

Special
points of
interest:

- Help us raise money for Heifer International! See page 4 for details.
- We're winning all sorts of awards! See pages 1 and 2.
- Our kids are Reading Around the World! See page 3.

Inside this
issue:

The Arts	1
The Arts	1
Language A	2
Science	2
IB Ambassadors	3
Humanities	3
Literacy	3
Community Service	4

IB @ PBMS

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Wildcat Performers Shine at Districts

On December 3, 57 of Mrs. Laurie Sloan's performing arts students attended the District Thespian Festival at LaVilla Middle School in Jacksonville. The students performed in both musical theater and drama categories. Pacetti Bay was represented in an outstanding way, as we took home 39 Superior ratings and 25 Excellent ratings!

Additionally, Joseph Kiesel and Marco Mosqueda received a Best in Show



Joseph Kiesel and Maro Mosqueda (both eighth grade) pose with their medals and trophy won for Best in Show category of the improvisational round at LaVilla's District Thespian Festival.

award for their improvisational acting. They outperformed 17 other schools to

take home the trophy.

Aside from competition, Ms. Sloan spent the last month of her tenure with us working on the IB Area of Interaction, Human Ingenuity. Her students created variety shows, which included songs, original skits, and commercials. Mrs. Sloan really enjoyed watching the creativity of her students shine in their original productions.

While we are certainly sad to lose her, the Pacetti Bay family wishes Mrs. Sloan and her family best of luck in their new adventure—life in Atlanta, GA.

Band's Winter Concert a Success

Pacetti Bay's Advanced Band held its annual winter program on Dec. 4. Under the direction of Mr. Charlie Rankin, the students used this opportunity to showcase their musical talents.

The Symphonic Band pre-

sented a Spanish guitar piece, a song from *The Polar Express*, and the *Christmas Gloria*. The Wind Ensemble performed *Plaza de Toros*, melodies associated with Spanish bullfighting, along with several Christmas pieces.

The Percussion Ensemble also entertained with a playful piece entitled, *Dance of the Wind Up Toy*.

On Dec. 11, the Beginning Band presented their First Performance with flying colors. Congratulations to all of our musicians!

Carlos Magana Wins the Spelling Bee

On Jan. 9, over 40 students competed in our school-wide spelling bee. In order to qualify for this event, each student placed highly in individual class bees.

Going into five rounds of competition, the students proved their prowess by successfully spelling such words as *disparage*, *preposterous*, and *efficient*.

Eighth grader, Carlos Magana, was our finalist. He went on to compete at the district level, making it to the

tenth round of competition!!

Way to go, Carlos! We are very proud of your success.



Another Impressive Science Fair

In November, over 100 of our eighth grade students completed their 3-month-long Science Fair Projects.

Each student had the opportunity to work first hand using the scientific method and came up with an original idea on which to research, test, and collect data. They explored the AOI-Human Ingenuity and discovered how humans can initiate change to benefit society. They also examined the importance of scientific research and discovered how valuable reflecting on the results of a study can be to the success of society.

A panel of judges made up of school-district and community scientists assessed the work, and on Nov. 27, the PBMS community got a chance to see all of the entrants, including our 10 winners, at our annual Science Fair Night.

Congratulations to the following students who were named winners of the Fair:

Kyle Hatcher – ‘Using the Catalytic Reaction between H_2O_2 ’

Caroline King – ‘Chlorine Concentration vs. Water Evaporation’

Gerry Heron – ‘Driving and Distractions’

Suzanne Raybuck – ‘D.I.Y. Lag Fixes’

Henry Tabeling – ‘pHun with Cabbage’

Nicholas Eichorn – ‘Growth of Plants with Different Colored Lights’

Lexi Chizmar – ‘The Affect of Storage Temperature on Battery Life’

Jackson Lusk – ‘Super Solar Panels’

Tamar Gorham – ‘Paper Chromatography’

Tommy Maletta – ‘Scuba-Dooby-Doo, What’s Your Hue?’

“[Science Fair Participants]

discovered how valuable reflecting on the results of a study can be to the success of society.”

Local Business Leaders Visit Pacetti Bay



Ms. Sparkman and the 2013 IB Ambassadors.

On Jan. 10, a group of about 20 business leaders from around St. Johns County visited Pacetti Bay as part of the

Leadership St. Johns program. Our school was chosen as a showcase because of our beautiful facilities, excellent staff, and, of course, the IB MYP.

A group of seventh and eighth grade IB students led the visitors on a campus tour, breaking off into small groups who visited individual classrooms and saw learning in action. The Leadership groups was then treated to lunch and a perfor-

mance by the percussion ensemble.

Our IB Ambassadors represented PBMS very well, answering questions and speaking freely about their positive experiences with our IB program. All in all, they left the community members with an excellent idea of what IB at PBMS is all about.

The 2013 IB Ambassadors:
Jack Adams,
Jackie Cicalese,
Christopher Eichorn,
Tamar Gorham, Ellie Kenyon, Caroline King,
Jaysa Ligon,
Caitlin Mongon, Cody Sheider, Kelsey Witmeier.

Eighth Graders Bring History Alive

Students in Mrs. Cooper's U.S. History class were challenged to select a historical figure who had a direct effect on American history. The American History Makers Project consisted of students researching information about their particular person, writing a 3-page speech and

giving a 5-8 minute presentation with visual aids, including a costume!

Students were definitely risk-takers with their costumes, knowledgeable in their written papers and communicators through their presentations. Projects ranged from

poets like Langston Hughes, military heroes such as Ulysses Grant and James Doolittle, and influential women like Marie Curie, Amelia Earhart, and Betsy Ross. For a complete list, see the display of photos outside the 8th grade hallway.



Mathew Nitz as architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Students Read Around the World

Our Read Around the World program has certainly gotten our students reading books. Run by media specialist, Mrs. Johnson, Read Around the World requires students to select a book, read the book and then post a message on the Edmodo wall. In their

post, students have to determine which continent the book is set in. In addition, they choose a character and tell which IB learner profile the character exemplifies in the book and an example of how he or she shows that learner profile.

The best part of all is students are choosing books based on what they are reading on the wall! We have two world travelers already: Mikayla VanJaarsveld and Denise Miller. Both are sixth graders who quickly read through the seven continents.



Two sixth graders have already Read Around the World: Denise Miller and Mikayla VanJaarsveld.



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*IB: Holistic Learning, Intercultural
Awareness, Communication*

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end, the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



Read-A-Thon for Heifer International

On January 14, Pacetti Bay launched its latest community service project, this time hosting a Read-A-Thon to raise money for Heifer International. This organization helps those in poverty raise themselves up by teaching them farming and business skills. For as little as \$20, a flock of geese can be provided to a villagers who then use the eggs and feathers to make their own money.

Our students will be collecting donation pledges connected to how many pages they agree to read in a book or many books! All you have to do now is promise the money. Students have until Feb 19 to read their promised pages, after which they'll collect their donations.

We hope to raise enough money to be able to buy a heifer (\$500) or even a

menagerie (\$1000)!

If you care to donate a one-time amount or to sponsor a reader, please email [Kate Houston](mailto:Kate.Houston) or call 547-8770.

For more information on the Read to Feed program, visit <http://www.heifer.org/getinvolved/readtofeed/>

**Read-A-Thon
for Heifer
International,
Jan 14-Feb 19.
Donate now!**