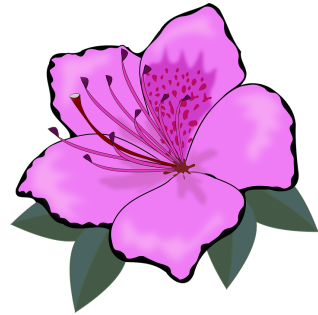


# Falcon Flyer

**Spring 2019**

**Published by the students of Stetson Middle School**



## From the Outside Looking In *A Stetson Student's Struggle With Stress*

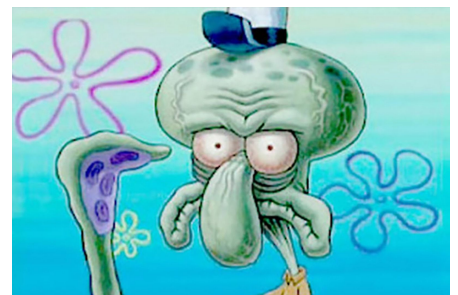
*By Sehaj Kaur and Ann Semeao (eighth grade)*

*Do you ever wonder why kids never want to go to school? It is an infamous complainant that has lasted decades among the adolescent population, but in all the times I have said it, my responses have varied considerably. It started out with "oh, it won't be that bad," then evolved to "you have to go if you want a good future," to the current and most infuriating response "then don't." Going to school is not optional, and you do need to go if you want to get a good-paying job once you are older, so then why do*



*people not want to go? Well, the short answer for many students is stress. From academic commitments to extra curricular activities to travel or school sports, it is an unfortunate fact that stress is a wide-spread disease that has infected the vast majority of the student body. While some may hide it better than others, all students have undoubtedly experienced ranging levels of stress in school. For students, or at least for the majority, we do not want to go to school because it has become synonymous with stress. Don't believe us? Well, you will need to look no*

*further than our interview with an anonymous student who has answered some questions on the stress they go through on a daily basis.*



## **Interview with an 8th grade student**

### ***What level classes do you take?***

I take all the highest classes that you can take at Stetson. I take accelerated English and math, level one science and history, and my language is Spanish two.

### ***Do you do any after-school activities?***

I do many after-school activities. I play three sports outside of school, and I do play Stetson sports as well. On top of all this, I play instruments that I need to practice for.

### ***How does that impact your time management?***

All my after-school activities make it very hard to get all of my homework done. I often find myself stressing whether I can finish everything I need to.

### ***What class gives you the most stress and why?***

The classes that give me the most stress are science and math. They are the classes with the most workload and require me to work a lot after school.

### ***How much time do you put into homework? (weekends and school days)***

I spend about 2-3 hours on homework on a weekday. But even then, I am only doing the stuff due the next day. That doesn't even include the long term projects. On the weekends, I do not do too much homework because I try to get most of it done on Friday.

### ***What do you feel is the most stressful aspect of school?***

For me, the most stressful aspect of school is assessments. Tests and quizzes always worry me because I am not always

sure I understand the concept since I feel that we often do not have enough time to learn it. I am also scared that one bad test or quiz grade will drop my grade and the class.

### ***Describe how you feel when you're stressed and how that changes our day.***

When I feel stressed, it feels like I am drowning. It is as if I have everything I need to do piling up around me and time is ticking to the deadlines. Stress overall ruins my day because I am anxious to get it all done and I don't want to do anything else.

### ***How do you feel teachers could spread out their work?***

When the teachers spread out their work, it is very helpful. Just by only giving us a bit less to do it doesn't make me as stressed. It is easier to get everything done without worrying whether I will be able to finish.

### ***Do the homework/projects help you learn?***

Sometimes homework and projects help me learn but I think they could give a little less work and just do some in class assignments and discussion will help us learn more effectively.

### ***Does the homework follow the WCASD guidelines? (reflecting class, not busy work)***

I think they mostly follow the WCASD guidelines but in some classes I get busy work and I sometimes find some work that is confusing because we did not go over it in class.

### ***Could the teachers collaborate more often to make your schedule less crammed?***

Yes definitely! If some of them just talked then they would know that they should not put three huge tests on one day.

### ***What advice would you give to students like you? How do you handle stress?***

I would say to get all your work done right away. DO NOT PROCRASTINATE. It is not helpful and you are just putting off the



inevitable. I handle my stress by exercising and trying not to worry until you have to. I mostly just try to get stuff done.

***Do you believe your stress harms you?***

I believe stress is very harmful to you. I sure everyone has been nervous and it caused them to become queasy. That is stress harming your body. I have also heard in health class how bad stress is for you.

*While we all deal with it differently, everyone with a pulse has stress. Whether it is about work, school, sports, or some other aspect of your existence, society in general has seen an increase in levels of stress in anxiety. This trend is clearly visible in adolescents in middle and high school. With colleges becoming even more selective and expensive and courses becoming more test and work based, many students can find themselves feeling crushed by a never ending workload. However, stress is most certainly a problem with a solution. As students ourselves, we recommend staying ahead and managing your time, meaning doing what is due the soonest first. Additionally, realizing that stress is only present in humans to help us escape life or death situations helps one put things in perspective. While taking a math test might be stressful, it can not compare to outrunning a lion in the Safari, which is really why the human psyche developed the concept of stress. Finally, having faith and confidence in your abilities goes a long way in helping you reach your goals. Don't sell yourself short, people often surprise themselves.*

*(images credit to Google Images)*

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# Selecting Your Future -

## ***A first rate guide to Course Selection***

*By Sehaj Kaur and Ann Semeao, eighth grade*

Stetson offers a wide variety of subjects, courses, and electives for students coming from sixth and seventh grades. These electives can help you to see what you truly enjoy and what you may want to pursue in the future as a career. Although high school and college seem far away, the time will come faster than you expect. Stetson's electives can show you that life outside of academic classes can still require attention and can have projects, tests, and deadlines. Here is some information on courses and electives as you travel from grade to grade.

### **Languages**

Going from sixth to seventh grade has one major change: you may now take a language class instead of reading. The two languages available are French and Spanish, but in eighth grade you can also take Latin, German, or Italian.

#### **French:**

Although Spanish is the more preferred language, French is also an interesting class in which many different approaches are used to learn the language. People who prefer smaller classes and unique projects will enjoy French 1.

#### **Spanish:**

Spanish has many more classes and works with flexible schedules, and focuses much more on wide variety of learning styles.



### Latin:

Latin is an even smaller class than French, usually having only one period per day. This being said, you always will be with your friends if you all are taking Latin! Besides learning the language western civilization is based on, you will also be able to learn about ancient Greek culture, ranging from traditions to food to religion.



### German:

German is also an exceedingly small class, but it is a great chance to once again learn a rich language and diverse culture. Especially for international day, German classes get to learn every aspect of German culture.

### Italian:

Finally, Italian is perhaps the smallest class in all of Stetson. As a fair warning, the eighth grade class does not always offer Italian if not enough people sign up for it, so always have a back up plan. However, Italian is definitely a rich and

interesting class that many recommend taking, if it is offered.

### Reading:

Reading is also an option in place of a language in case a student prefers, or needs to work on, this aspect of their academics. Not too many changes occur in the switch from seventh to eighth grade, but it helps to add some spice and diversity to your schedule.

### Electives:

Seventh to eighth grade brings many choices for students. After two full years at Stetson, you are allowed to finally select the classes you would like to take. While some are mandatory, many are left up to your choice.

### **Mandatory**

#### Guidance:

Guidance consists of planning and setting up goals for the near and far future. You take surveys to look into what you might be interested in as you get older. It is split over two marking periods, but is usually not taken as a back to back class, and is a two day course.

#### Computer Science:

Computer Science is very similar to seventh grade but doesn't include typing contests and adds many more projects, coding, and independent activities. Like Guidance, this course is also split up over two marking periods and is a two day course.

#### Health:

Regardless of your other courses or your situation, every student takes a health class every year at Stetson.



In sixth grade, health mainly focuses on body systems and basic human anatomy. On the other hand, health in seventh and eighth grade spends more time on mental and emotional health, going over eating disorders, substance abuse, suicide, and peer pressure or bullying. Both courses are extremely interesting and emotional, and will definitely give you a taste of the vast medical world.

#### Gym:

Unlike other classes at Stetson Middle School, gym is one course that doesn't change very much year to year. While sixth grade is definitely the slowest and most supervised year, seventh and eighth grade are very similar. Both start with a

short unit on one or two sports; soccer, rugby, and football are common choices throughout the years. The climbing unit, which all students do, goes much faster in the later two grades since you already know the basics. Finally, the year finishes with a choice between basketball and fun-filled fitness. The basketball unit is as it sounds, mostly consisting of small sided games. Fun-filled fitness, on the other hand, is more focused on exercises, like planks and jumping jacks, incorporated into fun games and races. Both are equally fun and good choices to make as your fourth marking period gym grade.

### Choice electives

As for the other electives, four of them can be chosen and fit into your schedule. However, the big upset for many eighth graders is that they don't get the electives they choose. The most popular is Creative Chef, as food is involved, but only a certain amount of students can be in each class. So, make sure you are quick to sign up for the classes you want, and don't wait until the eleventh hour!



### Creative Chef:

Every year, the food science class is available to all students, but that is not the case for eighth grade. Only students who are put into the class are lucky enough to make a variety of foods from different cultures. Students also participate in a "Pasta-bilities" competition where they create their own recipe for pasta and are judged for a first place spot.

### Childhood Development:

While this course is also offered in the sixth grade, it's eighth grade counterpart is completely different. In this class, you focus more on the psychology of children rather than their overall development in different age groups. You cover the multiple types of intelligence possessed by children, how they change mentally and physically as they grow, proper nutrition, child literature, and creativity and play. Many projects, like making bento boxes, board games, and children books make this call a great option for people who are interested in teaching, psychology, children, or are simply creative.



### Popular Music:

This is a music-related class that analyzing pop songs for their musical form and digs deep into the history of music. For the beginning half of the marking period, students focus on the choruses, verses, bridges, pre-choruses, and outros of well-known pieces to see how musicians organize music. The second half focuses on the history of music and is followed by a major biography or genre project. Although not much music is physically played, the concept of music, copyright, and musical history is fully taught and observed thoroughly.



### Art in 2D:

Similar to sixth and seventh grade art, this class is very specific to drawing, painting, and other 2D arts. People who enjoy sketching and painting would like this class more than the 3D art class. If you have trouble picking one over the other, consider your art strengths.

### Art in 3D:

This class focuses solely on the arts of 3D. Depending on your teacher, Mrs. Phillips or Mr. Duffy, you will create some sort of 3D project. Mrs. Phillips students usually get to pick an everyday item to recreate while Mr. Duffy's class usually created clay pots.

### Transportation, Engineering and Design:

This is a hands-on class that explores the world of technology with models and students will work on building a transportation model using what they have learned in the class.



### Sustainable Design :

This elective will challenge students to solve problems using technology. Similar to other technology electives, models will be used to help in the process of creating designs to fix real-world issues.

### A Music Class (Teen Impact, Exploring Design, Real World Design, Classroom Music 8)

#### Teen Impact:

This elective develops 21st century skills such as citizenship, communication, character building, and resource management. This is usually for students in eighth grade who do not take music.

#### Exploring Design (ART):

This is another art class that takes a fast-paced road to exploring real world art and design. Learning about other artists, taking a new approach on art, and applying it to the new world are major parts of this elective.

#### Real World Design:

Students interact with all types technology including communications, materials, manufacturing and design.



#### Classroom Music 8:

An alternative to a music class such as chorus, orchestra, or band, this class analyzes other aspects of music including guitars, keyboards, and exploring the many songs that are out there.



# Onstage and offstage:

## Perspectives of a Musical

By Brianna Ambrosine (seventh grade), Stage Crew  
and Leah Ambrosine (sixth grade), "Who Ensemble"

On October 1, 2 & 3 aspiring actors sang their hearts out for auditions in the Stetson chorus room. Everyone was in suspense the moment they sang their last note. When the cast list was posted, everyone knew what role they were playing, what lines



they were memorizing and the amount of time they were about to dedicate. Practices

started the following week and they started out simple at first. Over time, they became more often and longer. The cast put a lot of heart and dedication into this show and it all paid off in the end. All of their hard work and time was well spent. The show that sent the audience up and out of their seats with excitement and humor was known as the one and only... *Seussical the Musical*! The cast had more than three months to prepare and they were as ready as they would ever be!



Towards the beginning of January, they invited stage crew into the mix. Stage crew was in charge of the timing of props on and off stage. They also had to open and shut the curtain. "A highlight of stage crew was making the props. My favorite ones were the two sets of truffula trees! One negative side of stage crew was steaming the clothes. It was a lot of work, especially the tutus," said Stage Crew Member, Brianna Ambrosine. Stage crew also enjoyed a sneak peek of the show. "We listened to them sing and perform these songs. I could sing along, word for word!" Brianna said. When the shows started to draw near, the show was planning on giving a preview to the sixth graders. "I was very excited for the preview, because, it was acting like a preview was a practice run. They had many dress rehearsals, but in front of an audience is a different thing" according to Brianna.



The practices were lots of fun. In the beginning, it was all about learning the lines. It was about two weeks into the practices when we started to block (which means dance in musical language). There was number of songs

that we had to learn and let the audience enjoy. For the first month of practices, they were two hours long after school. If you think that was long, towards the last month of practices they were extended 30 minutes! Now that's long! It took a lot of dedication, but we (cast members and stage crew) made it out alive in the end. When it came time for the shows, everyone was just a little nervous, but we all did wonderfully. When the curtains opened and I saw the rows and rows of peoples' eyes staring at me and the blinding light shining in my eyes, it was a little scary. In the end, **IT WAS DEFINITELY THE BEST PART OF SIXTH GRADE!**

The show, in the end, was a huge success. All three of the performances played out beautifully. Sadly, during the first show, one of our main cast members lost his voice because of the cold he was fighting off. Thankfully, he powered through and as they say in theater, "the show must go on"... and it DID! Everyone involved in the show was so grateful for the amount of time and effort three of our beloved staff put into it. Much appreciation to Dr. Cognato, Mrs. Smith, and the one and only Mrs. Stav (Chorus Teacher). We couldn't have put on the show without the help of these three individuals. Many of the cast members new to Stetson are waiting in anticipation until the next production. Who knows, maybe we have a future Broadway star among us.



ATTENTION....  
INTRODUCING STETSON's NEXT SCHOOL PRODUCTION  
IT IS.....



# What Equity Team Means To Me

*By Edward (Tai) Washington  
(Seventh Grade)*

What has Equity team meant to me? It has meant a lot. It teaches us that it is okay to look the way we are, even though people might make you feel that it is not okay to look the way you are.

One time I got to go to a workshop in Philadelphia about equity. There I learned ten ways to be kind to people and understand what problems we are facing in our schools, neighborhood, nation, and globally. This opened my mind up to more problems that we face like gangs and poverty and lack of a good education. If I would not have joined Equity then I would have never been able to experience these things.



One day recently we had a speaker come talk to us about his life, how he wasn't smart, how he got suspended every single week, how he had no mother or father, lost his brother, and how he got shot in his leg three times and a bunch of colleges took away his sports scholarships. He still went to college and graduated

from the college with the help of mentors.

*What I took out of that was that you might face tough challenges but with the help of others you can make it through no matter what.*

During Equity we learned four things to do when thinking about something. Think, Do, Believe, Feel, which I think means if you're in a tough situation you think about what you're doing then act on that. What I took out of that was that you might face tough challenges but with the help of others you can make it through no matter what.

Equity has been very inspirational to me. We learned that we are never alone, that we always can always rely on each other. That is what Equity means to me.

# Understanding the Variety in Chinese Culture

By Nini Chen (eighth grade)

Just like the language and arts of many cultures, there's also a variety of foods, holidays, education and fashion. There are many cultures around the world and are all interesting to learn and experience. Chinese and Korean culture both are similar and different in their fashion, cuisine, and holidays.

There are many holidays and festivals celebrated in China. Popular ones include Lunar New Year, The Lantern Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, and Children's



Day. Lunar New Year or 中国新年 is the most popular holiday or festival celebrated in China, like New Years here in the U.S., but it is a lot more traditional and lively. Students usually have a long break over Lunar New Year and spend the time with family and friends. Usually each day during the week is labeled to do certain things. On the Lunar New Year Day people usually have a huge meal and gather around the table and eat. Popular foods could be hotpot and a lot of seafood and many dishes. Also many people pay a new year call to visit friends and family and then get many Red Packets. There are also many dragon shows and festivals where people sing, dance, and hangout.

The Lantern Festival or 元宵节 is celebrated by eating sticky rice balls stuffed with sweet pastes or peanut paste, which can be many flavors, colors, and designs. After finishing the meal everyone goes outside with their lanterns

and writes a wish on it, and they all count down and let the lanterns into the air. The lanterns are usually signs of good luck and hope.

The Dragon Boat Festival is a very active and busy day. There are dragon boat races and professional teams around China who come to compete and afterwards they eat a sticky rice with nuts and sometimes meat wrapped in leaves also called 粽子.

Children's Day is the most exciting for kids. On this day parents usually spend a whole day with their children and buy gifts. Holidays in Chinese are super traditional and carried on through generations, and also many holidays involve eating.

Everyone loves eating and who doesn't? But have you ever tried some cranky dishes and found them do be delicious? Well maybe sometime you can try some Chinese food,



"authentic" Chinese food. Fun fact, many Asians love



eating and eating in large amounts!

Chinese cuisine is quite different from the western cuisine, and many cooks usually don't follow an exact recipe. In fact they usually put in whatever is good and it turns out to be a delicious dish. Of course not all chef's are like that. Dining experience are also different. Instead of forks and spoons we love to use chopsticks, no matter

what we're eating. Different provinces of China also prefer different tastes. People in the south like sour; those in the east prefer sweet and light, while central residents love hard strong spiciness and a lot of seasoning. In the west it is all about



meat and protein, and in the north they prefer simple, salty food, and a lot of wheat. Common meals are usually rice and noodles.

The dishes or 菜 are usually the main and people love to share with each other. Some popular dishes include Beijing Peking Duck 北京烤鸭, hotpot 火锅 or 海底捞, Dimsum 小吃, hot&spicy fish 水煮活鱼, drypot 麻辣香锅, steamed buns 小笼包, zhajiangmain 炸酱面, tomato&eggs 番茄炒蛋, lamian 拉面, beef stuffed toast 肉夹馍, Stir Fry Choy 炒菜, and Stir fried water spinach 炒空心菜. Seafood is also very common and a lot of seafood are eaten, like crayfish and crabs and oysters.

### Here are some fun facts about Chinese culture.

1. The day you are born counts as your first birthday meaning if you are 12 right now you would be 13 instead.
2. Family is very important and they focus on mainly the youngest children.
3. Tea can show your social status in China and tea cups and tea are ways of display and welcoming of friends and family visiting.
4. Chinese people hate tanning and love to protect their skin so sometimes they bring umbrellas in the sun and hats that cover their whole body.
5. China has the longest continuous civilization, marking back to 6000 B.C.
6. Under the First Emperor Qin, the Qin Dynasty built two of China's most

famous tourist attractions, the first version of the Great Wall of China and the Terracotta Army.

7. Every year is the year of one certain Chinese zodiac animal. Chinese Zodiac is a twelve-year cycle representing twelve animals each year – rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog, pig. There are also many different types of theories of how the animals came to be but there is a popular one that, the rat was originally supposed to be a cat and the two were friends. The day of the race, to get the 12 spots, the cat fell asleep and never woke so the rat went and ever since that the cat was mad and it kind of created the “Tom and Jerry” duo.



8. The word “Dragon” or “龙” is the luckiest mascot in China and many parents name their son with the word.
9. China's greatest inventions include the compass, gunpowder, papermaking, and printing.
10. Chinese is one of the hardest languages to learn.



# The Best Places To Eat in West Chester

Falcon Flyer reporter [Lucy Harnish](#) (seventh grade) shares her middle school foodie tour of West Chester. Grab your friends or family and head in to town to check out some of her favorites.

## **-West Chester Coffee and Ice Cream Bar-**

This quaint little coffee shop is located on Gay Street. It's good for all seasons- coffee and hot chocolate in winter, and ice cream and lemonade in the summer!



**-Lorenzo and Sons Pizzeria-** This pizza shop located on High Street is rated 4.3/5 stars, and is great for late night/comfort food!

**-The Classic Diner-** This 4.4/5 star restaurant is located on Gay Street. It's a great place for breakfast and American favorites like barbecue sandwiches and hamburgers.

**-Couch Tomato Cafe-** This adorable little cafe, also located on Gay Street, is amazing for comfort food. Enjoy the rooftop seating while tasting

the delicious comfort food offered there.



**-Gemelli-** This darling dessert shop is rated an amazing 4.7/5 stars. It specializes in gelato, and it offers gelato-making classes. They also sell tea! This versatile little restaurant is located at 12 Market St.

**-D'Ascenzo's Gelato-** This quaint dessert shop sells gelato in seasonal flavors. It's rating is 4.9/5 stars and is a family owned business! It's address is 132 E Gay St, West Chester.

**-Iron Hill-** This craft kitchen has all your American favorites, along with a good rating. 3 W Gay St, West Chester, is its address.



# What flower are you?

## Test your blooming personality

*A quiz By Ella Gentile and Izzie Mintz*

As spring is in full bloom, take this exciting quiz to determine what kind of flower you are.

### Favorite color?

Yellow- A

Red- B

Pink- C

Blue- D

other- E



### Favorite Season

Summer- A

Spring- B

Fall- C

Winter- D

Multiple- E



### Favorite Sport

Football- A

Basketball- B

Lacrosse- C

Soccer- D

Other- E



### Favorite Snack

Chips- A

Nuts- B

Pretzels- C

Popcorn- D

Other- E



### Favorite Candy

Sour Patch Kids- A

Hershey's Bar- B

Reeses cup- C

Swedish Fish- D

Other- E



*Your answers reflect your floral personality!*

- ❖ Mostly A - Radiantly positive sunflower
- ❖ Mostly B - Classy, classic primrose
- ❖ Mostly C - Dancing daffodil
- ❖ Mostly D - Intrepid iris
- ❖ Mostly E - Tailor-made tulip

Photo credits: [www.hobbyhillflorist.com](http://www.hobbyhillflorist.com)

# What Dog Breed Are You?

No matter what kind of pet you have, or wish you had, there's a dog inside of everyone. Take this quiz to discover your inner canine.

By Corinne Weber

## QUESTION 1) HOW ACTIVE ARE YOU

- A) MODERATELY ACTIVE
- B) A LITTLE BIT ACTIVE
- C) NOT ACTIVE AT ALL
- D) MINIMAL ACTIVITY
- E) EXTREMELY ACTIVE
- F) VERY ACTIVE

A=50 PTS B=40 PTS C=20 PTS D=60 PTS E=10 PTS F=30 PTS



## QUESTION 2) WHERE WOULD YOU LIVE?

- A) UNITED KINGDOM
- B) SCOTLAND
- C) GERMANY
- D) MEXICO
- E) RUSSIA
- F) CHINA

A=30PTS B=40PTS C=50PTS D=60PTS E=10PTS F=20PTS



## QUESTION 3) WHAT WOULD YOU MOST LIKELY BE KNOWN FOR?

- A) FILMS
- B) TV SHOWS
- C) BECOMING FAMOUS AFTER DEATH
- D) MEDIA
- E) NOTHING
- F) TV SERIES

A=50PTS B=60PTS C=40PTS D=30PTS E=20PTS F=10PTS



## QUESTION 4) HOW WOULD YOU BEST DESCRIBE YOURSELF

- A) LOYAL
- B) FRIENDLY
- C) OUTGOING

- D) LAZY
- E) ALERT
- F) KIND

A=60PTS B=40PTS

C=10PTS D=20PTS E=50PTS F=30PTS

## QUESTION 5) WHAT DEFINES YOUR HAIR TYPE

- A) STRAIGHT
- B) FLUFFY
- C) SHORT
- D) LAYERED
- E) THICK
- F) SMOOTH

A=30PTS B=40PTS C=60PTS D=50PTS

E=10PTS F=20PTS



## Results

50-65 PTS

SIBERIAN HUSKY

70-125

PUG

130-165

LABRADOR RETRIEVER

170-205

WHITE TERRIER

210-240

GERMAN SHEPHERD

245-300

CHIHUAHUA

SOURCE - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=CP4LEVNLQIQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CP4LEVNLQIQ)




## From an Egg's point of view By: Ella Gentile

OMG OMG OMG!! MY FIRST DAY ON THE JOB! WOAH WHOEVER IS HOLDING ME HAS REALLY SOFT HANDS. ALMOST...FUZZY? WAIT!? IS THAT? IT CAN'T BE! THE EASTER BUNNY! UMM... WOAH HI! THOSE FLOPPY EARS LOOK WONDERFUL THIS TIME OF YEAR. I'M YOUR BIGGEST FAN. I'VE READ ABOUT YOU EVERYWHERE! SOOO, WHERE ARE WE GOING? KANSAS!?! THAT'S SO FAR FROM EASTER ISLAND! I KNOW I'M JUST GONNA MISS MY FAMILY. WWWWOAH WHERE ARE WE? IT'S SO DARK! THAT'S...DIRT, ABOVE US? ARE WE? WE CAN'T BE? UNDERGROUND! OHHH I GET IT "BUNNY HOLES". THAT'S HOW YOU TRAVEL SO FAST. OH I SEE THE LIGHT! IT'S COMING! DAR SHE BLOWS! IS THIS... KANSAS? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT THERE'S BEACHES HERE! THIS ISN'T KANSAS? IS IT? THE BAHAMAS?!



NOO! EGGDER! WHY DOES HE HAVE TO LEAVE! HE'S GONNA GET ALL.. SANDY. AND WHAT IF HE GETS EATEN, OR TAKEN UP BY A BIRD, OR- YEAH , I STOP TALKING...SOMETIMES. FINE I'LL STOP RIGHT NOW. EH-

I CAN'T DO IT! OK IT'S JUST WHO I AM! WAIT WE'RE UNDER GROUND AGAIN? ALREADY ON OUR WAY TO KANSAS? SO SOON? WELL I'M GLAD I MET YOU! HIDE ME GOOD! DON'T LET ME BE SEEN!! OK BYEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE. OK! I'M GOOD HERE. RIGHT? OH



NO! IT'S GETTING DARK! I BETTER GET SOME REST. **ONE NIGHT LATER.** AHH I'M WELL RESTED.

WAIT! IT'S EASTER MORNING!! O! M! G! OK GOTTA HIDE. CAN'T BE SEEN. AGHH HERE COME THE KIDS!! I'M GOING TO COUNT HOW MUCH TIME PASSES BEFORE I GET FOUND! ONE TWO THREE..... 256,008,764 256,008,765 256,008,766! AGHH IT'S HOPELESS! IT'S STARTING TO GET WARMER AND I'VE SEEN PEOPLE OUT IN SWIMMING CLOTHES! WHAT MONTH IS IT!? WHAT'D SHE JUST SAY? AUGUST?! AM I EVER GONNA GET FOUND?

NEXT EASTER----->>>>

OH! HI AGAIN! I BEEN A WHILE! OH BY ANY CHANCE DO YOU KNOW WHAT DAY IT IS? EASTER EVE!! I HAVE TO GET FOUND THIS YEAR!

NO EXCUSES! ONE NIGHT LATER. (AGAIN) HEEERRRREE COOOOMMEE THHHHEEE KIDSSSSSSS!!!! AHH SHE'S PICKING ME UP!! I AM IN THE BASKET! I REPEAT I AM IN THE BASKET! HI! IM EGGERT! OH OK. WOAH! SO THIS IS WHAT A HUMAN LOOKS LIKE. COOOOOLL. WOAH WE'RE GOING INSIDE NOW? COOL! WAIT WHAT! WOAH STOP!! NOOO! DON'T RIP ME APART! BLAH!!!

THE END!

<https://www.istockphoto.com/photos/faster-eggs-in-grass?sort=mostpopular&mediatype=photography&phrase=faster%20eggs%20in%20grass>

## Poetry Corner

### Our Crumbled Hope

By Sehaj Kaur (eighth grade)

My hand strained  
Under the bed  
Searching for something to help me succeed  
Hit a wall, a box  
Not expected  
Dust covers the box, a blanket of mystery

My heartbeat quickens  
Slowly moving my hand  
To remove the dust  
Shaking  
Lifting the lid, a picture twirls

Falling to my feet  
Strikes me between the chest  
Flashbacks flooded from the  
Dust swept streets  
Running for miles  
Never stopping

Autumn winds swept the dusty mix of  
tension  
depression  
amber leaves;  
the only color  
in our lives

Hunger, a constant chorus in the pit  
Of our young, torn bodies  
Clothes ripped,  
New ones were faraway  
as my mother's job

She  
A constant fountain of concern  
Worry  
Her once sparkling, green eyes

Now dull;  
Diamonds  
Without pressure

Her young skin  
Creased with  
anxiety  
Folded with  
distress  
Baby blue  
filled my mind  
Caught my  
memory

Mother's shirt  
was misery  
blue  
Oceans of loneliness  
Pangs of melancholy floated  
Through the heavy air  
The weight of a thousand bricks on her  
shoulders

How would she do it  
Support the family  
No jobs  
No sign of father or his efforts  
A gloomy fog settled

Hopeless dreams  
Crushed to ash  
Visions of success  
Sunlight, blocked by dark clouds  
Lost, morose



*Photo credit: Dorothea Lange, Museum of Modern Art*

# Where in the world are these teachers from?

By Bridget Casey (sixth grade)

The Newspaper Club is holding a competition in which we ask the teachers where they were born, and then whoever was born farthest away will get a prize! Please email your answers to Mrs. Claffey at [cclaffey@wcsd.net](mailto:cclaffey@wcsd.net) and remember to mention your name!



## End-of-Year Issue of the Falcon Flyer

Don't miss our final issue, to be published the last week of school.

*Eighth Grade Dance pictures and highlights*

*Interviews with retiring teachers*

*What to do this summer*

*The latest in gaming, books and movies*

*And more!*

# Spring treats to brighten your table

By Anna Barrett (seventh grade)

Spring is in full swing and spring snacks are coming with it! Here are two delicious spring fever foods to make at home.



## Flower Kabobs

Flower kabobs are a classic snack, and are easier to make than you may think.

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Cookie Cutters (flower, star) (one large one small)

Watermelon

Blueberries

Cantaloupe (and/or) Honeydew

(or any other fruit of choice for the flower)

Grapes (any color)

Skewers

**This recipe contains sharp objects. Some of you may feel you are past it, but always ask an adult for help. Safety first!**

### HOW TO MAKE:

Cut up the desired fruit (in this case, watermelon, cantaloupe, honeydew) and use the small and big cookie cutter to make shapes. Make sure you make the same amount of big and small “flowers”. Once they are prepared, stick a couple grapes on the skewer, close to the middle. (If you have different colors, feel free to alternate!) These will be to hold up the flowers. Put a large flower-fruit through the top of the skewer, and put a smaller one on top. End with a blueberry for the middle of the flower. Repeat until you have the right amount. Enjoy your cool treat!



## Peeps Bunny Cupcakes

These sugary treats are fun and easy to bake, and make a great party snack.

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Peep bunnies (Pink, yellow, green, blue)

Red, blue, and yellow food coloring

White icing

Cupcake tray + Cupcake liners

Cupcake box mix (batter)

Sugar Sprinkles (Pink or red, green, blue, yellow) (optional) Plastic Bag

#### HOW TO MAKE:

Follow the instructions on whatever box mix you have chosen for the batter. Once the batter is ready, place cupcake liners in the cupcake tray. Fill up each liner  $\frac{3}{4}$ 's of the way, as to not overflow. Read instructions on chosen box and cook for the time being. While you are waiting for the batter to cook, start coloring the frosting. Make 4 separate bowls of icing. In the first, put a small amount of red food coloring so it looks pink. In the second, put yellow. In the third, put yellow and blue until it is the right shade of green. In the fourth, put a small amount of blue. Mix them all. Put the icing into four different bags and cut a small hole in the bottom corner. Once the cupcakes are finished cooking, put icing on each of the cupcakes using the bag, alternating the colors. Put the matching sugar sprinkles (pink on pink, green on green). Finally, top each off with a peep of matching color. Let it cool, and enjoy this sweet bite!

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## **Falcon Flyer Staff**

*Falcon Flyer meets on Wednesdays in Room B106, 3-4 p.m.*

### **Sixth Grade**

Leah Ambrosine  
Kaia Khawaja Brown  
Bridget Casey  
Ella Gentile  
Christina Grisillo  
Emma Johnson  
Molly McCoy  
Isabella Mintz  
Sophia Pirone  
Charlotte Rasmussen  
Nico Tamburri  
Malini Upadhyay  
Corinne Weber  
Natalie Wilmes  
Elise Volkman

### **Seventh Grade**

Brianna Ambrosine  
Anna Barrett  
Hannah Berry

Abe Hagenbuch  
Lucy Harnish  
Gabrielle Kiddie  
Jackson Ward  
Tai Washington

### **Eighth Grade**

Nini Chen  
Emily Considine  
Vroni Detre-Moser  
Sehaj Kaur  
Min Lee  
Colin Rodriguez  
Ann Semeao

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Mrs. Claffey  
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