



What's Up @ Westridge

Volume 3, Issue 4

April, 2009

What's Up @ Westridge
By Students - For Students!

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"Pirates: The Musical" Sails to Adventure



Arrrrrr! Ahoy mates, it's time we sail! The ship is leaving for "Pirates: The Musical!" This story is about

"Stowaway," (Sophia Petry) who wants to be a pirate. In this adventure, Stowaway meets blue beard, black beard, red beard, purple beard, etc. He also meets the "King of the High C's" (Jack Bolen). Now we don't want tell you everything but we can tell you what it feels like to be right smack in the middle of this adventure! *(Continued on next page)*

Calling All Parents!

Are you interested in running the WU@W newspaper next year? We will need a new parent sponsor for the 2009-10 school year.

Pay is cheap but the satisfaction is tremendous. You get to work with some fabulous kids who will amaze you with every story. Plus, your efforts will go down in Westridge history!

If interested, please contact Ellen Recko at ellen.recko@intel.com.

Ten Grands — Worth a Million!

On April 10th, the 5th and 6th graders took a field trip to the "*Ten Grands Concert.*" The concert had 10 grand piano players including Westridge's own Adria Ye (who was the youngest performer in the concert) and three surprise musicians. Each musician performed one solo piece.

Between each performance, all the pianists played a piece together. *(Continued on next page)*





Anchors Away with Pirates!



In the brand new “Pirates: The Musical” play, Sophia Petry plays the lead role of “Stowaway.” Stowaway has always dreamed of being a pirate, and when she pleads to join a group of pirates, she won’t take “no” for an answer. She then becomes a stowaway upon a pirate ship. The 3rd and 4th graders play the pirates on the ship Stowaway sneaks upon. The play had great music with an interesting story of how Stowaway becomes the new lead singer on the ship the day in which she was scheduled to be killed.



By: Zach Garrison

Pirates

(continued from page 1)



Sophia Petry was the lead in this Grade 3/4 musical. Some questions we asked Sophia are:

☠ Is it scary being the lead? *“Yes, knowing all the people depend on me makes me nervous but I’ll keep on going.”*

☠ How much time does it take you to practice your lines? *“Usually it takes me a half hour or an hour whether it’s practicing by myself, with my parents, or with my friends. I try to practice when I have time.”*

☠ Is it fun? *“Yes, it’s a lot of fun but it’s also nerve-racking.”*

Miss Jones says it was really hard picking the lead and that she has total confidence in her actors and actresses. The musical was performed April 2nd at seven o’clock and there was a performance during the school day too. We hope you enjoyed the musical!

By Libby Hornecker and Hailey McCulloch

Ten Grands

(continued from page 1)

Overall the concert was about 2 hours. My favorite performance was the two sisters and their one brother performing a very long piece of music. Almost all the 5th and 6th graders agree that all the performers were amazing.

By: Zach Garrison

Looking Backward ... Important Stories from the Past

The Sinking of the Titanic ~ Almost 100 Years Ago

The RMS Titanic was a luxury passenger ship that sunk on April 14-15th 1912. There were a total of 2,223 people on board, and out of those people, 1,517 died. This left only 706 survivors. The passengers were split into different classes: first, second and third.



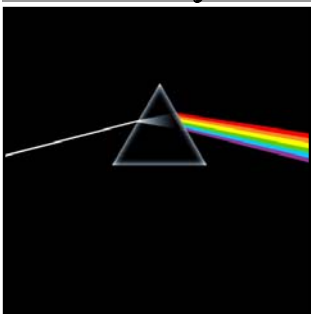
Bow of the ship found under water

New research indicates the ship foundered after suffering six narrow gashes, not one large one, as previously thought. Computer calculations help reveal the detailed stages.

The sinking of the Titanic lost many and left a mark on American history!

By: Michael Winchester and Walter Hill

Pink Floyd—A 44 Year Old Rock Band



Pink Floyd, a rock band, originated in 1965 in Cambridge, England. Pink Floyd went through many names to get to Pink Floyd. They were Megadeaths, Sigma 6, Screaming Abdabs, Abdabs, Architectural Abdabs, Tea Set, and The Pink Floyd Sound, and then they got Pink Floyd for their band name. Pink Floyd was very influenced by Jimi Hendrix, Amm (improvisational jazz group), Can (German experimental rock group), Byrds, Grateful Dead, Arthur Lee (Love). Pink Floyd's original people were Syd Barrett - guitar, vocals Roger Waters - bass, guitar, vocals Bob Klose, guitar Rick Wright - keyboards, wind instruments Nick Mason - drums. David Gilmore than took over Syd barrettes spot when Syd died.

Pink Floyd sold over 200 million albums since 1967. Pink Floyd also won 4 Grammy nominations in the 70's, 80's, and 90's. Pink Floyd also got into the rock hall of fame. Pink Floyd played blues, rock, jazz and many more genres that sound different abut is and was still great. Pink Floyd may be old will be in the 70's, 80's, 90's and even 2,000 and up in the years will always remember there great music.

By: Walter Hill

April Fool's Day



April Fool's day started out as New Year's Day. Then in 1562 Pope Gregory changed the calendar. January 1st was the new New Year's Day. Some people didn't like the change, though, so they continued to celebrate New Year's on April 1st. Other people who did like the change played tricks on people who didn't like the change and called them "April Fools."

Now, hundreds of years later, a lot of people play pranks on others on April Fool's Day. Some pranks are as complicated as short-sheeting but some are just telling someone something not true and saying "April Fool's!" Just remember one thing if you do something like short-sheeting or stringing toilet paper in your sister's room — you're probably going to have to clean it up!

By: Selah Crisp

A Friday Gone Bad

On Friday morning, February 16th, around 4:35a.m. I was sleeping in my bed. When I tried to stand up and get some water a sharp stabbing pain hit my stomach. I fell back onto my bed and called for my sister. When she came in she tried to help me to her bed, and after about two minutes of pure pain and intense crying, she went and got my mom. My mom called the doctor, and took me to Providence Hospital.



The nurse gave me a shot in my arm so I wouldn't feel any pain. I had to go to a second hospital called Emanuel Hospital. There they had to screen my stomach. Soon after they told my mom that I had an inflamed appendix, and that I would need an "appendectomy" (a fancy word for surgery to remove my appendix.) They gave me yet another pain killer, and gave me a room on the 2nd floor and scheduled the

surgery for 4:00 P.M.

After a lot of T.V. watching, sleeping, and taking medicine it was finally 4:00. The doctors prepared me for surgery by putting me on anesthesia. When I woke up again I had three little scars on my stomach. I stayed in the hospital for three days and went home on Sunday morning. I had to stay home from school for the next week. From now on I will always have three scars that will remind me of that scary day.

By: Emma McKerrow and Riley Whalen

Amazing Animals - Hippos

The hippo is known for its big appearance and African heritage. Most people think hippos are docile. But really, you'd be surprised.

What do you think hippos are related too? Rhinos?

Negative. The closest living relative of the hippo is the whale. Well you may doubt this because they look nothing like whales, but it's true.



Another thing that's pretty amazing is that hippos look pretty gentle. Lazy. Maybe even cute. But in truth, the hippo kills more people in Africa than lions, hyenas, crocodiles, and the whole bunch of carnivorous critters that are roaming around for some meat.



Five subspecies of hippopotamus have been found. Female hippos are called cows. Males are bulls, and offspring (babies) are calves. Sound familiar? These names are also used for elephants and cattle.

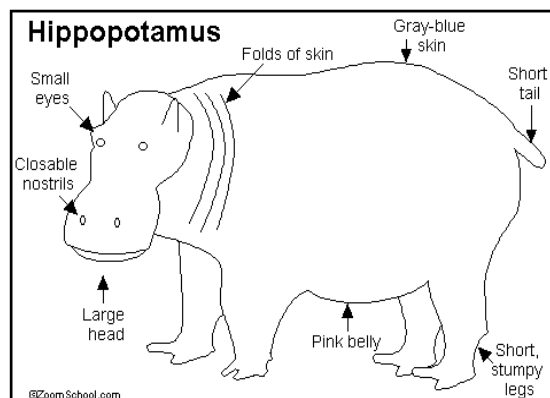
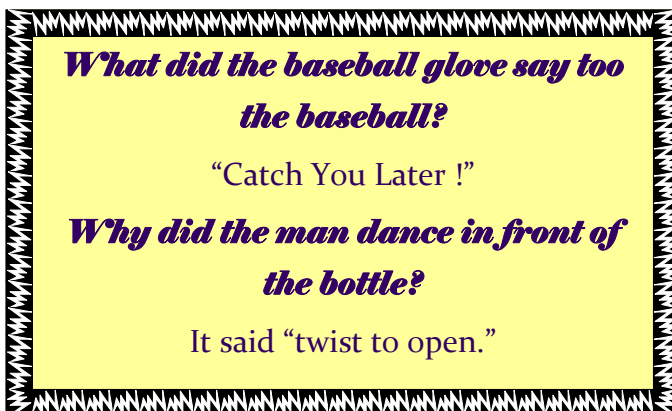
Hippos have a fierce temper and have been known to attack boats, humans, and crocodiles that go near their territory. They rarely kill each other, though, but ill hippos occasionally eat their own kind.

Steve Irwin, the "Crocodile Hunter," considered a five-minute ride across a river filled with hippos to be the most dangerous thing he ever attempted and filmed.

Thanks for reading this installment of Amazing Animals. And next time you're out in the wild and want to pet that cute little hippo that's sleeping so calmly, think again.

(Information from: Wikipedia)

By: Macey Moghadam



"First Dog" Arrives at the White House !

As President Obama promised, the First Family now has a new dog.

It is, in fact, a Portuguese water dog. Sasha, 7, and Malia, 10, gave it the name Bo, with his original name being Charlie. This type of dog can also be called a Portuguese Fishing Dog, a Portuguese Water Spaniel, and just plain "Portie". The "Easter Puppy" supposedly brought Bo as a gift. Bo is "black with a white ruff, perfect for DC's formal occasions," news agencies say.



This puppy was a gift from the Kennedy family, and it had to be hypoallergenic due to Malia's allergies. The deal was that so it wouldn't be too hard to take care of during business and traveling.

Sasha and Malia had to wait until they moved in to the White House to get the dog. But Obama kept his promise, and now two years later, these girls are happy with a new friend.
By Samantha Wolf

Kristin Kuran Spells Her Way To Success

The Spelling Bee was held on February 12, 2009. The 5/6 Spelling Bee was with the top ten spellers. These spellers were chosen by the highest scores on a written spelling test. Not everyone had to take this test. Students signed up a couple months early and they received a spelling bee book to study over the period of time before the big day. *"I studied almost every day for about 15 minutes,"* fifth grader Margaux Delaney said. There were a lot of words in the booklet. *"It was a small book, but there were like 300 words,"* said fifth grader Samantha Wolf.



On the big day, February 12, the ten finalists lined up on the stairs in the library. Almost 100 students from 5/6 were looking up at them. Each took turns stepping up to the front and spelling the given word. *"I wasn't really nervous standing up in front of everyone,"* sixth grader Nathan Goldsmith said. The top ten have different opinions of what the spelling bee was like. *"It was terrible standing in front of 100 students. I completely die. I can play soccer in front of tons of people.*

Though I can't spell O-P-P-O-R-T-U-N-I-T-Y," fifth grader Tena Rogers said. Nervousness was very common. If you are in front of a lot of people, you may become nervous-especially with stage fright. *"I got so nervous so I immediately spelled a word without thinking twice ... "*

(continued next page)

Have a Havanese ?

Have you ever heard of a Havanese? (*Have-a-nees*) Not many people have, and it is a breed of dog. The history of these purebred toy dogs started with the Spanish explorer, Christopher Columbus, when he landed in Cuba in 1492. Some of Columbus's fellow explorers brought their dogs with them on the ship, and believe it or not, when the dogs set foot in America, they were the start of this adorable breed. Their name is from the Cuban city, Havana (*Have-an-na*). Since the weather and climate in Cuba was hotter and more humid than the crew's previous home, the dogs developed a light and silky coat.



Author Samantha Wolf's dog Sadie

It is believed that the original dogs were bred from French and German poodles in the 19th century. Today, the Havanese breed comes in colors of black, white, "champagne party" (beige), and all the other available coat colors. Havanese are cousins of the Maltese and the Bichon Frise. The dogs are smaller and weigh from 7-13 pounds depending on age, and they weigh even less when newborn. These dogs at full size average about 2 feet tall standing on 2 legs.

The lovable Havanese are hypo-allergenic, which means their hair won't trigger allergies nearly as much as a regular dog would. Also, their personality is very sweet and they love all people. They do bark, and it is of a higher-pitched volume, but you can train them not to. Their nature is not to bark often, though.

I hope this is an interesting thing you have learned if you didn't already know of a Havanese, and I also hope you like these dogs because they are great company and very fun and charming for families.

By: Samantha Wolf

Spelling Bee

(Continued from previous page)

"... and that's how I messed up," Samantha Wolf said.

Our Westridge winner, Kristin Kuran, said, *"It was really nerve-wracking, I guessed a few times and luckily I got them right. I never thought I would win for the school."* It is very normal to get nervous right before doing something in front of a lot of people. Kristin Kuran is Westridge's winner. *"I won with the word 'appearance',"* Kristin said. Walter Hill said, *"Yes. I would've liked to do the spelling bee. But it would've been scary."*

The participants in the Script Spelling Bee were: Kristin Kuran, Sonya Ahmad-yar, Samantha Wolf, Tena Rogers, Margaux Delaney, Eric Restic, Adria Ye, Katie Calo, Nathan Goldsmith, Nick Abbot.

By: Sonya Ahmadyar

Can you say: *Cavalier King Charles Spaniel?*

I certainly can because that's the kind of dog I have. A Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, easily confused with Springer Spaniels or Cocker Spaniels, this breed originated in England. These dogs are very friendly and smart. They are great family dogs because originally they were bred to sit on people's laps to keep them warm. My dog Rio came in to visit two Fridays ago.



Cavalier King Charles Spaniels



Springer Spaniel

In many sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth century paintings you can see these small beloved dogs portrayed. Many Cavaliers have rounded tongues rather than pointier tongues. Spaniels in general can be identified by their long curly ears. Cavaliers can be identified by their colors: King Charles- black and tan, Blenheim- white and mahogany red, Prince Charles- tricolor and ruby- a rich mahogany red. Rio is a mixed breed so he is black and white similar to the cavaliers in the middle. Rio is three fourths Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and one fourth English Toy Spaniel. These dogs may be small but they are mighty. I highly recommend these great dogs for anyone looking for anything from a companion to a guard dog.



Cocker Spaniel

By: Kristin Kuran

Fun Fact of the Month

Q: *How many U.S. presidents were an only child?*

A: Only three of this country's 43 presidents can be considered only children: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Gerald Ford, and Bill Clinton. All three had half siblings, however. Roosevelt had a younger half brother. Ford had four half brothers and two half sisters. And Clinton has one younger half brother. Interestingly, 11 U.S. presidents were the oldest child in their family, and six presidents were the youngest child in their family.

By: Austin Rowe

Elementary Memories

Ever wonder what it was like at school when your teachers were kids? Here are answers from some of the awesome teachers we have here at Westridge.

We asked some teachers, “What is your favorite memory from when you were in grade school?”

Ms. Doll, Grade 1/2: *“A field trip to the Oregon coast.”*

Ms. O’Looney, Grade 1/2: *“My favorite memory from elementary school was when my 4th grade teacher put my class into teams of 4 and we had to design a parachute for an egg so that it wouldn’t break when he threw it off the top of the school. My team padded a shoebox with foam, toilet paper, and styrofoam peanuts and our egg survived! It was so awesome!”*



Mrs. Jaco, Grade 5/6: *“Walking home for lunch every day.”*

Mrs. Hall, Grad 5/6: *“In first grade we made a movie about gremlins going to outer space and I was a gremlin.”*

So, how does this compare to our school today? It’s in ways different, but also the same. Which school would you like to have?

By: Samantha Wolf and Selah Crisp

What Was Elementary School Like “In The Old Days” ?



We interviewed Mrs. Davidson, a Grade 3/4 teacher. We asked her if she remembered anything about her grade school. Mrs. Davidson lived in Alaska where it’s always cold. She and her siblings went to Sand Lake Elementary. She told us that this was her favorite school because she got to ice skate to and from school all in the dark. And once she got to school she changed into her regular shoes. We thought it was so cool that for P.E. they got to practice skating.

Also this is really unusual for us but not for her: she had an ice skating rink AND an igloo in her back yard! If any of you are wondering if her school starts at a different time than us it doesn’t! It starts at the same time as us! 9:05.A.M. Oh yea we almost forgot! Her teacher was called Mrs. Forgi. What an interesting experience!!!

By: Lucy Perusse and Cameron Noakes

Movie Review: Monsters vs. Aliens

Want to know what happens when an alien tries to take over the earth? In this comedy family movie, *Monsters Vs. Aliens*, an evil alien named Gallaxhar (in search of a recharging chemical for his ship) comes to invade Earth and retrieve the meteorite that contains it.



It starts out with a woman named Susan, who gets hit by the meteorite and grows to a giant size. She is whisked away to a prison for other “monsters” like her. When the government sees the disaster about to strike, they decide that for the monsters held captive in the prison-like security center, it was their time to shine. The 5 monsters team up to take down Gallaxhar,

and along the way, learn about the true meaning of friendship and that everyone isn't always what they seem.

Rating: Rated PG for sci-fi action, some crude humor and mild language
Target audience: Children/Family
Genre: Action/Adventure/Comedy

This movie is rated PG and is appropriate for all ages. *Monsters Vs. Aliens* is a perfect, funny movie for families and friends.

By: Samantha Wolf

Movie Review: Twilight



What do you think when you hear the word Twilight? The stars or maybe fireworks? Well, I know what I think of: *Twilight* the movie.

Twilight is about a girl named Bella Swan who moves from Arizona to a small town in Washington called Forks. When she arrives most of the students are very welcoming. Until she meets Edward Cullen. She soon finds out why he acts so strange. He is a vampire and he is tempted by the scent of her blood.

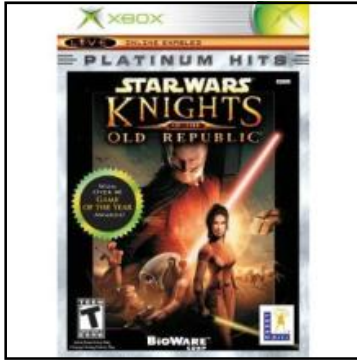
Edward introduces Bella to his entire vampire family. He also shows Bella all of his strength and speed. The two fall in love, unexpectedly, and Edward takes Bella to the prom.

The movie is based on the books of the *Twilight* series by Stephenie Meyer (reviewed in this newspaper last issue.)

By: Hailey McCulloch

Rating: Rated PG-13 for some violence and a scene of sensuality.
Target audience: Teens
Genre: Drama/Thriller/Romance

Game Review: Star Wars — Knights of The Old Republic



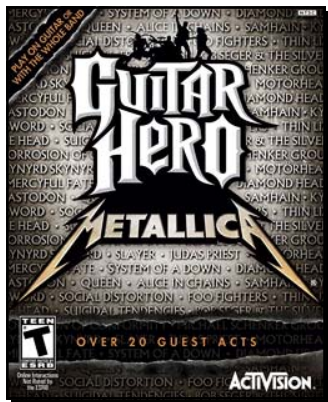
“Knights of the Old Republic” is an old game from 2003. However it is a classic. You can find this game at Blockbuster. It is somewhat hard to find. You may find it in a used game store such as Game Stop.

In this game you wake up on a ship (10,000 years before any of the Star Wars movies) to find it under attack by the Sith. Your shipmate helps you along and teaches you about functions of the controls until he saves your life by battling a dark Jedi. You fall in an escape pod to the planet below. When you recover a ship you can travel to different planets such as Dantooine where you become a Jedi. You battle many enemies and face many challenges. The choice is yours: do you become a member of the Sith alliance, or stay with the ways of the Jedi order?

This game has a sequel that came out in 2005. If you have an X-box or X-box 360 I highly recommend this game. It is not too hard and after awhile you can figure out how the story line goes. This is an amazing role playing game rated 9.5 out of 10. It is rated T (for teen) for blood and violence.

By: *Kristin Kuran*

Guitar Hero Metallica is Coming ...



DID YOU KNOW THERE IS A NEW GAME CALLED GUITAR HERO METALLICA COMING SOON!!

This video game comes with 2 guitars and 2 drum pedals.

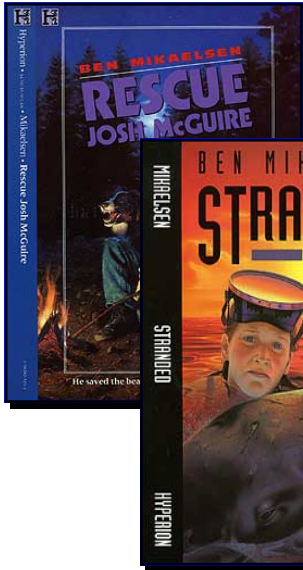
How to play this game is you have to press colors that are on the screen with the guitars and the drums.

This game is rated T for Teen because of how hard it is to play.

THIS GAME IS GONNA BE AWESOME!

By: *Zachary Gordon (call me “ZackAttack”)*

Author Ben Mikaelson Visits Westridge

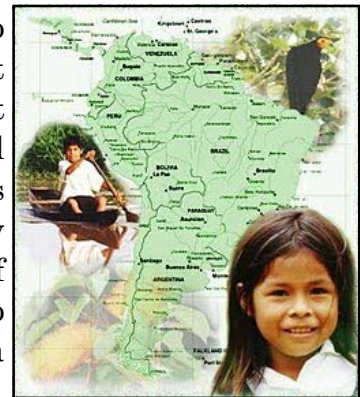


On March 11, a fabulous author came to visit our school: Ben Mikaelson! He has written several books, including *Rescue Josh McGuire*, *Touching Spirit Bear* (see review next page), and *Stranded*.

Ben Mikaelson has led a very interesting life. He grew up as a kid in Bolivia, South America, and since he was the only white kid in his school, poor young Ben was bullied a lot. But the thing was that Ben was full to the brim with great ideas for stories. And, being as uneducated as he was, he couldn't even spell the word "the"! In his boarding school in Bolivia, he would hide under the covers of his bed and write down his ideas. You couldn't read it, but that was the beginning of Ben's excellent writing.

Finally, Ben decided one day he should do what he wanted, no matter what people said. He started cliff diving. He started with a 5-foot cliff, and got higher and higher, until he was jumping off of a 30-foot cliff! He had also decided he wanted to learn how to fly a plane. Ben started working and saved every penny he could so he could ride his bike to get flying lessons. One day the bullies spotted him cliff diving and thought it was pretty cool. That ended the bullying for a while.

But not too long later, Ben and his family moved to America. He was going to start in seventh grade. Since it was his first day at school, he wanted to look nice. His best clothes he thought he had were his uniform from his old boarding school in Bolivia. He walked in all proud on his very first day at school in America, wearing some crazy outfit, and already kids were laughing and making fun of Ben. Ben *still* couldn't spell, so the whole scenario continued. So now, unfortunate Ben Mikaelson wasn't a very happy child.



Then, way up in college, Ben had to write an essay. *Still* he couldn't spell. When he got his essay back, there were so many red editing marks Ben said the paper looked like a pizza! His writing teacher called him in his office, and said he would recommend Ben take spelling and grammar lessons. In that little office, Ben Mikaelson spilled the whole story of his life so far, and started a new life of writing and great ideas.

(Continued on next page)

Author Ben Mikaelson

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Ben's first book, *Rescue Josh McGuire*, was sort of based on when he got his black bear, Buffy. Buffy got his name because at first Ben thought Buffy was going to be a girl, so he picked a name from an old TV show. When he found out Buffy was a boy, the name stuck, and here we are today. When Ben got Buffy, he saved him from a bear-pound, when Buffy was not even one year old. Now Buffy is 25 years old, 7 feet tall, and weighs about 750 pounds. Ben Mikaelson likes to work with the old bear by his side when he finally gets to work in the evening. When he has a story going he'll read it out loud with great expression, and it's pretty funny, because Buffy has no idea what in the world Ben is doing, so he sits there, half asleep, and yawns.



Ben with his pet bear Buffy

All in all, I hope you have learned something worthwhile, as I did, and remember Ben Mikaelson as a great writer and man.

By: Samantha Wolf (With a little help from Ben Mikaelson himself!)

See also: "Tips for Future Writers from Ben Mikaelson" on page 14)

Book Review: Touching Spirit Bear



In Touching Spirit Bear, Cole Mathews is the town bully. He has been stealing for years and when Peter Driscall rats him out for his most recent crime, Cole smashes Peter's skull into the sidewalk. He chooses to be sent to a remote island in Alaska for his punishment. On the island, he gets mauled by a creature called a Spirit Bear. During his struggle for survival, he learns valuable lessons about life.

Read this amazing book by Ben Mikaelson to find out what happens to Cole. I would recommend this book to students ages 9+. There is also a sequel called Ghost of Spirit Bear.

By: Zach Garrison

Tips from Ben Mikaelson for Future Writers

Imagination, Experience, and Research

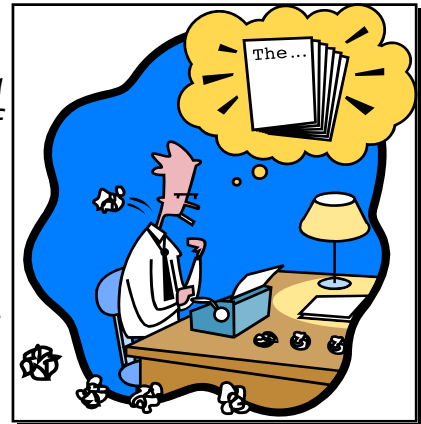
-- Ben says you need these three things to write a good story. Sometimes for research, he has gone to different countries to see what a typical day is like and once he even pretended to be a homeless person for a couple of days and ate the same amount they did (which was scarcely any), he didn't shower or anything, and he slept on the ground outside!

Writer's Block: Fast Writing

-- Here's a tip for writer's block. Take a piece of paper and write the first thing that comes to your mind, and don't stop. If you can't come up with anything, you could even just write, "bla bla bla bla." Eventually, you'll come up with something, and have a great story to tell, just like him.--

"Sunglasses" Tip

--This is a good tip that Ben uses to write a book. You have different pairs of "sunglasses:" one for emotions, characters, events, icky-gross-disgusting extra details, and more for different angles of the story. Each time you put on a pair, you totally focus on that one subject. Then you put it all together and have a great book.



"Cucumbers" Tip

--This is I think the best tip for getting in all those important details. Ben pretends that the readers of his books (us) are all cucumbers. We can't see, so you have to describe exactly what the image is. We can't hear, so you have to explain what the sounds are. We can't feel objects, so you have to describe what everything feels like, and we can't feel emotions, so you have to express what all the characters are feeling. Then you have a story the readers can picture and experience easily.--

Look at Everything as Fun

--This is good to remember because you should always be optimistic when writing all the good (and sometimes bad) parts of a story. This doesn't mean since you're all fun and games you shouldn't have a sad part in a book. That's what makes the story good: having good and bad parts mixed together nicely.--

Compiled by: Samantha Wolf

Restaurant Review: The Rheinlander



The Rheinlander, a historic German restaurant in the "Hollywood District" of Portland, is definitely not a place you would go to every day (even though I've gone twice in the past month). Both times I have gone it has been for a special occasion. The first time was for my uncle's birthday and the second time I went with my cousin, aunt and grandma. The reason you wouldn't go very often isn't because it's expensive (even though it is), but because it's not the type of place where you run in, eat some food and then run out. If you did, you would be turning your back on a whole lot of exciting activities!

This restaurant had a magical sense to it and reminded me of the Disneyland rides "It's a Small World" and "Pirates of the Caribbean." There were lots of little houses along the wall like a busy town bustling above us! We sat at the same homey table on both visits. There were shelves of knick-knacks and big German drinking steins, carved wood paintings and flower boxes outside the window! There was a man playing the accordion going around to the tables so we could sing along. I requested he play a song called "Oom-pa-pa," from an old movie my family had recently watched called "Oliver" (ask your parents, they might know that movie).



As soon as we were seated, the waiter (who was a college student from Germany and a great singer) brought us a pot of fondue (hot, creamy melted white cheese). Using a long fork, you can skewer your choice of rye, French or whole wheat bread and dip it in the cheese. I love rye bread because of its tanginess (like sourdough but mellower). I also shared a Thomas Kemper root beer with my cousin in a tall glass stein (you can see one on the bottle of a Thomas Kemper root beer, with the foam over flowing). I also ordered their homemade lentil soup. This wasn't just the lentil soup you get from a can, and as soon as you take your first bite, you know it's not vegetarian! This lentil soup had bacon, carrots, potatoes and who knows what else, but it was really good!

My dad ordered the sausage plate, which had three types of sausage; one was light-colored, called "bratwurst". I remembered its distinct taste from going to the Beaverton Farmers Market during the summer for breakfast and having German bratwurst on a bun with lots of sauerkraut (pickled cabbage) and mustard - yum!

(Continued on next page)

Some Couplets

The grass grows and grows

The wind blows and blows

White fluffy clouds fly by

In the summer sky

A big bag of treats

Is mine for keeps

On a rainy day

I can't go out to play

By: Riley Whalen

Rheinlander Restaurant

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Meals at the Rheinlander are unlike anything else: fun, festive and big hearty servings! I ordered Schnitzel (pounded and breaded chicken which is then sautéed) and buttery Spaetzle, which is a bumpy and chunky pasta, like macaroni without the shell, except that it isn't bland like macaroni or spaghetti noodles and had a much more interesting texture.



The waiter finally brought a dessert tray with all the different desserts on it and gave us descriptions of each one, even his personal opinion! He wasn't afraid to say if he didn't like a certain dessert. He didn't care for the bread pudding because he said it was like putting together a bunch of milk, eggs and bread and sticking it in the oven. He did recommend the sticky toffee pudding... and I would to! It was dark, rich and sticky, like runny caramel, moist and yummy! It

wasn't like French toast but more of cake-like pudding... and it was just about the best thing that I have ever tasted! The only bad thing was that we only ordered one for the entire table! Next time Grandmas' getting her own !

The adult menu was a bit pricey. For instance my parents' dinners were on the lower priced end of the menu and were \$15 each, but if you order off the kids' menu, there are still some interesting choices (it's not hot dogs and French fries) and it's much less expensive – my dinner was only about \$5. And my Schnitzel was bigger than my moms!

I give the Rheinlander a 5 fork rating (the highest possible score) because the atmosphere was magical and the food was delicious!

By Lindsay Wignot

Four Dinosaurs Travel to Cotton Candy Land



One day four dinosaurs disappeared and no one knew where they were. The four dinosaurs named Bella, Bob, Gabby, and Jeff went off running, trying not to be seen by humans, when they stumbled upon a building. It was a space building, and it had a space ship in it. The space ship had a replica of itself and the dinosaurs used their powers to make it come to life. They knew where they wanted to go, Cotton Candy Land!

To get to Cotton Candy Land, they had to go around Marshmallow Land, Cloudy Land, and Rainbow/Color Land. They had to avoid lots of asteroids and planets. When they found a place that looked like Cotton Candy Land, they landed there. It was the cloudiest, most puffy place in the universe; it was Cotton Candy Land!

They arrived at Cotton Candy Land, just like they planned. It wasn't just clouds, it had buildings too. When they walked into the city no one was there. Finally they walked in to a coffee shop and it was crowded. It looked like a meeting was going on, so they joined the meeting. The gathering was about a mean dinosaur who was planning to blow up Cotton Candy Land!

They had to do something! Cotton Candy Land was soo cool! They decided they were going to use their powers and save Cotton Candy Land. That night they were going to think of a plan on how to save Cotton Candy Land.

Bob, Gabby, Bella, and Jeff sat in the lobby of the hotel they were staying in. They practiced their powers: Jeff's powers were super strength and flying; Bella's powers were she can be invisible and turn other people invisible and she can make force fields; Gabby had the power to freeze and she can have lava shoot out of her hands so she can melt things; Bob had the power to run extremely fast and he can go though things. The four of them were ready to meet the bad guy.

The next day they found out where the bad guy was located. He was on top of a snowy mountain. Jeff, with his flying and super strength, picked up his friends one by one and took them to the top of the mountain. There on top of the mountain was a huge bomb and next to it was Dr. Doffenschmirtz, the bad guy.

Dr. Doofenschmirtz had powers too. He could turn dinosaurs into jell-o. When he did this to the four dinosaurs, they were stuck in jell-o. Since Bob could go through things he walked out of the jell-o.

(Continued on next page)



Tornados — A Whirling, Swirl of Power

The most powerful storms in the world.

How Tornadoes form? First the hot air meets the cold air and then they mix together like they're in love with each other. Then they spin around super fast like Flash Gordon and then it becomes a tornado.

You know why it is the power fullest storm ever? Because inside the tornado there is a skinnier spinner that controls the tornado and spins faster than the outside of the tornado. Because it has so much power it makes houses and buildings go flat down. One thing a tornado is stronger than a Hurricane.

By: Zachary Gordon (a/k/a "ZachAttack")



Four Dinosaurs

(continued from page previous page)



Bob knew he couldn't defeat Dr. D. alone so he used his super speed and ran as fast as he could around the huge piece of jell-o. It worked! He set them free, but the jell-o started to catch on fire so Gabby froze it and there they were with a big piece of frozen jell-o not knowing what to do. Jeff thought of a brilliant idea. He huddled with them and told them this, "O.K., this is what we're going to do. Gabby, unfreeze it, but don't make it hot. I will throw it at Doffenschmirzt. Bella make Bob invisible and Bob, you make sure Doffenschmirzt is stuck in the jell-o. O.K.?" Everyone said, "O.K." and they did it. When Dr. D was trapped, they went to the bomb and stopped it with 15 minutes and 13 seconds to go. Then they froze the bomb and buried it so deep no one would find it.

When they got down off of the mountain, they showed everyone Dr. Doffenschmirzt and then put him in Cotton Candy jail. That's how the four dinosaurs named Jeff, Bob, Gabby, and Bella traveled to Cotton Candy Land.

By: Samantha Danchok

Death from the Skies



It was a summer day in the prehistoric plains. The one continent that had been Earth for centuries was now drifting apart to form others of its kind, leaving earthquakes and volcanoes common.

In what we now call Oregon, a Parasolophus paused, inner ear organs vibrating with alerts. The call of a pterodactyl signaled the coming of a predator.

As a plant eater, the Parasolophus was in danger. His leaf-green scales glittered slightly as he dashed, blending in with the barren forest behind him. In the distance, Oviraptors (a carnivorous dinosaur) flooded over a herd of Stegosaurus. An unlucky one toppled over and was immediately swarmed by a dozen pecking, ripping, starving Oviraptors until it was nothing but a stark carcass.

Meanwhile, the Parasolophus reached a lake. He drank, wary of the carnivores stalking him. He could very well be eaten in a matter of minutes. Then an earthshake caught his attention. Some other drinking dinosaurs looked up to the heavens, and saw blazing beside the original, a second sun. Or that was as it appeared. But this sun was rapidly approaching like a piece of earth hurtling towards the planet. The dinosaurs lost attention in it and went back to their activities.

Our young Parasolophus, however, was fascinated. He watched the skies until his vision blazed with images even after he turned away. What was this phenomenon? This was unknown to even the smartest dinosaurs.

But many dinosaurs regained focus on the second sun when at night it did not set, instead scorched the night with its endless blaze, and then a week later- was over the horizon.

The dinosaurs awoke as an earthquake started, but not like any previous shakings. The ground tore up from the shock of the hit, and the second sun was gone. Instead, a dust covered the sky and filled the air until sight was seemingly impossible. For weeks, the dust hung like a veil over survival. Many of the carnivores had failed to hunt, and the herbivores heard reports from the other sides of the country that this was a worldwide crisis. In other news, mammals were populating the earth by the millions. It seemed the age of the dinosaurs had ended, and a new age had begun.

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Death from the Skies

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The Parasolophus stayed alive even as his world crumbled around him like a falling canyon, as more reptiles died and instead of being eaten by Oviraptors, were scavenged by rats. Strange creatures filled in from the south, and burrows flooded the land like a tide. The world that had been before was gone.

Then, whether of hunger or of exhaustion, the Parasolophus collapsed, breaths slowing. His thoughts of death were confirmed as a wave of rats rushed over him, taking chunks here and there...

And with that, the mighty dinosaur race ended. But from the ashes of this ruined world, a new king would rise... and it would be called Man.

Present Day

Jake and his sister Emily were digging in the yard. A bright sun shone in the sky, and birds flew past of a soft breeze. Tall oaks shaded the playing children like umbrellas. There was no sign of the troubled world that it had once been. The earth had been renewed by time, and evolved into this Utopia of primates.

Then Jake's shovel hit something hard. Startled, his picked up a rough, jagged white stone. Then he gasped and dropped it. It wasn't a rock, it was a bone!

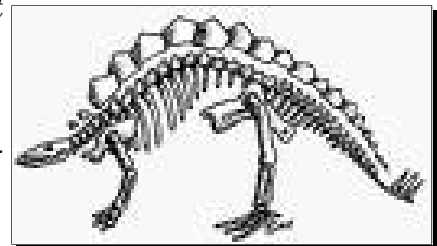
"Emily!"

The dug deeper and were surprised to find more bones- and within an hour or two- an entire skeleton!

"It's a dragon!" Jake exclaimed.

"No, it's a dinosaur! Jake- we're going to be rich!" Emily said happily.

So the Parasolophus wasn't forgotten- and it amazed millions as the first of its kind to be discovered.



Some Years Later

"How do you think it died, Carry?" Johnathon asked.

"Well, scientists say a big comet wiped them out. Imagine- a mass extinction like that could change a lot." His wife answered.

"If these bones could speak, what do you think they'd say?" Johnathan mused.

"They'd say 'Stop looking at me, you crazy apes!'" laughed Carry.

(Continued on next page)

Death from the Skies

(Continued from previous page)



The two left the museum and walked out. And as the museum's lights went out at night, the bones did not sleep as they had in life. If only they could tell their story- would we understand our world better? Or is it better for these great beasts to hide behind a veil of time, lost but not forgotten, retired rulers? The earth was once theirs.

If it is true that the past tells us about the future, then unraveling this dinosaur Apocalypse might be more important than we thought. As the universal clock ticks, one of the millions of asteroids in the galaxy might drift off course- onto a path with one destination - Earth.

By: Macey Moghadam

Some Haikus

Chocolaty cocoa
Creamy chocolaty drink
Helps me wake up

Mom's coffee with cream
from her espresso machine
a new day has come

By Riley's Mom

*Except as noted,
all Haikus by
Riley Whalen*

Golden brown, fluffy
Good morning pancakes, yummy
Sticky warm syrup

Sizzling Bacon
In the morning breakfast time
Yum y yummy crunchy bacon

The sun is rising
In the sky pretty colors
The new day is here

Did You Know ...

- A baseball has exactly 108 stitches, a cricket ball has between 65 and 70 stitches.
- A soccer ball is made up of 32 leather panels, held together by 642 stitches.
- Mammals are the only animals with flaps around the ears.
- African elephants only have four teeth to chew their food with.
- There are about one billion [cattle](#) in the world of which 200 million are in India.



- A house fly lives only 14 days.
- A dog was the first in space and a sheep, a duck and a rooster the first to fly in a hot air balloon.
- New York cabs get about 2000 tickets per month, handed out by about 2000 traffic attendants.



- Manhattan traffic crawls at an average of 6.2 miles an hour on midtown city streets.
- The first Ford cars had Dodge engines.
- Earth is not round; it is slightly pear-shaped. The North Pole radius is 44mm longer than the South Pole radius.



- A green diamond is the rarest diamond.
- The Dead Sea is 365 m (1,200 ft) below sea level.
- About 500 small meteorites fall to earth every year but most fall in the sea and in unpopulated areas.



Source: <http://www.didyounow.org/fastfacts/earth.htm>

What if People Lived 500 Years?

What if people lived to 500? If they stayed the same age? If you stayed 9 years old and you were in the 4th grade for 500 years, you would get so good at everything you learned, you wouldn't need to learn it anymore. Would you get bored staying the same age forever?

By: *Sophia Petry*

Iditarod Sled Race

The Iditarod is a sled race made of 12 and up to 16 dogs on a team. The race takes about 1,021 miles to finish. This event is held in Alaska. The race is held from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska. The race goes on ragged mountain paths, frozen rivers, and desolate tundra.



You may not know this but Mrs. Davidson has a grandfather that has been a sled racer but was not in the Iditarod. He only remembers one of his wheel dogs named Zero.

The dogs you are allowed to use are Siberian husky and an Alaskan malamute. The next time it will be held is Saturday, March 6th 2010.

By Michael Winchester

40 Wheels + 40 Kids = 1 Great Unicycle Club

40 unicycle riders...1 club.

The Westridge Unicycle Club is a club were anyone who wants to can join. The hard working kids have one goal... to get on the Westridge "One Wheelers." To be in the One Wheelers you need to circle the gym one time. The members so far able to go around the gym on unicycles include: Andrew Hill, Alex Hoduffer, Braeden Oedewaldt, Ethan Hill, Justin Kaye, Monica Holliday, Mark Farrenkopf, Sergio Mendez, Sonya Ahmadyar and Sydney Erikstrup. The One Wheelers are all going to the Jr. Rose parade. They will need to ride at least 5 miles till the parade is over. If you are interested in joining the unicycle club, ask Mr. Swanson for details.



By. Andrew Hill

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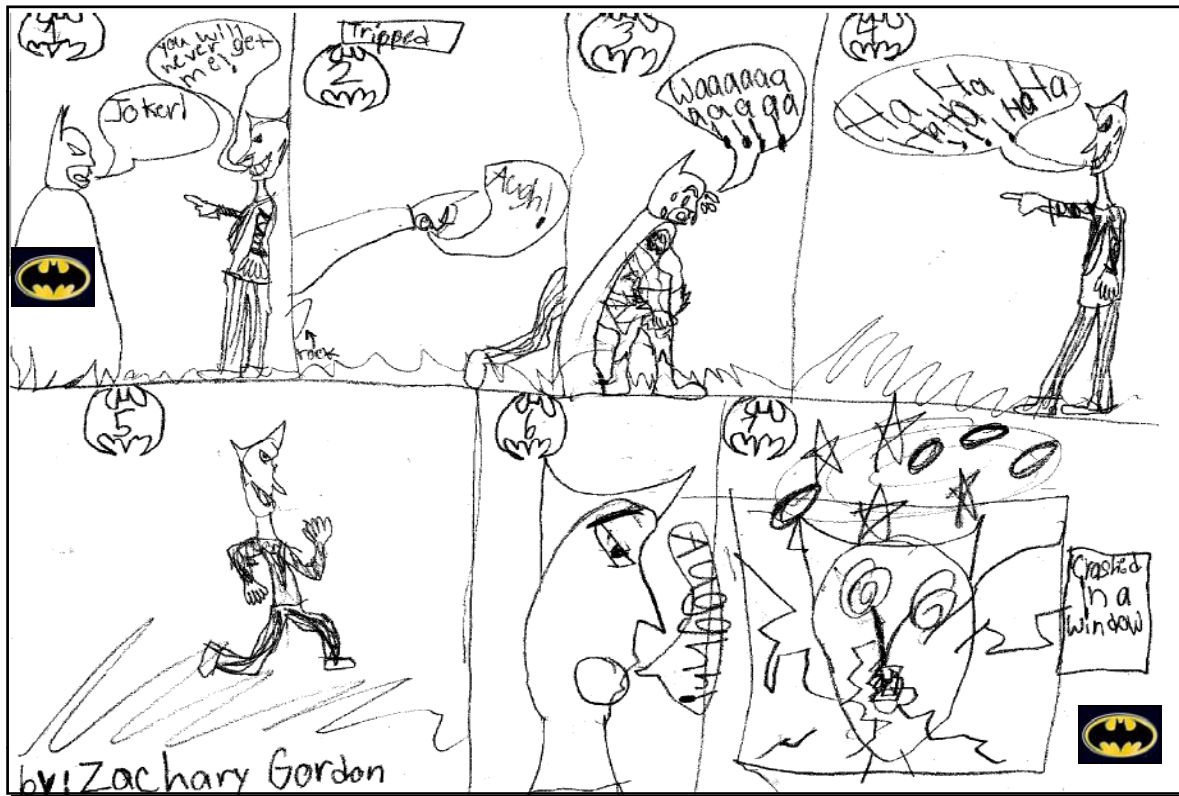
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**"What's Up @ Westridge" is a proud member of the
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