

THE REDHAWK TALON TIMES



Empowering **ALL SCHOLARS** to be **CONFIDENT**, academically **PREPARED**, and **RESILIENT** to overcome present challenges and **CONQUER** future **OPPORTUNITIES**.

#HSAPRIDE

Chief Editor: Jessica Miller

Executive Editors: Bra'Den Harris and Kaleb Oden

-IN THIS ISSUE-

HISPANIC HERITAGE | In the month of September, Students at **HSA@MMS** celebrated Hispanic Heritage by trying new foods, decorating hallways and classrooms and dressing up. **Read more about it on page 22-23.**

PROJECT LIT BOOK CLUB | Interested in joining our **HSA@MMS** Project Lit Book Club? Wanna see what it's all about? **Read all about it on pages 14 and 15.**

RED STORM MARCHING BAND | Did you know we have some awesome 8th Graders that march under the Friday Night Lights at the High School in the Red Storm Marching Band? **Read more about them on pages 10 and 11!**

GET TO KNOW YOUR TEACHERS | We have some of the best teachers at MMS! Check out this months featured teachers chosen by students here at MMS **on pages 4 and 5**

HSA @ MONROE MIDDLE HAS HEART

By Alexis Molina-Mullis

Students in **Ms. Markiewitz's** Medical Science Class have been busy learning about some awesome things! During their unit on the **Circulatory System**, students dissected a **pig heart** which is the closest replica to a **human heart**! **Read more about this experience along with working diagrams of the human circulatory**

system on page 2 and 3. You can also read about the **LIVE** viewing of a real life **Kidney Transplant** that students got to watch and talk to a surgeon. Finally, learn about how students when on an **archaeological dig** for bones and learned how to analyze them!



Check out our football season recap in the SPORTS Section on pages 6 and 7!



UPCOMING DATES @ MMS

11/13 | Away Basketball Game @ **Sun Valley**
 11/15 | Away Basketball Game @ **Piedmont**
 11/16 | **School Dance 4-6pm (\$5.00)**
 11/27 | Home Basketball Game vs. **Parkwood**
 11/29 | Away Basketball Game @ **Cuthbertson**
 11/28 | **Project Lit Book Club: The Hate You Give**
 11/21-11/23 | **Thanksgiving Break**
 12/05 | Away Basketball @ **East Union**
 12/07 | **School Dance 4-6pm (\$5.00)**
 12/11 | Away Basketball Game @ **Marvin Ridge**
 12/13 | Home Basketball Game vs. **Weddington**
 12/18 | **Winter Band Concert 6pm**
 12/24-1/4 | **Winter/Holiday Break**

HSA @ MMS HAS A LOT OF HEART

(AND SOME KIDNEYS TOO)

Being a **Health Science Academy** here at Monroe Middle has opened new opportunities for our students to interact with all types of **medical professions** and participate in hands on learning. This program has been so successful and intriguing- **the governor and his wife have noticed!** First Lady Cooper even visited our school! Read more about that in our January issue!

In October, students that were part of the Health Sciences classes dissected a **pig heart**! This awesome activity helps scholars understand how **blood circulates through the heart** and get first-hand experience about heart anatomy. "You learn best when you're actually touching and doing something" says Medical Science teacher, Johanna Markiewitz. The dissection kit included dissection scissors which are sharper than your normal scissors, tweezers, small flashlights to see different vessels in the heart, and hand Lenses. Students used a **lab manual** to safely guide them through the dissection. Ms. Markiewitz used a **scalpel** to help cut at the muscle in the heart.

The first time Ms. Markiewitz did a **dissection** with middle school, she wasn't sure what to expect. She suspected that scholars would be disgusted by it and wouldn't participate. She asked the students to think about it being like steak. To her surprise, only two students felt like they needed to leave which was a **success!** They have been a key part of the **Medical Detectives Class!** The Medical Science teachers love seeing every group being completely engaged into an experiment. Their favorite sights to see are when the group is crowded and students are talking about the things they see. This dissection is in one of Ms. Markiewitz's **top three favorite lessons to teach!**



STUDENTS AT MMS VIEW A **LIVE** KIDNEY TRANSPLANT

By **Alexus Molina-Mullis**

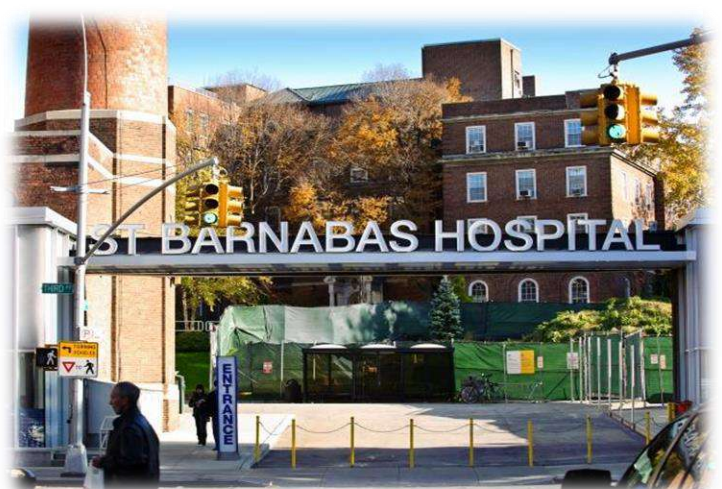
On the morning of **October 9th**, students at the Health Sciences Academy at Monroe middle were able to watch a live kidney transplant that occurred at the Saint Barnabas Medical Center. **The Liberty Science Center** in New Jersey partners with different hospitals around the US and allows people to interact with surgeons and view live surgeries. The **surgery** they watched was performed by a very experienced surgeon and students were able to ask questions!

Similar to the **heart dissection**, viewing a live surgery is visual way of learning. The surgery is completely unfiltered, uncut and allows students to see how much time a **kidney transplant** takes. The medical centers use laparoscopic cameras to see into the human body. **Monroe Middle** is one of the only schools in the Nation that gets to see these surgeries and the only one in Union County. Through these **live surgeries**, students are able to meet surgeons from all over the medical field including **oncologists, cardiologists and general surgeons**.

Students at Monroe really love seeing **the goriness of the surgeries** and watching the surgeon work inside of the **human body** so closely. Students realized it wasn't that gross to watch! Students also like seeing how the human body looks in the inside, and seeing the actual **veins and arteries that make our bodies function**.

The medical science teachers hope that it makes scholars more excited to learn about each **body system** and **medical professions**. It's also fascinating how technology in the medical field keeps advancing and how such tiny cuts, can have big impacts in a surgery. It also introduces scholars to the different roles people play in the **operating room**. Students have learned that it doesn't just take fifteen years of medical school to be a part of a transplant and medical team. **You could go to college for two years and still have a huge roll in the transplants!**

The Medical Science teachers want your input on the next live surgeries they view! Do you have an awesome idea of something you'd like to see!? Let your medical science teachers know your big ideas and **let's keep working toward success!**



Meet the Staff of HSA at Monroe Middle



There's no doubt we have some **AMAZING talent** and **leadership** here at **HSA at Monroe Middle**. You don't always get to have every teacher in the building, but the staff here are what leads our **Redhawk Family** to **Success!** Every month we will feature some members of the HSA family right here in the **Redhawk Talon Times!** Check back every month to learn about some **awesome** teachers and staff!

Who was your favorite teacher when you were in school?

"Coach Kaiser was my favorite teacher and Coach because he went the extra mile for me. He pushed me to work harder and get stronger, and he also knew all the best techniques to train us with. He was a great Driver's Education Teacher, and also probably the best discus and shot put Coach in Illinois. He believed in me, encouraged me, and helped me believe I could do more than I ever thought I could; and I did!"

What has been the highlight of your teaching career?

"The relationships I have developed with the students and staff have sustained me through all the life changing lessons I needed to learn from HSA@MMS! Thank you to everyone!"



Mr. Telfer, Health

Mr. Telfer teaches **Health** at Monroe Middle. He graduated from the **University of Iowa** with a Bachelor of Science degree and a Physical Education and Health Certification.

Favorite Color: Blue

Favorite Restaurant: New Zealand Cafe

Favorite Place to Shop: Sam's Club

Favorite Drink: Black Cherry Seltzer water

Favorite Unit to Teach: CPR (Knowing the whole Eighth grade can save a life is really cool!)

Favorite Animal: Horses

Favorite Movie: All Star Wars series

What is your fondest childhood memory?

"My fondest childhood memory is working alongside my dad sawing and splitting wood, for the warm fires I would wake up to each morning all winter long! (My Mom was also an amazing woman!)"

What is your favorite memory here at Monroe Middle?

"This year is my favorite year at HSA@MMS because Mr. Ferguson has assembled the best staff I have ever worked with. Everyone on staff has a great attitude, and are willing to pull together whenever needed! I am really excited to see our test results, because I am a believer that our scholars are going to exceed all expectations and growth goals this year! **Let's go Redhawks!**"



Mr. Swackhammer, 6th Grade Administrator



What are your responsibilities here at Monroe Middle?

"I am the 6th Grade Assistant Principal. I am responsible for supporting scholars and teachers on my grade level and throughout the building."

What do you feel your biggest challenges are being an Administrator?

"The life of an administrator is busy and a day rarely goes as you plan. Managing time and getting all the things done that need to be done is tough. You have to be an empathetic listener, take the time to understand where an individual is coming from when listening and talking to them."



What are the greatest rewards of being an admin?

"I have always enjoyed spending time with scholars and talking to them about their lives. As an administrator, I have many levels of conversations with scholars...they are all valuable experiences!"

What is your favorite book or book series and why?

"I am a kid at heart...I love Dr. Seuss!!! It is full of playful rhymes! But my favorite book has always been The Giving Tree by: Shel Silverstein. It has a good message...I have read it every first day of school for 14 years!"

What is the best thing about working with 6th graders?

"I get to help them continue their educational career and transition to secondary school. I have the opportunity to share their successes and help when they need me to."

What is the coolest place you have ever traveled to?

"I am a huge New York Yankees fan...my favorite place to go is Yankee Stadium!"

What is your happiest memory?

"That is a hard question...there are so many wonderful things I have experienced in my life! So, I would say any day I get to spend with my children are the happiest memories I have!"

Ms. Frierson. 6th Grade Social Studies

Ms. Frierson currently teaches 6th Grade Social Studies here at HSA at Monroe Middle. Ms. Frierson is a smart cookie with multiple degrees from Columbia University, Phoenix University, and Liberty University! Ask her about her colleges!

What was your inspiration for becoming a teacher?

I had a lot of great teachers when I was in school - particularly high school and college. They constantly challenged me to meet and exceed my goals. They made the subjects they taught so engaging that school became one of my favorite places. Even though I did not like every subject in school, I loved school enough that I was always willing to do my best because of the encouragement I received from teachers.

Who is your hero and why?

There are a lot of amazing people who inspire me and who have been influential within my life, but my hero is me. I have faced many obstacles. failed many tests...

...suffered many losses, and cried many tears, but I continue to survive even when I feel that everything will defeat me. I don't give up because I push myself to keep going. Through a push of strong will, determination, and faith, I have been my greatest hero. Without me being me, I just could not do what I do

What is your favorite book or book series and why?

My favorite book is The Little House. I love this book because the story was so relatable to my life as a child. I read it when I was five, and even then I recall the impact it had on me in such a deep way. I was moved by the deeper story I believed I could identify with, and would gaze for a long time at the pictures within the book. It's been my favorite story and one I always refer to when I want to remember that my personality makes me who I am and that I can overcome any obstacle.

Tell me about your favorite teacher when you were in school.

My favorite teacher is truly unforgettable and was my 6th grade English teacher, Mrs. Patti Taylor Hinson. She made learning fun and engaging, and there was never a dull moment in her class. She was funny and loved to make the class laugh. Yet, she also had high expectations and never let the class get away with anything. I was always mesmerized by the stories she told to relate to the topics she taught in class. Her teaching made sense to me, and I could always understand her explanations. Even though I never really asked her for help, I always knew she would help me when I needed it. She was just an all-around cool person.

What is your favorite quote? "There are two ways of spreading light: To be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." - Edith Wharton



Favorite Color: All shades of Black
Favorite Snack: Tate's Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

Favorite Restaurant: Superica

Favorite Place to Shop: Online

Favorite Drink: Welch's Grape Juice

Favorite Unit to Teach: Central & South America (Mayans, Aztecs & Incas)

Favorite Animal: Lion

Favorite Movie: The Dressmaker (I love sewing and fashion!)

Favorite Show: I can't just choose one ... I love almost anything dealing with forensics, crime, the study of the mind, and documentaries. I love comedy shows too.

Mrs. Picklesiemer currently teaches Dance to all grade levels. She attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and majored in Dance Education.

Why did you choose to teach Dance?

I've been dancing since i was three and it was something I fell in love with at a very young age.

Tell me about your favorite teacher when you were in school.

My first grade teacher, her name was Mrs. Wyte. She was my favorite teacher because my parents were going through a divorce and she just took me under her wing.

What is your favorite quote?

The true purpose of arts education is not necessarily to create more professional dancers or artists. It's to create more complete human beings who are critical thinkers, who have curious minds, who can lead productive live." -Kelly Pollock

What is your favorite memory here at Monroe Middle?

About two years ago, my eighth grade year long class was planning for their dance about overcoming obstacles and they went really in depth with it and took it very personal.



Mrs. Picklesiemer, Dance

Favorite Color: Purple or Pink
Favorite Snack: Strawberrys
Favorite Restaurant: Maggiano's
Favorite Place to Shop: Old Navy
Favorite Drink: Dr. Pepper
Favorite Unit to Teach: Concert Choreography
Favorite Animal: White Tigers
Favorite Movie: The Hunger Games
Favorite Show: This is Us



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Ms. Rollins and Ms. Gendron for receiving LIFT Grants to start a Learning Garden here at Monroe Middle and get new books to fuel our scholar's minds! We can't wait to see these awesome projects come to life!





HSA @ MONROE MIDDLE SPORTS

HSA at Monroe Middle is home to some of Union County's finest athletes. Our sports section seeks to showcase the **ACHIEVEMENTS** and **EFFORTS** of these awesome **STUDENT ATHLETES** that lead our school to **VICTORY!**

2018 MONROE REDHAWK FOOTBALL

The Redhawk Football teams had an awesome season this year. Our Redhawks put up a great fight in some awesome showcases of skill and talent. Check out their scores and read some interviews about the season!

6TH GRADE | CONFERENCE RECORD: 6-2-0

W  Saturday August 18
 13-12 **MONROE V. PARKWOOD** 

W  Saturday September 1
 0-6 **FOREST HILLS V. MONROE** 

L  Saturday September 8
 33-0 **PORTER RIDGE V. MONROE** 

W  Saturday September 15
 8-6 **MONROE V. CUTHBERTSON** 



L  Saturday September 22
 33-24 **WEDDINGTON V. MONROE** 

W  Saturday September 29
 8-30 **SUN VALLEY V. MONROE** 

W  Saturday October 6
 16-8 **MONROE V. HOLY TRINITY** 

W  Saturday October 13
 13-12 **MONROE V. PIEDMONT** 

7TH GRADE | CONFERENCE RECORD: 1-7-0

W  Saturday August 18
 42-27 **MONROE V. PARKWOOD** 

L  Saturday September 1
 34-0 **FOREST HILLS V. MONROE** 

L  Saturday September 8
 44-6 **PORTER RIDGE V. MONROE** 

L  Saturday September 15
 25-42 **MONROE V. CUTHBERTSON** 



L  Saturday September 22
 44-6 **WEDDINGTON V. MONROE** 

L  Saturday September 29
 33-12 **SUN VALLEY V. MONROE** 

L  Saturday October 6
 14-43 **MONROE V. HOLY TRINITY** 

W  Saturday October 13
 13-12 **MONROE V. PIEDMONT** 

8TH GRADE | CONFERENCE RECORD: 1-7-0

L 12-25  **MONROE V. PARKWOOD** 

L 22-13  **FOREST HILLS V. MONROE** 



L 45-19  **PORTER RIDGE V. MONROE** 

W 38-14  **MONROE V. CUTHBERTSON** 

L 22-6  **WEDDINGTON V. MONROE** 

L 47-7  **SUN VALLEY V. MONROE** 

L 6-40  **MONROE V. HOLY TRINITY** 

L 14-28  **MONROE V. PIEDMONT** 



Serving up Success! – 2018 Girls Volleyball

Congratulations!

The Girls Volleyball Team had an awesome season this year with two wins against Parkwood and two games in the Junior Varsity Middle School Tournament!

2018 Girls Volleyball Stars!

Xochitl Morales Rodriguez
Lizette Sanchez Andrade
Kanasia Knotts
Celina Tovar Castro
Estefania Reyes
Nasya Diaz
Misty Angelina
Saniya Gingham
Brittany Medora
Alexis Vargas



Monroe Middle Redhawks BASKETBALL



Thursday, November 8th
Weddington @ Monroe

Tuesday, November 13th
Monroe @ Sun Valley

Thursday, November 15th
Monroe @ Piedmont

Tuesday November 27th
Parkwood @ Monroe

Thursday November 29th
Monroe vs. Cuthbertson

Wednesday, December 5th
Monroe vs. East Union

Tuesday, December 11th
Monroe @ Marvin Ridge



Thursday, December 13th
Weddington @ Monroe

Thursday, January 10th
Porter Ridge @ Monroe

Tuesday, January 15th
Sun Valley @ Monroe

Thursday, January 17th
Piedmont at Monroe

Wednesday, January 23rd
Monroe at Parkwood

Thursday, January 24th
Cuthbertson at Monroe

All Games begin at 4:30pm

The girls will play first from November 8th – December 11th

The boys will play first from December 13th – January 25th

Come Show Us Your Dance Moves!



School Dances!

All Scholars are Invited!

Join us on
November 16th
December 7th
February 15th
April 18th

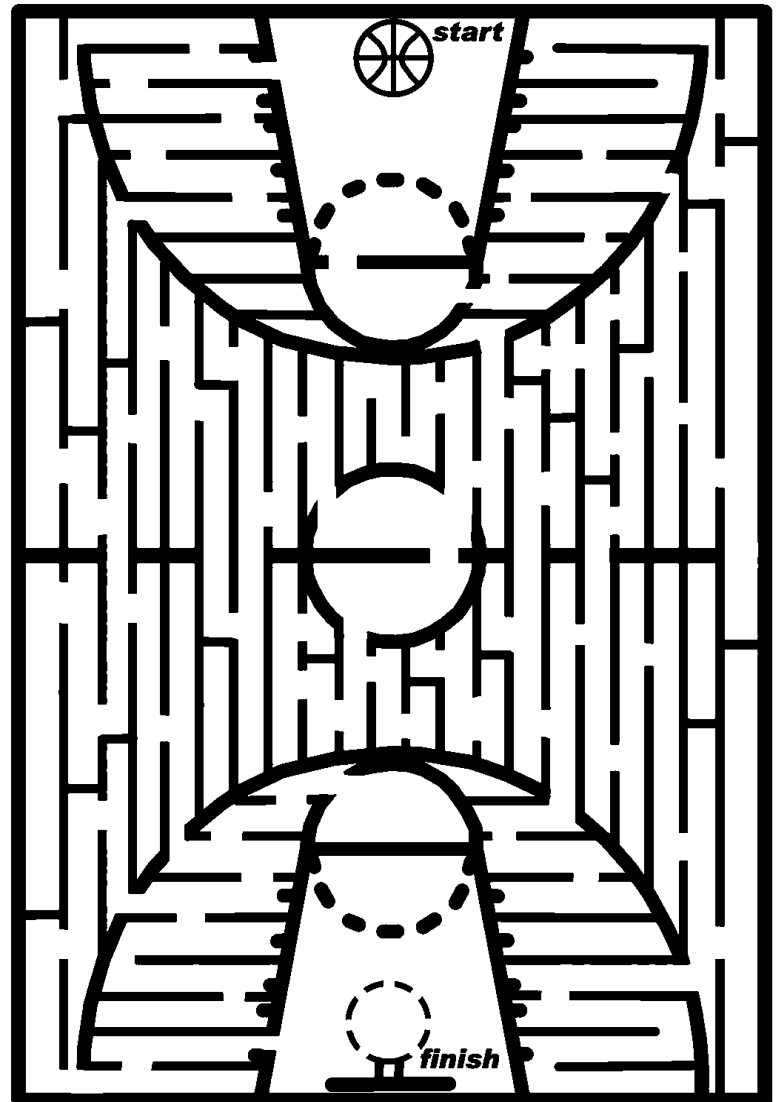
Mad beats brought to you by our Favorite
DJ- **Mr. Ervin** and Sick Dance moves
provided by **Sir Mix-A-Lot Shea**

O	R	E	T	N	I	O	P	E	E	R	H	T	E
C	K	I	H	P	H	A	L	F	C	O	U	R	T
O	L	D	C	O	O	N	F	U	L	A	E	T	S
T	C	E	A	I	F	R	E	E	T	H	O	W	N
F	A	F	O	N	F	O	R	L	L	S	L	P	I
O	R	E	C	T	E	N	K	E	U	R	A	E	A
E	R	N	O	S	N	K	C	A	O	E	R	S	T
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R	U	C	F	R	E	N	R	O	C	R	I	A	H
S	H	O	O	T	I	N	G	G	A	U	R	D	U

STEAL
DRIBBLE
DEFENCE
FAST BREAK
FULL COURT
SHOOTING GAURD
REFEREE
COACH
HALF COURT
CORNER
CARRYING
POINTS
BLOCK
PLAYERS
FOUL
THREE POINTER
FREE THOW
CAPTAIN
OFFENCE



MONROE MADDNESS **HAS ALREADY BEGUN!**





The Red Storm

By: Kaleb Oden, Karsten Parker and Bra'Den Harris

Did you know that we have **8th Graders** that march under the Friday Night Lights at **Monroe High School**. The Monroe High School **Red Storm** Marching Band brings the hype and the soundtrack to **Redhawk Football**. The **Red Storm** is the largest organization at Monroe High School. There are 76 people in total and out of those 76, there are the **only three 8th graders** participating in the marching band- Kaleb Oden, Bra'den Harris and Karsten Parker.

We enjoy being 8th graders in a high school marching band but it does not come without **challenges**. One of those challenges is marching for a long period of time. Another one could be playing really loud without cracking the note or making it sound bad. Other challenges could be **memorization** because in the marching band you have to memorize all the music and all of the field shows that we play at competitions and football games. In order to memorize them correctly we have to **practice** them over and over again. We work hard every day at practice to overcome these challenges!

We have all had a great time marching for the **Red Storm**! Check out some highlights of our **competition season**!



Kaleb Oden, Trombone

Bra'den Harris, Piccolo

Karsten Parker, Trumpet

Bringing Home the Gold

One of the competitions that we have participated in this year is **Spirit of the Cardinals** hosted by Phillip O Berry High School. We have also had another competition in Fayetteville. The competition is called Gotham City. For competitions, that's all we have this year, but each year we go to a college homecoming.

At Gotham City, the Red Storm brought home **1st Place** in Music, **1st Place** Drum Major, **Hypest Band of the Day** (no surprise here), **3rd Place** Dance, **3rd Place** Majorette, and **2nd Place OVERALL!**

The **Red Storm** Drum Major not only won **first place** in their class, but also rated the **Number 1 Drum Major** for the entire event!



**"The Calm
Before the
Storm"**



Want to see their awesome routine?

Scan this code using your phone's camera app and it will pull up a mesmerizing video of the Red Storm in Action! Featuring **"We be steady Mobbin"** by Lil Wayne, **"Off the Wall"** by Michael Jackson, **"Plenty Money"** by Plies, **"I am Every Woman"** by Whitney Houston, **"Set it Off"** by Lil Boosie and many more hit songs you will recognize

WINTER BAND CONCERT

The Monroe Middle School Band

DECEMBER 18TH AT 6.00P.M.
AT MONROE MIDDLE SCHOOL
ADMISSION IS FREE
BRING FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- ENTERTAINMENT -

Pop culture is all around us here at HSA @ Monroe Middle. Our interests in **music, video games, books, art and music** bring us together and help us find our **friends**. Our friends that one day become **FAMILY**. Check out what's hot in the Entertainment World, brought to you by some of your very own **Redhawk Talon Reporters**.

Venom: The New Anti-Hero Movie that **Bites!**

Marvel Studios has outdone themselves again! Their new movie "**Venom**" is a must-see blockbuster hit. The plot of the story really followed the original comics and the origin of **Venom**. The theatrical experience was unreal. We really felt like we were in the movie. Like the directors knew exactly how to make a "**Venom**" movie without Spiderman like he was never in the movie. First a little information about "**Venom**" he came from a character is a sentient alien Symbiote with an amorphous, who requires a host, usually human to bond with for its survival.

While exploring space for new places for humans to live, a group of astronauts discovered a comet covered in **symbiotic life forms**. They brought four of this life forms back to Earth but one escapes and causes the ship to crash in Malaysia.

Through a series of bad decisions and bad luck, **Eddie Brock**, the main character, becomes the host for one of these symbiotes. After losing his job, his fiancé and his home, he then loses his sense of freedom when Venom, the missing symbiote **overtakes his body**. Together, Venom and Eddie must fight against the Life Foundation, the company that is **killing homeless people** and using them as test hosts for the remaining three symbiotes.

Tom Hardy, the actor that plays Eddie Brock and **Venom** played the part really well. His ex-fiancé, Anne is played by Michelle Williams. She doesn't fit the usual "**Marvel Superhero**" type of girl, but she was awesome! There was a lot about this movie that makes it worth the watch. **If you love action movies- this is the movie for you**. The final scenes and the various fighting scenes have great stunts and effects. Venom also eats people and a raw lobster (**YUCK!**) At first, everyone thinks that he is just sick, but Anne's new boyfriend discovers that he has a "parasite" that makes him hungry all the time. The parasite is actually Venom. And **don't you dare let him hear you call him a parasite**.

Venom overall is a really good marvel movie but it wasn't our favorite. **Infinity War** is still the top Superhero movie to date. I chose Infinity War because it was just exciting because they **had all the superheroes** in one movie and had so much action. I would rate it a **five star rating!** But like any good Marvel Movie, Venom seems to be the first in a series of Venom films, as **Carnage** is already confirmed to be the second movie in the trilogy.



Coming Next Issue:



MARVEL'S SPIDERMAN:

Best Game of 2018 or Biggest Flop of the Year? You be the judge!

ANGIE THOMAS



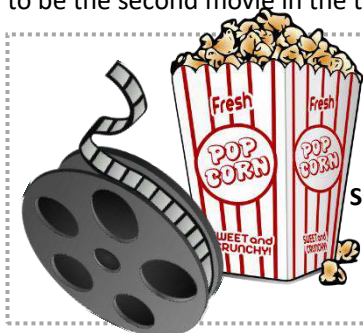
What will you give "The Hate U Give"

A Review of the Book and the Movie



The Crimes of Grindlewald:

Does the Fantastic Beasts franchise satisfy the Harry Potter Fandom?



A SUPER CHRISTMAS?!

Which December Superhero Hits will Light Up the Box Office this Holiday Season?



FORTNITE

By Allan Mejia
Is the Season 6 Battle Pass worth the hype?



The **Fortnite Season 6 Battle Pass** was released on September 27th and left many **Fortnite** fans up all night with anticipation of its release. The season 6 Battle Pass with tax is \$10.34. So the question remains- **Is this a fair price for the game content you get?** I was ready to gear up with some new skins and emotes. Battle passes are great values because you get skins that usually cost 10 dollars and a fair amount of emotes such as the runner, the waving, and the “got to go” emote.



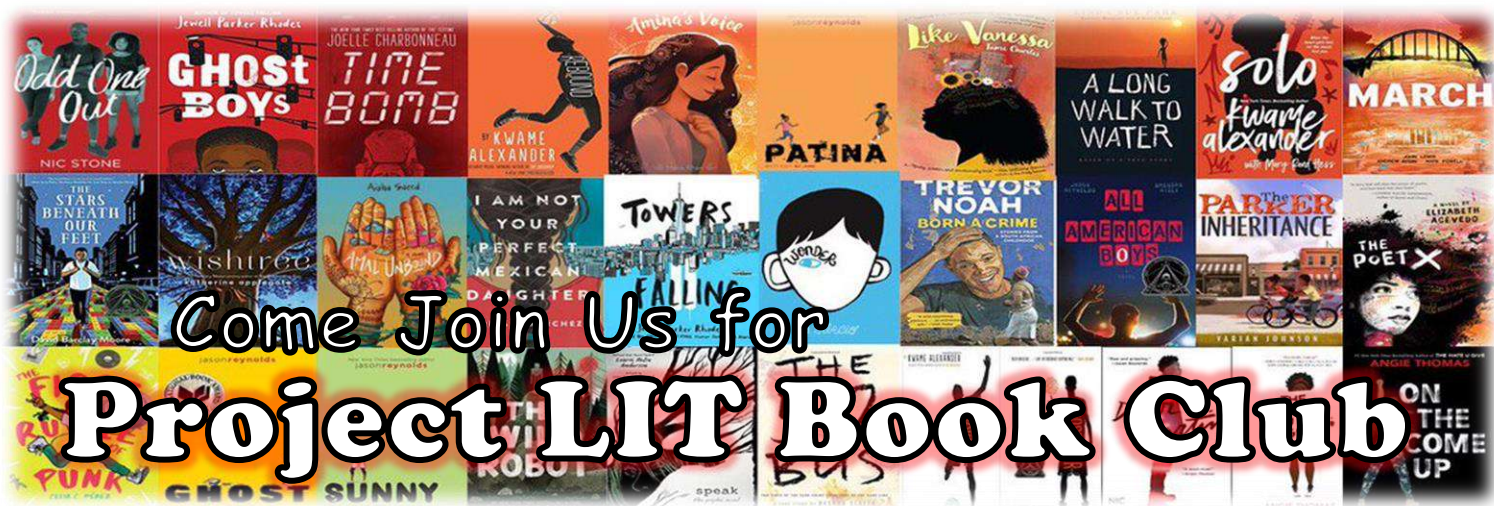
Season 6 also comes with a few new skins to customize your avatar. You start with the “**Calamity**” skin which is one of the best skins in Fortnite. It gives you options to make your avatar look like a western cowgirl. You also get four extra skins which in my opinion are just okay. For example “**DJ Yonder**” which turns you into a Robot Llama. The “**Giddy-Up**” skin is awesome! It makes it look like you are riding a pink llama! Other skins available are “**Fable**” “**Dusk**”, and “**Night Shade**.” The new 100 Tier Skin is the “**Dire**” which will give you a sword and a werewolf that evolves. It also changes the XP you get in the game. The Season 6 Battle Pass skins are to date some of the best skins we have seen.

Season 6 also is the first time that players can win pets. Season 6 comes with four pets that react to the way you play- **Bonesy** (a dog), **Scaley** (A Dragon) and **Camo** (A chameleon lizard). You also get some decent emotes. An **emote** is an action or a dance that your avatar can do. Usually just one emote is 800 vbucks which is equal to about \$8.00. The new emotes are **The Runner**, the **Waving action**, and the “**got to go**” emote.



It is a very great battle pass but I think basing the whole battle pass on Halloween was a terrible idea. It seems silly that it is based off of a one day holiday but you get great items. The “**Fortnitemares**” which is the newest mode that adds monsters to the field makes the game a pleasure to play. I also like the addition of the **revolver** and **crossbow**. Overall, I was really happy with the Season 6 Battle Ppass and I think you will be too!



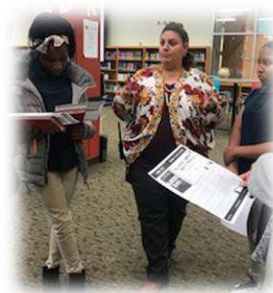


Project LIT is a national grassroots community that aims to bring people together through reading. We host book clubs and literacy events, and champion and celebrate a love of reading through increasing access to high-quality, culturally relevant books inside and outside of the classroom. This is to help students learn how to amplify their voice and advocate for themselves. The books chosen in Project Lit are all written by authors of color and help promote a love for reading throughout our awesome community.

HSA at Monroe Middle currently has 36 scholars participating in Project Lit and 25 staff members help lead the charge. Scholars and staff meet afterschool to have meaningful discussions and participate in engaging activities to help them understand what they read and express their opinions.



On October 25th, scholars and staff met to discuss their viewpoints and questions about "Ghost Boys" by Jewell Rhodes Parker. This selection opened scholars to a world of injustice and inequality, and had them ask questions about societal norms. Discussions about aspects of the book were led by various staff members and allowed scholars to choose where they were most comfortable speaking. Mrs. Lodge, the 6th Grade Guidance counselor is a staff member who works with our scholar is Project Lit. After the meeting she was so pumped for the next meeting. "I was impressed by our students and their high level of thinking while reflecting on the book. It is so refreshing to see young people passionate about reading!"

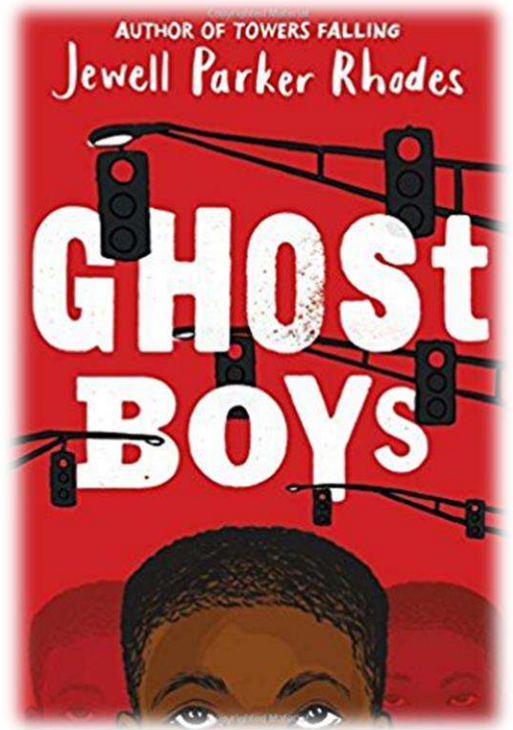


October's Selection: Ghost Boys by Jewell Rhodes Parker

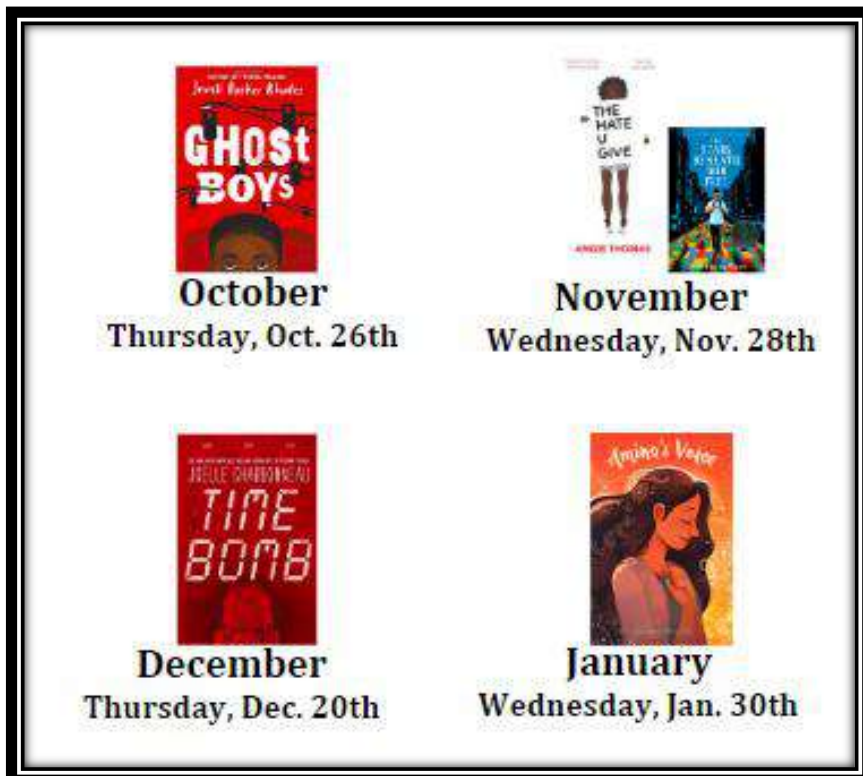
Book Review by Bra'den Harris 8th Grade Project Lit

Let me tell ya'll Redhawks about a book called "Ghost Boys". It's a book that really opens your eyes to the injustices of the world and racial inequality. I personally appreciate the author, Jewell Parker Rhodes for not only capturing the hurt and pain but also the healing and the strength of the characters in the book. The book is about an African American boy named Jerome who was shot by a police officer. Who thought he was an adult with a real weapon. As a ghost Jerome observes the devastation his family has to go through because of his death. I felt very bad for Jerome in these times because he wanted to comfort his family but he could not. During his "ghost stage" Jerome meets another ghost boy who later in the book identifies himself as Emmett Till, another African American boy who was unfairly killed in the 1950's. Emmett tries to help Jerome and guide him through the ghost stage in his "life".

Only one living person can see Jerome, her name is Sarah and she is the daughter of the police officer who shot Jerome. While reading, I often wondered why Sarah could see him but even his own sister could not? During the book Jerome overcomes his anger towards Sarah and they form a friendship that truly is beautiful and heartwarming. He inspires Sarah to ask questions about the injustices she has witnessed. Jewell Parker Rhodes has combined history and realistic fiction to make a truly extraordinary book that I personally think everyone should read, I promise you won't regret it.



Ready to Join Project Lit!?



The next meeting will be Wednesday November 28th from 4:00-5:00pm in the Media Center. Come prepared to talk about The Hate You Give and The Stars Beneath our Feet.

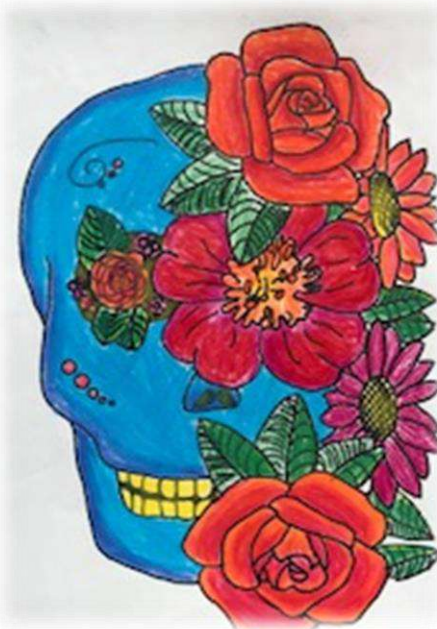
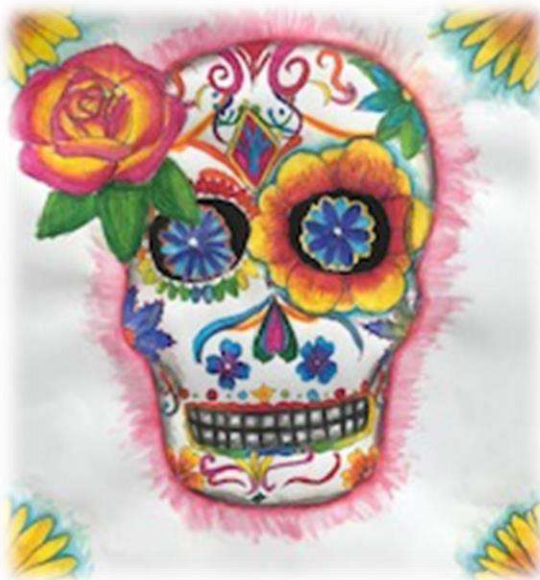
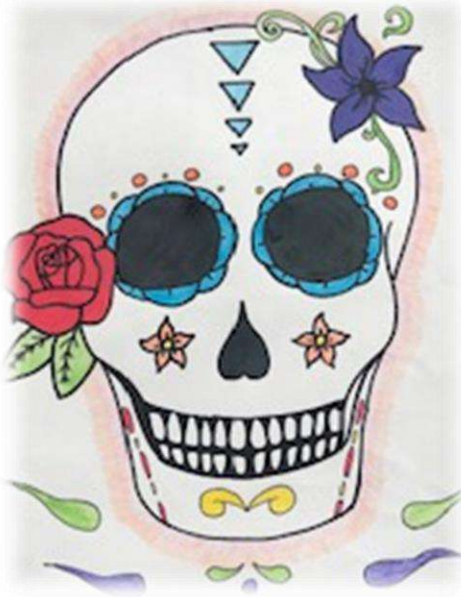
See your homeroom teacher for a permission slip!

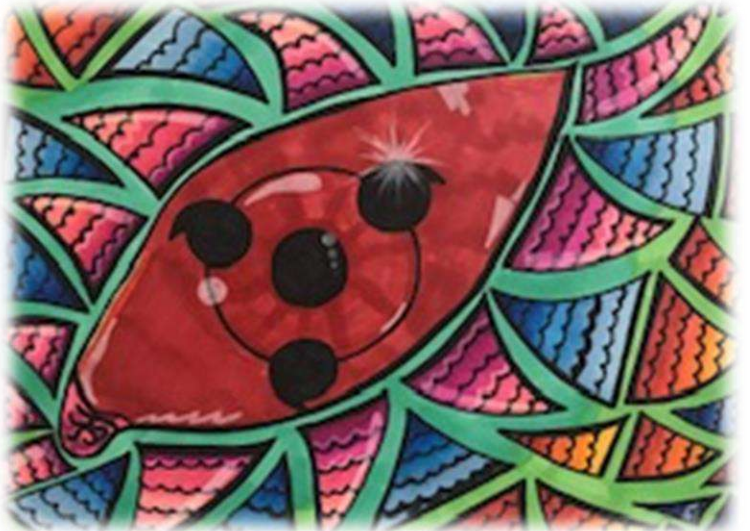
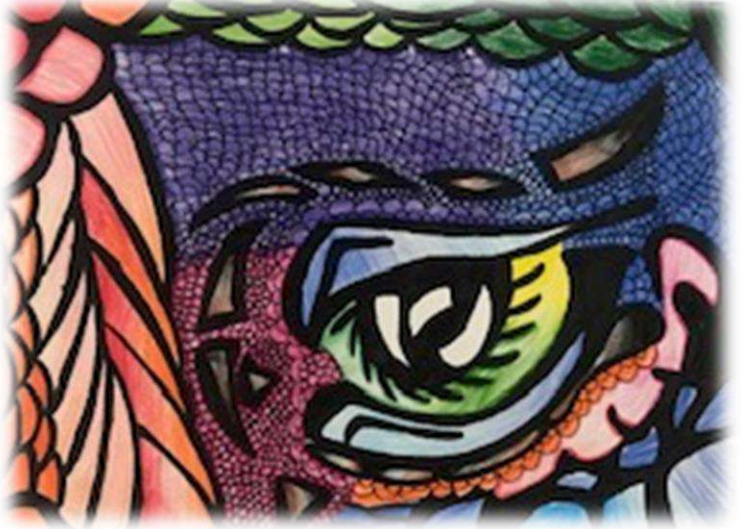


The Hate You Give is currently out in theatres! Scan this QR Code with your phone to watch the trailer. **Read the book, then see the movie!**

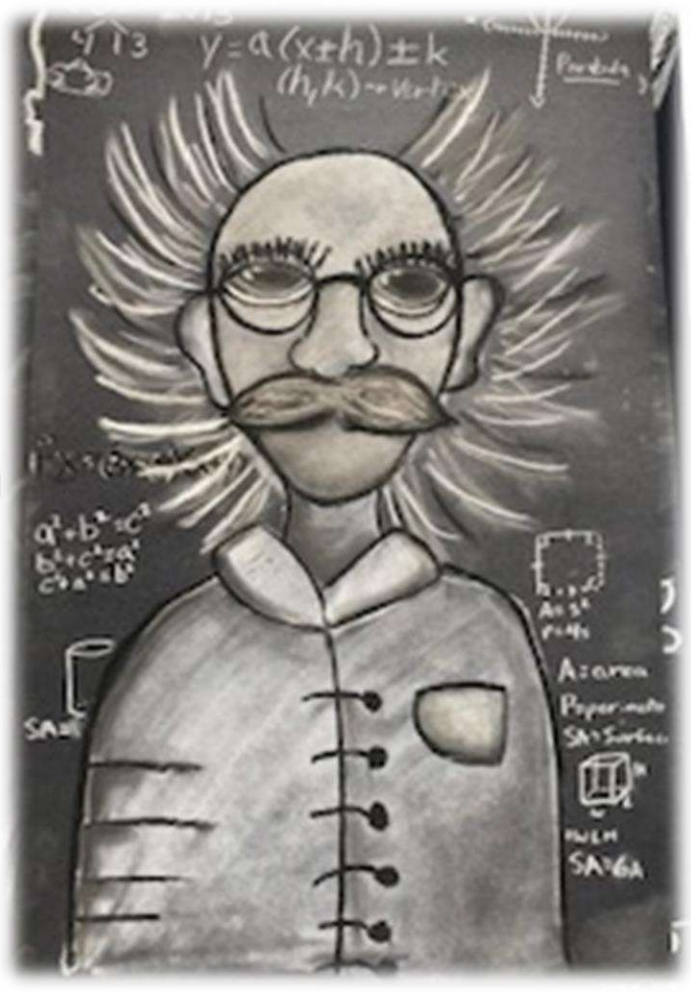
Student Spotlight

HSA at Monroe Middle is home to some **AWESOME** Student Artists, Authors, Poets, Dancers and Singers. The Student Spotlight Section is YOUR Chance to shine! Teachers have sent it some great submissions of **student work** and students have submitted some **top notch artwork** that should **be showcased in museums worldwide**. The **Redhawk Family** is proud of our diverse and talented scholars! If you would like to be featured in the Student Spotlight section- drop off your artwork, stories or poems to **Mrs. Miller in Room 707**.



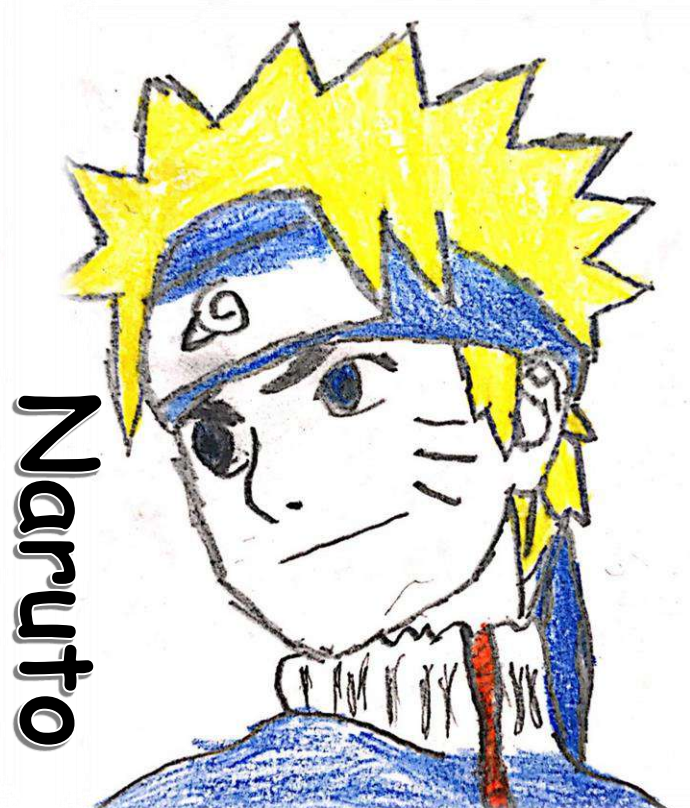
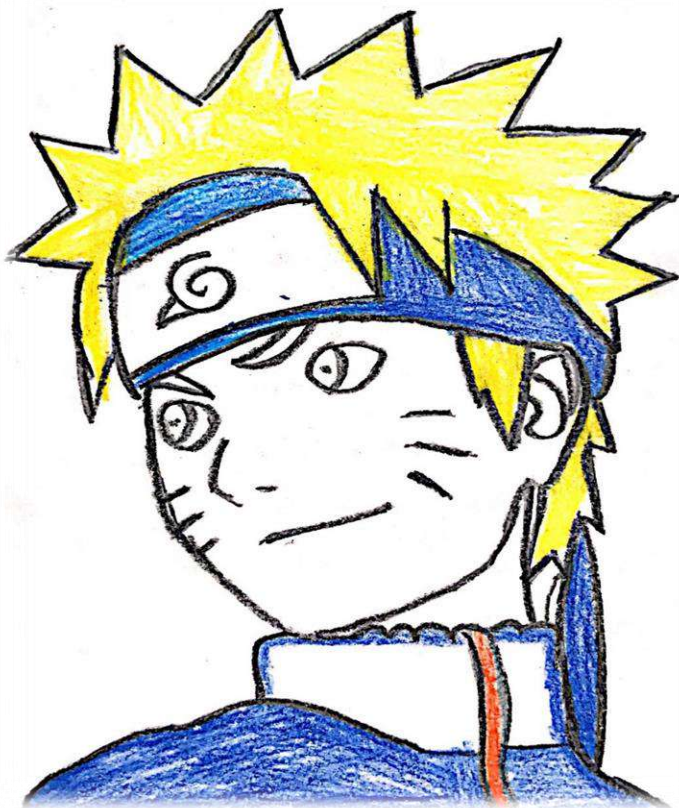


DRAGONS
ARE
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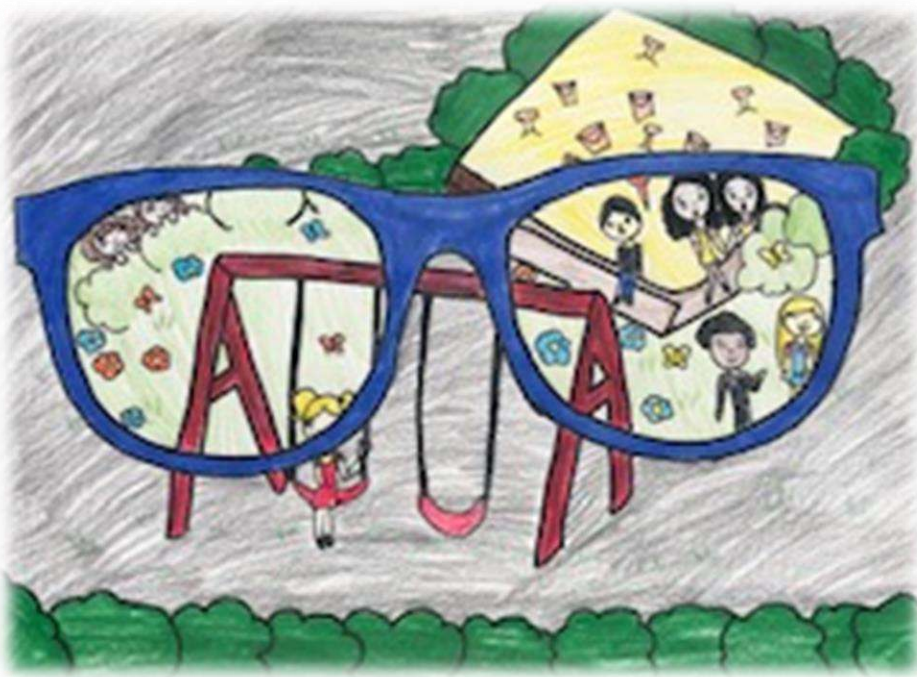
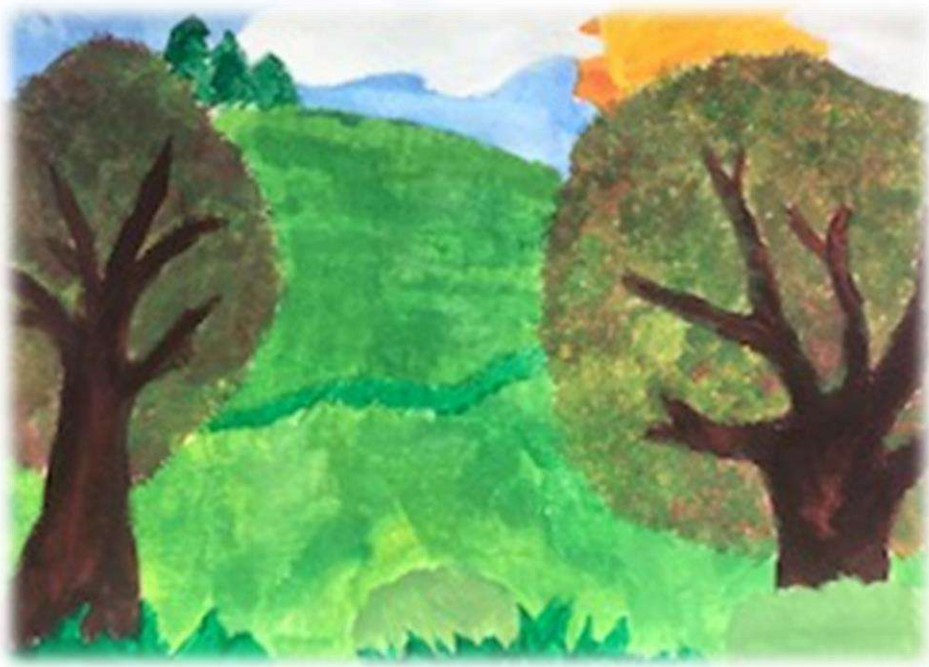


Albert Einstein

Who Drew it Better?



Naruto



All Artwork Featured was created by
[Ms. Caracci's Art Students](#) and
 Submissions from 6th, 7th and 8th
 Grade Students.

Indigenous People Day

In the month of October, students studied Indigenous People and Explorer's in 7th and 8th Grade. By studying primary sources, students are able to travel back in time to learn the perspectives of various groups of Native Americans and the effects that exploration and colonization had on their cultures. Ms. Helms gave her students a perspective assignment and **Maddie Cook, 7th Grade**, had an awesome retelling of a historical event!

Chief Ucita said that I was to be lookout today. It was my first time, so naturally I was a bit nervous and unsure of what to do. I eventually felt silly, however, because it was really quite a simple job. The main reason we have lookout duty is to make sure those **European men** don't return. They did not leave a good impression last time they came here. The area around was looking clear, until I spotted shapes in the distance. They looked like what the European men had when they were here before- **Ships**. I did not know for sure that they belonged to the European men, they could just be floating by. As I watched them get closer, I saw that it was unlikely that they would turn. **What should I do? Should I shout?**

"Europeans!" I yelled the word, immediately gaining the attention of the whole tribe. Some individuals came forward to look; they turned and shouted, **"Light the bonfires!"** Fires soon burned to life in various places. The ships had reached the shore, and men were getting off. We weren't going to pursue them; we watched as they seemed to make a small settlement. We retreated, however, when they grew weirdly tall—they were on the backs of strange animals—and made their way along the beach. Six of our own men have been out hunting since midday. We were starting to get worried for their safety, and **Chief Ucita** said to watch out for them. We hid in in the forest, and it was silent except for the crackling of fires and hushed whispering until— **BANG!**

A sound I couldn't describe rang out across the island; it was a sharp, unnatural, cracking sound; it hurt my ears. It couldn't have come from far away, and it must have come from the European men. Whatever it was, **it couldn't have been good**. I heard the thud of multiple arrows, and I knew that our people were getting attacked. I heard the cracking sound multiple times more, and it overpowered the sound of any arrows that were shot. I heard **screams and cries of anguish**, along with unfamiliar voices shouting strange words, then rapid footsteps thumping against the soft ground as members of our tribe came into view. It was only four of the six who left though, which gave me a sinking feeling of dread. They had all acquired scratches from the thick brush, and one was clutching his arm, smeared with red, his face twisted into a grimace. **Chief Ucita** studied them, his countenance somber. **"They were killed."** He said it as a statement, not as a question. They nodded. "Why did you not come when you saw the bonfires?" he asked, his tone unchanging.

The group was silent until the wounded man answered, **"We were on our way."**

Chief Ucita said nothing. It should not have taken them that long. They were trying to follow the European men. **Curiosity** got the best of them. "I believe they were trying to capture—"

He was interrupted by **another sickening crack**—louder this time, closer—and the man with the wounded arm fell forward and lay still on the ground. I heard the yelling of the European men, and saw them approaching us on the strange animals.

Complete chaos. People were trying to scramble back into the greenery; others were shooting arrows. A few arrows found their mark and stuck, but whatever weapon the European men were using was far more effective, and the awful noise sounded multiple more times. However, they faltered when they caught sight of one of our people. This person was once one of them, though you could hardly tell. He looked no different from the rest of us. We accepted him into our tribe after he was left behind by his people. We were cautious at first, but he was desperate and didn't cause us any harm. He fled from the European men, but did not shoot at them. The European men yelled at him in their strange language, and he yelled some words back, before turning away without looking back. **Deadly sounds** broke the air again. The Europeans stopped following us when we were deep in the forest, though a small number of us were wounded, and two people were missing. There was a gloomy air about us. We all knew they weren't left behind. **They were dead. No one said anything.**



Featured Commentary

Changing Nests

One Girl's Flight from Eagle to Redhawk

Change is always a scary thing. If moving wasn't already enough change, I also had to change schools. **East Union** had been my home or my "nest" since the 6th grade and because of redistricting- after only four weeks into the school year, **I had to change schools.**

When my mom first told me I had to switch schools, at first I was really sad and I thought I would really **miss everyone.** I had made lots of friends and some of my teachers I would miss a lot. Before I left, one of my teachers told me that he was friends with a teacher here at **Monroe** and that if I needed anything- he would make sure he told her about me. I really hoped I would be in her class!

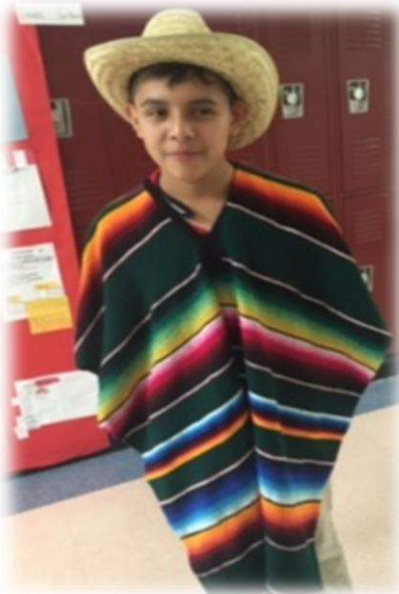
When I woke up on my first day at **Monroe Middle** I was very excited. I already had some friends at Monroe so I knew I could find some people to help me learn my way around the **Redhawk Nest.** My first day at Monroe was a great day and I made a lot of new friends and met some great teachers.

There are many, many differences about **Monroe** and **East Union.** They are not necessarily bad just different. Having been at East union for both sixth and seventh grade it was a really nice experience having met great teachers and friends, with ups and downs of course. I had heard rumors about Monroe Middle, but **none of them turned out to be true!** I have some really great teachers that do fun activities like **Ms. Kistler, Ms. Calderon** and **Mrs. Miller.** I love having Medical Detectives with **Ms. Markiewitz.** That's what I like about this school most. I love having that class with all the hands on experiences. We had Robotics at **East Union** (shout out to Ms. Davis) and I miss that class, but the **medical detectives** is awesome!

Another interesting difference is that you don't use lockers at **Monroe.** At **East Union** we were not allowed to have our book bags. Having your bookbag is a benefit here but also weighs you down. I like having all my stuff with me but sometimes I get a **little tired** walking all the way back to class from gym.

So far, **I have really enjoyed being a Redhawk.** I will always have a little bit of **Eagle** in me, but switching nests has been a great experience and I am thankful for all my new friends and teachers here at **Monroe.**





Hispanic Heritage month is celebrated **September 15th to October 15th**. We wanted to celebrate the **achievements** that the **Hispanic Community** has made to lead and improve the lives of people all over the world. To explore more about and **celebrate** the Hispanic Community students learned about **food, clothing, famous people, culture and sports**. Classes competed in a **door decorating contest** where **Ms. Carter's class** won first place! Students also dressed up in Hispanic inspired attire and as famous **Hispanic leaders and celebrities**.





Congratulations Ms. Carter's Class!

BUY YOUR Yearbook \$30

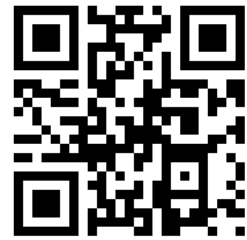
Yearbooks will only be available by
Pre-Orders this year!

Don't miss your chance to cherish the
awesome memories you have made this year!

Yearbooks are **\$30.00** or you can set up a
payment plan with **Ms. Caracci!**

See your homeroom teacher for an order
form or scan **the QR code** to access the
online form!

Thank You for Supporting Our School!



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