

## A Short Story: Moving Trouble

by: Madeleine Y.

Ugh! I can NOT believe my parents! We are moving in a MONTH! My mom and dad decided to move to Florida three months ago-without telling me!

You're probably wondering why I'm freaking out. I mean, I love Florida, but I'm still moving! I have tried talking (fine, begging) with them countless times but we are still moving.

My name is Cassie and I have a dog, a puppy and no siblings. I am 9 years old. I live in New York City. New York City has everything!

I am going to try to think of ideas that will make us stay. I can duct tape myself to my room. Maybe I can beg and beg and pretend to bawl and whine until they can't stand it and give up and let us stay and not move.

Unfortunately, neither of those ideas worked. My parents know what's real and what's not. Okay, I'm going to try to calm down, deep breath in, deep breath out. I can't take it anymore!

Yesterday two bad things happened. First, my parents said that no matter what, we were going to move to Florida. Second, I didn't think of any more ideas to make my parents let us stay. Since I didn't think of anything except having to give in and move to Florida even though I know it's a terrible idea, I'm officially moving!

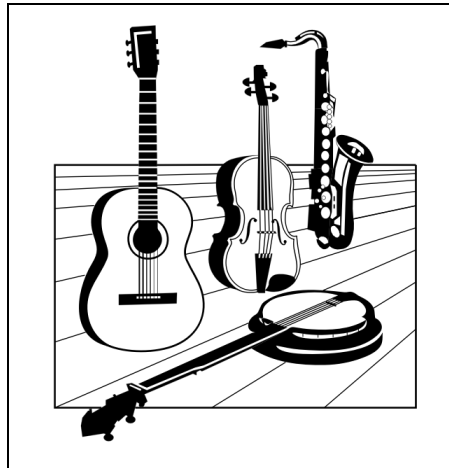
A Few Weeks  
Later...

Now that I have had time to think about it, I do want to move to Florida! I love Florida because there are beaches and Disney World!

It's probably going to be hard to say goodbye to my friends, but maybe we can visit once a month! I just talked to my parents and they also said that I could have my first sleepover for my moving party! I've got to pack my stuff and get ready for the party.

One Year Later...

I'm so happy in Florida! A lot has happened in the year and it all worked out okay!



## Meet Bragg's New Band Teacher, Mr. Jala

by: Alice R.

Mr. Jala is Bragg's band teacher. I thought it would be nice if we got to know a little about him! I interviewed him and learned a lot about him!

Q: What is your favorite instrument?

A: The oboe is my favorite.

Q: What do you like to do for fun?

A: I like to see friends and go out to eat.

Q: When did you know you wanted to be a teacher?

A: I tried it at a summer program and liked it!

Q: How long have you been a teacher?

A: I have taught for five and a half years.

Q: What kind of instruments do you play?

A: I play the oboe and many others.

Q: What is the hardest instrument to play and why?

A: The bassoon is the hardest to play because it has lots of thumb keys and the high notes are hard.

Q: How do you feel about teaching a band virtually?

A: I of course prefer regular band in person but it is still fun to teach instruments and get to work with everyone, even if it is virtual!

## What's the Word: What is your favorite sport to play and why?

by: Our Staff

RC: My favorite sport is baseball because it is fun and entertaining. I'm really good at it and I want to be on the Yankees team!

EK: My favorite sport is dance. I enjoy dance because I am flexible and good at the tricks and turns that we have to do. I also like dancing because I am good at it.

EL: My favorite sport is soccer because most of my friends play it and I love playing with my friends and having a good time.

MM: My favorite sport is tennis because it's very good exercise. For example, you use a racket for arm exercise, and running to each side of the court is good leg exercise. It seems as though it was built for fun.

AR: My favorite sport is cross country. I love to run and when I run I feel free. I have a need for speed but I also like it because I can race people and when I race I get competitive. I mostly like it because when I run I feel wild and strong.

JS: My favorite sport is soccer because I am good at it and it is fun to play.

WS: My favorite sport is soccer because it is fun to play and there are a lot of cool techniques you can learn. I also like seeing my friends and playing against them. Lastly, I love soccer because you can get better at it, practice, and see how much you really learned.

MY: My favorite sport is tennis because it is fun to play and I like to play. I also love to watch tennis tournaments because I like to watch how they swing.



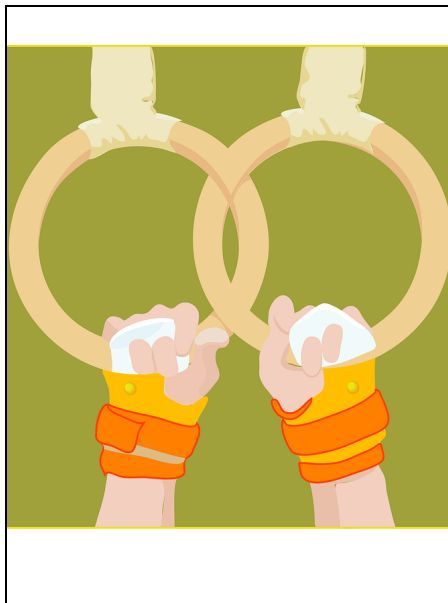
## Try Gymnastics

by: Elizabeth K.

If you are looking to try a new sport you should try gymnastics. Gymnastics is a sport that has four events: beam, vault, bar, and floor. When I did gymnastics, I liked the balance beam the best. I liked the beam because it challenged me. At first it can seem scary since you are expected to do tricks on a four inch wide and four foot high platform, but once you master the basics it can be really fun.

One reason why you should try gymnastics is because it makes you stronger. Gymnastics strengthens all of your muscles.

Another reason why you should try gymnastics is because it is a great source for muscle memory. At first, all the tricks might be really hard, but as you keep practicing you will notice that all of the tricks that were hard at first become easier. This is because of muscle memory. Muscle memory is where you do something so many times that your body gets used to it.



Another reason why you should try gymnastics is because it helps you gain balance. A lot of gymnasts started gymnastics because they had trouble balancing as a kid. The beam helps you gain balance. At first it might be scary propelling your body through the air on a narrow platform, but the more you practice the more balance you will gain.

The last reason why you should try gymnastics is because it's fun! Whether you're swinging from the bars or flipping across the floor, you can feel like you are flying. In conclusion, if you are looking for a fun new sport please give gymnastics a try!

## What's the Word: Who is your favorite author and why?

by: Our Staff

RC: I like Jeff Kinney because his *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* books are funny and crack me up!

EK: My favorite author is J.K. Rowling because I love all of her books, especially the *Harry Potter* series. She's my favorite author because she is able to build suspense.

EL: My favorite author is Laurel Remington. I have read three of her books and all three were awesome. My favorite was Secrets and Scones. This is an amazing book that I have read about five times.

MM: My favorite author is J.K. Rowling because she is the writer of so many good books for people in this world, like The Ickabog and the *Harry Potter* series.

AR: Shel Silverstein is my favorite author because he has the funniest poems!

JS: My favorite author is Tui Sutherland. She writes the *Wings of Fire* books. I like her books because they have dragons in them.

WS: My favorite author is Anne Martin because I like her books, mostly the *Baby Sitters Club*. I like her books because she puts a lot of detail in and I like her characters' personalities. Some of the parts are funny and I also like the moral of her stories. Also I like how she uses realistic problems.



MY: My favorite author is Shannon Messenger because she writes really good books that are about the main character freaking out most of the time. I mostly like her *Keeper of the Lost Cities* books because even though I haven't read the whole series, I love how the book series is exciting.

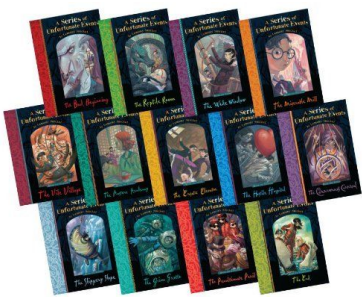
## Book Review: A Series of Unfortunate Events

by: Mia M.

Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire are just normal children, until their home burned down in a mysterious fire that also killed their parents.

The three Baudelaire orphans go to stay with a world famous actor, Count Olaf. Mr. Poe, the banker man, thinks that Count Olaf is a perfect guardian for them, but he was terribly wrong. Count Olaf was the most evil person alive. He made the children do lots of difficult chores. For example, he made them clean the bathroom sink and bathtub with toothbrushes...gross! Worst of all, he made them make dinner for him and his horrible theater troupe.

They soon find out that Count Olaf was after something. Their parents had left behind an enormous fortune in a safe that Count Olaf cannot break



into, at least, not without one of the Baudelaire's.

The Baudelaire's aren't safe. Not even a little bit. Read the books to see what they do to survive evil Count Olaf's plans.

## A Short Story: Swinney the Monkey

by: Ryan C.

Once there was a monkey named Swinney. He was named that because he had incredible skill swinging from vine to vine. He got his talent from his dad.

One day he was just hanging in the vines when hunters came! They had things that looked like you wanted to stay away from them and were coming for Swinney and all the other jungle animals!

Luckily, he was able to go from vine to vine and warn everybody before it was too late. Swinney said that since they knew what was



happening they were prepared, and luckily the animals all had special skills. Swinney and his friends also had good swinging skills.

They were so happy that they were able to escape the hunters that they had a party and celebration. The hunters never came back!

## What's the Word: What is your favorite food to eat?

by: Our Staff

RC: My favorite food is pizza because it is yummy and delicious. I eat it at least six times a month!

EK: My favorite food is soft pretzels because I have a huge salty tooth and we would go to highschool wrestling matches because it was a big thing in my town and my little brother and I would buy SUPER salty pretzels.



EL: My favorite food is steak. I love any kind of steak. I always have steak on Christmas Day. It is one of my favorite traditions. I like steak because all steaks taste different. My dad makes steak every once in a while and it is special.

MM: My favorite food is pasta with cheese and butter because pasta mixed with butter is a recipe of deliciousness.

AR: I love my family's potato dessert with pretzels in it. It reminds my family and me of my grandpa.

JS: My favorite food is tuna. I like it because it tastes great and is delicious. I prefer it with mayonnaise.

WS: My favorite food is Chinese food because it is good and it comes with different spices. One of my favorite dishes is egg rolls. These are my favorite foods because they are not too sweet, and not too spicy, they are just my kind. Plus they have crunchy food and spices in the roll that make them extra good.

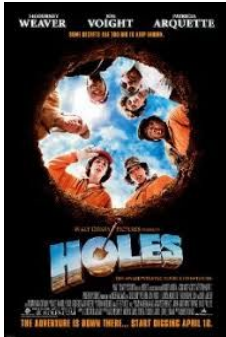
MY: My favorite food is Korean food because it is delicious and yummy and I just like it. My mom is Korean so we eat a lot of Korean food. I like all of my mom's Korean food so I can't choose which one I like most.

## A Movie Review: *Holes*

by: Elizabeth K.

If you are looking for a movie to watch you should watch *Holes*. *Holes* is based off of the book so if you like the book you will probably like the movie.

The movie is about a boy named Stanley Yelnats who ended up in Camp Greenlake all because of his no



good - lying - pig stealing - great - great grandfather. In Camp Greenlake, everyone has to dig holes that are exactly 6 feet deep and 6 feet wide. Because of his no good - lying - pig stealing - great - great grandfather his entire family is under a curse. It's a curse so that everyone in the family chain has bad luck.

Can he break the curse and be able to not have to worry about something happening every two minutes? They also have to report if they find anything strange.

You can watch *Holes* on Disney+, Amazon Prime, and Google Play. I would rate this movie 4.5/5 and the audience rates it 4.6/5. This movie is recommended for kids ages 8 and up.

I liked this movie because it leaves you in suspense a lot and has a lot of exciting moments. In conclusion, if you are bored at home you should watch *Holes* (and even read the book, too).

## Help the Rhinoceroses

by: Wilhelmina S.

Have you ever wondered how it is possible for a rhinoceros to become extinct? The reason is because poachers are ruining rhinos' lives by hunting them in order to sell their horns! There are only 27,000 to 30,000 rhinos left in the world.

Most rhinos now are living in Asia and Africa. In those places there are a lot of hunters catching them. It is also very dry there. In order to survive, rhinos need watering holes and since it is so dry in Africa, rhinos are dying from dehydration.

One of the main reasons for rhinos dying out is that they are being hunted and having habitat loss. If you want to save rhinos then these are a few things you can do to prevent rhinos from becoming extinct.



You can adopt a rhino, but instead of keeping the animal in your home they keep your animal safe and healthy in their own private habitat. Also, you can try to stop poachers from hunting them for their horns or for food.

For now, those are some ways you can prevent rhinos from extinction.

Rhino Riddle: What is as big as a rhino but weighs nothing?  
Rhino Riddle Answer: a rhino's shadow

## Restaurant Review: Marilyn's Cafe

by: Elaina L.

Are you tired of eating cold boring cereal? Then you should go to Marilyn's Cafe!

Marilyn's Cafe is a diner with a wide variety of food options from pancakes, to french toast, or even eggs! This diner may be small but don't let that fool you! Marilyn's Cafe has amazing food.

Last time I went there I ordered raspberry pancakes which were delicious. The pancakes were amazing and perfectly cooked with sweet, luscious berries and a little bit of powdered sugar on top...it was like a dream come true. If you are not a pancake person I think this diner is the one to change your mind.

Marilyn's Cafe is an amazing place to go if you want to have a nice breakfast with your family, or just to get out of the house! It is a family friendly place right here in Chester. If you like old school places that are family friendly then you have just hit the jackpot. Best of all, Marilyn's Cafe has great food and even better staff and service!



# Poetry Corner

## Everything Food

by: The Staff

### Baking

by: Ryan C.

Whisk the yolk  
 Drop the whole butter stick in  
 Pound the dough  
 And add the sugar  
 And get yourself that cake!



### Food

by: Jay S.

Food can taste sour.  
 Food can taste sweet.  
 Food can be something  
 that you want to eat.  
 Food can taste yucky.  
 Or it can be a treat.  
 It could be a vegetable or a dairy.  
 Or a grain, fruit, or meat.



### Ice Cream

by: Mia M.

I am cold and sweet.  
 I am a complete dessert.  
 No one feels fishy  
 that I'm the dishy  
 that everybody loves.



## Poll Our Readers:

What would you  
 make if you had to  
 cook dinner tonight?



What is your favorite  
 homemade meal?

### Readers, it is your turn!

Write a creative poem about  
 food below.

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---

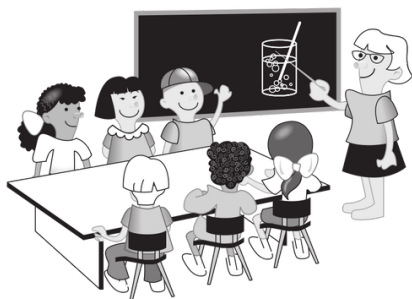
## An Interview with Mrs. Dolan

by: Madeleine Y.

Did you know that Mrs. Dolan has been teaching for 20 years? This year is her 21st! She is a 3rd grade teacher! She teaches because she had great teachers who were special to her. So, when she was in fifth grade, she set her mind on being a teacher and here she is now! Her FAVORITE thing about teaching is having such a nice connection with her students. Her favorite subject to teach is math.

Some of her favorites:

- Mrs. Dolan has one dog and his name is Max. She used to have cats and hamsters.
- Her favorite children book is Are You There God? It's me Margaret.
- In her free time she likes organizing things. For example, she likes vacuuming the house.
- Her favorite book character is Amelia Bedelia because Amelia Bedelia can ALWAYS make her laugh.
- Last but not least, her favorite band is Maroon Five.



## How To Make A Paper Butterfly

by: Mia M.

Let's learn how to make a paper butterfly that moves.

Follow these steps to succeed!

Supplies:

- 1 pair of scissors
- 2 or more pieces of paper
- Crayons
- Roll of tape.



1. Draw 2 flat paper butterflies.
2. Color the flat butterflies and cut them both out.
3. Use the roll of tape to tape the two butterflies together. Put the color on the outside and push the top wings flat.
4. Let go and... it moves!

I hope you try to make this. It's a really fun project to do!

## Alex Morgan: Soccer Star

by: Wilhelmina S.

Alex Morgan is a USA female World Cup soccer player. Alex Morgan started playing soccer at the age 14 and was 22 when she played in the World Cup.

Alex Morgan is a co-captain with other teammates on the USA soccer team, Carly Lloyd and Megan Rapinoe. She graduated from the University of California. Shortly after college she was invited to play for the California Bears. Morgan was the youngest soccer player on the USA team when she made the Olympics in 2012.

Currently, Alex Morgan is 31 years old and will soon retire. She has scored 109 goals in her life, and she is the fifth highest scorer on the national team.

"Always work hard, never give up, and fight until the end because it's never really over until the whistle blows." said Morgan. I think that she is saying to never give up until it's over.



Alex Morgan is my hero, because she never gave up and was bold and confident about what she wanted to do when she got older. By doing so she accomplished her dream. I want to be just like her when I grow and accomplish my dream of being a star soccer player! The best part is she kept doing what she loved and made it to the World Cup!

## Restaurant Review:

### Dante's

by: Ryan C.

The restaurant I have picked to review is Dante's. It has a great rating of 4.4! People have said that they have had unbelievable pizza and chicken parmesan there. They are located in Mendham. I bet that if you go there, your family will get great food whether you take out or dine in. A lot of their customers are giving them lots of five star reviews and this is one reason they are keeping up the great business. I can see them in the future getting more customers than any other time in the past. My family always gets take out from them. You should try their food, too.



### How to Make Quiche

by: Alice R.

Quiche is a really good dinner. Every time I have it, I feel happy. The first time I had it, I was so happy it left me with no words. I hope you try it and like it!

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees.  
Cooking time: 45 minutes.

You will need:  
refrigerated pie crust  
1 cup milk  
5 eggs, slightly beaten  
¼ tsp. salt  
¼ tsp. pepper  
4 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled  
1 cup shredded cheese  
¼ cup grated parmesan  
1 cup spinach  
3 scallions thinly sliced

Directions:

First, preheat the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

What to do:

- In a medium bowl whisk the milk, eggs, salt, and pepper.
- Layer the cooked bacon, cheese, spinach, and scallions in the pie crust.
- Pour the egg mixture over top.
- Bake for 15 minutes at 425 degrees.
- Reduce to 325 degrees and bake for 20-25 minutes.
- Cool for 10 minutes.
- Enjoy!

## Virtual Learning Tips

by: Our Staff

RC: It is a good idea for you to split your screen.

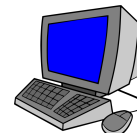
EK: If you can, you should load your work before the Google Meet starts. Make sure that you have your camera on when you are supposed to. Think about what you are going to say before you say it to your entire class. Wear appropriate clothes. Don't type things in the chat that are off topic or insulting to other classmates.

MM: It is always good to remember how to use control shortcuts on the computer.

JS: Make sure you use grammar check on your assignments.

WS: A useful thing to do is to wear headphones so you can hear your teacher clearly.

MY: You can use two devices, one for the Google Meet and one for your work. Never turn off your camera and leave your computer.



## Secrets and Scones: A Book Review

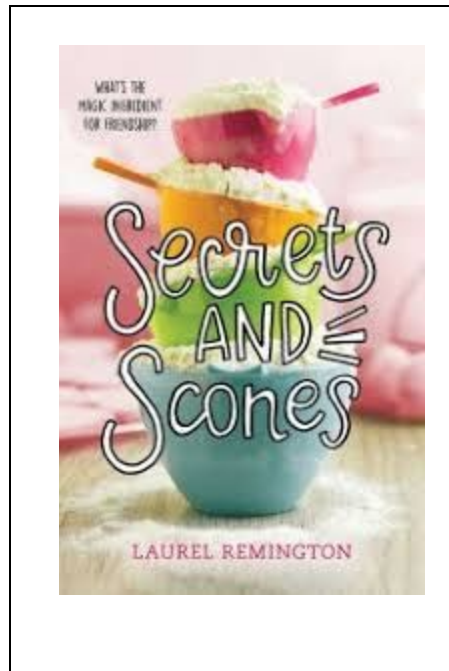
By: Elaina L.

Are you tired of reading dull, boring books? Well that is about to change!

Secrets and Scones is an amazing book filled with adventure. It is by Laurel Remington. She gets most of her inspiration from her daughters! She currently lives in Surrey, England with her three daughters and her husband. Laurel is originally from California!

In this book there is a girl named Scarlett who used to be sporty and involved with school clubs and activities. She also has two best friends, Gretchen and Alison. Well, at least she used to have two best friends. Scarlett's mom started a blog and Scarlett is the star (well, victim) of her mom's blog. Scarlett's mom started putting embarrassing photos of her on her blog. A few examples include how clean Scarlett's room is, and what Scarlett's eating habits are.

Soon, this grew annoying to Scarlett and quite embarrassing too, and she wanted this to stop! Scarlett found out that if she stopped telling her mom about her life and her day, then her mom could not put anything embarrassing on her blog anymore. When it got to a point where Scarlett's mom did not have anything to write about any more she decided to ask Scarlett's friends Alison and Gretchen to give her the information.



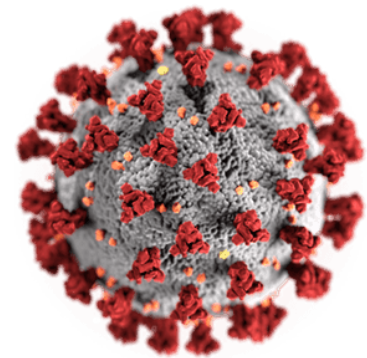
## Covid-19 in School

by: Jay S.

Coronavirus started affecting Dickerson and Bragg Elementary in March of 2020. Also you probably had to cancel your vacation plans for the summer. I did too! School started again, but now some things have changed. There were two options: you could go hybrid (that means you're in school some days and working at home some days) or you could learn virtually from home.

Then in November, some students switched from virtual to hybrid. About one month later in December, everyone went to virtual learning because Covid levels were very high.

All year the time schedule changed a few times, too. School



first ended at 2:00 PM then went to 3:20 PM and then when everyone went virtual, it went back to 2:00 PM. It is okay though because we are learning to be flexible. We can learn wherever we are.

In January, luckily everybody was able to all come back if they wanted. Finally, I'm glad scientists have developed a vaccine. School might really return to normal by the end of the school year!



### Meet Our Staff

#### The Staff would like to introduce themselves!

My name is Ryan C. and I am nine years old. I am a big Yankees fan. When I grow up, I want to be a Yankees player. I have a pet dog named Linus who is one year old. My favorite bands are Imagine Dragons and Panic! At the Disco. I like to watch the Masked Singer where celebrities sing and compete.

I am Elizabeth K. I am 10 years old, and I am in 5th grade. I just moved here from Maryland. I have one dog named Nancy who is a Brittany Spaniel. I enjoy dancing and listening to music. My favorite song is Wonder by Shawn Mendes. My favorite food is apple pie.

My name is Elaina L. I love the outdoors. I am in 5th grade and I have a dog and two fish. My favorite animal is a dolphin but I love dogs as well. I love art, writing, and playing soccer, basketball, and track. I love to keep busy and my hobbies are art, baking, and cooking. I love the colors teal, purple, and turquoise.

My name is Mia M. and I am in 3rd grade. I am a really good tennis player and goalie in soccer. I have a dog named Obi Wan (like Obi Wan Kenobi in Star Wars). I love to play with him as well as cuddling with him. My favorite card games are UNO and Old Maid. A board game that I like to play is Monopoly. I like playing a computer game called Prodigy Math because I like all of the fun pets and spells that you can collect. My favorite subject in school is mathematics. My favorite food is pasta with cheese and butter.

My name is Alice R. Something about me is I love animals, and I love Stitch from Lilo and Stitch. Some of my favorite sports are volleyball, cross country, and archery. I have a dog named Annie and a gecko. I am in fifth grade and I love all my classes. Also I am practicing Taekwondo. I just moved from Ohio to New Jersey. I also love plants, the outdoors, and video games.

My name is Jay S. I am 10 years old in 4th grade. I have two pet guinea pigs named Spen and Sparticus. I like playing games like Chess, Monopoly, and Risk because they are strategic.

My name is Willa S. and I am in fifth grade. I love to play soccer and tennis, and those are my favorite sports. Some of my favorite hobbies are reading and baking. My favorite animal is a monkey. I have one dog named Snacks. My favorite board game is Mastermind. During the day, I mostly like to write stories and my favorite holiday is Christmas. One thing I like to practice is karate.

I am Madeleine Y. and I am in 3rd grade. I like to play tennis and I like to go to school. My favorite hobbies are reading, writing, drawing and tennis. I have a pet fish. My favorite food is pizza and my favorite color is aqua. I like doing cartwheels, too. My favorite game is Uno.



### Join the Newspaper Club next year!

We'd love to hear what you think of our newspaper! We worked very hard!

Feel free to email Mrs. Bedkowski with your feedback:  
christa.bedkowski@chester-nj.org

### My Ideas For Writing

Have an idea for an article?

Start writing here- just for fun!

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

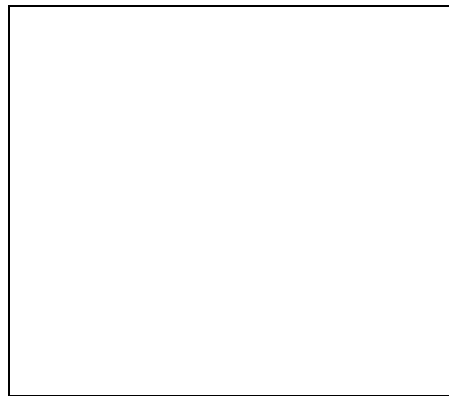
---

---

---

---

---



Draw a picture to go with your article!