

BRAGGING NEWS

Bragg Intermediate School | Chester, NJ | Spring 2016 Edition

What's the Word ?

Where is your favorite vacation spot and why?

AR: My favorite vacation spot is Long Beach Island because my cousins have a beach house there and I love to go kayaking on the bay and sit on the rooftop deck.

SC: My favorite vacation spot is Colombia because some of my family lives there and I love the heat!

EW: My favorite vacation spot is Florida because I love the warm weather.

ML: My favorite vacation spot is Disney World in Florida. This is my favorite spot because it is warm, fun, and makes great memories.

AE: My favorite vacation spot is Barcelona because there are many historic sights and it is very fun!

AM: My favorite vacation spot is Turks and Caicos because it is a really small, entertaining island and you can bike ride everywhere! Also, the beach is really close to the hotels, so you can just wake up and walk there.

What's the Word (continued on page 2)



Mother's Day

By: Avery

Mother's Day is a day to celebrate and honor all moms. Your mom works hard and takes care of you, so you should thank her.

To celebrate, you could give your mom a card and a hug. You could also tell your mom you love her. You could buy her gifts, like flowers or chocolate. You can go out to the zoo or dinner with your mom for Mother's Day. Also, you can just stay home to celebrate.

Moms all over the world celebrate Mother's Day with their families. Depending on where you live, the date for Mother's Day is different. In the United States of America, it takes place on the second Sunday of May. This year, it will be on May 8th. Over forty countries celebrate Mother's Day! It was first celebrated in the United States in 1908!

On Mother's Day, be sure to thank your mom for everything she's done for you! You can give your mom a call, too, if you don't live with her.

What's the Word? (continued)

Where is your favorite vacation spot and why?

AP: My favorite vacation spot is Kansas. I love going to Kansas because I was born there and it is also really pretty and warm almost all of the time.

ME: My favorite vacation spot is the boardwalk in Ocean City, NJ. I like it because there are amusement parks, mini golf, and delicious food. There are even five different pizza shops!

ES: My favorite vacation spot is Amelia Island. This is because Amelia Island has great beaches and towns. At the beach you can watch the sunrise and sunset. You can also roast marshmallows and play in the huge pool. The town in Amelia Island has a lot of fun shops, too.



Welcome, Mrs. Capan

By: Emma

As you might know, there is someone new at Bragg School: Mrs. Capan! I chose to interview Mrs. Capan because she's new to the Bragg School District. I think students here would like to learn a little bit about her. I absolutely think Mrs. Capan is a great teacher! She talks to us in Spanish, which is very helpful if you are continuing Spanish throughout middle school.



What do you enjoy most about your job? Why?

"I love working with the kids. It is very fun and entertaining for me."

Why did you come to Bragg School?

"I came to Bragg School because it was a good district and closer to my house."

How did you learn to speak Spanish?

"I started taking Spanish in middle school, high school, and college. I also went to Salamanca, Spain for a semester in college."

What made you become a Spanish teacher?

"I LOVE to talk in Spanish. I enjoy it very much. I want others to enjoy it as much as I do."

What is your favorite thing about Bragg?

"My favorite thing about Bragg is that there are very nice teachers."

What do you like to do in your spare time when you are not teaching?

"I like playing with my three kids. I also like going out to eat."

I hope that you enjoyed reading about Mrs. Capan! She is super fun and very enjoyable to be around! We learn new Spanish vocabulary, and so much more, and we play awesome games. We also create and play our own Kahoot games. A Kahoot is a fun quiz to review what you have learned. You are also allowed to add pictures to your Kahoot quiz. Thank you, Mrs. Capan, for coming to Bragg Intermediate School!

Lost in New York

By: Matt

Connor went with his babysitter, Julie Higgins, to New York City. Connor thought to himself, “I’m so excited!” When they were halfway from Trenton, New Jersey, where they lived, they stopped in a McDonald’s parking lot. Julie gave him a burger and some fries. “Thanks so much!” he responded excitedly.

Shortly after, they got on the Lincoln Tunnel and went under the Hudson River. Annoyingly, their GPS blurted out, “You will arrive at your destination in one and a half miles.” When they arrived, they got out of the car and went into The Museum of Natural History. He’d always wanted to go there! But then, as they were going into the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life, the exhibit room with a big life-sized blue whale model, Connor got lost! He couldn’t find his babysitter...

He went outside the Milstein Hall of Ocean Life and then exited the building. Then he went to a bus stop and paid his admission to a bus driver with the money he was going to use in the museum gift shop. The bus dropped him right by a New York Police Department office. He went inside, and there he met Police Chief Charles. Connor told Chief Charles that he was lost.

Then, his babysitter, Julie, happened to walk right by! Connor had found her! He told Chief Charles the good news. Chief Charles told Connor to always stick with Julie! What a relief that Connor was no longer *lost in New York*.



What's the Word ?

What is your favorite movie and why?

AR: My favorite movie is Harry Potter 8 because it has a lot of action and I love *Harry Potter* books.

SC: My favorite movie is Home because it is a funny and a bit different.

EW: My favorite movie is Lady and the Tramp because it is really funny when Tramp and Lady accidentally kiss.

AE: My favorite movie is Freaky Friday because it is funny and entertaining.

AM: My favorite movie is Zootopia because it is a very funny movie that made me laugh several times. Also, it teaches kids to stand up for what they believe in, and I think that is very important.

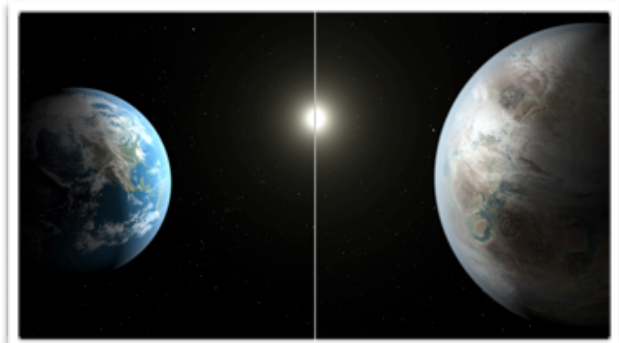
ES: My favorite movie is Captain America Civil War. This is because it is about Captain America and he is my favorite superhero. Also, all of the Avengers show up which is really awesome. Spider Man is also in the movie as a kid in high school and he is very funny.

What's the Word (continued on page 5)

World News: Cousin Kepler~ Our Long Lost Cousin

By: Maggie

A new day is dawning! A new solar system has been found in our Milky Way Galaxy! This system was found July 23, 2015. One planet in the system (Planet Kepler-186f) orbits around a red dwarf star that serves as its sun. However this red dwarf star is not nearly as hot as our sun. This means that planet 186f's atmosphere is not nearly as hot as some planets in our solar system, like Mercury. Scientists think that this Earth-size planet could be livable for humans. They think this because it is located in the habitable zone. The habitable zone is determined by where its location is to the sun or star which it gets its heat from. This planet was found by Nasa's Kepler Mission- Kepler telescope. In this System, there are 1,030 confirmed planets. Eleven of those planets are in the habitable zone. This system is 490 light years away. We aren't certain we can live on this planet, but there are many more livable planet candidates.



Joke Zone

Why did the sun go to school?

To get brighter!

How do you know when the moon has had enough to eat?

When it is full

Where do planets get their music?

Nep-tunes

What's the Word? (continued)

What is your favorite movie and why?

ML: My favorite movie is Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. It is my favorite movie because it is so imaginative and the movie builds suspense.

ME: My favorite movie is Disney's Zootopia because it is really good and funny.

NL: My favorite movie is Captain America Civil War because the movie has a lot of action.

AP: My favorite movie is Ant-Man. I like this movie so much because it's fun and it is also part of the Marvel movie series.



Gamer's Review: Mario Kart 8

By: Nicholas

People enjoy video games for many reasons. In this review I have tried to highlight game information to help you decide if this video game sounds like a game you would like.

- Players all over the world play Mario Kart 8 on their computers or game systems.
- You can race against the computer or others players.
- You can download new updates and new cars. You can also win new cars every day.
- The characters are Yoshi, Mario, Browser, Luigi, Baby Luigi, Baby Mario, and Pink Peach.
- There are different levels and different trophies to win. You win a trophy by winning the race in first place.
- The game makes crashing noises when people bump into you.
- The game makes winning noises when you win.



This is a really fun game! You should really definitely try playing it.



The Land of Stories: Wishing Spell

By: Anushka

The Land of Stories is such a fun and cliff-hanging book. My experience with this book was amazing. The author of this book is Chris Colfer. *The Land of Stories* is a series, and I just completed book one in a series of five. The character, Alex, is more on the responsible side, while Conner is on the funny side. However, both of them show bravery, kindness, and determination. Let's learn a little bit about the first book, *The Land of Stories: Wishing Spell*.

The book has many adventurous settings. For example, Alex and Conner go to Cinderella's Palace, Red Riding Hood's kingdom, the troll territory, and more! In these places they encounter villains, heroes, unicorns, princesses, and more magical things! Each of

these places and characters are from fairy tales that you might have read.

The problem in *The Land of Stories* is that Alex and Conner accidentally transport themselves to 'The Land of Stories.' They don't know how to get back. Plus, there are many dangerous characters, and they do not know any of them. When they arrive, they need to show a big amount of bravery.

In my opinion, my favorite part of this book is when Alex and Conner go to Red Riding Hood's kingdom. This is my favorite part of the book because it is humorous, while at the same time scary. They go to her kingdom to collect an item for the Wishing Spell. The item that they want to collect is the bark from her basket that she took to her grandma's house. Red is a humorous character, but the part to get the basket was a little scary. I have so many favorite parts, but this is one of the best.

The lesson in this book is about love for your family. If you really love something then you will do anything to achieve it. Even in the toughest times, you won't give up. For example, in the book, Alex and Conner really wanted to get back to their mom, but to do that they had to collect items from the Wishing Spell, which was not easy. They had to go through some really tough times, but they had a lot of determination which made them keep going.

I think fifth graders should read this book because it is grade appropriate, entertaining, and you will feel like you will never want to put the book down. The best part is that this book is the first book in a series, so you can read all of them! You can find this book in the Bragg School or Chester libraries. If you are interested in an adventure, then you should read the book series called *The Land of Stories*.

Lucky Fortunes

By: Avery & Nicholas

Everyone loves having good luck. Here are some lucky fortunes based on your birth month.



January: You will be successful and serve the president when you grow up.

February: You will help others when you grow up. You might be a brave firefighter or a police officer.

March: Within this month, you will make a new friend.

April: You will grow up to be a wonderful teacher.

May: You have a way with animals and will become a zoo keeper.

June: Your athletic ability will shine when you become a soccer star.

July: Your good luck will follow you, and you will win a private jet.

August: You will grow up to be a famous celebrity.

September: Your smile will brighten someone's day this week.

October: You will be so successful, and you will be rich.

November: You will step on the soil of many places.

December: You will live a life of service to others and be honored by many people.

Redwood's Grill

By: Emily

Redwood's is located in Chester, New Jersey. Most people in Chester and surrounding towns go to Redwood's for special occasions like birthdays or anniversaries.

You can get many things at Redwood's, including nine different desserts, tea, coffee, salads, and sometimes soups for special holidays, like Valentine's Day. The best part about Redwood's is the food makes your mouth water. The brownies are amazingly good and chocolaty.



Something you might not know about Redwood's is they have a walk in refrigerator and sometimes they put unusual ingredients in their food, like celery roots.

Also, you should definitely go during the week. They are busy on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Also you should absolutely go in the summer and sit outside because it is beautiful. They have booths at Redwood's, and you can also sit under umbrellas outside, but only in spring or summer.





How to Draw a Bird

By: Sofia-Marie

Materials: paper, crayons, a flat surface, pencil

Steps:

1. First, get all of your materials to draw a bird.
2. Next, draw a slanted rectangle off the edge of your paper, as a branch.
3. Now, draw two lines on the top of your rectangle, but make sure that the lines are spread apart for the legs.
4. Next, draw two smaller lines on the outside of each big line for the feet.
5. Now you are ready for the body. Draw an oval that is on top of the legs.
6. Here comes the beak! Draw a small triangle at the front of the oval for the beak.
7. Now, you are ready for the tail. For the tail, draw a spiky triangle shape for the tail of your bird.
8. If you want your bird to see, then you have to draw the eyes. Draw one dot in the oval.
9. The last step is the wing. Draw a smaller oval in the middle of the body for the wing.

Good Luck!

Malala Yousafzai

By: Adah

Malala Yousafzai is an eighteen year old girl. She may seem ordinary to you, but she is a VERY special person. Malala is famous for her speech about females' rights to education.

She has many accomplishments, such as winning the Nobel Peace Prize. This young hero was born on July 12, 1997, in the Swat District of Pakistan's northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. She had two pet chickens, and went to her father's school for girls.

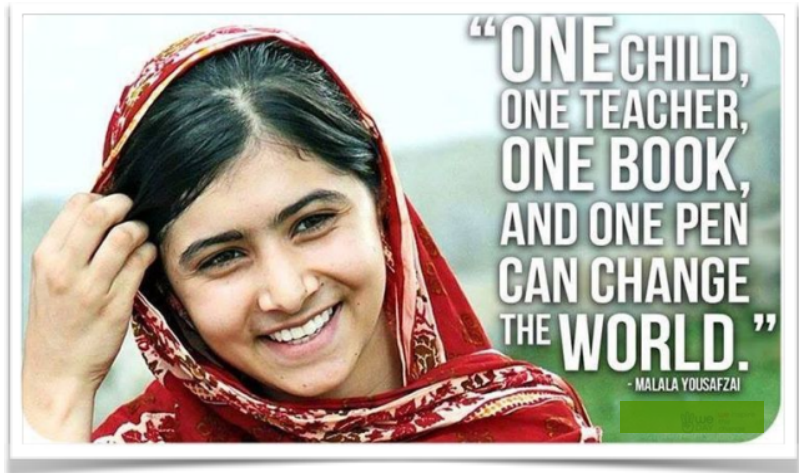
Malala is a great role model. She's mature for her age, she stands up for what she believes in, and she's brave. She started to write secretly to the BBC news station when she was only eleven! She wrote entries about her life under the Taliban. She was named after Malalai of Maiwand. Her name means "grief stricken."

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Malala Yousafzai (continued from page 8)

On October 9, 2012, when Malala was riding home from her school, a Taliban man hopped into the back of the bus and attacked her. The men were trying to stop her from speaking out against girls not being able to go to school. Malala was immediately rushed to a hospital. Six days after the attack, she was rushed to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, England. Malala had many surgeries in the next couple of weeks.



She and her family are currently living in Birmingham, England. Malala is still protesting against the Taliban not letting girls go to school. She gave a very big speech about not being able to go to school.

School Daze

By: Ana Clara

I stared at the clock as I counted down the seconds until 3:20 P.M. ...5, 4, 3, 2, 1! My heart almost leaped out of my chest in exhilaration. After a moment, the bell rang promptly, only 2 seconds late-as usual. I could hear the deafening sound of precisely 327 kids shuffling out the large doors. My mind rushed from plans to lists, schedules to places. “Summer!” I smiled and laughed at nothing at all.

“Come on Zinnia, you don’t want to miss the bus and the sight of the teachers waving their hands and fighting back tears,” Emily called out to me from halfway through the hallway.

“I’m going! I just need to fit these things in my bag!” I groaned, motioning to the stack of notebooks and my binder.

“Ughhhhh!” Emily turned on her heels and strode her way over to me. As she arrived to my desk, I asked her if she would be so kind and hold the mouth of my bag open wide so I could stuff the rest of my belongings into it.



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School Daze (continued from page 9)

“Truthfully, I think that the teachers should start sending all of the binders and notebooks home earlier instead of just leaving it all for the student to bring home on the last day!” I said in a very whiny voice.

“Yea okay, less chit-chat and more stuffing,” Emily commented hurriedly and didn’t even look up. Finally, we finished and ran to the buses. Some of them were moving already! Luckily, ours wasn’t. We knocked on the glass door of the bus and signaled for the bus driver to let us in. He reluctantly pulled the handle to open the door, and we hopped on and scurried to our seats. We barely had enough time to sit down when the bus started moving noisily. We shifted to face the window and watched as the hands of tearful teachers whizzed by in a confusing and melancholy blur.



I sighed and curled my mouth. “You know, I’d never thought I’d be saying this, but Emily, I’m going to miss this place,” I fretted unhappily.

“Dude! Chill out, it’s just like three months, and then we’ll all be back to this wretched dungeon for a whole ‘nother year...” Peter, who was listening to our conversation from across the aisle, pouted and crossed his arm.

Emily made a face at Peter and turned to me. “Don’t listen to what that sorry heap of human says. I mean, I kind-of understand, in the slightest possible way, how you feel. We won’t get to see each other every day, and I’ll miss seeing the teacher’s face every time she gets hit by a paper airplane!” Emily looked at me straight in the eye, and I could tell that she was trying to understand, though she reached no success.

As you can probably tell, Emily’s a trouble-maker, and I don’t even know how we’re friends, since I’m what Peter calls a “goodie-two-shoes.” But we are the best of friends, and whenever I joke about it, she just gives me a one-word answer...destiny!

Suddenly, interrupting my train of thought, came a big bang from the front of the bus. I whirled my head to see the cause of the noise, and my mouth hung open as the realization of what just happened crept over me. Just a second later, my head banged on the seat in front of me, and a dizzy feeling took over my entire mind.

“Remain calm, boys and girls, we just hit a little bump in the road,” announced the driver’s voice over the speaker.

“WHAT DO YOU MEAN! WE JUST HIT THE CAR IN FRONT OF US!” Emily screeched, rubbing her head feverishly. She also was the type of person who had little control over her temper.

I blinked numerous times and looked around confusedly, trying to figure out why the world was spinning. Everyone was a blur of wisps, and chaos spread through the damaged bus like a wildfire. All I heard was the bus aide trying to open the emergency door at the back of the bus, but all the backpacks were blocking it.

I don’t even know why we had to get out of the bus, it was just a minor fender bender. But anyway, some students were crying and shaking, and I saw a little first grader trying to open the windows and climb out.

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School Daze (continued from page 10)

Soon, my vision returned to normal, and I helped the aide push the pile of backpacks out of the way. Students began filing off the bus, and I caught sight of Emily sitting on the grass beside the road.

“Hey, your head hurt?” I asked.

“Yeah, duh, I hit my head on the seat like everyone else,” she replied harshly. I had no idea what was wrong, but I was already determined to fix it.

“You wanna play a game?” I inquired, only to hit another dead end.

“No,” she stated sharply, and so I quietly sat down beside her. In front of us, most students were trying to find entertainment, either waving at cars, cloud-watching, or playing finger games. The bus aide and driver were both trying to round up the remaining rowdy students who were running around—mostly in pointless circles.

After a few minutes of disturbing silence between my best friend and me, I finally spoke. “Come on Em, what’s wrong?” I pressed. She looked at me for a while and then took a deep breath.

“Look, I know this is gonna sound stupid, but I finally thought I was free of school, with a whole relaxing three months ahead of me. Instead, school kept me in its claws, and once again took its toll on me,” she responded, gazing at the sky.

Emily has been upset for various reasons, but this one really surprised me. I hadn’t realized how much she despised school, and how something like this could upset her so powerfully.

“Well, in maybe half an hour, you’ll be chillin’ in summer, where school can’t bother you anymore. You can’t be upset about this. Imagine, if it weren’t for school, we never would have met!” Emily didn’t respond for a while, and I could tell that she was thinking about my statement.

She looked me right in the eye, and started to stand up. “Yeah, you’re right. Though school may seem like a difficult challenge, little surprises are hidden in every corner!” I stood up beside her and smiled, with only one thought in mind: even though there are “bumps” in the road, they happen for a reason. This one was to bring us together.



Ms. Christa Daly & Mrs. Linda Mayers
Co-Editors in Chief



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