

The Cougar Chronicle

Winter 2022

Volume 7, Issue 2

Why were we off on January 17th? Why was that day important?

By Jai, Asaad, Erin, Shy, and Grace of RAMP

A lot of people don't know why we get some of the days off that we do! We were off from school on January 17th to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. We celebrate him because he fought for equal rights for everyone especially the African American people. He was born on January 15, 1929 and was assassinated on April 4, 1968. During his short life he accomplished many things. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott which lasted 385 days. During this time King was arrested, his home was bombed and he was subjected to personal abuse and threats. The protest ended with the US Supreme Court ruling that segregation on public buses was unconstitutional. King also was one of the leaders of the 'Big Six' civil rights organizations who organized the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The march took place in Washington, D.C. on August 28, 1963. It was a resounding success with over 250,000 participants. King organized and supported nonviolent protests rather than fighting to get what he wanted and what the people needed. Some forms of nonviolent protests are marching, boycotting, and sit-ins. He rallied people with his speeches, such as his famous "I have a dream..." speech, which called people to attention and action. Because of all of his hard work he was TIME magazine's Man of the Year in 1963 and at 35 years MLK was the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

We know that most of us probably sleep to celebrate our days off, but we hope you took a minute to think about the difference Martin Luther King Junior made in the world; even if it was just in-between a good nap!



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Upcoming Events:

- * Mid-Winter Recess
February 19– February 27
- * SEPTA Meeting
March 3
- * ACT (Grade 12)
April 4
- * 3rd Quarter Ends
April 8th
- * Spring Break
April 14- April 24

Be on the lookout for the updated Basketball and Friday Night Rec calendar!



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Things to try and places to go according to HVS students

The Craft Corner: Crochet Craze

By: Mary and Sedani



On Wednesdays during 3rd period in Mrs. Rosenblatt's class we have a related service study hall where most of us don't leave right away, so we do all different crafts and call it the craft corner, hence the name of this article. We all do different types of crafts. For example, Xian draws, Mrs. Rosenblatt and Ms. Annabelle do a mixture of both crocheting and knitting, and we crochet. But in this article, we will be talking about our love for crocheting, also known as our "Crochet Craze".

Mary: My love for crocheting started when I saw Ms. Marsha (the feeder) crocheting and wanted to learn because the lunch periods are very long and I had a lot of time to pick up a new hobby. I asked her to teach me, and she said yes, and that is how my obsession grew.

Sedani: I saw my friend Mary crocheting and wanted to learn and started doing it, as well. It helps me turn my fidgeting into something productive. So, I started learning also from Ms. Marsha and Mary and that's how I found a love for crocheting.

Willis Hobbies Store

Review By: Petros D'Amico

Willis Hobbies is a store that sells fun activities. One thing they sell are remote control vehicles. The vehicles they sell include airplanes, helicopters, cars, and boats. The helicopters fly in the air, the cars drive on the ground, and the boats go in the water. I have eight remote control cars from this store, and they're enjoyable to drive because they are fast.

They also sell model cars that you can put together. They have a lot of pieces, and you follow the directions to do it. It's hard to do because they have a lot of detail. I've done this before and it's a little complicated, but I try to put it together. Sometimes I get help because it's hard to attach the wires and the small pieces.



The store is open every day except Tuesday. You can shop in the store, get free in-store pickup, or get it delivered by mail. If you want to go there, the address is 300 Willis Avenue in Mineola, NY.

Things to try and places to go according to HVS students



Macy's

By Brianna Ramsundar



I enjoy shopping at Macy's! It is fun to shop there and spend time with my family. My favorite department (Juniors) has nice clothes to go to school with and go out at night. I especially like clothes that are dressy, fancy, and the color blue. To finish my outfit, I buy a puffy coat with a matching hat and scarf. I am now ready to go out for a nice dinner.

Ms. Shelley's 5th grade class stopped in to answer the question: Where do you think everyone should go at least once?

- ♦ **Camila: Olive Garden!** They have good Italian food. It's not expensive so you can go there on the weekend or for a birthday without spending a lot of money. You don't need to get dressed up nice. I love the pizza and the bread sticks, and they always give bread sticks. (Dariela wanted to add about the salad too!).
- ♦ **Dariela: Target** has nice clothes, from a lot of brands. They don't just sell clothes, though. They have things like backpacks and toys, too. You can get a lot of things there and some have food, even pizza. You can go to Target and buy all different things so you don't have to go to a lot of different stores.
- ♦ **Dionna:** Everyone should go to **the mall**. Most people have a mall near them. You should go to the mall because you can get toys, clothes, and other things. There are a lot of stores in one place, like the Apple store, Build-a-Bear, and Walmart. Also, the mall is inside so you can go even in bad weather like rain or when it's too cold or too hot out.
- ♦ **Mikayla:** I love when my dad takes me to the **fruit store**. It is outside. My favorite fruits to get are grapes and the little oranges, called clementines, that you can peel and separate into pieces. It's also good because fruit is healthy.
- ♦ **Julianna:** Go to **Wendy's!** I like to go with my mom. We go to the drive-thru so I don't have to go out of car and go outside. I like to get a Coke, fries, and chicken nuggets the best.
- ♦ **Ryan:** If you like video games you should go to **Game Stop**. You should go because they have a lot of games for different consoles. My dad has a PS4, I have a switch and a PC that I used to use for school before we got the laptops. I want to play more games on the PS4. Everyone who likes playing games should go.
- ♦ **Aiden: Long Beach** is the place to go. I go to the beach near my friend's house. I like to go to build sand castles. I don't like to go in the water too much because it can be cold, but I love playing on the sand. I go in the summer because I can go with my friends and don't have to be in school. Also, it is sunny in the summer and hot which makes the beach fun.

Sports in Review

My Horseback Riding Passion

by Lauren Richardson



The first time I was on the back of a horse I was 4 years old. I started hippo therapy at HorseAbility, which is a therapy program for kids with disabilities. Horses are used to develop the core muscles, strength, endurance, trunk control, and balance. My sitting balance improved when I started hippo therapy with my therapist, Eileen. The side walkers would hold my thigh and ankle to stabilize me.

When I was 8 years old, I started horseback riding training/lessons with my instructor, Kaitlyn. In these lessons we would prepare for the upcoming shows. I am in the leader/side walker division. We would practice things like two-point position and posting, which is when you bounce up and down on the horse. My posting improved and then I started trotting while posting and now I need less

assistance. Once my instructor saw improvements in my riding, she asked me a very important question, "Do you want to be on the HorseAbility LIHSSRD competitive team?" I was very scared, but also excited!

My first horse show was in East Setauket in 2019. I won 3rd place in the walk and trot division and 2nd place in the leader side walker division. After that show, my instructor said that she wanted to start training me for the winter session where we had clinics to improve our skills. One of the judges told me that I had a great chance of making it to the Olympics in the future. After the clinic, I trained even harder because the upcoming show was the Hampton Classics, the biggest horse show on the East Coast. I ended up winning 11th and 9th place. I was not exactly happy with it, though. I really wanted the trophy, but was still proud of myself for trying!

I've come a long way from hippo therapy to now participating in horse shows and competing in national and international competitions. I am thankful for these opportunities, and I hope my passion and love of horses last forever!

What to play



Voice Activated One-Player Game

By Timothy Mui

I want to introduce to you a fun app game you can download on the Echo called "The Dark Citadel". This is a one player game. The main object of the game is to make choices in a battle against other players to defeat the monster. You must protect the Citadel from the monster. The game reads you what is going on and then you get to decide what happens next.

What you need is to listen to what the other players and the monster do, and then the game gives you choices and you pick and use your voice to give Echo your best choice you think will defeat the monster. It is fun to play the Dark Citadel because I get to listen to the different choices I can make for the game. I like to play this game because one does not need sight or to use their hands. There are many levels, and I am on level 15. So, if you have an Echo at home try this fun game!

How to Play ESPN Fantasy Football

By Enrique Mendoza and Nicholas Daniello

Did you know it's free to play fantasy football? To play it, you go download the ESPN Fantasy Football app on the app store or you can go on the internet website, ESPN Fantasy Football. The first thing you do to play is you draft players from different teams to make your own team since you're the manager. Hopefully, your team will make it to the playoffs. You draft players who play different positions from different teams. You even need to draft head coaches, offensive coordinators, and defensive coordinators. You can also make trades or claim players from the waiver wire, which are free agents, to be on your team. In addition, once a week you set up your lineup and look at the stats of your players to see if they're playing on that day. You use the stats of their real life games to decide if they are good enough to play for you. If the team has a week off, you would substitute a player from your bench with the buy player. If a player is injured, they go on injury reserve and you have to find a new player to substitute for them. It's fun and very competitive. We recommend it to everyone who likes and understands football or just want to have fun in their free time.



Pokémon Character Study

Why is Mewtwo from Pokémon so evil? Question Solved!



Well, the answer is not what you think you may be thinking like, Mewtwo joined Team Rocket at some point. There was a scene in “Pokémon: Mewtwo Strikes Back Evolution,” where Giovanni, the Team Rocket boss, does swoop in and takes Mewtwo with him, but we are “pretty much done with this scene” (Your Rival first Pokémon game). Giovanni has nothing to do with this case. Mewtwo has a dramatic backstory. It starts in the lab of the scientist, Dr. Fuji, while creating artificially made Pokémon. He was using the same equipment to clone his young daughter, Amber, who is no longer alive. Amber said during one part

of the radio cast, ‘Mewtwo’s Origin,’ that everyone in the unconscious world is a copy. For example, Mewtwo is a copy of Mew and Ambertwo is a copy of the original Amber. You are probably saying, “I never saw Mewtwo move its mouth in my whole entire life,” but the truth is that all clones Dr. Fuji made use telepathy. So, when you see the clones talk to each other, they are using telepathy. Then Ambertwo showed the clones where she used to live because this Amber has all the memories of the original Amber since she is just a clone the real Amber. Suddenly, Charmandertwo, Bulbasaurtwo, and Squirtletwo all start to fade out of existence; not only in the unconscious world but in the real world, as well. This includes Ambertwo, as well, and that’s when Mewtwo experiences its first emotion, which is sadness. This is when it starts to cry. As Ambertwo fades away completely, in the real world it shows them disappearing from the test tube. As the brainwaves of the clones decline, Mewtwo’s escalates. Dr. Fuji then says, “It mustn’t remember this! Quick, apply the serum!” In another audio clip when Mewtwo grows to get older, “I remember something someone special said, but who was it?” This second audio clip shows that Mewtwo had been brainwashed from Dr. Fuji, which is why we think he has destroyed Dr. Fuji’s lab. It wants to reunite with its best friend. Dr. Fuji then dies due to Mewtwo destroying his lab and turning it into flames. So now you pretty much know why Mewtwo has a big personality change and maybe behaves like this.



By: Sanayah Pineiro , Ms. Gonzalez’s fourth grade class



Season's Greetings



The Celebrations of Light

By: Asaad, Jai, Grace, Erin, and Shy



The late fall and the early winter are considered the season of lights, as many different religions have holidays centered around different types of lights. This is connected to the winter solstice, where the days were dark and people would bring light into their homes.

We are going to discuss four holidays connected to this season:

- **Diwali** is a holiday celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and some Buddhists. This year, Diwali was celebrated in early November. It is celebrated by lighting Diya, which are oil lamps made of clay. It is a five day holiday. Diwali is the most important holiday of the year in India to bring about peace and joy. Jai says he celebrates with a big meal and presents every year.
- **Hanukkah** is also a festival of lights. The menorah is lit each day for 8 days while saying a prayer. Hanukkah is celebrated with lots of fried foods, such as jelly donuts and latkes, to represent the burning oil used before candles to light menorahs. Most people also exchange presents on Hanukkah, sometimes getting a new one each night! Erin's favorite things about Hanukkah is eating the food and spending time with her mom.
- **Christmas** is celebrated on December 25,th but a lot of people also celebrate Christmas Eve. Christmas is another holiday where people bring lights into their home by decorating their Christmas tree with lights and lighting an Advent Candle for the four Sundays before Christmas. Grace decorates her Christmas tree with Santa and reindeer. She looks forward to getting presents, while Asaad watches Christmas movies with his family and on Christmas day, and eats fish, fried chicken, and a special Christmas cake.
- **Kwanzaa** is a celebration of African-American culture. It is celebrated from December 26th to January 1st. The holiday is based on different harvest festivals from around Africa. At the end of the holiday there is a feast called Karamu! Traditionally, there are many tasty foods, such as African creole, cajon catfish, jerk chicken, and groundnut stew. The meal can also include sides like jollof rice, collard greens, Kwanzaa slaw, grits, beans and rice, and okra. On Kwanzaa, people light a kinara. There are seven candles: one black candle, three red candles, and three green candles. You light the black one first and use it to light the others. The candles are lit to represent the struggles of the past and the hope for the future.

All these holidays, while different, celebrate the light we bring into each other's lives and promote love, peace, joy, and hope.

Spirit Week 2021:

Cookie Decorating



Spirit Week 2021



Mad For Plaid

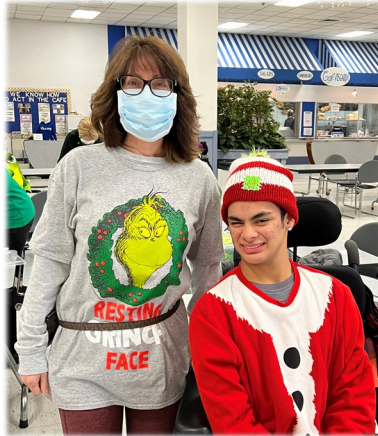


Pajama Day



Spirit Week 2021

Grinch Day



Love is in the Air at HVS

The Cougar Chronicle had the pleasure of talking to Ms. Elefonte's Kindergarten class about Valentine's Day! Here is what they said:

First, the group wanted everyone to know that Valentine's Day is all about love. **Michelle** says you can celebrate Valentine's Day with your mom, dad, family, or anyone else you love. **Zemirah** let us know that Valentine's day is on February 14th, and that February is the second month of the year! **Madisyn** says that the biggest symbol of Valentine's Day is hearts, and that she especially likes pink ones. The whole group talked about making special gifts and cards for their family or friends, these cards are called valentines, which you can give out. Some people do special activities for Valentine's Day such as **Michelle** who goes to the mall with her family to eat and then she and her mom get their nails and hair done! **Eli**, on the other hand, likes to stay home and have a good dinner that he helps cook (but he added that dessert is the best part). **Zemirah** says that the best gift on Valentine's Day is lots of hugs and kisses from her family. **Madisyn** agreed with **Eli** about dessert and her favorite things about Valentine's Day are the cards and the cookies. They all talked about who they were making valentines for such as their family, friends, and maybe even their teachers.

Madisyn, Zemirah, Eli, and Michelle hope you learned a little about Valentine's Day from them and hope you had a great one!



Dr. Chris' Questions



What makes you proud to be an HVS student?

- ◇ HVS fulfills our physical needs, such as having people that can do wheelchair repair. (**Azriel, 10th**)
- ◇ There is a feeling of acceptance here. (**Xavier, 6th**)
- ◇ That everyone knows each other and are nice to each other (and to me). (**Teddy, 12th**)
- ◇ At HVS I never feel left out. (**Angel and Rondel, 8th**)
- ◇ HVS has stuff, like therapies, that help you get stronger and has great teachers. (**Aiden, 5th**)
- ◇ Playing on the basketball team makes me feel awesome. (**Mike, 6th**)
- ◇ The small class sizes and the teachers and staff help us to succeed. (**Mrs. Piccola's seniors**)
- ◇ At HVS we have a community atmosphere that accepts everyone. (**Joe, 12th**)
- ◇ I am proud because over the years I made a lot of friends and there are staff here that are nice to me and my brother. (**Justin, 10th**)
- ◇ Even though we are all different, we are all comfortable here. No one makes fun of anyone for being different or disabled. (**Steven, 6th**)
- ◇ Because the school is accessible and I get to participate in all the activities. (**Keira, 11th**)
- ◇ All the special activities we get to do like cooking and going on trips. (**Camila, 5th**)
- ◇ I am happy to be here because I like the people here. (**Davion, 8th**)
- ◇ Interesting classes like STEM and coding class. (**Jonathan, 7th**)
- ◇ The HVS students and staff make me feel involved and I never feel left out. (**Mary, 9th**)
- ◇ I have the ability to go to each of my classes myself, to travel around myself, and being more independent here. (**Jaser, 11th**)
- ◇ I am proud that HVS teaches me to be independent instead of everyone doing things for me. (**Emily 12th**)
- ◇ I am proud of the great teachers and staff at HVS. (**Ben, 6th**)
- ◇ At HVS we get to play sports like everyone else. (**Mike, RAMP**)
- ◇ I like the people and learning new things. (**Abrianna and Lara, 7th**)
- ◇ I like being with students that have similar experiences to me. (**Mia ,10th**)
- ◇ We have things like Friday Night Rec and we all get to have a “regular kid” education here. (**Ryan, 5th**)
- ◇ HVS has made me a better person because it made me smarter and taught me to advocate for myself more. (**Kiley, 12th**)
- ◇ I like that I can be who I am without having to worry about being judged, but instead being accepted and loved. (**Dari, 11th**)
- ◇ At HVS I learned how to talk and have my own voice using my device. (**Veronica, 11th**)
- ◇ We are all unique here. (**Kayla, 6th**)
- ◇ I am proud to be an HVS student because I get to learn a lot of new things. (**Ben, 10th**)
- ◇ It makes us proud to know they make a school for students like us! (**RAMP, class 2021-22**)



Dr. Chris' Questions



What changes would you like to see made to make the school better?

- ◇ Bring back clubs so students who like the same things can hang out! (Catherine, RAMP)
- ◇ Add more choices to the lunch menu. (Dionna, 5th)
- ◇ Install more Wi-Fi routers to have consistent internet access everywhere. (Mrs. Piccola's seniors)
- ◇ Turn part of the cafeteria into a lounge so you can go there after eating to play games and socialize with other people. (Aiden, 5th)
- ◇ Have games, such as chess and checkers, available in the cafeteria. (Samson, RAMP)
- ◇ We want more clubs and sports, like book club or soccer. (Nicolas, Lauren, and Mike, 6th)
- ◇ We should have more science classrooms and science labs. (Jonathan, 7th)
- ◇ Upgrade the track, playground, and other outdoor equipment. (Jaser, 11th)
- ◇ Offer more sports than just basketball! (Jai Ray, 10th)
- ◇ New bathroom curtains in the HS and elementary bathrooms. (Dari, 11th)
- ◇ More school spirit events that bring us together. (Mrs. Brandt's 6th grade class)
- ◇ School lunches need to be improved regarding nutrition and portion sizes. (Sedani, 9th)
- ◇ I think everyone, including the students, should have ID cards. (Teddy, 12th)
- ◇ Recess time after lunch to let out all of our energy, inside or outside, and add more adaptive equipment (like a slide) to our playground. (Ryan, 5th)
- ◇ We need more garbage cans by the lobby (and recycling!). (Kyle, 11th)
- ◇ Get better and healthier food for lunch! (Makai, 10th)
- ◇ Finish the pool! (Anthony, 7th)
- ◇ Computer classes in the elementary school. (Mikayla, 5th)
- ◇ I wouldn't change a thing. I like HVS just the way it is. (Tristan, 10th)
- ◇ We want recess time and more lunch choices! (Angel, Rondel, Mata, Christian, 8th grade)
- ◇ Improve the food in the school lunches! (RAMP, class 2021-22)
- ◇ I would like to have more time for related services (Eli, 12th)
- ◇ We need the pool back in service because it makes us feel free! (Mrs. Brandt's 6th grade class)
- ◇ Adaptive crank tables in the lunchroom because they are too short for the high school kids in powerchairs. (Jaser, 11th)
- ◇ Having healthier choices at the school store, including kosher choices. (Ethan, 8th)
- ◇ I would like it if we played music in the lunch room. (Abrianna, 7th)
- ◇ A dedicated science room for STEM experiments. (Camila, 5th)
- ◇ Better menu options and more choices at lunch. (Lauren, 6th)
- ◇ More tutoring opportunities, so I can do better on tests. (Kiley, 12th)
- ◇ Another bathroom should be opened so that you do not have to wait on the long lines every time you need the bathroom. (Dariela, 5th)
- ◇ We should offer more 'gotcha's' to students to recognize good behavior, such as prizes. (Tony, 12th)

Food News:

Dr. Chris' cheeseburger take over!

In the special interview edition of the Cougar Chronicle, Dr. Chris asked us for cheeseburger recommendations. This is how HVS responded.

Wendy's ***** (13 votes)

- Bacon burgers! **Ryan (5th grade)**

Five guys ***** (10 votes)

- The grill marks make it better! **Catherine S.S. (RAMP)**
- They have great fries. **Perla (11th grade)**



Shake Shack ***** (9 votes)

- While you're there, try the cheese fries! **Emily (12th grade)**
- Great quality burgers and good sauce, especially the mushroom burger. **Jaser (11th grade)**

McDonalds ***** (9 votes)

- They have more toppings than other places. **Camila (5th grade)**

Check your local diner! ***** (7 votes)

- They are always stacked so big with a lot of choices. **Jeremy and Tony (12th grade)**
 - Try the Omega Diner. **Lance Lee (10th grade)**
 - The Elmont Diner has a lot of good toppings. **Eli (12th grade)**



Burger King ***** (6 votes)

- Go there for a Whopper, they're great! **Yostin (6th grade)**

Your Mother's House ** (2 votes)

- They have a macaroni and cheese burger you have to try. **Mike and Lauren (6th grade)**

Outback: ** (2 votes)

- I like the quality of the beef. **Joe D. (12th grade)**
- The burgers can be served on a pretzel bun! **Zion (6th grade)**



Grill Time in Great Neck. **Ethan (8th grade)**

Red Robin: You should try the ramen burger. **Jaser (11th grade)**

Sonic: Big burgers that are juicy and their slushies are good, too. **Kyle (11th grade)**

Carl's Junior: Juicy burgers, awesome sauce, and good shakes. **Franklyn (11th grade)**

Shea Oscar in Brooklyn: **Musa (6th grade)**

Hildebrants in Williston Park

All American in Massapequa

Burgerology in multiple locations



SEL Spotlight

Spreading Kindness Week

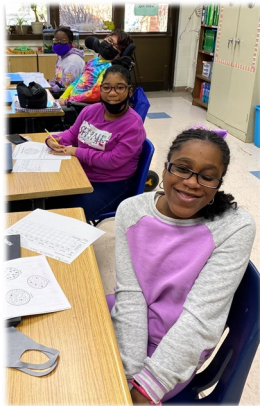
P.S. I Love You Day is a day to remember and appreciate ones lost to suicide and depression and other mental health struggles. We dedicate the second Friday of every February to tell the story and commemorate people who meant the world to us but didn't know it. This year we kicked off Spreading Kindness week on P.S. I Love You Day, where each day a theme was in place for us to think about how we can spread positive energy and do our best to prevent more lives lost.

What if we practice positivity and kindness?

- ◇ More people would feel wanted, loved, and good enough.
- ◇ You can make more people happy.
- ◇ We can do this by telling someone you are there for them, giving them hugs, making them laugh, letting them cry, or just being there, saying nothing in the same room so that they have the comfort of knowing they are not alone and reassuring them why they matter.
- ◇ Another way of spreading kindness is by giving someone a compliment.

What if we serve or do good deeds for one another?

- ◇ You can share with others: material items, time, conversations, and emotions.
- ◇ You can lend a hand when someone needs help.





SEL Spotlight

Spreading Kindness Week

What if we don't judge others by how they look?

- ◇ Keep negative opinions to yourself. You never know if you might run into them again, or how your comment can affect them.
- ◇ If you have nothing nice to say, don't say anything at all. IT'S EASIER TO BE KIND THAN TO BE MEAN!

What if we stand up for one another?

- ◇ Don't just be a bystander. If you see something wrong, take action to the best of your ability.
- ◇ If you see something, say something. If you don't feel comfortable saying it yourself, you can go to a peer, an adult, or just a friend that can help you help that person that you see in need.

What if we worked out our problems with kindness?

- ◇ We wanted to rephrase this question as "What if we worked out our problems **TOGETHER?**"
- ◇ You can do this by giving each other space, talk out the issues, and respect each other's opinions.
- ◇ Feel free to think for yourself but understand that everyone has opinions.
- ◇ Try not to act on emotion.



By: Kyle Griffith, Keira Hayden, Dari Youdim, Samson Stein, Jaser Khowessa, Franklyn Lopez, Veronica Ruiz Flores, and Leila Alleyne

Shout-Outs

Look who has been caught being Kind, and Respectful...

If your name is in blue, come to Room D to collect your gift card.

Caught Being Kind:

- ♦ **Jonathan Fitoussi** for letting Anthony, who is virtual, pick first while playing Jeopardy.
- ♦ **Maxwell Kriedter** for helping his friends by opening markers for them.
- ♦ **Yasmine Murchison** and **Hana Music** for always having something nice to say to each other in the morning.

Claire Becker

Jai Ray Chang

Sedani Cleary

Caiden Corchado

Petros D'Amico

Kyle Griffith

Zemirah Jackson

Beste Kahya

Lance Lee

David Melikov

Enrique Yanes Mendoza

Jocelene Ramnanan

Dionna Rivera

Catherine Sacco-Sanchez

Sebastian Silva

Jaide Smith

Madisyn Walker

Caught Being Respectful:

- ♦ **Gia Munro** for saying please and thank you.

Khalil Bayo

Michelle Brunvil

Julianna Deana

Joseph Donohoe

Davion Jack

Jaser Khowessa

Abrianna Medrano

Jocelene Ramnanan

Brianna Ramsundar

Juan Rodriguez

Tina Smith



Shout-Outs

**Look who has been caught being Responsible and Safe:
If your name is in blue, come to Room D to collect your gift card.**

Caught Being Responsible:

♦ **Yousif Mohamed** for advocating for his needs during his first week!

Nicole Carbone	Jai Ray Chang	Kenneth Zhao
Petros D'Amico	Camila Lopez-Escobar	Dariela Lopez-Escobar
Eli Malakov	Kiley McDonnell	Erin Miller
Ryan Moloney	Hana Music	Mary Ogbo
Angel Vega Ortiz	Brianna Ramsundar	Steven Reyes Cruz
Azriel Surage	Kayla Torres	Jaylen Washington
Kennedy Yung		

Caught Being Safe in the Halls:

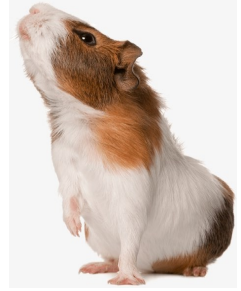
♦ **Alex Cuenca** for helping his friends clean up and keep the classroom clean and safe.

Jana Ahmed	Aiden Buguia	Madisyn Walker
Nicholas Daniello	Alianna Fernandez	Ben Green
Emily Matos	Juan Rodriguez	Veronica Ruiz
Catherine Sacco-Sanchez	William Sexton	



Pet Place

Written By: Mrs. Graffeo's Community Service Class



What makes a responsible pet owner?

Owning a pet is a privilege that comes with responsibilities.

- ◇ You must be able to take care of a pet for its entire life.
- ◇ It is important to adopt a pet that fits into your home and lifestyle.
- ◇ Owning a pet requires a lot of time, effort, and patience to properly train it.
- ◇ Pet owners need to remember that pets have costs, such as supplies, food and veterinary bills.
- ◇ Pet owners need to be educated on how to safely care for their pets, such as nutritional needs, health, shelter, and companionship.
- ◇ It is important to spay and neuter your pets to keep the population in control.
- ◇ It is important to properly identify your pet with tags and/or microchips so they can be identified in case they run away. Make sure this information is up to date.
- ◇ Pets must be kept up to date on all vaccinations.
- ◇ Include your pets in your evacuation plans for emergencies, such as fires, floods, and storms.

Reference: American Veterinary Medical Association



What would be a good first pet? Why?

Hermit crabs- Low maintenance pets. Require fresh water daily and new shells to move into.

Small lizards- leopard geckos or bearded dragons are good starter pets since they are low maintenance and small in size.

Gerbils, Hamsters, and Mice- Gerbils, hamsters and mice are considered classic pets for children. These pets are good tempered. They require food, water, a cage, and a wheel for exercise. It only takes five minutes a day to teach them how to socialize.

Guinea Pigs- Guinea Pigs are sturdy pets and are good for children. They prefer to live in groups, so consider adopting two female guinea pigs. There is a variety of short-haired and long-haired guinea pigs which need to be groomed daily.

Betta Fish- Betta fish are beautiful, jewel-toned fish with long flowing fins. The tank will need regular cleaning and water changes. You can have fun decorating the bowl with gravel, plants, and other accessories.

Older Dogs and Cats- Even though puppies and kittens are cute, they do not make great starter pets because they require a lot of work, patience, and training. Instead, consider adopting an older dog or pet from a shelter. Most of these rescue animals are already trained and tolerant of children and other pets you may have.

Reference: <https://animals.howstuffworks.com/pets/10-great-first-pets.htm>





**Sunny wants you to write
for the Cougar Chronicle!**

If you would like your article to be featured in a future addition of the Cougar Chronicle please submit your work to Ms. Rosenblatt or Ms. Feldmann.

Thank you to all of our readers!

Cougar Chronicles Coordinators: Ms. Rosenblatt and Ms. Feldmann