

BY FRIDA VELEZ

# Elementary School Newspaper

"We've got the scoop on PS261!"

Issue #1

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## FROM THE ESNP PUBLISHER'S DESK: LITTLE KID PEP TALK

Everyone knows that the little kids sometimes get scared. But our news team is here to help.

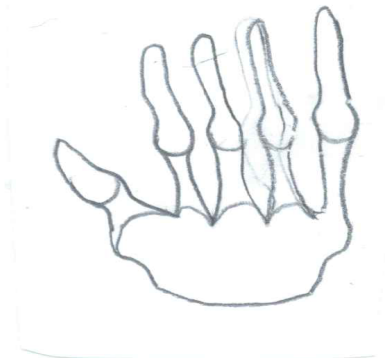
First of all, there are girls' and boys' bathrooms on all of the floors of the building. Also, there are bathrooms inside the classrooms on the first floor.

Second of all, teachers mean business. You shouldn't think you can misbehave just because you're a little kid.

"Don't be afraid of older kids, because they would rather stand on their head for 20 hours than bully you," at least that's what 4<sup>th</sup> grader Mariana Verni says.

Plus, the nurse's office is on the first floor. There are signs to it.

There are also signs to the grown-up bathroom, the lost-and-found, and the guidance counselor. Look out for the two main staircases A and B. There's one on Dean St. and one on Pacific St. There's also Stair C, that leads to the big yard, the gym, and this upstairs place no one knows about. (It's actually the roof.) Your teachers probably always take you to these places, but I'm just telling you where you're going. Hope you've enjoyed your year so far at PS 261!



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### QUIZ TIME!

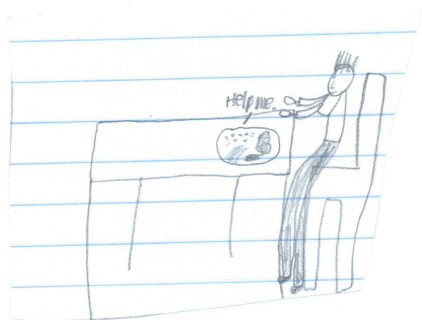
Q: Was Mary McKee, the 25<sup>th</sup> first lady of the U.S., Benjamin Harrison's:

A: Daughter

B: Wife

C: Niece

**ANSWER IN THE NEXT ISSUE!**



## School Updates

by Layla Clark

### WHAT PS 261 STUDENTS ARE READING NOW:

Raina Telgemeier's books, *Magic Tree House*, and *Captain Underpants*, are some of the most popular books in the whole school! Now everybody's all over Raina Telgemeier's books! (*Drama*, *Ghosts*, and *The Babysitter's Club*.) Also, have you heard that there is now a 5<sup>th</sup> BSC book? If not, then you should check

it out! It's called *Dawn and the Impossible Three*. Also, there is a new *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* book. It's called *The Getaway*. Read it if you see it!

### CHORUS UPDATE:

Chorus on Tuesdays! Mr. O and his chorus class are on a roll! They have great songs! They sang at the Winter Concert, and they sang at the MLK March!

### SPORTS CLUB UPDATE:

Everybody wants to be in the school's sports club! Kids all over the school want to join in! Poor Mr. Matt! He has to listen to, "Please Mr. Matt? Pleeessssssse let me join! Pleeessssssse?" Every day! In Sports Club, you basically do sports. Twice a year, a few people are chosen for it. It happens on Tuesdays. The Sports Club doesn't play all sports. It's limited to soccer, basketball, and football.

### NEW TEACHER UPDATE:

P.S. 261 has 5 new teachers!

1. Ms. Kady, who teaches 4<sup>th</sup> grade in room 408
2. Ms. Jillian, who teaches science in room 111
3. Mr. Alex, who is the new assistant principal
4. Nurse D, who is the new school nurse
5. Ms. Vanessa, who is the new librarian

### QUIZ TIME!

Q: How old is the current president of Zimbabwe, Emmerson Mnangagwa?

A: 43      B: 52      C: 90  
D: 75      E: 27      F: 64

**ANSWER IN NEXT ISSUE!**

## RUN, JUMP, SOAR: THE ART OF PARKOUR

by Rainen K. Barlis

Not only flips and stunts, parkour is so much more.

Have you ever imagined doing backflips on a daily basis? Have you ever imagined them as a sport? Well, if not, then think again.

Parkour is not only CRAZY flips and stunts, but it's also very fun and interesting. If you're worried about safety when attempting this sport, try starting at your local Parkour gym instead. Only about 60% of traceurs\* are injured each year on average.

In 1988, in Lisses, France, 15-year-old David Belle was inspired. He was inspired by his father's experiences as a military firefighter and renowned rescuer in the Paris regiment of the sapeurs-pompiers. As a very skilled and talented athlete, David's father, Raymond, adapted very nicely to the training philosophy of PE expert Georges Hebert, a former naval officer. Traveling through Africa with the French Navy, Georges watched the native peoples' amazing athleticism and how they used it by interacting with their surroundings. He said, "Their bodies were splendid, flexible,

nimble, skillful, enduring, resistant and yet they had no tutor but their lives in nature." David trained hard to become a great traceur, and his dream came true. Doing Parkour can really help when it comes to fitness. As an urban sport\*\*, Parkour is a full body workout. According to recent studies, good sports that increase your heart rate and muscle power are good for you.

Now that you know what Parkour is, try it!

\*Parkour athlete

\*\*A sport that requires only a human being



## Fashion Trends

by KAMAURA THOMPSON, SHAHRAZAD KAIED, and REYANA WILLIAMS

### Shahrazad says:

Welcome to fashion trends! I will show you some fashion survey results. I really like chokers.

According to my survey of 4<sup>th</sup> graders, girls like shirts more than dresses. Boys like pants more than shorts. More people like long hair than short.

### Reyana says:

Ripped jeans is a popular trend at PS261, but not everyone knows how to pull it off. I will tell you how! The key? Wear them with a tank top.

According to my survey, girls at PS 261 like dresses and leggings more than jeans. They also like ripped jeans more than Adidas, Converse, and tank tops. Boys like long shirts and pants more than shorts and short shirts.

### Kamaura says:

According to my survey, PS 261 kids like long sleeve shirts more than short sleeve shirts. People like sweat shirts more than dresses. Girls like ponytails more than braids.

## After School News

by LANA ROSE DUKE

On November 16, the PS 261 afterschool program hosted an anti-bullying workshop, presented by the New York City Children's Theater. It was really fun!

On November 18, it was the afterschool annual Turkey Bowl. It was a great success! There's a new afterschool class for sewing. The teacher is Ms. Jamie. Her classes are on Tuesdays. "My favorite thing about sewing is we always get to do something new or continue what we were doing. We get to be free, inspired by other kids, and you get to make cool designs without anyone making fun of it. We learn how to sew with Ms. Jamie. She's awesome," 4<sup>th</sup> grader Aster says.

## Who's Who in PS 261 Sports

by VARICK COHEN

Zion, 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Zion, the well-known soccer/football star, continues to take pride and show amazingly good skills in both football and soccer. Way to go, Zion!

Yoshi-4<sup>th</sup> grade

Yoshi is a hard-working soccer player who has good passing and dribbling skills and amazing shots! "It's fun, it's interesting, and it helps you get stronger," he says. So say hello to the amazing 4<sup>th</sup> grade soccer star!

## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Gym Test Scores & Records

compiled by VARICK COHEN

PACER TEST:

1<sup>st</sup>: Julian, Score: 66

2<sup>nd</sup>: Jamari, Score: 56

3<sup>rd</sup>: Isaac, Score: 53

PUSH-UP TEST:

1<sup>st</sup>: Varick, Score: 32

2<sup>nd</sup>: Miyuu, Score: 31

3<sup>rd</sup>: Nicholas, Score: 28

SIT-UP TEST:

1<sup>st</sup>: Zosia, Score: 52

## CHESS CLUB!

Did you know that there is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade Chess Club? It's going smoothly! We just started and we already have 5 members:

-Varick Cohen

-Theo Bennett

-George Crawford

-Fernando Gonzalez

-Mariana Verni

## LION KING PLAY!

by ANOTIDA MABEZA

Shout outs to the following PS 261 performers! And to all the other talented members of the cast and crew!

Anotida plays *Young Simba*, and in *Annie* he was part of the *Warbucks Ensemble*.

Gracie plays *Young Nala*, and in *Annie* she was *Annie Part 1*.

David plays *Mufasa*, and he wasn't in *Annie*.

Otto plays *Simba*, and he was *Rooster* in *Annie*.

*The Lion King* performances are Friday, May 18th, Saturday, May 19th, and Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. See you at the play!

### JOKE TIME!

by LAYLA CLARK

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

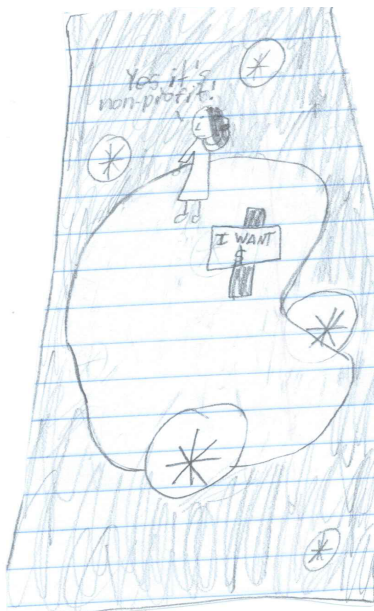
Billy Bob Joe Penny!

Billy Bob Joe Penny who?

Are there that many Billy Bob Joe Pennys?

## ESNP ADVICE CORNER

Do you ever need advice? About bullying? Homework? What to get your mom for her birthday? If you have a problem, our Advice Corner can help! Simply write and send a letter to room 4-408, addressed to "ESNP Advice Corner," and write your name and classroom on it. That way, we can reply directly to you. Also, let us know if you would like us to include your question and our advice in the next issue of ESNP!



## NFL SUPER BOWL SEASON WRAP-UP!

by ANOTIDA MABEZA

ANOTIDA: What do you think about the Super Bowl?

JANE DOE: It's very time consuming and fun to watch.

MIA: It's a good time to gather around and eat popcorn.

ABIR: It's exciting and it's a surprise who's going to win.

MIKA: It's cool!

JAMARI: I think it's a good thing.

ANOTIDA: Who did you think was going to win?

JANE DOE: The Patriots.

MIA: Well, I don't vote, I just watch.

ABIR: I wanted the Eagles to win. I don't like the Patriots.

MIKA: I wanted the Patriots to win, Tom Brady is not just a quarterback, he's THE quarterback, the Patriots are not the Patriots without Tom Brady.

JAMARI: The Eagles.

### FICTION

## PEOPLE AND ESPECIALLY MEAN PEOPLE: A NARRATIVE ABOUT ESME

by FRIDA VELEZ

I remember that time when I became numb to happiness at Westgrass Middle School. It was my first day going to that school, and I was excited to make new friends, and see what it was like at a private school. When I went to my locker, a boy was standing there, with a fake grin on his face. He said, "You wanna walk to class together?" I said, "Sure, but first can you move out of the way? I need to put my stuff in here." Suddenly he burst out laughing. Then he just strutted away. At once I noticed that two mean-looking girls were strutting behind him. One of them said, "Like you'd ever get to walk with the most popular boy here." She smirked. "You tell her, Amanda!" said the other girl. Of course that gave me an impression of what the whole school was like, and I was right. But the only person that would stand between me and those bullies was Rachel. People didn't just tease me, they teased her too. And though she was a total nerd, she would be a big help to me in school. Unlike that boy Ricky, and those girls named Amanda and Shelly. They would be the biggest problem in my life, even after middle school. TO BE CONTINUED...

# FROM THE HEALTH EDITOR'S DESK

by FERNANDO GONZALEZ, illustration by RAINEN K. BARLIS

Here is a list of the main bones of the human body:

The arm has a humerus, a radius, and an ulna.

The hand has carpals, metacarpals, and phalanges.

The chest has a sternum and ribs.

The spine has a cervical area (top 7 vertebrae), a thoracic area (next 12), a lumbar area (bottom 5 vertebrae), a sacrum (5 fused bones), and a coccyx (the tiny one at the bottom of the spine).

The leg has a femur, tibia, and a fibula.

The foot has metatarsals, tarsals, and phalanges.

The skull has a cranium, a mandible, and a maxilla.

The shoulder has a clavicle and a scapula.



## WHAT A GREAT MARCH!

by ANOTIDA MABEZA

The annual PS 261 march to honor the great Civil Rights Leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was held on Friday, January 12. At the march were 3rd, 4th, 5th graders, Principal Jackie, and former Principal Mills. Also in attendance were the Brooklyn Borough President, Eric L. Adams, and Kim Wiley Schwartz, who started the march from our school to Borough Hall.

Students came prepared with posters celebrating freedom, justice, peace, and equality. They were later displayed on the walls of our school, thanks to Maisha, Layla, and Xavier. The march was a big success, though we all got rained on. Some of us got sick, but it was still worth it.

Did you know Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. made his "I have a dream speech" 55 years ago, and it has been 50 years since his assassination?

At our march, speeches were made by Principal Jackie, the Borough President, and select 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. But the most famous speech is Dr. King's "I have a dream," made on August 28, 1963, that brought change to

America and the world. Today there is still injustice, inequality, and slavery. My question is: How will you change America and the world?

## TOY TRENDS: The Fidget Spinner

by JACK WILKINSON

The fidget spinner trend began about a year ago. I first saw one on a day off at camp, when someone showed one to me. Then, months later, I saw my friend with a fidget spinner that had an American flag on it. Then, about a week after that, almost the whole school had fidget spinners. I don't know how or where they got them, but everybody wanted to be a part of this trend. Finally, about two months later, the craze started to die down, but it left a lasting impression on the whole school. Need proof? I have about six left over from that giant fidget spinner craze, which has led to the fidget cube trend. To be continued...





## MEET THE ESNP STAFF:

- ANOTIDA MABEZA, co-editor-in-chief/staff writer
- FRIDA VELEZ, co-editor-in-chief/publisher
- LAYLA CLARK, copy editor/staff writer
- FERNANDO GONZALEZ, staff writer
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- VIOLET CANTON, staff writer
- REYANA WILLIAMS, co-fashion editor
- SHAHRAZAD KAIED, co-fashion editor
- KAMAURA THOMPSON, co-fashion editor
- JACK WILKINSON, toy trends editor
- SUNNY WALKER, comics editor
- LYRIC DYSON, comics editor
- RAINEN K. BARLIS, staff writer/artist