




Falcon Flyer

Summer 2024

Published by the students of Stetson Middle School

Eighth Graders dress up and step out for their dance





8TH GRADE DANCE: HOLLYWOOD!

By Piper Goodwin and Samantha Nichol , Eighth Grade

For a lot of kids, the end of 8th grade is a big time. With social events, graduation ceremonies, and field days, the last days of middle school are absolutely packed with fun activities and events for students to enjoy. One big source of excitement for most is the 8th grade dance. This is how it actually is, plus some requirements and recommendations from the dance committee.

:

In the months leading up to the dance, a special group meets called the Dance Committee. You can join this group in your eighth grade year! This year, we brainstormed themes, made a list of decorations, and filled out the tickets for everyone attending the dance. The theme of the dance goes to a vote among the grade, but keep in mind that we already have some decorations for certain themes (like the red carpet for our Hollywood theme!).

Some things to keep in mind when you're finding your outfit are that tuxedos, mini dresses, backless dresses, and keyholes are not allowed. Limos are also not allowed. Keep it formal and you'll be alright. Most of the girls this year ended up wearing sleeveless dresses along with small heels. There was a lot of variety, though, so don't feel pressured to wear something you don't like.

The dance this year was a lot of fun, with a ton of dancing and photos. Almost everyone was enjoying themselves, but not everyone was there. If you have to miss the dance, it isn't a huge deal. I would definitely recommend going, but missing it won't be a massive issue.

Overall, have fun with it, as it's definitely something to be excited for!

Stetson says goodbye to three amazing teachers



This June, three Stetson teachers will be retiring from the West Chester Area School District. Computer Science teacher Mr. Patton, Math teacher Mrs. Cavuto and Science teacher Mrs. Schechterly will be walking out with the students on Thursday for their final “last day” of school. Stetson students and staff will miss them in the classrooms and hallways! Good luck and congratulations, retirees!

Sixth grade reporter Maddy Crawford interviewed Mr. Patton to learn more about the retiring Computer Science teacher, who has taught at Stetson for 25 years.

1. Can you provide some information about your job history and experience and educational background?

My first jobs were as a paperboy and performing magic at birthday parties. I went to Gettysburg College for my undergraduate degree and worked a few years as an Assistant to the Pastor at a church and then I went to the University of

Pennsylvania for my Master’s degree. I worked 9 years in the School District of Philadelphia before coming to teach Computer Science here at Stetson in 1999.

2. What is your favorite part or feeling that comes with being a Tech\ Computer Science teacher?

I love computers and technology, but I love teaching and the students here at Stetson the best.

3. What is the most important part of Stetson to you and why?

The most important part is the people! The students, teachers and staff are fabulous.

4. What is your favorite academic subject now and as a kid?

My favorite academic subject would be History, both now and as a kid.

5. What do you enjoy doing outside of school?

I love to spend time with my family, church activities, hiking, camping, kayaking, reading, playing guitar, fixing things and magic.

6. What are some facts about your family?

I am very fortunate to have a wonderful wife of 33+ years. I have 2 amazing daughters, a wonderful son-in-law, and one adorable grandson. My oldest daughter lives in Massachusetts with her husband and her son, who is a toddler. My other daughter lives in Bucks County and works as a speech therapy assistant.

7. *What is something interesting about you that you'd like students to know?*

For those familiar with the TV show, Abbot Elementary, I taught Quinta Brunson when she went to the school that she patterns Abbott Elementary after. Her mom was a great kindergarten teacher there. Also, I babysat Taylor Swift (just kidding!).

8. *What is your Favorite Candy?*

Snickers

9. *What is your favorite TV show?*

Star Trek and Liberty's Kids

10. *What is your favorite color?*

Stetson Green



How to have the best summer!

By Mira Luedtke

~~~~~

Summer is the perfect time to step outside, enjoy the warm weather, and engage in a variety of activities that are only available during this time of year. Whether you're looking to stay active, relax, or try something new, there are endless options to choose. From outdoor adventures to indoor pastimes, here are some summer activities to consider.



## 1. Hiking

One popular summer activity is hiking. Exploring nature trails, breathing in the fresh air, and soaking in the beautiful scenery can be a rewarding and rejuvenating experience. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced hiker, there are trails of all levels to suit your preferences.

## 2. Picnicking

If you prefer a more relaxed approach to enjoying the outdoors, picnicking in a park or by the beach is a delightful way to spend a summer day. Pack some delicious snacks, a blanket, and maybe a Frisbee or other games to enjoy with friends and family.



## 3. Watersports

For those seeking a more adventurous summer activity, consider trying watersports such as paddle boarding, kayaking, or surfing. These activities not only provide a great workout but also allow you to cool off and have fun in the water.



## 4. Hobbies

If you're looking to stay indoors on those scorching hot days, consider taking up a new hobby such as painting, pottery, or cooking. These activities can be both relaxing and fulfilling, allowing you to unleash your creativity and learn new skills.



## 5. Music

Another popular summer pastime is attending outdoor concerts, festivals, or events. From music festivals to food fairs, there are countless opportunities to enjoy live entertainment and delicious cuisine while soaking up the summer vibes.



## Conclusion...

No matter what your interests may be, there are endless possibilities for summer activities to enjoy. Whether you prefer outdoor adventures, indoor hobbies, or social events, make the most of the warmer months by trying new things and creating lasting memories. So get out there and make this summer one to remember!

# What to do when bored on Summer

## Break

By: Piper Goodwin and Olivia Huang, eighth grade

### Road Trip

If you're bored, take a road trip to anywhere you'd like! It is a good way to bond with your family and spend quality time and have fun!



### Family movie night

A movie night is always an option when you have nothing to do as you're spending time with family while watching a movie.

**Many people get bored when on vacation or on summer break. These are five different ideas to do when you're feeling bored. You don't have to do them or take in consideration as there are many other activities you can do to free your boredom. Another option is to always just relax and not do anything. Hope your summer break is lively or whatever you want! :)**



"I am the Lorax who speaks for the trees."



### Backyard camping

This is a pleasant way to have fun camping in your backyard and can even do it with your friends.



### Baking

This can easily boost your energy and mood because you can have a convivial time baking yummy sweets and then eating them!



### Paint Rocks

Painting rocks can be very enjoyable on a nice sunny day with whomever you want or by yourself and can even have a friendly competition.





# Mary Poppins - A “Practically Perfect” Performance Review

*By Madelyn Crawford, sixth grade*

## What Was The Play About?

This year Stetson Middle School performed “Mary Popins,” which follows the life of a family in London. The family itself is falling apart with an uptight Father (George Banks), a preoccupied mother (Winifred Banks), and two mischievous children (Jane & Michael

Banks). When the children’s nanny quits a new nanny named Mary Popins arrives to care for the children and take them on fun adventures while teaching them lessons.

## Auditions

The week prior to the audition, myself and **LOTS** of others were scared\nnervous, which is completely normal. However there was really nothing to worry about.

The audition itself was very simple: you went into a room with Ms. Bond and Ms. Barrett with a couple others, and one by one sang one of the pre-chosen songs. For Instance If you were interested in a female part you were instructed to sing “Practically Perfect.” If you were interested in a male part you sang “Jolly Holiday”. If you didn’t care what gender your role was you just had to make sure the teachers knew and sing either song.

## Learning Chronography and Songs.

While the performance you actually see on stage might seem easy, many hours are put into the rehearsing, day and night. For instance, three times a week after school, students of all grades and teachers such as Ms. Bond, Ms. Barrett and Ms. Schechterly spent two hours learning songs, building props, dancing and choreographing. Everything you saw on the stage had been planned for months dating back to the beginning of the year.

## My Experience

In this year's play, I was cast as a “Sweep” A.K.A an ensemble (background) character. This means I had no lines, but I was in almost all the dances and songs, with a few costume changes. Speaking of costumes most students in the play had to provide their own costumes. Mine consisted of a black shirt, hat, and pants with a red scarf for when I was supposed to be a chimney sweeper. Rustin High School Theater Program provided some colonial-like costumes that we used for “Parkstroller” or “Townfolk” dancers.

## Acting

This year was my first ever play. Because of this I had a lot I learned and now I have a lot to share. The first time I really acted (in costume.) was when the second graders from Starkweather Elementary School came

to see a snippet of the performance. On the actual performance nights everything went smoothly. The only part of the play cast members and I struggled with was in the beginning when the spotlight was shining in our eyes, but we had to keep a straight face.

### Tips for Actors.

- Try breathing in through your nose, holding your breath, and breathing out through your mouth.
- A tip I learned this year was to slowly count down from 5, by shaking your body.  
**EX: Shake arms 5 times, Legs 5 times, arms 4 times, legs 4 times, etc.**

### FUN FACTS!

- **You don't have to be in 7 or 8th grade to get a lead!**  
It is not guaranteed that you will get a lead, however depending on the actual play, what the play directors are looking for and what you have to offer, you might just get the role of your dreams!
- Mary Poppins is a Disney movie, however it was based on a book made in the early 1900s.

### See you Next Year!

The play for the 2024-2025 school year is still unknown. If you or friends are interested in participating make sure to pay attention to announcements next year, and if you are interested in seeing the performance, stay tuned for spring 2025!

---

# Sixth Grade Teacher and Students Know What It's Like to See Double

*By Grace Hierdahl and Christina Marcantonis, Sixth Grade*

Many kids wish they had a twin sibling, a built-in partner to share their lives with every day. In the United State, three percent of all babies born are twins, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Stetson's sixth grade class, just about hits that average. There are at least five sets of twins in the grade, according to Team Leader Mrs. Gomez. Two of those twins - Maddy Crawford and Dylan Chauffier - are on the Falcon Flyer staff. Also, a new sixth grade English teacher, Mr. Bonsall, has a twin brother. We decided to find out more about what life is like as a twin.





## Maddy and Mackenzie Crawford- 6th grade

We got to talk to Maddy and ask her some questions about being a twin.

*Do you like being twins?* “Yeah, I think it’s pretty cool. I think it’s funny because when Kenzie and I were little we used to switch [places] for April Fool’s day but our teachers kind of knew immediately. Yeah, we [would] switch outfits.”

*How many minutes apart are you two?* “One minute”

*Who is the older twin?* “Mackenzie is older by one minute.”

*Do you have classes at school together, and if so do you like it?* “Well obviously we have our homeroom together because of the last names, but really for the most part we were separated. I’m pretty sure for the most part it wasn’t because of [class] leveling, but I know we only have one class together. It’s 8th period reading. I wouldn’t say we don’t really sit next to each other but the teacher just puts us wherever.

*Do you like it?* I mean, yeah. We sit next to each other on the bus. It’s cool.”

*Are you identical or fraternal twins?* “Identical twins.”

*Did you dress the same when you were younger?* “Yes, our mom typically bought matching outfits. If not we [had] outfits one pink and one blue but they were the same [style].”

*Do you share a bedroom?* “Well we just stopped sharing a bedroom when we got started at Stetson at the beginning of this school year.”

## Dylan and Jackson Chaffier- 6th grade

We also interviewed Dylan about his experiences being a twin.

*Do you like being twins?* “Sometimes because being a twin you can know what the other twin is feeling or what they’re doing. You also usually get angry at each other easily and fight a lot, so it’s like half and half.”

*How many minutes apart are you two?* “15 minutes.”

*Who is the older twin?* “I am [Dylan].”

*Do you have classes at school together and if so do you like it?* “Yes, we have one class together which is health. I don’t really like it because we never communicate, and we never sit with each other and get to be partners.”

*Are you identical or fraternal twins?* “We're fraternal twins.” [Don’t look alike.]

*Did you dress the same when you were younger?* “No.”

*Do you share a bedroom?* “No.”

## Mr. Bonsall and his twin brother

We also got to talk to Mr. Bonsall about his childhood being a twin. He has a twin brother named James, who is an architect in Philadelphia.

*Do you like being twins?* “Yes, I really do.”

*How many minutes apart are you?* “About 2 minutes.”

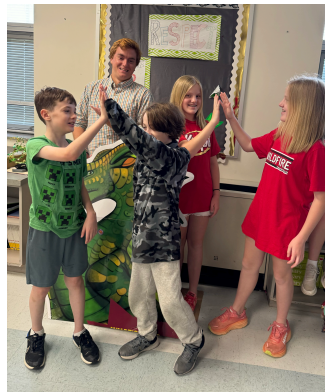
*Who is the older twin?* He is.”

*Did you have classes at school together when you were younger and if so do you like it?* “There was one time when I was a sophomore in high school out of the eighth classes we had, we had six together.”

*Are you identical or fraternal twins?* “We are fraternal twins.”

*Did you dress the same when you were younger?* “No, he just wore red and I wore green.”

*When you were younger did you share a bedroom?* “We did, until Junior year of high school.”



# 10 Songs

To Add

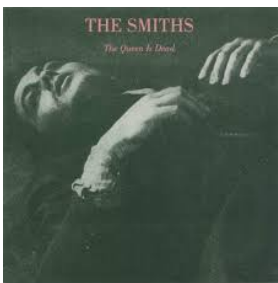
To Your

Playlist



By Julia Lockledge, 7th grade

Lily Pestritto, 6th grade



## 1. Bigmouth Strikes Again-

**The Smiths**

This is the perfect song to add to your oldies playlist! It's An upbeat song, released in 1986 by the hit band, The Smiths!

## 2. July-

**Noah Cyrus**

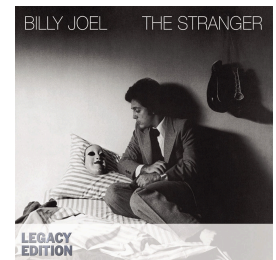
While this is a sad song, it's music to the ears! We recommend this song because it's the perfect song to listen to when you are feeling down and want to tune into your emotions!



## 3. Vienna-

**Billy Joel**

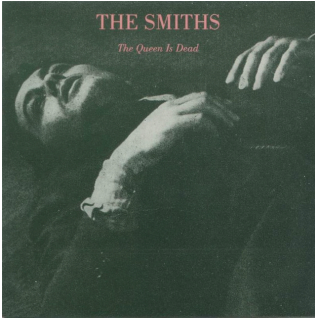
This is the best song to add to your playlist! It's the perfect pick-me up and the best classic Oldie.



## 4. Piano Man-

**Billy Joel**

**Although this song has a sad story, it sounds like a beautiful piano concert! I would recommend this song because it transports you to a happy place.**



## **5. There is a light that never goes out-** **The Smiths**

**This song is a great song to add to your playlist because it is a very pretty song, with a very meaningful story.**

## **6. The Night We Met-**

### **Lord Huron**

**We recommend this song to people who love emotional music, that slower song with a deep meaning of loss behind the lyrics.**



**is a**

## **7. Roslyn -**

### **Bon Iver**

**This is a perfect song to add to your playlist because it truly is a beautiful song with a melody that is very distinctive**





## 8. Glue myself shut - Noah Kahn

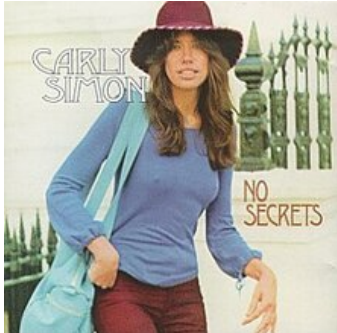
This is the perfect pick-me-up song because it  
a smooth and calm melody.



has

## 9. Your love - The Outfield

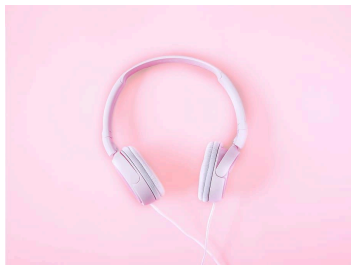
This is a great song to listen to if you love listening to easy rock. It has  
great lyrics with an oldies tune!



## 10. You're so vain - Carly Simon

This is a super happy song, and is a great oldie to play at a party, or family get together!

Whether you prefer oldies tunes or new downloads, we hope you listen to some great  
music this summer!





Mario Kart 8 deluxe is one of the most popular Mario games in the whole world. You most likely know Mario Kart already, but for a reminder, Mario Kart is a racing game where you can play as any character you want from a whole roster and select a map to race in. But if you're wondering, "there are only Mario characters, it is just like every other Mario Kart game," you'll be happy to know the game has some of the classic characters, new characters, and DLC characters. (Note, I will not be naming all the characters, but more main characters.)

## Characters

I mean, of course everyone knows Mario, Luigi, Peach, Daisy, Bowser, Toad, Yoshi, and Rosalina. But they have actually added fewer main characters like Koopa Troopa, Shy Guy, Lakitu, and more. But they needed more characters and more tracks. So they added Birdo, Kamek, Petey Piranha, Wiggler, Pauline, Funky

Kong, and Diddy Kong. In case you believe you might not be the best at the game, well, luckily for you, I am going help you play, of course if you are already good fornite at the game, you can just skip more down, but if you think you could have a little more skill, you can stay if you want to learn how to play better.



## How to play

I am going to make this short so we can get to the next topic.

1. To steer, use the thumbstick on the left side of your controller, or you can steer your controller like a steering wheel.
2. To pause in the middle of a match, press the plus button or the minus button. This is where you can change your perks like the choice of your steering, auto accelerating, and smart steering.
3. To use power ups, press the ZR button on the top of your controller.
4. To drift, hold the ZL button on the top of your controller which will give you a boost. This can also make you do a trick when you jump off a ramp if you time it right.

## Tracks

There are many tracks in the game but I will only name a few that I think stand out the most. First off, Rainbow Road is a fun map for people who like to challenge themselves to not fall off the track. The second one is Boo Lake, which is a good track if you like underwater, short tracks. The final one is Baby Park. If you like super short tracks with sharp turns, this is the track for you.

## Ending

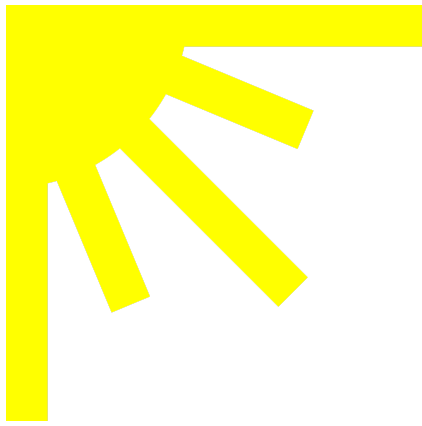
There are so many more tracks and characters in the game, but the job to figure that out is in your hands, because it's your choice to buy this amazing game or not. I'll leave you off to read the rest of the article, but remember, it's up to you.



## For the FINALE!

We have the best song in the world:  
This one is for my one and only true love  
Princess Peach  
Peach, you're so cool  
And with my star, we're gonna rule  
Peach, understand  
I'm gonna love you 'til the very end  
Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches  
Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches

I love you, oh  
Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches  
Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches  
I love you, oh  
Mario, Luigi, and a Donkey Kong too  
A thousand troops of Koopas couldn't keep me  
from you  
Princess Peach, at the end of the line  
I'll make you mine, oh  
Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches  
Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches, Peaches  
I love you, oh  
**Peaches, Peaches, Peach, Peach**



# Day trips will give you a quick getaway this summer

*By: Alkistis Pistou, 7th grade*

With the weather getting hotter, and summer around the corner, people are starting to go on more and more day trips. Have you ever gone on a day trip somewhere? Well, I have and it is super fascinating to see all the new, and enchanting things a place has to offer, even though it might be just 15 minutes away from my house! Though, sometimes, you might just run out of places to go! Below, you will find four amazing locations that are worth spending your day.

- 1. Cape May NJ-** This day trip beach has a lot to offer. Cape May has many historical sites, and unique, colorful, and welcoming houses for you to admire. Once you arrive, you can walk on the boardwalk, climb the lighthouse for the stunning views, visit the gardens with beautiful roses blooming, and, at the least, go relax on the sandy beaches. This amazing getaway is about two hours away from West Chester, Pennsylvania, and it is a place truly worth visiting.



- 2. Hershey Park-** This getaway definitely attracts kids. I don't know about you, but I adore Hershey Park. It's not like other roller coaster parks because it is also where the Hershey chocolate is made! Though, adults might not find it that fascinating, I assure you, it's so much fun, that even adults end up having the time of their lives. If you are thinking about going, you can get an all season pass so you can spend more time at this fascinating rollercoaster park. Hershey Park is 1 hour and 30 minutes away, which makes it perfect for a summer day trip.







3. **Harrisburg PA**- This attraction is the capital of PA! It is home to 50,123 people. It is a day trip worth going to because it has a lot of museums, nice rivers, and forested areas where you can hike! Some cool places to visit for sure in the Harrisburg area are the Art Association of Harrisburg, the Indian Echo Caverns, and Susquehanna Art Museum. You can get there in 1 hour and 45 minutes!

4. **Longwood Gardens**- This place is very pretty and colorful. It is a great place to go and walk around. It has amazing buildings that are like an indoor garden! It holds a lot of historical sites and is very cool to visit. You can never truly get bored of this colorful getaway that is less than 30 minutes from West Chester!



**With all these options, it will be hard to decide where to go, but be ready for a summer full of trips and new experiences.**

---

**For more exotic travel,**

**Check out the top five places to visit in *Japan***

**Written by Erin Alloway, Sixth Grade**

Wouldn't it be fun to travel across the world? Who wouldn't want to globe-trot across the Andes or sightsee in France? With so many options, it can get overwhelming when you look at the bucket list opportunities. Where to go? Why not try Japan?

For such an interesting and historically prominent country, not a lot of Americans know that much about it. But Japan makes a good place to visit because, well, there's really something for everyone! From mountain peaks and thick forests to cities so densely packed that the areas appear gray from outer space! There's even a fake Eiffel Tower, but we'll get to that later. For now, here's a list of the top five places to visit in Japan!

## Number five:

### *The Kumano Kodo*

Nature lovers, this one's for you. Though really, it doesn't take personal preference to say that the Kumano Kodo is a breathtaking hiking trail. The sunlight through the mountainous trees is refreshing, and the roaring waterfalls look like something pulled from a movie! And each year, the colors in the trees change. In the summer, expect a cacophony of greens, autumn brings a splash of orange, and, in late spring, a blush of pink blossoms will take to the treetops and wind. If you're up for a challenge that promises exercise, take the *entire* four day pilgrimage trail. The hiking trail has been used as a pilgrimage trail to Kumano for centuries. The walk was itself part of multiple religious rites of purification, and it's great for soaking up the culture of Kumano!

## Number four:

### *Ryogoku: Sumo Central!*

Imagine a town almost entirely dedicated to football, or soccer, or lacrosse. You'll find the Japanese version of that in Ryogoku, the sumo center of the globe! Here, expect to see sumo themed restaurants, shops, sumo stables (where wrestlers train), and *the* sumo stadium to end all others! The current stadium used is called the Kokugikan and is the fourth one built in Tokyo. It hosts three of six annual tournaments that can host up to 10,000 fans. If you've never seen sumo wrestling, it's a rip roaring time that, while might seem hilarious, is actually taken very seriously in Japan! While there, you can also visit lots of museums or Yokoamicho park, which acts as a memorial for both the bombings of World War two and the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923. And don't forget to try Chanko Nabe; the official food of sumo wrestling, and served at a restaurant with a sumo ring! (Dohyo)

## Number three:

### *Sumida Park*

Best if visited in early April, because this park in Asakusa is one of the most popular places for *hanami*, or cherry blossom viewing! Hanami is very popular in Japan, and the trees have come to represent the fleeting joys of life. When the blushing blossoms appear in starburst pinks and whites, many people, including lots of tourists, have picnics and parties with family and friends. This park is extra picturesque because it sits beside a river



with a city and the Tokyo Skytree in the background (More on the SkyTree later) There are plenty of places to eat and lots of photo opportunities with garden sculptures, especially if you take the boat tour. And at night, the trees are even lit up for a moonlit walk. If flowers aren't your thing, try the summer fireworks instead.

## Number two:

### *Akihabara*

Akihabara has won the title of the world's otaku, anime, manga, and video game center, and they really aren't afraid to flaunt it! Up and down the street you'll find people dressed as characters, manga shops, and more. It's also a place to find the latest and greatest in technology. In Akihabara, you can visit maid cafes, where your waitresses dress as characters or maids and serve your food acting as such. I don't understand the appeal, but to each their own, I guess. Then there's manga cafes (*manga kissa*) that provide free internet for all the nerds out there who want to read comics and watch videos together. Regardless of wherever you go in Japan, though, pop culture will always follow. Better embrace it.

## Number one:

### *The Tokyo tower/ SkyTree*

Okay, technically these are two places, but who cares?

In addition to representing Japan's post-war rise to power, the 333 meter tall red-and-white Tokyo Tower also serves as a broadcast station. Supposedly, it's supposed to be based off the Eiffel Tower, but let's be honest, they just copy-pasted the Eiffel Tower and painted it. On the lower "Red Tokyo Tower" level are a bunch of interactive games and e-sports, like a super-cool arcade! The "Main Deck" has some lookdown windows, a cafe, and a gift shop. And *all* the way at the top at the "Top Deck" is a sweeping view of Tokyo that gets some cool sights. Meanwhile, the Tokyo SkyTree is a much, much, MUCH taller tower that will give you a city view like no other. Be prepared to climb and do some shopping, as well as checking out historical displays. Or if you want some extra fun, visit the planetarium or aquarium! The restaurants also serve a delightful mix of Japanese and French cuisine. This is not for the weak of legs and impatient of minds, so I'll stick to my Tokyo Tower.

*This list has some great highlights, but it's still relatively short. Sometimes the greatest of adventures come from just strolling the streets and seeing what you find. You'd be surprised at the things that can happen when you take a wrong turn on purpose or stop at a cafe in another country!*

# Off-Season Birds' Background - Learn the Eagles' early history

*By Harrison Ko, Sixth Grade*



The Philadelphia Eagles are one of the best teams in the NFL. Yet, how did they begin? Were they always good, even with star players like **Jalen Hurts**, **Devonta Smith**, and **A.J Brown**. Did they ever go to the Super Bowl before 2017? This article can answer those questions. Join me as we dive into the early history of the Philadelphia Eagles.

## Origin:

The Philadelphia Eagles football team began in 1933, when **Bert Bell** and **Lud Wray** purchased the former Frankford Yellow Jackets for \$2,500. In 1941, a swap took place between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh that made a trade with home cities. **Alexis Thompson** got the Eagles while **Bert** and **Lud** obtained the Pittsburgh Steelers.

## The Steagles:

In 1943, two years after the big swap, the two cities's football teams were combined. After many players went to help battle in World War II, there was a huge shortage for both Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. The two teams agreed to merge together temporarily for one season. Together, they were called the Steagles. Since there could be no head coach during the merge, head coach **Greasy Neale** of the Eagles and head coach **Walt Kiesling** of the Steelers, agreed to be co-coaches. The team ultimately finished with five wins, four losses, and one tie.

## Domination:

Counting the 1943 co-coach season, **Greasy Neale** coached the Eagles for 10 seasons and he led them to their first significant games in the NFL. The Eagles dominated the league for six seasons. They finished second in the NFL Eastern division in 1944, 1945 and 1946, won the division title in 1947 and then scored successive shutout victories in the 1948 and 1949 championship games.

## The Fall:

Nearly 10 years later, the Philadelphia Eagles era of domination ended. By 1958, the Eagles had fallen to last place in their division. In just 10 years, the Eagles who were a superstar team fell from one of the best teams to one of the worst. That year, however, saw the start of a rebuilding program by a new coach, **Buck Shaw**. The team also had the addition of quarterback **Norm Van Brocklin** in a trade with the Los Angeles Rams!

## Recovery:

In just three years, **Shaw** gave Philadelphia another championship. They defeated the Green Bay Packers **17-13** for the NFL championship. **Chuck Bednarik** saved the day for the Eagles with an open field tackle of Green Bay's head coach: **Jim Taylor** on the game's final play. The Eagles didn't reach the playoffs again for 18 years until 1978, their third season under



coach [Dick Vermeil](#).

## The Rise:

In 1980, Philadelphia won a club-record 12 games, edged out Dallas for the Eastern division title and then defeated the Cowboys [20-7](#) for the NFC championship. However, the Eagles lost to the Oakland Raiders [27-10](#) in Super Bowl XV. In 1988 the Eagles won the NFL Eastern division championship. Starting with that season, Philadelphia, which was particularly dominating on defense, won 10 games for five straight years up to 1993. In four of those years, the Eagles entered the playoffs as a wild-card team, a feat they repeated in 1995.

## Coach Legend:

In 1999, [Andy Reid](#) was named the team's head coach. He instantly transformed the Eagles into one of the dominant teams in the NFL. Beginning in 2000, Philadelphia won their division six times, appeared in the postseason nine times, and made a trip to Super Bowl XXXIX. [Reid](#) served as the team's head coach for 14 seasons, the longest of any coach in franchise history.

## Superbowl:

In 1981, the Oakland Raiders destroyed the Eagles [27-10](#). In 2005, the New England Patriots beat the Eagles [24-21](#). They never gave up. Twelve years later the rematch occurred. The Patriots were once again competing against the Eagles! This time however, the Eagles won [41-33](#). Then last year, after a close breathtaking Superbowl, the Eagles did not come out on top losing to the Kansas City Chiefs [25-28](#).

## Players:

There were so many amazing players that played for the Philadelphia Eagles, but the best five players are none other than [Jason Kelce](#), [Randall Cunningham](#), [Brian Dawkins](#), [Donovan McNabb](#), and [Chuck Bednarik](#). These five brought so much talent and skill to the Philadelphia Eagles. They set the path to a current amazing Eagles team.

*Credits: [philadelphiaeagles.com](#), [nfl.com](#), and [youtube.com](#) (for some facts). Photos: [ESPN.com](#)*



# Five Falcon Facts!

Compiled by Madelyn Crawford, Sixth Grade  
Images courtesy of Google Images

1. June 20\21st is the longest day of the year.



2. More children are born in summer than any other time of the year.

3. National Mud day this year is Saturday June 29th.

4. June 8th is Best Friends day! Go hang out with your Friends!

5. Worms have **FIVE** hearts.

[Click here](#) to learn more cool things about worms.



## TRIPLE BONUS!

1. July tends to be the hottest month.

2. Tastes buds last about 10 to 14 days.

3. A “Nurdle” is the image on toothpaste bottles showing a perfectly striped glob of toothpaste. Many toothpaste companies have even sued each other multiple times due to “Nurdle” copyright usage.



## Falcon Flyer Staff 2023-24



### Sixth Grade

Erin Alloway  
Dylan Chaffier  
Madelyn  
Crawford

Avery Debessay

Elven Deng

Mason Esterly

Grace Hierdahl

Harrison Ko

Susanna Lange

Olivia Manieri

Christina Marcantonis

Lily Pestrutto

### Seventh Grade

Cooper Boreman  
Gabrielle Campbell  
Julia Lockledge  
Alkistis Pistou  
Logan Woods

### Eighth Grade

Ilarlar Deng  
Jettison Flynn  
Piper Goodwin  
Danielle Grisillo

Olivia Huang  
Mira Luedtke

Katerina Marcantonis  
Samantha McNichol  
Maggie Perritt  
Matilda Senn  
Kiki Simunov  
Lucy Stief  
Olivia Ward  
Maiya Wilhelmson

Advisor Mrs. Claffey,

Falcon Flyer meets on Wednesdays in Room B106, 3-4 p.m. New members are welcome. Contact Mrs. Claffey for more information., [cclaffey@wcasd.net](mailto:cclaffey@wcasd.net)

# Creative Writing Corner

The Falcon Flyer is including original poetry and short stories by our writers in this bonus section.



## Summer Nights -

*Original Poetry by Maddy Crawford, sixth grade*



### Fireflies

Fireflies, fireflies, flying in my jar.  
Beckie calls you lighting bugs, I think she is wrong.  
As you glow through the night I don't even need my light.  
You guide me through the dark sky, glowing with your bright, cool pride.  
When I sit by the fire, I drop my jar and let you soar.  
As the night is coming to an end  
I don't think I can comprehend  
How you glow so very bright.  
Fireflies, Fireflies, I hope you have a good Summer night!



### Summer Sleep

Summer Sleeping is no fun  
I go to bed and see the bright sun.  
My parents say it's nine o'clock,  
But all I hear are kids playing 'round the block.  
When I'm old and gray I make sure even when the lights are gone,  
I stay the whole night away.



# ***A DESERTED WASTELAND***

***By Elven Deng, Sixth Grade***  
***Continued from the Spring Edition***

In the darkness, Vex could see nothing but his own hands. As he ran blindly, he realized something: *why would they bother to keep this forest locked up and secure?* He pondered that thought as he ran off the trail and into the brush.

The glow of dawn was on the horizon as Vex desperately tried to climb a tree. If his mom's stories were true, the Dark Forest became a deserted wasteland during the day. As he climbed higher and higher in the tree, it became colder and colder. He finally took a small break to regain some energy, and then continued his ascent. Suddenly the tree vanished beneath him, and he began to fall.



As he impacted, the ground split open. He stood up, shocked that the tree had disappeared, and scanned the forest for any cause of the mysteriously vanishing tree.

His mouth hung open, aghast. The trees and the green grass vanished, revealing a brown cracked underbrush. The sky became a murky purple, and the large boulders became piles upon piles of radioactive barrels. The river became a limey green as the thick liquids oozed their way to the small body of water.

The sun baked overhead as a fog of heat surrounded his vision. The more he explored, the more intimidated he became. The desolate wasteland seemed to go on endlessly...

Back at the village, Chuck gathered everyone at the town square. "The village orphan that goes by the name of Vex has gone into the Dark Forest! We are organizing a search party to find and retrieve him!" Chuck announced.



As the party geared up, the sun started to go down. They planned to leave for the forest at midnight. Little did they know that their decision was the worst they could make.

Meanwhile, somewhere in the forest, Vex was confused as the day came to an end and the night rose. The trees reappeared, the river became its usual clear blue, and the sky returned to a hazy black. He was puzzled by the sudden change in terrain, and decided to keep walking. He ran into three trees until he tripped over something round and hard.

Back in the village, the search team opened the gate at midnight. The gate let out an eerie groan as it slowly opened about five inches. The team squeezed through the crack in the gate and progressed through the forest as a pair of yellow eyes followed suit.



Vex fell to the ground with a loud *thump*. He quickly recovered and went to see what tripped him. He couldn't find where he had fallen and wandered aimlessly until he heard a faint shout "VEX!! VEX!!! WHERE ARE YOU?"

He wandered towards the noise and found the search team. The team was overjoyed to find Vex so quickly. As Vex jumped for joy at the reunion, he froze with fear.

A pair of yellow eyes stared down at the search party and let out a low growl. Suddenly, it pounced with a tremendous amount of power. "RUNNNNNNNN!!!"

yelled Chuck, and the group was happy to oblige. They charged toward the brush in hopes of losing the monster.

As they ran, Vex found the spot where he fell. : "Hey! That's where I tripped!" He pointed his finger toward the spot, and his blood went cold with fear.

*To be continued... in Fall 2024*

# What Washed Up On Sunnydale Beach.

An Original Summer Horror Story By Maddy Crawford

What washed up on Sunnydale beach, you ask? Well, grab a flashlight, lock your doors and you'll find out.....

Carrie Mintz was a young girl, she lived the perfect life, in the perfect house, she wore the perfect clothes, and had the perfect family. But once they moved to Sunnydale things started to take a turn for Carrie.



It all started when I moved to Sunnydale this Summer, and strange, and horrible things started happening. One day after school I went to explore the beach, and just then a glass bottle washed ashore and appeared to have something inside it. As I reached down to grab it, my little brother George ran towards me and said it was time for dinner. I turned back around to grab the bottle and it was gone. Later that night I went into my bedroom, only to stumble over something sharp. As I looked at my bleeding foot I picked up the thing on the floor and realized it was the bottle from earlier, I eagerly opened it up. Inside was a painting of some sort of sea creature. I neatly set it inside my desk and decided I would get a better look in the morning.

The next morning I looked at the painting to see it was some sort of human fish-like thing.

“Carrie, come with me to the grocery store!” Yelled my mom.

After I helped my mom unload the groceries I immediately went to look at the painting in my room. I gasped as I looked to see all of my clothes were shredded. “George!” I screamed but when my brother ran in he was just as surprised as me. Even though I was sure my brother didn’t do it, my parents still talked to him about “respecting others' belongings or

whatever.” When everything was finally sorted out I opened my desk drawer and found that not only was the painting gone but all my notebooks, pictures, and drawings were torn to shreds.

I then realized that George would have never messed with any of my stuff because when I got home he told me all about how he explored outside. I thought about the situation and cleaned up the shreds. Until I looked on my bed only to find the creature seemed to be in a different position than before and was now closer. I shook it off as the paint might have smudged, but an eerie feeling started to fill my mind and I felt my stomach aching in pain. Later that day my family decided to go to the beach.

I, still sick, stayed behind. I took a nap to pass the time only to wake up to a shattering sound, when I went to investigate I found that another glass bottle appeared on my floor only this time it had a note that read: **“CHECK THE PAINTING.”** I slowly picked up the glass and walked over to the painting to see not the beachside and the faraway creature, but the terrifying, and horrid face covering the page it look that it belonged to a..... seiren-----

### *One Year Later*

“Mom, Mom! Look what I found on the beach, a bottle with a painting in it! Can I keep it please?”

**“Sure Honey.”**

“Wow there is a mermaid in the painting. Except the mermaid looks mad and not colorful.”  
“Look, a little girl is standing by the mermaid too! She looks sad. Mom, I’m going to go to the house to show Daddy!”

**“Okay Sweetheart, don’t talk to strangers.”**

---

## **Sunnydale Police Missing File Report.**

### **Carrie Mintz**

**Last Seen: Sunnydale 3rd Street**

**Description Of Victim: Long Blonde Hair, Purple Shirt, Blue Jean Shorts.**

House Number: 172

Time & Day Last Seen: 12:32 pm June 13th 1987

Suspects: None

Last Seen By: Margret Underwood, John Underwood, George Underwood.

Relationship to Those: Margret Mintz -Mother

John Mintz-Father George Mintz-Brother

Suspects: None

---

### Sunnydale Police Missing File Report.

#### Maya Lopez

Last Seen: Sunnydale Beach

Description Of Victim:  
Brunette Hair, Short  
Hair,

Last Seen Apparel: Long  
Pink Dress.

House Number: 182

Time & Day Last Seen:  
10:00 am June 13th 1988

Suspects: None

Last Seen By: Ana Lopez

Relationship to Those:  
Ana Lopez-Mother

---



Photo of Newspaper Customized By Maddy Crawford. Template courtesy of [www.Slidesgo.com](http://www.Slidesgo.com) and [www.Canva.com](http://www.Canva.com)

Have a great summer, Stetson!



Enjoy a few more photos from the Eighth Grade dance.

