

The Rockin' Eagle

The School that Rocks!

Volume 2 Issue 2

February 2014

Letters from the Editors-in-Chief



Dear Readers,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday vacation. There are many exciting activities and stories coming up this year and you can read about them in the *Rockin' Eagle*! We have a page of New Year's Resolutions that you should check out. I'm sure that if you set a resolution that you can achieve your goals. So get ready for an exciting new year!

Editor in Chief,
Jaime

Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a great holiday and New Year! This year is going to be very exciting and full of new things. What did you think of the Super Bowl? What a blowout! Did any of you go to the Variety Show? There were so many acts filled with different talents. It was pretty fun to watch. 2014 will be filled with many new opportunities and great experiences. A new Book Night Challenge is coming up for 5th graders, and a Science night for the whole school takes place this month. You could get involved in some of these activities and you will probably have a lot of fun. I hope you had a great 2013 and an even better 2014!

Editor in Chief,
Daniel



Meet a Town Councilman

Above: Riley, Jaime, Mrs. Sullivan, and Town Councilman Sullivan (Article on page 6)

At Right: Drawing by Julia, grade 4

Special points of interest:

- Read Our New Year's Resolutions!
- K Kids Go To College!
- Rockin Art! Happenings at Rock Hill!
- An Interview with Town Councilman Sullivan!
- Sports! Read interviews from Niels Giffey and Pat DeMaio
- Mrs. Valentine Talks with Eagle Staffers
- Talking Math with Mrs. Madancy
- Pennies For Patients

K Kids Go To College!

By Dori and Emilia, grade 3



Drawing by Dori, grade 3

Did you know that the K-Kids went to college on Wednesday, January 8th? They attended a leadership conference to find ways to become better leaders. Ms. Gallagher and Mrs. DiBenedetto brought Nathaniel, Cooper, Tyler, Kayce, Chiara, Kylie, Jaime, Hadley,

Zelia, and us (Emilia and Dori) to this amazing conference. The college is located in Waterbury, CT. The day started off very early as we had to be at Pond Hill to get the bus at 7:45 am. When we got to college, we went to classrooms to learn about different subjects. Some of the things we discussed bullying and that standing up for other people may be hard but is the right thing to do. We also learned decision making. This conference gave us a lot of information and was so much fun!



Articles of Interest

Watch for Columns from Jarred and Grace in issues of *The Rockin' Eagle!*

The Captain

By Jarred, grade 5



The Yankees, Bronx Bombers, or 27 time World Champions...no matter what you call them, they needed MANY amazing players to win. Whether they hit 50 homeruns a season, threw a perfect game, or managed the greats...everyone on the teams throughout the years played a key part of Yankee history. One of their most well known current players, is Derek Jeter. After the 2013 season, he has 3,316 hits, a batting average .312, 256 homeruns, 1261 RBI's (runs batted in), Jeter is the all time current hit leader and 9th overall. The Captain, as many refer to him is only three hits away from Paul Molitor, who has 3,319 hits. Although, we will miss him when he retires, he is the greatest in my eyes.

CONGRATULATIONS

To *Rockin' Eagle* Staffers,

JAIME AND SOPHIE

For earning the CT Association of Schools, ART award!

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!!!



(ABOVE) Niels Giffey visits Rock Hill. Seen here with Macy and Kayce. *Story on Sports Page.*

The Toddler Bed Disaster

By Grace, grade 5



Over Christmas break my brothers moved into toddler beds...and as the title of this article states, it was a DISASTER! It all started one night when Drew jumped out of his crib. Harmless...right? No! When my mom put him back, he jumped right out! A couple of weeks later when Jack woke up from his nap I went to go get him. I happened to be face timing my BFF, Emma. I turned the camera around to show her Jack, and HE jumped out of his crib! Emma and I started hysterically laughing because it was so funny! A few days after that, we couldn't take the jumping anymore, so we moved them into toddler beds. That made things even worse! The beds had guardrails so they wouldn't fall out...well they just jumped over them! My brothers are fine with the toddler beds now, but getting used to them is another story!



Above: Drawing by Kylie, grade 4

The K Kids will be collecting "Pennies for Patients" in February. Thank you in advance for your consideration in contributing!

News Around the Rock



(At Right) Read articles by Audrey to catch up on news around the school.

The Second Fifth Grade Book Night Challenge is at the end of February. Read about who won in our next issue.

Pennies for Patients

By Jaime, grade 5

Who knew that something as small as a penny could change or even save someone's life? You can make that happen! Pennies for Patients is a great program that collects change to raise money for cancers such as Leukemia and Lymphoma. You will be able to donate from February 3rd thru February 21st. The K Kids will be around the classrooms to collect donations. Thank you for so much for helping change people's lives!

Boxes of Hope

By Vivian, grade 3

Every year B Pod creates "boxes of hope". These boxes are gifts that are made for a classmate. First the box needs to be decorated. Then you write a poem and a letter, make a present, and draw a picture. You place all of these things in the box, and give it to your "hope" buddy.



Fifth Graders Visit Peabody Museum

By Audrey, grade 5

In January the fifth grade classes took a trip to the Peabody Museum and planetarium to learn all about science. The fifth grade was buzzing with excitement with the news of this exciting trip to the Peabody Museum. The museum's many rooms are filled with Egyptian treasures, dinosaurs, and remarkable animals. They also have an exhibit called "wonders of weather" and different hands-on activities. The Peabody Museum is wonderful place that is teaching kids exciting new science. Each group got to go to a class on the human eye and light. It was really a remarkable field trip. The planetarium was also fun. We got to listen to shows and learn so much about the universe. The Peabody Museum is truly amazing.

Great Job!

Thank you to Macy, Ryan, and Kayce for being our staff photographers! Many of the pictures you see throughout the paper are from our meetings!

At Left: Vivian shares a project that she made at home. Super work!

Eli Whitney Visits Rock Hill

By Audrey, grade 5

This year Eli Whitney visited Rock Hill school. Each grade level got to build something exquisite. The fifth-graders got to build a model of our solar system. Fourth-graders got to build a light-up house and third-graders got to build spinning tops. Eli Whitney's staff helped students learn how to build, and taught them cool facts about their projects. Eli Whitney truly did an amazing job. The fifth-graders got to learn how to make an eclipse on their model and the color and features of each planet. Fourth-graders got to learn about electrical circuits and third-graders learned about the spinning tops and why they stay spinning. Eli Whitney is really a great way to learn.



At Left: Drawing by Sophie, grade 5

In The Spotlight

Talking Math and More with Mrs. Madancy

Mrs. Madancy, our district's Math Resource Teacher, recently sat down with members of the newspaper for an interview.

Is there a process to coming up with the curriculum? *Yes, it's a big process. First we take the standards that our state adopted for us, the CT Core Standards. We look at each grade level and split those standards into units. From there, we unwrap the standards and decide what skills the students need to learn and try to figure out to teach them best.*

Is there a grade that you think math is most important? *I think that they are all important. Math is a subject where you need to have the knowledge from the previous grade to understand the next.*

Is there a grade that you think math is more difficult than other grades? *Every grade has its' own challenges. Math is a big puzzle that just needs to be broken down to make sense. High school math can get quite challenging.*

What math topic do you think most elementary students struggle with? *For grades 3-5, I would say fractions because they are a difficult concept to understand.*

Who inspired you to become a teacher? *My third grade teacher, Mrs. Troccollo, at Moses Y. Beach started I inspiring me with multiplication. I loved it and thought it was so cool! She was my inspiration to start teaching. However, I come from a family of teachers. My parents are both teachers. My husband was a teacher and now a principal and my two sisters and brother are also teachers.*

Why did you decide to work on curriculum? *I love working on curriculum. Math can be challenging and I think that it is fun finding interesting ways to teach it.*

If you had to pick one, what would your favorite course to teach be? *I would have to say Statistics.*

Other than math, what do you like to do in your free time? *My daughters keep me very busy with their sports. We also have a big family that gets together a lot. I really enjoy watching sports, too, either on TV or watching my kids' sports. Of course there's always MATH!*

What math class did you find most challenging when you were in school? *Probably my hardest class at Lyman Hall was Pre Calculus. I didn't understand it at first. I had to work really hard at it. I stayed after school with my teachers to make sure I knew what was going on. Once it clicked and I figured it out, it all came together.*

Do you have any tricks for remembering our multiplication facts? *I always use 10 to help me remember my multiplication facts. An example would be 9×7 ...I think that 10×7 is 70 and then I subtract 7 to get 63. If it's a lower number, I use my 5 facts to help remember.*

If you had to choose, who is your favorite Red Sox player? *Do I have to choose? You must know I'm not a big Red Sox fan...actually not at all. If I had to choose I would pick Ted Williams*

Who is your favorite Yankee player? *There are so many! When I was your age my favorite player was Dave Winfield. Later on when they won World Series in the late 90's I liked Paul O'Neil and Bernie Williams. It was also fun watching Mariano play his last season. Derek Jeter is one of my all time favorites. I have a lot of Yankee players that I like...it's much harder coming up with a Red Sox player.*

What is your favorite meal to cook? *I come from a very big Italian family and love to cook. I really like home-made ravioli.*

Do you have a favorite lesson that you taught in high school? *One of my favorites was in Statistics when we looked at different types of probability, probably because my students loved the lesson. We would look at the probability of M&M's...we would buy all different sized packages of them and look at Theoretical Probability and Experimental Probability. It would be a nice introduction to probability. We would look at the different colors of M&M's. The kids got to eat them after the lesson which they always liked.*

What advice would you give to someone that is struggling with math? *The most important thing is to get your foundation. Think of a house...the foundation is what holds it up. It's the same in Math. You have to really know your facts. Once you have those down solid, everything else makes sense.*

Do you have any advice for what elementary students should work on during the summer? *To keep up on your math facts and it's always good to think about problem solving. There's a website that I like for that which is called Bedtime Math. It has a short story and then they give you a math problem.*

Do you know of any board games that you really like that have to do with math? *I used to love to play Memory, which isn't really math but it's good for practice remembering things. There's another game that I have on my iPad called Kakooma. It's a lot of fun.*

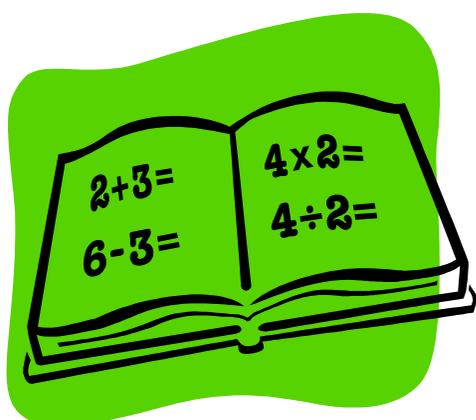
What was your favorite fact fluency quiz to take growing up? (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) *I would have to say multiplication because my favorite teacher, Mrs. Troccollo, taught it to me.*

What's your favorite part of your job? *It's really when I get to go into classrooms and see exciting math lessons and work with students. I don't get to do that very often, but it's really fun for me.*

What's your favorite sport? *Definitely basketball!*



At left: Mrs. Madancy with her daughters Kayce, Ellie, and Dori.



Above: Mrs. Madancy with her daughter Kayce, and Macy. She coaches both in basketball.

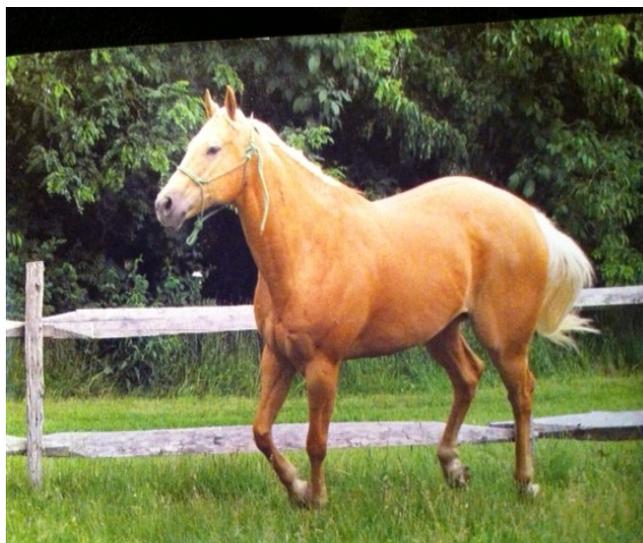
A Furry Friend

By Callie, grade 3

I have a furry friend! Guess who he is? Come on, guess! Okay, I'll tell you! He's a horse named Trigger.

When I was in 1st grade I met Trigger for the first time. Most people are scared the first time they meet a horse because it can be a little scary to see such a big animal, but I was fine with Trigger. He is my friend Olivia's horse, so she let me ride Trigger all around a fenced area. I even went over some low jumps. After riding Trigger I watched Olivia clean him. She had to brush his fur with a big round brush. Lastly, Olivia cleaned Trigger by spraying him down with a hose. After all that work, Trigger went out in the field and rolled around in a mud patch. This experience was so much fun I ended up loving horses. Since then, I have had a horse birthday party, visited a horse ranch called Rockin' Horse Ranch and now I am signed up to take riding lessons.

Recently, I saw Olivia again and she told me Trigger was not feeling well, which made me very sad. The good news is Trigger is healing in the barn. At least he is going to get better. We all have our ups and downs in life just like Trigger. He is a great furry friend. Have you ever had a furry friend?



Here's Trigger!



At Left: Drawing by Macy, grade 4

In The Spotlight

Meet Town Councilman Sullivan

By Riley and Jaime, grade 5

How did you feel when you saw the numbers come in on Election Day? *I was very excited because the numbers are a reflection for the candidates on how much the people trust them to run the government. So I was very excited with the votes that I received on Election Day.*

What are you doing to prepare for the first meeting? *Well you just witnessed the first meeting, which is the swearing in. The next meeting what normally happens is that we get an agenda the week before the meeting, which tells us what the topics are and things to discuss. We will do some research and will come prepared to discuss those items and make decisions based on that information. We ALWAYS make decisions on what's best for the town and the people of the town.*

How long on average do the meetings last? *They can run anywhere from an hour up to four hours.*

Why do you want to be on the Town Council? *I want to be on the Town Council because I always thought it is such a great honor to serve people and help people. Serving the people of Wallingford is probably the greatest honor anyone could ever have. I'm only one of nine people that have been elected to serve over 45,000 people. Not just voters, but children like you. We make decisions on your school, your town, your taxes, the roads...we make decisions on just about everything that happens in town. It is a very important position and I am very proud to be a Town Councilor. I love reading the Rockin' Eagle. It is my favorite newspaper!*



Above: Riley and Jaime interviewing Town Councilman Sullivan at a Council meeting



Rockin' Eagle Staffers take a picture with Mrs. Madancy after the interview.

In The Spotlight

Talking with Pat DeMaio

By Nick, grade 5

Pat DeMaio was a minor league pitcher for the Red Sox AA Affiliate in the early 60's. He was a very good pitcher, having multiple "no hitters" and a ton of "one hitters". His career was cut short due to a "dead arm". During the interview he showed me a picture of him standing with Ted Williams! Before pitching for the Red Sox Organization, Pat played for Quinnipiac. He was the first baseball player to be inducted into the Hall of Fame there. Read on to find out more about Pat...



In the minor league, where did you pitch in the rotation? *I was the number one pitcher in the rotation.*

Was there a specific reason that you didn't get the call to the majors? *I pitched so much that it hurt my arm.*

How far up in the Red Sox Farm System did you get? *In those days they had a D, C, B, A, Double A, and Triple A, before the majors...I got all the way to Double A.*

What season do you think was your best? *My best season professionally, was in 1962 with the Red Sox. That same year Bill Monbouquette had 16 wins in the majors.*

I know for college you went to Quinnipiac, what other colleges were you considering? *I had a full scholarship to University of Miami but decided on Quinnipiac because I wanted to stay local.*

What was your best pitch? *My curve ball was probably my best. I had a very good one. Other pitches that I threw were two different speeds of a fastball, a moving fastball, and a slider.*

How fast was your fastest pitch? *In those days they didn't clock the speed...if I had to guess I would say it was in the upper 90's.*

What number did you wear? *My number was 9...I had the same number as Ted Williams.*

Notes of interest from the interview: *In 1963-64 Pat played with many of the players that went on to win the 67 World Series with the Red Sox. His roommate was Jim Lonborg. He was a Cy Young Award Winner. He also played with Rico Petrocelli, Mike Andrews, George Scott...He took his kids to see the Red Sox at Fenway during batting practice. The whole team came to greet them, including Carl Yastrzemski. They got to see the locker room, too. This was a great memory for Pat.*



THANK YOU to Mrs. DiBenedetto's and Ms. Gallagher's Third Grade Classes for their generosity in order to fill this backpack with books and school supplies! The "stuffed" backpack was donated to The Sisters' Society for their recent fundraiser.

In The Spotlight

Meet Mrs. Valentine

By Paige, Gianna, Mitchell, and Wylie, grade 4

What states have you lived in? *I was born in New York. I lived there as well as New Jersey, I have also lived in Kansas and now I love living in Connecticut.*

What made you to decide to become a teacher? *That's an interesting question because I wasn't always a teacher. I worked for L'Oreal in New York as a district sales manager for almost 13 years. But I have always wanted to be a teacher. About twelve years ago I went back to school to study Education. I worked as a para professional for three years while I was in school. Then I started teaching five years ago.*

What do you like to do in your free time? *I have four kids and three of them live at home. So in my free time I love to spend time with my family. My husband and I are best friends. He is a pastor so we spend time helping people in our Church. I have one daughter who is a teacher so she and I do some planning together, I have one daughter who is in school studying to be a teacher. I also love to spend time with my youngest daughter Grace, who is twelve. We watch movies and do a lot of cooking and baking together. We also like to garden together. I like to grow flowers and Grace likes to grow vegetables.*

What is your favorite place to visit? *My favorite place to visit is Vietnam. I have only been there once but I love that country. It's warm and tropical. All of the people there are super friendly! My youngest daughter was adopted from Vietnam so we love to learn about the culture of that country.*

If there was one place that you could visit, where would you go? *I would love to go to Italy. It is one of the many countries that I really want to visit.*

What is your favorite book? *My favorite book is Bridge to Terabithia, by Katherine Paterson. I love it because I have seen so many students fall in love with that book over the years.*

Tell us why you decided to have a class reward. *I love that our classroom is like a community. I think that when I have rewards to work towards for the end of the week, it helps make our community stronger, like when we have lunch in the classroom and play games. It also allows me more time to teach because my students are so focused and want to do well. I love it when my class "wins" at the end of the week and we get to have lunch in the classroom and have games, I think that it is so much fun. It's great to see kids learning to play Chess and other games that they didn't know how to play before. I think that it is pretty exciting. I love to use rewards because I think that it is positive for everyone.*

What is your favorite subject to teach? *My favorite is writing because I love to write and I have a passion for it. I love when kids fall in love with writing and publish great stories. I really enjoy Writing Share Celebrations. I look forward them because we can share our writing with our families and others in the community.*



Above: Mrs. Valentine with Gianna, Mitchell, Paige, and Wylie



At Right: Drawing by Ally, grade 4

In The Spotlight

An interview with Katie

By Steven, grade 5



*This is a picture of me with my sister,
Katie*

Calling all 5th graders! My sister, Katie Broun, has been through the switch of schools from 5th grade to 6th grade. Here are her thoughts and ideas about this topic!

S: Is there anything that fifth graders should be nervous about when we switch from Rock Hill to Dag?

K: *In my opinion, there is nothing to be nervous about. All you need to do is be prepared for the changes in homework and the changes in the environment that you will be in, and you will be ready for 6th grade.*

S: Speaking of homework, how much homework will the new sixth graders get?

K: *Around 20 minutes a night per subject. Your teachers might also give you projects, but all of this depends on which teacher you get!*

S: What is similar at Rock Hill and at Dag?

K: *All of your friends at Rock Hill will still be at Dag, but also Pond Hill students will be at Dag. Also, the teachers will always be helpful in any way they can.*

S: What are some of the differences between R.H. and Dag?

K: *You will have 2 specials every day, but these specials will switch every quarter. Also, you switch classrooms for your different subjects and you have 6 academic teachers. You have to wear different clothing for gym. In addition, you will have up to 3 lockers. One for school, one for gym, and one for instrumental students. You will have a large amount of books to fill your school locker.*

So there you have it! There is nothing for a new 6th grader to worry about! Signing off!

A Trip to Rocking Horse Ranch

By Callie and Isabella, grade 3

Go to the Rocking Horse Ranch...it's a blast! It's located in Upstate New York. The ranch is open all year round. We both went there. I (Callie) went with my family in the Fall. It was great! There were so many things to do! I got to ride horses, go to the Fall Festival, visit the fun barn, go paddle boating, and swim in the indoor pool.

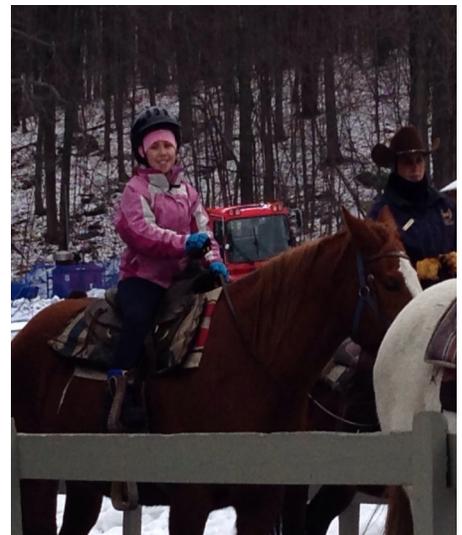
I (Isabella) visited the ranch with my family in the winter. I also went horseback riding. One time while I was on a horse it started raining and I got soaked! I also went snow tubing and I got to try skiing for the first time. I turned out to be pretty good at it. Like Callie, I went in the indoor pool and visited the fun barn. Plus I got to see a few shows.

We hoped you enjoyed reading about our good times at the Rocking Horse Ranch!



At Left: Callie at *The Rocking Horse Ranch*

At Right: Isabella at *The Rocking Horse Ranch*



In The Spotlight

A Big Journey

By Callie, grade 3

This is an interview with my grandpa because he is taking a long trip across the country!

So why are you going on this trip? *To see the natural beauties of this country.*

Where are you going on your trip? *I am going to Montana, Yellow Stone Park, Texas, Arkansas, Panhandle, Florida, Washington D.C, and back home.*

Well, that's a lot of places you are going to visit. But how are you going to travel? *I am going to travel in a camper.*

Are you going to pack up your camper before you go on your long journey? *Yes...I'm cleaning my camper, put in a TV, and also I'm getting all the supplies I need.*

Now here's one more question I want to ask and here it is. After you go on this trip do you plan going on other trips? *I'm not sure maybe...maybe not.*

Well thanks for talking to me, Poppy I hope you have a nice trip! Be safe!



This is a picture of the camper he is going to travel in.



Eagle Staffers at a
Newspaper Club
meeting



In The Spotlight

Talking with Niels Giffey

By Macy and Kayce, along with their classmates, grade 4

How old were you when you started playing? *I started playing when I was about 8 years old in second grade.*

What is your favorite...

Color? *Blue*

Food? *Sushi*

Movie? *Catch Me If You Can*

NBA Player? *Steve Nash* Team? *New York Knicks*

What do you play to do when you graduate? *I really want to play professionally.*

What advice would you offer a kids' basketball team? *To have fun, play as a team, and remember to do your schoolwork.*

Who would you consider UCONN's biggest rival? *Syracuse*

What are you studying in school? *Economics*

What was the most exciting game you played so far? *I would say that the National Championships was the most exciting game I've played so far.*

Which of your teammates are your closest friends off the court? *Tyler, Shabazz, and Leon*

Why did you choose UCONN? *I had an opportunity to go pro after high school in Germany. But UCONN gave me the opportunity to go to school and play in college.*

Thank you Niels for taking time from school and basketball to talk with Mrs. Carignan's class...

GO UCONN!



Above: Newspaper Staff from Mrs. Carignan's class (Kylie, Macy, Ryan, Kayce, and Valerie) with Niels

At Right: Niels talking to class



Sports

Carmelo Anthony's Career High

By Jack, grade 4

One of my favorite basketball players is Carmelo Anthony, #7. He plays for the New York Knicks NBA Team. He is a phenomenal player; specifically he is a great shooter. He had his all time career high against the Charlotte Bobcats recently. Carmelo scored 62 points in one game!

The NYY played the Bobcats, who have some really great players like Kemba Walker, Michael Kidd-Gilchrist, Cody Zeller, and Al Jefferson. However, in this game, their best point guard, Walker, was not playing. The NYY also have good players such as J. R. Smith, Raymond Felton, Iman Shumpert, Tyson Chandler, and Amar'e Stoudemire. These are my favorite NYY players.

Carmelo not only had his career high for points, but also beat the Knicks overall record for most points scored in a game. He also beat the record for the most points scored at Madison Square Garden in an NBA game. This is an incredible achievement for Carmelo Anthony.

Anthony shot 23 for 35 from the floor, 6 for 11 from beyond the arc, and 10 for 10 at the free throw line in 39 minutes. Carmelo's best shot was when he got the ball with 3 seconds left in the first half. He shot the ball at the buzzer and made the basket from half court. It was an unbelievable shot; you can check it out on the internet to see for yourself.

The NYY head coach, Mike Woodson, took Anthony out of the game with about 7 minutes remaining. He did play the entire first three quarters, so I am sure he was tired by that time. LeBron James of the Miami Heat told the head coach, "Mike, you should have not taken Melo out of the game...he was on fire." I agree with LeBron that Coach Woodson should have kept Anthony in.

I hope that one day Carmelo might do this again and beat his own record next time. I will never forget what a great game this was to watch and also get to see my favorite player, Carmelo Anthony, have his all time career high in points for a basketball game.

First Meet Fun

By Nathaniel, grade 3

I walked into the gym, filled with confidence. I put my bag in the line and started stretching on the strip. After about 20 minutes, we started group stretching. Chris and Eric (our coaches) still weren't there! I started to lose my confidence. Then after 15 minutes, they finally appeared. We started warming up on our own now. I did handstands, stretches, etc...Soon we went to our first warm up event—parallel bars. After that, we warmed up all our other events and then it was time to compete. This wasn't as nerve-wracking as I thought it would be. After competing, I thought about my scores. I did pretty well. But I had no time to rest, because soon it was time for awards. When all of the teams sat down, we were by far the biggest. I came in third for a lot of events. Then came all arounds. This was the second best part. I came in second place all around! Finally, it was team awards time. THIS was the best part! We came in FIRST! As we finally left, I thought to myself, "this was a good first meet!"

Coach Eco

By Kayce, grade 4

Nick Economopoulos knows basketball. Eco has played and coaches the sport. Nick started off as a player in Long Island, NY, in a recreational league as well as playing for his church. He also played in high school, but got cut from the team his senior year. Other sports he played were football and baseball.

After high school, he went to college and met his wife, Sue. They had three daughters and one son. Nick had always wanted to be a football and baseball coach. However, after having three daughters, none of which liked softball as much as they liked basketball, he decided to focus on basketball. Eco has high school girls' basketball, and coaches an AAU team. His high school record is 605+ wins and around 100 losses...that's pretty good! Coach Eco will continue his success as he now coaches Coginchaug High School. These "Eagles" will be watching those "Devils" closely!

Basketball

by Travis, grade 3

I am playing basketball in the winter. I am really good at shooting, passing, and dribbling. We played 3 or 4 games already. I have a really good team. I think that we won most of the games. We are the color maroon. I am number 9 on my team. Sometimes I think that all that we do is run around on the court. It is tiring! If you play, bring a water!

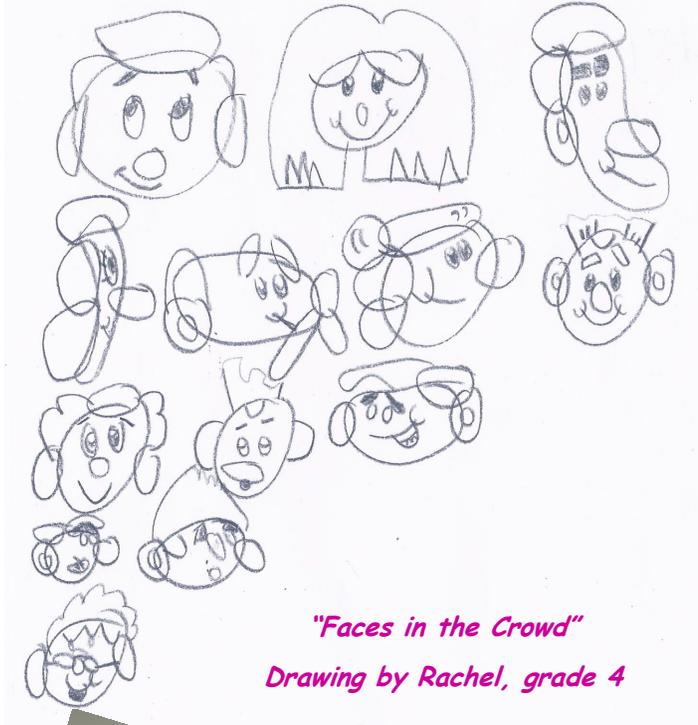


Above: Isabella skiing at The Rocking Horse Ranch.
Read article by Isabella and Callie on page 9

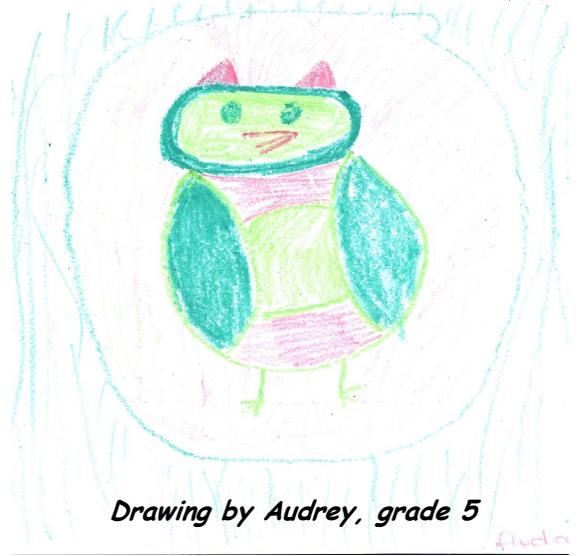


Drawing by Valerie, grade 4

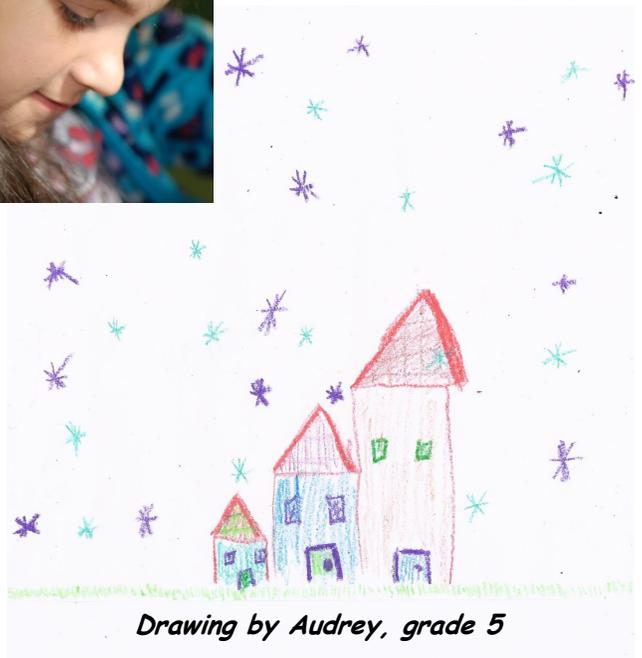
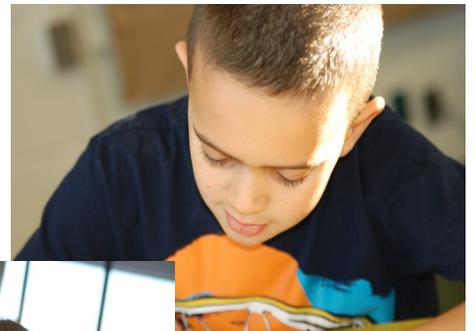
Creativity At Work



"Faces in the Crowd"
 Drawing by Rachel, grade 4



Drawing by Audrey, grade 5



Drawing by Audrey, grade 5

New Year's Resolution From Teachers and Eagle Staffers

Mrs. Carignan - to be better organized in my kitchen

Mrs. Macunas - to eat healthier and exercise more

Mrs. Mather - to live in the moment

Mrs. DiBenedetto - to eat healthy and exercise more

Mrs. Hurst - to think positively and spend more quality time with my family

Ms. Fallahi - to eat more fruits and vegetables and to spend 30 minutes a day reading a Spanish novel

Ms. Gallagher - to become more organized

Mrs. Valentine - to become more fluent in speaking Spanish

Travis - to continue to work hard in school

Gavin - not to play on the iPad as much

Jack - to have better ball handling skills in basketball

Steven - to go to age groups for 50 Breaststroke

Jaime - to continue to improve on the violin

Valerie - to become a better dancer

Julia - to get good grades

Ally- to not let my dog nip at my nose

Rachel - To play video games

Wylie - to get better at spelling

Gianna - to work on my math skills

Andrew - to work on my reading skills

Rylie - to start a collection of sport sweatshirts

Audrey - to work hard to get my red belt in karate

Emilia - to become a better soccer player

Jarred - to hit 300 or better in baseball

Nathaniel - to get more healthy

Isabella - to become a better reader

Paige W. - To finish the Harry Potter Series

Kylie - To finish the Nutmeg Passport