselor, six months.

8. What was your favorite subject when you went to school?

When I was growing up I enjoyed English, science and Spanish. In college, I loved sociology. I even received a minor in it.

9. What made you want to become a guidance counselor?

I always liked working with kids. I taught swim lessons to kids with special needs in high school. I was interested in helping others as a career. One summer while I was in college, I worked in a program called Upward Bound. This is a program for high school kids who are in danger of dropping out. I had to live with them for 24 hours a day for 8 weeks. I also met with them one on one for mentoring and counseling. I knew I really liked it. This helped guide me toward being a school counselor.

10. Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

I am really happy to be here and hope that if you haven't met me yet, you will come to guidance and say hello.

Ms. Pine has an interesting background and has a lot of experience, so she will be a good person to talk to.



Photo by Sarah Treuman

Stepping Up

By Jessica Staub



On November 30, 2006 many teachers, parents, and students gathered together at the New Paltz Middle School at 7:00 A.M. in the cafeteria for a step-up breakfast. This breakfast was organized by Ms. Pines, the new guidance counselor, for students who accomplished certain achievements. The step-up breakfast is a great idea because it makes students feel good about themselves.

Ms. Pines did an excellent job organizing the event. Teachers chose various students to attend this first step-up breakfast for many different reasons. They behaved properly, prepared for class in an organized fashion, were kind and helpful to others, completed their work on time, or demonstrated leadership ability. It was an honor for each student to be picked for this special occasion.

The event was a hit. The ceremony's opening remarks were made by Mrs. Maria Rice, New Paltz's superintendent. It was a very enthusiastic speech. The ceremony continued with Dr. Wiesenthal sharing a positive message about good character and taking responsibility before he announced the students who were going to receive awards that morning.

The students who were recognized and honored for their achievements included Justin Altro, Miguel Castellanos, Allyson Colangelo, Theresa Cordovano, Salvatore DeQuarto, Sean Dietz, Lisa Fraser, Katelyn Hoskins, Nicholas Hoskins, Marina Maddalena, Jemar Mady, Sarah Marguglio, Connor Moribito, Thomas Napoli, Katelyn Peakes, Tyler Pece, Jessica Perez, Zachary Petrides, Nicole Roff, Rebecca Ronk, Matthew Shelly-Read, Jessica Staub, Antonio Stephens, and Emily Takacs.

Everyone then enjoyed a breakfast of bagels with cream cheese, orange juice, hot chocolate, coffee

and tea (for the adults).

The ceremony concluded with a short speech from Ms. Pines. She made some encouraging comments about all of the students, which was an exceptional way to end the gathering. The step-up breakfast turned out to be a wonderful success and there are several more to come.

Working to the Bone

By Theresa Cordovano

The middle school's student council is working really hard to make this year a great year. One of the main topics of the year so far was this past co-rec. The council talked about it for about three weeks. Antotnio Stephens, one of our vice presidents, went down to Dr. Wiesenthal's office, to ask him for things that were possible to put or change in the dance. One of the things was candy. It is really rare to find Hersheys, Skittles, or M&M's at a corec! The council also suggested doing a new sport in the gym. Many people had suggested to put in battleship, or bowling. But apparently, the school just stuck with basketball. Maybe in the future other activities will be added.

Many of the members loved helping out with the planning of the dance. Some people suggested putting paper snow flakes in the auditorium. Most of the flakes that were made were put in the back of the auditorium by the doors, leading to the art room. Overall, the council did a great job setting up the corec. Good luck with the next dance!

Africa Day

By Amanda Rose

At the end of the African unit in social studies, there is an event called Africa Day. Africa Day is a day when sixth graders get to eat African foods, bring in artifacts, and share what they have learned. This is held by the social studies teachers, Ms. Grey and Ms. Bruntl.

A few days before the day, the sixth graders made t-shirts for this day. On the t-shirts, they put African symbols that described them. Some of the students even put African flags on their shirts.

During Africa Day, the sixth graders had fun. While some students brought in African folk stories and fables, others brought in home-made African food for the whole class to try. Other fun activities that are done on Africa Day are playing African games like Mancala. These are some of the activities that are

done.

Once everyone was served the food they wanted and are started in their games, they stop for a few minutes. During these few minutes everyone went around the room and shared what they brought in. After this anyone who brought in stories read them. After all the stories were read and the artifacts were shared, the class went back to playing games and enjoyed the good food.



The sixth graders really did enjoy a whole period of African fun. The food was great and the artifacts and stories were great too. "I thought Africa Day rocked and designing the t-shirts was really awesome!" a quote made by Jessica Staub.

AHH! MY LOCKER IS JAMMED!

By Carly Jobson

You can't wait to get home for Christmas break. You walk over to your locker, put in the combination and push up the black thingy. It doesn't budge. This happens again and again, until you miss the bus. When all of the buses leave, voila! It opens.

Maybe you are thinking that your locker hates you. But, it's really you who is abusing your locker. This a little guide to get it organized.

Stay after school one day and clean it up. And don't be surprised if you find a dead chipmunk on the floor, with holes chewed through to the cafeteria. Hang up any extra sweaters on the hangers, or take them home. Put binders on the floor, backpacks and coats on the hangers, and notebooks, colored pencils, pencils, pens, etc. on the top shelf.

Buy a pretty organizing shelf. These are the ones that stand. AND GET A SMALL ONE, so you don't spend \$10,000,000 on one and it doesn't fit. These are sold at OfficeDepot, OfficeMax, and other school supply stores. Keep binders on this.

Decorate the inside of the door. Make your locker a mini home – home sweet locker. Put in a photo of your relatives, friends, pets, whatever, a whiteboard, mirror, pencil holder, and magnets. For girls, keep unscented hand cream (allergies) and chap stick in the pencil holder. Decorating your locker also makes your locker feel like your room.

DON'T KEEP YOUR STUFF ON THE FLOOR!

What People Are Wearing

By Frances Eckles and Nyah Bonilla

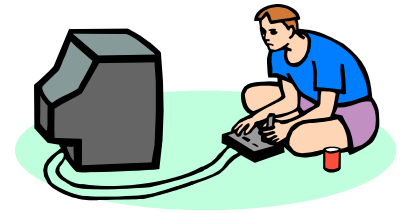
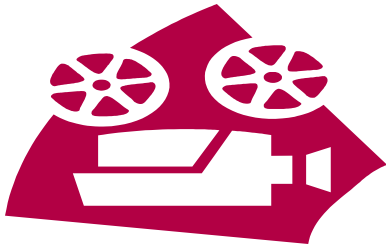
Fashion has changed over the years. So what are lots of people wearing today?

Girls: Girls wear lots of clothes from Aeropostale, Abercrombie and Fitch and American Eagle. Lots of girls wear long or short-sleeved v-neck shirts with camis or tees underneath. Slim jeans and mini skirts with leggings underneath are also popular. Sweaters with the Aeropostale, Abercrombie and Fitch and American Eagle logos are worn a lot too. Many people wear puffy winter jackets with fur on the hood. As for shoes, ballet flats, winter and high heeled boots and sneakers are still worn the most.

BOYS: Boys also wear clothes from Aeropostale, Abercrombie and Fitch and American Eagle. Boys wear logo hoodies and tees from these stores. Baggy pants and jeans are worn too. Sneakers are the main shoes. Logo, striped and graphic shirts are worn.

Sudoku

		5			9	1		
			2			4		
		6					3	9
	4				3			5
		9		6		7		
7							9	
3	5					8		
		8			7			
		4	1			2		



StarClan Summons the Next generation...

Sara Treumann
Series Review

Book 1: Midnight

The feral cats of the forest have lived in peace and harmony for many months, but a storm is coming, one that even StarClan can't stop. But the warrior ancestors do send signs, and all the signs point to four young warriors, Brambleclaw of ThunderClan, Tawnystar of ShadowClan, Crowpaw of WindClan, and Feathertail of RiverClan, as the cats with the fate of the forest in their paws. But can the children of the infamous Tigerstar, a half-clan cat, and an apprentice really stop the coming slaughter? Two other cats come with them, Squirrelpaw, daughter of Firestar, and Stormfur, Feathertail's brother and Greystripe's kit, come, but will they really be able to help?

Book 2: Moonrise

Brambleclaw, Squirrelpaw, Tawnypelt, Stormfur, Feathertail, and Crowpaw at last have spoken to Midnight. But all is not as they thought. Midnight is a badger, the cat's worst of enemies. They were sent to learn that the forest would be destroyed and there was no way to stop it. Twolegs needed a new highway and will not stop. StarClan enrolls the six heroes to go back to their clans and not to defend the forest, but to leave it.

But others have different ideas. The strange cats of the mountains, which live in tribes, are plagued with the danger of a huge mountain lion. And they believe Stormfur is destined to fight it. Meanwhile, back at home, cats desperately watch their forest bulldozed and their prey disappear. But can the RiverClan warrior really fight what an entire 'tribe' has failed to kill? The book ends with a plot twist, no reader expected, and it sends the clan's only hope, into a spiraling downfall.

Book 3: Dawn

Something terrifying is happening in the world of the Clans. Amid the destruction of the forest, cats are disappearing, including ThunderClan's beloved medicine cat apprentice, and Squirrelpaw's sister, Leafpaw. And at the brink of the forest's destruction, the young heroes return to their home. But with them they bear chilling

news for the clans. They must all evacuate their home that they had lived in for generations back, or risk extermination.

But convincing the clans is easier said than done, and they can't leave the missing cats. Disputes rise and tension builds in the forest. As debates roar, the forest slowly diminishes, and the missing cats are in worse danger than anyone ever imagined. Even if all four Clans agreed to travel together, the horrors waiting for them beyond their borders are impossible to predict. More importantly, even the questing cats have no idea where they're supposed to go. What they need is a sign from StarClan . . . but what they need most of all is a plan to save their missing warriors, or risk leaving them behind forever.

Once saved, the clans set out, all hope of fighting obliterated by the destruction of the Four Trees. Once they leave they travel through the wilderness, encounter countless strife, and lose a great friend, and Crowpaw is made the warrior Crowfeather. But is StarClan following them? If so, they are silent.

Book 4: Starlight

Before there is peace, blood will spill blood...

The Clans have finally arrived in their new home, following the prophecies of their warrior ancestors. The journey was difficult enough, but now they must struggle to establish territories and learn the hidden dangers of this unfamiliar world. Firestar attempts to settle the clans by calling on StarClan and making Squirrelpaw a warrior with the name, Squirrelflight. But even as they arrive, unrest surface, cats in different clans that were friends now must again fight. And worst of all, Tallstar loses his last life. In a desperate attempt to preserve WindClan, he denounces Barkface as his deputy and appoints Onewhisker in his place. But he does it with none but Onewhisker, Firestar, and Brambleclaw witnessing the act, and Onestar's leadership is called into question. Most importantly, Leafpaw knows they must find a replacement for the Moonstone. Otherwise there will be no way to choose new leaders, no way to share medicine cat secrets, and no way to know whether the Clans are on the right path. But soon the cats find a new way, and Leafpaw becomes Leafpool.

The future seems uncertain, and more than one cat is harboring sinister plans that could lead to violence and darkness. As all the warriors wait for a sign, some of them begin to realize that the threats they face in the forest may not be as perilous as the threats they face from within....

Book 5: Twilight

New territory brings new troubles for the fierce cats of the warrior Clans, who are still uncovering the secrets of their new home around the lake. Dangers they have never faced before are lurking in the twilight shadows, and former allies are acting strangely hostile.

As divisions between the Clans grow deeper, Squirrelflight, and Leafpool face troubling decisions. One is torn between loyalty to her calling and a forbidden love, while the other struggles with betrayal and the surprising perils of the forest. Any choice, any misstep, could send the clan into extinction. And with an unexpected enemy preparing to attack, their courage and strength will be needed more than ever if the Clan is to survive.

Book 6: Sunset

Soon after the cats reached their new home by the lake, ThunderClan's medicine cat Leafpool received an ominous warning from StarClan: *Before there is peace, blood will spill blood, and the lake will run red.* As the Clan slowly recovers from a devastating badger attack, Leafpool can't help but wonder, could betrayal come from inside the clan? Even as the clans recover, a warrior visits his dark hearted father, and learns how to lead his clan, and how to defeat Firestar.

At the same time, shadows of the past continue to haunt the forest as some old friends struggle to find their place, others appear to be lost forever, and an old enemy finds a new way to resurface in a quest for dark revenge. A sinister path is unfolding, and the time is coming for certain warriors to make the choices that will determine their destiny...and the destiny of all the Clans.

And finally, each cat is faced with their decision. Brambleclaw must decide whether to help Hawkfrost control the forest. Squirrelflight must choose who she loves. Firestar must appoint a new deputy, but will he make the right choice? It all comes down to pure strength and courage as a new saga's last book comes careening around the corner, with no show of slowing down.

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The Cry of the Ickmark-book review

By Mia Wilson

The Cry of the Ickmark is an adventurous, novel by Stuart Hill. A small kingdom, by the name of Ickmark, will soon fall to the hands of the Poly-pontians, people who believed in sciences, not fantasy creatures. They are determined to spread their beliefs to other countries, and to conquer them, adding these new provinces to their territory.

After her father's death, the fate of the kingdom rests in Thirrin Strong-in-the-arm Lindenshield, Wild Cat of the North, a flame haired, easily infuriated and impatient 14 year old. She is a fiery person who will hold to her regality, no matter what the cost.

On a hunt in the woods, she encounters Grishmak, and becomes allies with him and his kin. She later befriends Oskan Witch's Son, a boy with mysterious powers who accompanies her on her journey to make an alliance with the Vampire King and Queen, and the Snow leopard king, Tharaman-Thar of the Ice sheets. Scipio Bellorum, the leader of the Poly-pontians readies his troops for the war.

Finally, the big battle comes, and the clash is bloody. Even with the aid of these magical creatures on her side, Thirrin sees that her army is suffering losses greatly. When all seemed lost, their allies, the vampires, and other undead magical creatures come to their aid. The soldiers in the enemy army, finding that they are fighting what they had believed to be mere legends and nightmares, turn and flee, with some of Thirrin's army still pursuing them. Finally, after many losses and suffering, the kingdom of Ickmark is restored to peace once more.

A Call in the Night

Short story

Final episode

By Megan Broman and Cora Butler

Then it hit me like a fire ball, that voice was the voice of a murderer. I was thinking so much I thought I was going to have a brain melt-down.

"What will I do?" I say out loud.

"Maggie, I thought you were not to be home until midnight. Why are you here?" the voice beckoned.

Shaking, I said, "My parents are at a dinner party and I thought I would be okay here, all alone. I guess I was wrong. Uh, what do you want I will give you anything, anything you want! What ever you do please do not hurt me!" Maggie said trying to act as calm as she could. Sweat dripped from her forehead. "Ding, Dong, Ding, Dong, the old grandfather clock struck ten."

The silent mist of the cool breeze crept in the window and roamed the kitchen. There was a loud circuit noise that usually occurs when the power is coming back on from when the power goes out. I was thinking to myself that finally I could see the light of electricity, see who this "murderer" is, and call the police! Everything will turn out great.

Except, it wasn't so great. I once read a book that said, "If you see the kidnapper's face you are most likely going to get killed." That part of my memory brought more and more pounds of sorrow to this nightmare. But, that was in a kidnapping book, this is real life trespassing nightmare. Maybe, I will see the light of being alive once more.

"Maggie, where are you? Come here right now!" Says the voice. I tremble with fear.

I saw the face of the "murderer" and started to run for my life. Thump, thump, th-thump, my heart was racing. Every movement I made was watched by those glaring eyes. Through the window, moon light flooded the room, I could see the silhouette of a stranger. Oddly shaped with a freakish hunch back and something that resembled a dead frog on its head, hair maybe? Point is, it was ugly.

The murderer pulled something out of it's coat and it was a stake. The color drained from my face, as the stake plunged through my chest. "Help mmm" My voice died away along with my soul.

The

EDURON by Blake

Edwards

Episode 1

Lieutenant H'aris piloted his starcraft through the dense atmosphere of Delva 2 at 1200 km/h. He grimaced. He was not used to flying through the atmosphere at such a high speed, but it was required on his mission. His mission was to find the enemy squadron, and report back to his base.

He was uncomfortable flying alone, and had requested another squadron to fly out of range of the enemy's radar, and to swoop in if he was detected.

"Well, here goes..."

He slowed his plane down. He activated his long-range radar and scanned the area, 360 degrees. What he detected shocked him.

The enemy "squadron" was actually an invasion force—five hundred ships—no, more, MUCH more—and all were heading toward the center of a large crater.

"Sir, we have a very large problem. I have just detected over five hundred ships—presumably an invasion force..." H'aris stopped. His radio was full of static. *Curse it all*, he thought. *They have a jamming platform!* To get through to the base, he would have to either destroy the enemy ship or run away. Obviously, he could not run away, as his mission was way too important.

Then suddenly a high-energy beam lashed out, missing his craft by inches. Still, the immense heat did some damage, and part of his wing was melted off. Then, tons and tons of energy bolts and lasers flashed all around him.

"How ironic that so many energy bolts must be pumped into a tiny fighter," he thought out loud. His steering thrusters were luckily intact, and he swung and dodged the swarm of energy beams, and threw the throttle forward.

He considered warping away from here—but then he was hit. A bolt slashed straight through his fighter and disabled his warp-drive.

Great, just great. But, in space, he could...That was it!

He swooped up and flew into space. Here, in this infinite black vacuum, he could mount an attack without any problems.

H'aris swung his ship to the armada (which he could not see, but his radar could see) switched on the atmospheric-targeting computer, and started pumping lethal bolts into their tops. He destroyed quite a few, and kept pumping those energy bolts into them. He was impressed by his accuracy—but then, the world burst into flames.

"I want to know what happened up there!" screamed Commander Yasiaa. He was in the control center of Delva 2 Base 23. "I have no contact—and only information that a large invasion party is landing in Delvasi Crater!!"

The technicians were working very hard to reestablish connection with H'aris. So far they had no success getting through to him.

"Sir, we have—"

"I don't care! I just want those sensors focused on the landing party!!"

The technician immediately swiveled around and started working at her console. She had detected damage among a few of the ships, and then the damage suddenly stopped. She assumed that the reconnaissance fighter pilot was shot down.

"I want communications with that squadron near the enemy force, now."

"Communications established, sir."

Yasiaa told, no, yelled at the squadron leader to attack the ships as they were unloading their payloads. That was when a ship is most vulnerable, because the crew is so busy unloading. But it is also the time when one is most cautious, because an attack could come out of nowhere, and destroy the hard conceived plans. So the squadron would attack the moment the ships touched down—and that second was very important;

STUDENT THOUGHTS

The Following are Poems by Zev Cohen

Puppet

Is there a cause for life or we the puppets played by the shadow.

Do we have a choice?
Or are we the wondering souls lost in this play.
How long will it go on and when it ends is death the trash
Where you are thrown
Do we have a script or do we go free
Life is a puzzle with no meaning
To me.

Hurricane Katrina

The tornado is loose like a beast in the sky
A tear rolls down as I cry.
Nowhere to go
With the wind in my face
And my home is on its dead line.
Everything gone
Gone
Gone
Except Me
Myself
And
I.

Don't Be Lonely

Follow your heart it is your only guide.
When you're lost or lonely
There's your heart inside.

Untitled

The shadow has reached its claw to the surface of the mountain.
It's anger at the ready
It's power looming like a black shadow behind him
Like the cloak of envy.

Dear Mirror

Dear Mirror,

I have a big problem. I am an average girl in a boring world. But there is a boy that I like a lot and I think he likes me too. I don't know how to find

out if he likes me for sure. He is also one of my friends. Should I get over him? What should I do?

Unsure

Anonymous : I have 2 choices for you

A) He's your friend and I don't think you would want to hurt your friendship with him by telling him you like him.

or

B) You should tell him anyway and wait for the consequences.

Anonymous: I went through the same thing

I talked to my friend and we talked for a while and I found out for sure he liked me. When I found out he liked me I was happy, and we finally started to go out. But when we broke up we lost our relationship. That is the only problem. If you lose your relationship, it is sad but hopefully you can work it out and stay friends.

Theresa: This is a common problem (believe ME)

It's like what my dad told me, "Like what they say in Brooklyn 'Hangout'! Do what you think is right. Relax; talk to people if you need to, but do what you think is right!

G.O.A.L.

Go Out and Learn

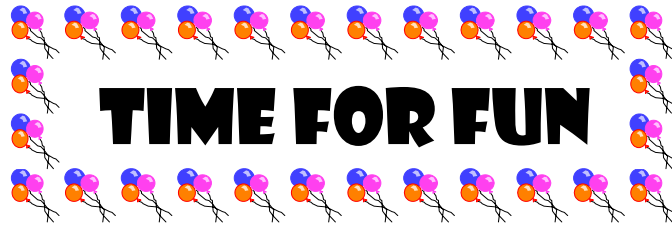
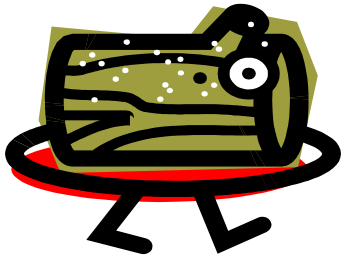
By Carly Jobson and Taylor Read

G.O.A.L stands for Go Out and Learn. So, why would you go out and learn after school? Because you want to be a better learner.

The laziness and lack of homework from students has resulted in GOAL. GOAL is different from Project Homework because it is in the library and (maybe and hopefully) your friends can tutor you and help with your homework that you didn't understand the night before. Sometimes a person your age can better understand why you are confused about a topic.

The good thing about GOAL is that if you are tutor, the hours count on your health Community Service. GOAL is 1 hour long, and a pizza party every month is for tutors. The other good thing about the program is that if you're struggling with homework, teachers and tutors are there to help you to get organized. Plus, this would help you get high grades, but don't go to GOAL if you need help with your saxophone.

But, what happens if you skip G.O.A.L? You get for extra help at lunch time. So why skip it? If you need help. Get it!



TIME FOR FUN

FUN FACTS

By Amanda Rose and Megan Broman

- Smelling bananas and apples can make you lose weight.
- Most domestic turkeys are so heavy, they are unable to fly.
- Penguins can swim at about 15 miles per hour.
- There are more than 2,700 species of snakes in the world.
- Some sharks have been around for 400 millions years.
- Sharks were roaming through the oceans before dinosaurs roamed the Earth.
- There are more than 30,000 species of spiders.
- Male polar bears may grow 10 feet tall and weigh over 1,400 pounds.
- Wild polar bears live up to the age of 25.
- Vikings used the skulls of their enemies as drinking vessels.
- A rat can last longer without water than a camel.
- The Blue Whale's whistle is the loudest noise by an animal.
- Spit can freeze in midair at the North Pole.
- A male ostrich can roar like a lion.
- An 11-year-old girl named the former planet, Pluto.
- Days are longer than years on Mercury.
- It's impossible for a person to sink in the Dead Sea.
- You use 72 muscles when you talk.
- The smallest monkey is as tall as a toothbrush.
- Astronauts can't whistle on the moon.
- Horseshoe crabs lived before dinosaurs.
- Eating shrimp can turn white flamingos pink.
- Earth worms have five hearts.
- Chicks can breathe through their shells.

- A light bulb in Texas has been burning for 96 years straight.
- Jupiter weighs twice as much as all the planets in the solar system combined.
- Spiders have clear blood.
- Some ants can make themselves explode.
- Slugs explode when salt touch their skins.

Source: www.kidzone.com and *National Geographic For Kids* magazine

Video Games Word Search

L A K X V X O F R A T S E O I
S O N Y Z M M A R I O C B C R
W H J X P W Y D O E T R U K F
C A D L E Z Z D E W H A C M K
Y B R I K Z N F P Y K S E M M
D B P D U E G Y A S F H M P M
G S S Z T Z H O C T D B A S W
M F P N B V W B S A J A G 2 T
I I I X W K E E E R G N A N S
E N S G B I L M N W B D M T P
U P K Q X O X A U A T I E S F
L O O A W N X G R R P C 3 K A
P R M H G I K 3 C S O O Q C T
D K K K I A I W 6 C P O W V B
Z Z H K G U S P V 0 P T X H R

	kirby	saga
	mario	sony
crashbandicoot	nintendo	starfox
ds	ps2	starwars
game	ps3	wii
gameboy	psp	xbox360
gamecube	runescape	zelda

6th Grade Frost Valley Trip

By Nick Zapotoski



“Countdown to attack. Fifteen...fourteen...thirteen...twelve...” the squadron leader began the countdown.

“Ion cannons armed.”

What puzzled everyone was where was this invasion force coming from...and why...?

It makes no sense, thought Yasiaa. Oh well. We will be destroying them anyway...

“Five...four...three...”

“Targets locked.”

“Two...One...Fire.”

Ion cannons flashed, missiles flew, and laser blasts blasted, and for a moment, it seemed that the ships were surprised; they stopped suddenly and seemingly stared at the deadly lances of energy sizzling towards them.

The squadron leader leaned forward, anticipating the moment.

The entire squadron of battleships and fighters disappeared in a ball of flame.

**FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF
THE MIRROR**

Solution to Sudoku on page4

4	7	5	3	8	9	1	2	6
9	1	3	2	5	6	4	7	8
2	8	6	7	1	4	5	3	9
8	4	2	9	7	3	6	1	5
5	3	9	4	6	1	7	8	2
7	6	1	8	2	5	3	9	4
3	5	7	6	9	2	8	4	1
1	2	8	5	4	7	9	6	3
6	9	4	1	3	8	2	5	7

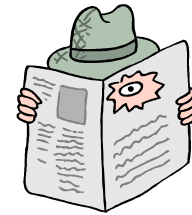
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A special thanks to Fran Lamb for all of her help and expertise!



Meetings for *The Mirror* are held once a week in room 3. Think about joining !!

***Important:** If your club, organization or sports team is having an upcoming event, please let a Mirror staff member know so that he or she can cover the event.

