

# The Rockin' Eagle

## The School that Rocks!

Volume 2 Issue 4

May 2014

### Letters from the Editors-in-Chief



Dear Readers,

I can't believe that the year is almost over! It's gone by so fast! I've had so much fun and great experiences...I hope you did, too! Just because summer vacation will be here soon, doesn't mean that there still isn't a lot to do. There are field trips planned and many activities yet to come. Hope to see you learning more and having fun!

Editor in Chief,  
Jaime

The 2013-14 Rock Hill school year was a great one! We had so many amazing memories that we made along the road. It is with great sadness and excitement that I leave Rock Hill to go to Dag. I will miss my wonderful three teachers, Mrs. Macunas, Mrs. Carignan, and Mrs. Gibertoni. I learned so many new things with them and had a great experience at Rock Hill. I hope the future classes at Rock Hill are even better and that the new students will enjoy this school for years to come. Thank you Mrs. LaTorre! I'd also like to thank Mrs. Kirk for not only starting this amazing newspaper club, but also being a phenomenal teacher. The *Rockin' Eagle* will continue to teach students new skills and improve upon the ones that already exist. I know what I have learned will help me along the rest of my career as a student. Thank you, Mrs. Kirk!



Editor in Chief,  
Daniel

### Special points of interest:

- Thank you Rock Hill for an Amazing Year!
- Our Favorites from the School Year!
- Student and her family visit MoMath!
- Rockin' Eagle Staffer's Father Meets Aaron Rodgers!
- Author Eric Berlin Visits Rock Hill!
- Awesome Art!
- Sports!
- News on the Hill
- An Interview from Uncle Joe's Farm



Drawing by Valerie, grade 4

### How My Dad Met Aaron Rodgers

By Jack, grade 4

Just this past April my dad was on a golf vacation in Las Vegas, Nevada. He was staying at a hotel called Aria. At this same hotel and the same week, the 2014 Michael Jordan Celebrity Invitational (golf tournament) was going on. One morning, like he did every morning, he was in line at the Starbucks in the hotel. There was only one barista (this is the person that makes coffee or latte type drinks) and the line was very, very long. As he was standing in line, he commented out loud, "I can't believe how long this line is." The man standing in front of him turned around and agreed, "Yeah it is!" My dad instantly realized it was Aaron Rodgers, the Green Bay Packers quarterback and Super Bowl Champion. My dad shook his hand and said, "Hello, Aaron". They spoke for a bit while in line and then my dad got his coffee and sat down.



(At Right: My dad talking to Aaron Rodgers)

# Articles of Interest

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

## A New Season

By Jarred, grade 5



The 2014 MLB regular season has begun. The Yankees are riled up and ready to go...especially now that Jacoby Ellsbury, Brian McCann, and Carlos Beltran have joined the picture. That's around 70 homers and over 2000 RBI's added to the lineup! With the Red Sox trying to defend their World Series title, the Rays, Yankees, and the Rangers, improved their rosters in the off season, and are looking to dethrone the Sox. The Yankees did lose Kevin Youkilis, Robinson Cano, Mariano Rivera, Andy Pettitte, and Curtis Granderson. However, with the new additions I mentioned, along with Masahiro Tanaka on the mound, the Yankees will be looking for a 28th ring. Tanaka, a star in Japan, is expected to be a force in the pitching rotation. He has already broken a NYY record by retiring 26 hitters in three games on strike outs. It's a whole new ball club for the Yankees this season!

## The Wallingford Tritons

By Grace, grade 5



This year I started playing lacrosse and I LOVE it! I play for the Wallingford Tritons. In my opinion, we are pretty good.

My team has had at least 10 games and only lost 2. When we lost, we played Hamden and Guilford. I haven't scored yet, but I hope I will soon! My favorite positions to play are attack and defense. I **really** don't like midfield.

A couple of weeks ago we had a jamboree. We played Amity, East Lyme, and Hamden. We lost to East Lyme and Hamden, but won 2 twos against Amity.

All in all, I really like lacrosse and want to continue playing it!

Dear Rock Hill Faculty and Staff,

You have made my last year at Rock Hill very special. Thanks to all of my teachers, I am very well prepared for middle school. I have learned so much since the beginning of the year.

Mrs. Gibertoni has had a huge impact on my education. She has taught me so much and I don't know what I would do without her. She has been doing so many fun things with us. For example, the poetry concert where we all rewrote songs and local singers sang them. We also made an actual STOMP routine. If you are in 4th grade you should know that the fun stuff only comes with hard work.

Mrs. Palermo has also been such a big help physically and mentally. We get to play fun games and she teaches us about good sportsmanship and other good traits. She is so creative with her games and it is always good to see her walking around with a smile.

Mrs. Pace has always been there to help me. Without her, I would not understand some different things. She is always supportive and funny, too!

Papa John has been so nice to me throughout the year. He is always cracking funny jokes and giving us funny nicknames. I can always look to Papa John when I am sad. Thank you for a great year, Papa John!

Sincerely,  
Hadley, grade 5



## Photography Club Auction!

5/21/14 in the  
Rock Hill Gym

Silent Auction  
Starts at 6:30

Live Auction to  
Follow



Drawing by Rachel, grade 4

# News Around the Rock

## My Last Year at Rock Hill

By: Steven, grade 5

Well, another year has come and, almost, gone. It feels as if the years pass by so fast and we end up wanting to spend more time with our teachers and friends. The weeks go by faster and faster. The homework, and thought questions, start to slow down. Our school is very interesting. We all get along and work as one. We are, in a way, one big family. We have our ups and downs, but in the end, we will always work it out. As this is my last year in this community, I would like to take a moment to thank all of my teachers for helping the students of Rock Hill School work harder, write better, and just, overall, learn the most that they can in the years that we are at this school. Also, I would like to thank Mrs. Kirk for making the newspaper club possible. She went out of her way to make the learning experience for the students more interactive. Overall, I will never forget my teachers, fellow students, and all of the amazing years that I had at Rock Hill Elementary School!



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



## STEM

By Audrey, grade 5

Each Wednesday night at 6:30 in a classroom at SCOW, a pre engineering class takes place called STEM (Science, Math, Technology, Engineering). Our class has three projects to do; windmill designing, plant package building, and bridge making. Ms. Hsu, Mrs. Farkash, and Mrs. Gibertoni run the classes with the help of Mr. Stone. There are also teenage/adult helpers. At each class we explore Science and Design. We look at previous designs, learn about the type of engineer who builds it, and then we BUILD! STEM runs many sessions, so if you like Science, you might just have to try it!



Drawing at left by Sophie, grade 5

## My Favorite Memory of 5th Grade

By Riley, grade 5

My favorite memory of 5th grade was when we went to Nature's Classroom. I got to room with my friends Shea, Grace, and Hadley. Nature's Classroom was so much fun and the food in the dining hall was really good. I liked going hiking in the woods and getting together with my friends for the special classes. It was such a fun experience. I wish that I could go back!



Drawing by Hadley, grade 5



Pictured Above:

Callie, grade 3 with one of her six baby ducklings!

## MoMath!

By Dori, grade 3



The last thing that I had planned on doing was go to a math museum on April vacation. Well, guess what?! I went to MoMath in New York City. I was dreading it! But my mom loves math so much we had no way of getting out of the trip. When we got there, the first things I noticed were some colorful contraptions and puzzles. I wasn't having much fun until I won a puzzle contest against my sister. It felt AWESOME! I actually got to ride a bike with square wheels. Then I played a game called finding 15. It was so much fun that I played it at home with my sister. I also made something called a Tessellation out of magnetic monkeys. Another cool thing I was able to do was make my body into a tree on a screen when I lifted my arms and the screen made Fractals. At the end of the visit, we went to the gift shop and I got a pencil. It turned out to be a fun trip!

*(Above: This is me with the Tessellation made out of magnetic monkeys. At Right: Here I am riding a bike w/square wheels. Far Right: This is me as a "tree".*



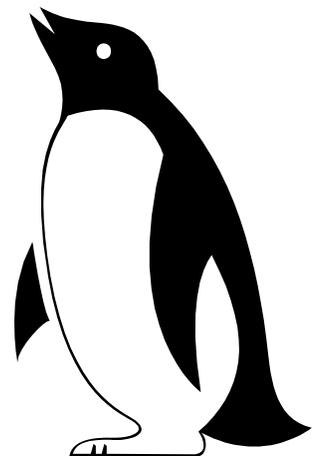
## A Trip to Boston!

By Isabella, grade 3



"Get ready to go to Boston!" said my mom. On April 5th we got to go to Boston for a day trip. I was so excited to go because I got to go to the Boston Aquarium. While I was there, my brothers and dad were going to the Boston Bruins game. At the aquarium I saw so many amazing animals. I saw the sea lions and then went to where the penguins were. They had red-eyed, baby blue, and macaroni penguins. After that, I went to the touch tank where there were sting rays, fish, and sea turtles. They were huge! It was so cool watching the turtle from the top of the tank. Once we were finished there we saw some of the penguin

presentation and then stopped at the gift shop. My mom let me buy a stuffed penguin. I named him Pinguino, which is Spanish for penguin. I was so happy that my mom let me get the stuffed animal. When we were done at the gift shop, we went to meet my brothers and dad. I was so excited that the Bruins won their division. We all went out for dinner and then went home. I was so tired that I could hardly keep my eyes open. It will be a trip that I never forget!



# In The Spotlight

## Meet Eric Berlin

*By Vivian and Nathaniel, grade 3*

*Author Eric Berlin visited Rock Hill School last month. Two students from the newspaper staff had the opportunity to interview him. Read on to hear what the author had to say.*

**How did you come up with the puzzles in your books?** *I have been solving puzzles my whole life. I have basically solved a million puzzles. After you solve a million puzzles it makes you better at creating them. I have basically taken a lifelong class in puzzle solving.*

**What inspired you to become an author?** *I wanted to write the sort of book that if I had found it in the school library when I was your age I would have gone crazy. I wanted to write a book that I would want to read because they didn't exist. I have been a writer my whole life, writing magazine articles. I didn't think of writing books until I came up with the ideas.*

**What do you like to do in your free time?** *I like to solve puzzles, play games with my kids, hang out with my family, and write in my free time.*

**Are you working on a new book in the series?** *I am working on a new book, but it is not a Winston Breen book.*

**Are any other extended family members writers?** *Nobody in my immediate family is a writer.*



*Vivian and Nathaniel interviewing Eric Berlin*

## Rosehaven Stables

*By Callie, grade 3*

Do you like to ride horses, want to know more about this animal, or even learn how to take care of horses? If so, I would suggest going to Rosehaven Stables because they will teach you everything about horses. Rosehaven Stables is located in Meriden, Connecticut which isn't too far from Wallingford at all.

If you are too busy to take lessons during the school year you can take lessons in the summer. The horses at Rosehaven Stables are great and just right for beginners because you can walk, trot, post or even go bare back on a horse. When I took my lessons at Rosehaven Stables, I thought it was great and now I am a better horseback rider.

If you want to know how to become a horseback rider like me, you should go to Rosehaven Stables.



# Sports

## 1st Place!

*By Travis, grade 3*

One Sunday I had a karate tournament. It seemed like there were 100 people there! Everyone in the tournament was separated into age groups. We had to compete in forms and board breaking. I did a hammer fist and front stomp. I broke all of the boards and earned 1st place in breaking! Next was forms and I was doing form 4, along with a lot of other people. I got 1st place in this, too! I won trophies for placing 1st and then watched the black belts for a while. After that I went home. I was so proud of myself!



## Mia Hamm

*By Emilia, grade 3*



Mia Hamm has been a marvelous soccer player for MANY years. She has challenged herself against players older than her, and has even been on an eleven year old boys' soccer team when she was ten, and led the team in scoring that year. She also had an older brother, Garrett, who played with her almost every morning. From these experiences, it has helped her grow into an awesome soccer player! Mia is now retired from the sport, but she is still someone I admire!

## How My Dad Met Aaron Rodgers

*(\*Continued from page 1)*

Well, a few minutes later, Aaron came over, grabbed a stool, and sat down next to my dad and they had coffee together. My dad thought it was very cool.

Well, he went back to see his friends and told them all about meeting Aaron Rodgers, none of them believed him. They all said he made it up and kept joking with him about it. That day they decided to go watch the Michael Jordan golf tournament. They were watching a hole and there was Aaron Rodgers playing, so of course all of my dad's friends were teasing him, saying, "Why don't you go talk to your new friend, Aaron?" They all had a good laugh, but then the joke was on them. Aaron walked by and saw my dad, and said, "Hey, Terry. Do you want to check out my golf clubs?" They all got pretty quiet after that. My dad got to go under the ropes and go over to where the golfers were.

He asked my dad to if he wanted to join them for a card game that night, so my dad got to play cards with Aaron at the casino, too. There were also a bunch of major league baseball players there. He then invited my dad and his friends to meet for coffee the next day, of course at Starbucks again. So, my dad and one of his friends got to have coffee with Aaron. My dad said he was a super nice guy and a lot of fun to talk to. It was a pretty cool experience for my dad...one I am sure he won't soon forget.



## An Interview at Farmer Joe's

By Callie, grade 3

*This is an interview about Farmer Joe's Stand and his flower farm.*

*I interviewed Ida who is Farmer Joe's wife.*

What made you decide to open up your farm? *Farmer Joe's parents and family are all farmers so he wanted to continue with the family business. So it was pretty normal for him to want to open up a farm. I went to college to be scientist, but I found that being a farmer was much more rewarding. So I decided to help out and be farmer instead.*

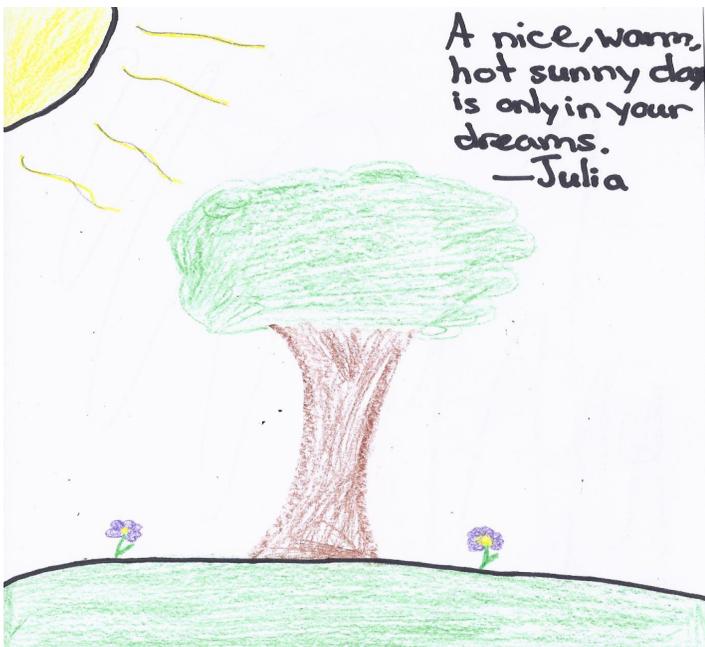
During what month do you put your vegetables out? *There are some vegetables that are out now. Peas for instance have been planted already. Most vegetables have to wait to be planted until after Mother's Day.*

Where do you grow all of your fruits and vegetables? *We have fields in many different locations. We have fields in Wallingford, Guilford, Northford, and Branford.*

What is it like to have a store like this? *It is a lot of fun because I know a lot about it. I enjoy helping and teaching people about plants and flowers. It is very rewarding and I love what I do.*



*These pictures were taken on my visit to Farmer Joe's*



*Drawing by Julia, grade 4*



*Drawing by Kylie, grade 4*

# Creativity At Work

Have Fun Doing This With A Friend!

By Dori and Emilia, grade 3

Today is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ day. We are having a \_\_\_\_\_ visit our  
(adjective) (thing)

\_\_\_\_\_. We are having \_\_\_\_\_ for dinner. We will have a  
(place) (food)

\_\_\_\_\_ for dessert. Have a \_\_\_\_\_ recess!  
(food) (adjective)



Drawing by Rachel, grade 4



Drawing by Gianna, grade 4



Drawing by Travis, grade 3

## Try This!

My family got ice cream. There are five people in my family. Each cone cost \$3.50. How much did the ice cream cost for all of us? My dad paid with a \$50 bill. How much change does he get back?

Answer: \$32.50



Drawing by Emilia, grade 3

# Our Favorites of the 2013-14

From our 3rd and 4th grade *Rockin' Eagle* Staffers

Isabella: Boxes of Hope

Emilia: Writing Stories and Boxes of Hope

Callie: Doing Science activities

Nathaniel: My teacher, Ms. Gallagher

Travis: Science

Dori: B3 and Ms. Gallagher

Vivian: Coming to School Every Day and Seeing Smiles

Kylie: My teacher, Mrs. Carignan

Gianna: Writing... We wrote a lot of books!

Rachel: Science

Kayce: Mrs. Carignan's stories about Gabriella

Chiara: Ms. Conlon's Humor

Ally: My Teacher

Macy: My friends

Paige: Reading

Ryan: Reading

Wylie: Math

Gavin: Science

Julia: My favorite subject, Social Studies

Mitchell: Math

Jack: PE

Andrew: PE

## *Thank You from the Rockin' Eagle!*

*Thank you Mrs. Thurston, for letting us borrow your classroom to hold Monday morning meetings. Thank you Mrs. LaTorre, for being our final editor each time the paper is ready for publication. Thank you Eagle staffer families for bringing your students to the meetings throughout the school year. Finally, thank you to our graduating staffers. Your energy, enthusiasm, and creativity will be missed!*