

# WARRIOR SPEARHEAD



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*"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."*

**-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

When you go to school, you are taught grammar and spelling and multiplication. But that's not all you learn, is it? You learn how to be a respectful person to your friends and superiors. You learn about kindness and compassion. At school, you shape your own identity, find your place in the world, and question anything and everything critically.. Going to school may be stressful sometimes, but without it, who would you be?



# MES Field Hockey

## Coach— Miss Marissa Melillo

“Pass, shoot, put it in the net. The other team’s in trouble I bet. Gooooo Warriors!!!” we cheer as we get ready for the game. This is the second year that MES has had a field hockey team and it looks like our 20<sup>th</sup> year. Over the past year the team has improved, a whole lot. From only winning one game to winning 4 games, is such a significant improvement in one year. We have a great bunch of girls with great skills and mindsets, who are being coached by a great coach building us up to have the ability to have these things. Some words from her are “These girls have easily surprised me and are some of the most dedicated, talented, and hardworking girls I’ve ever met.”

The season started with two weeks to practice a sport that was pretty much new to half the team. In those two weeks we learned everything from basic skills to complicated plays for the games. Our first game we played one of the best teams, but only lost 2-1. We went strong our next game winning 13-0. From then we knew we were going to be a very good team. From there we won three games and lost one. The team’s top scorers were Emma Cunningham, Anna Bee Koning, and Julia Nudo playing forward. The midfielders, which consisted of Ali Presbrey, Talia O’Relily, and Kennedy Driscoll, were the assisters/scorers, going to the goal to score but also getting back to defend. Our defense and goalie played aggressive defense, they would do anything to stop the other team from scoring. In the end, we have had such a great season, improved so much, and have had so much fun with such great girls!

-Ali Presbrey



## Soccer Fever

And that's game! The warrior fans go wild with excitement! Yeah!! WooHooo!! The MES girls' soccer team has experienced this reaction many times now throughout our season and it never seems to get old. I would know because I have felt that unexplainable feeling for what is now my third and final year on the team. Along with my other captains, McKenzie (Fred) Ramire and Kate Capadanno, there is no better feeling than a win. As a team, we have fortunately felt that feeling now six times throughout our season so far. Making our record 6-1-2, six wins, 1 loss, and 2 ties. I spoke with our coach, Mr. Russoniello and asked him a couple questions about our season so far and what his opinion was about it. Mr. Russ is proud of his team this year and said, "I found the girls have been working very well together sharing the ball and being good leaders."

Mr. Russ is one of the best soccer coaches you could ever have. And I'm not just saying that. Not only does he incorporate games into practices, but he makes it fun even when we all just want to stop and take a break. Being a part of the soccer team is a great experience and if you like soccer, I really suggest that you come and try out for the 2017 season. Here's some advice for anyone interested in trying out directly from our coach, "Play as much soccer you can between now and next year and work on your fundamentals."

Sadly, this will be my, along with the other eighth graders, last year on the team. However, our season is not over yet. Come out and support the girls in our playoff games coming up. It's always nice to see people come out, watch us play, and show your school spirit. It's never too late to see if soccer is right for you. And don't be shy, you can always ask the current players any questions you have. Let's go warriors!

## Mr. Schaad

Mr. Schaad isn't just your average gym teacher, he also runs the cross country team for the Manasquan Elementary School. I had a conversation with him about the team's success this year. The first question I asked him was "How do you think the cross country team did compared to your expectations?" He explained to me that he was very impressed with the team this year, they met all the expectations. I also asked him "How do you predict you will do next year? How talented is the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade?" He replied that they were one of the strongest boys he has seen this year, which means we could have a future of more winning cross country teams. The championship meet was October 26<sup>th</sup> and Jillian Spalt placed 9<sup>th</sup> for the girls and Bryce Ridge placed 4<sup>th</sup> for the boys. Both teams placed first in their divisions.

-Rory Giblin



STEM is one of the most talked about topics in K-12 education. STEM is a program that integrates subjects essential to society that are normally taught separately. STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The STEM program is based on real life applications for the skills that are taught. These real life applications come in the form of STEM challenges, hands on activities with requirements and limitations, such as limited materials or being stable enough to hold a given amount of weight, which model real life situations. STEM is applying the skills learned in school, to find solutions to a problem and working as a team. The STEM program is supposed to increase the number of jobs in many fields, as many fields are categorized as math, science, technology, and engineering. As the demand for better technology grows and new challenges arise, we need more tech developers, scientists, engineers and mathematicians.

STEM is the future of our economy according to some, the US has been average as far as scores in mathematics and science, but the goal of STEM is to make the US a scoring country, and to be better than the competition.

-Andrew Scranton

# The Science Trip

On October 19th and the 21<sup>st</sup>, 4 students, Kevin Prime, Rylyn Orlando, Lillian Bryant, and Carly Coble, went on a STEM science trip to the **Buehler Challenger & Science Center** and the **Middle Town Arts Center**. At the **Buehler Challenger & Science Center** the students went in a space simulator and watched a short video on a rocket launch. Then, they all got assigned jobs and went inside a space ship; there were different jobs to make the space ship run efficiently. Rylyn's job was to build a probe to launch. She said "It was very fun listening to a commander that told me and my partner how to build the space probe. Also, I liked getting into white space suits and building a probe to launch." Kevin's job was to Navigate the space ship, to tell it were to go and land. Carly's job was life support. Carly said "My job was fun because we made sure everything on the space craft was safe. For example, when there was a fake humidity warning we had to use a pump to bring the humidity level down." Lillian's job was Remote. Lillian said "It was amazing to observe objects that were on the moon and observe the moon to find a good landing spot."

On the second day the astronauts-in-training went to the **Middle Town Arts Center** and did five classes that involved everyday space needs. They built paper airplanes with partners. Another class they took was figuring out and drawing six items that we would bring onto the moon. Furthermore, they did an experiment to figure out how long it took them to build a set of bolts and nuts with blindfolds and gloves. The purpose of that was to show how hard it would be to work in space. Then, they dropped different sizes of rocks into flour to show how meteors indent the moon. Finally, they pretended to be robots with partners by telling our partners what to do; for instance, right arm move 180 degrees up. The students had to essentially "code" their partners.

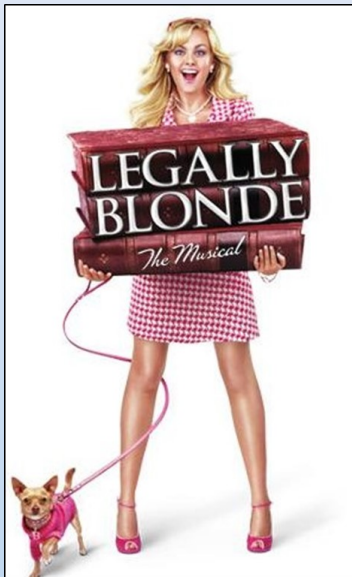
All in all, this was a fun learning experience for all of us.

-By: Carly Coble, Rylyn Orlando, and Lillian Bryant

# Drama Club 2016-17



Last year, the MES Drama Club put on *The Sound of Music* for the spring musical and it was a huge success. Because of the success, though, Mrs. Sliwoski, the director, wasn't sure how she could top it. *The Sound of Music* was one of the most successful shows ever performed at Manasquan and Mrs. S knew it would be hard to beat. If another classic musical was performed, it would undoubtedly be compared. So Mrs. S decided to try something on the other end of the spectrum: a modern musical comedy. The drama club is performing *Legally Blonde* this year, and many aspiring performers are excited. This year, we have drawn a bigger group of students at the initial meeting than ever before.



*Legally Blonde* is about a fashion major student named Elle who goes to law school to chase her boyfriend after he breaks up with her because she's "not serious enough." At law school, Elle finds a passion for it she never thought she would have. The musical is silly and fun with lots of upbeat musical numbers, and it is sure to attract kids, teens, and adults alike.

*Legally Blonde* is making its debut in the first week of April, a whole month earlier than last year, so be sure to attend! If you're interested in participating, our next meeting is November 16<sup>th</sup>, see Mrs. Sliwoski with any questions.

**-Brigid McCarthy**

## **The Environmental Club**

By: Ellen Gallagher

The MES Environmental Club, also known as the "Green Team" is helping our school save money and energy this year. Mrs. Eastmond, the moderator of the club, says that she has some great projects that can really help our students understand the importance of helping the environment. Right now, the club is working on a paper recycling program in Pod B that eventually they hope to expand to the whole school. The Environmental Club is also planning a holiday bake sale to help raise money for Water4. Water4 is an organization that helps communities in Africa get clean water. Mrs. Eastmond says that she is thrilled with her team this year and hopes that they can do amazing things to help the environment. The "Green Team's" motto is "saving the environment one classroom at a time." And that is what they hope to do.

## Dia de los Muertos

On October 20, the eighth grade students that take Spanish I had a celebration for Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead. Day of the dead is a holiday that is celebrated in Mexico on the first of November. When people celebrate Day of the Dead, they remember a lost loved one. The people will go to their family member's or friend's graves and decorate them with ofrendas. Ofrendas are similar to altars and are decorated with flowers and other religious and personal items. The holiday honors the dead with festivals and celebrations.

The students of Spanish I and Mrs. Lamorticella worked very hard to make sure the celebration went as planned. The students prepared a video a for their parents which explained the significance of the holiday, and even included some bloopers and outtakes. The students dressed in dark clothes and face paint to make themselves look like skeletons. After the videos, everyone proceeded to the cafeteria to decorate skulls and eat skull-shaped cookies. Once everything was cleaned up at the school, the students and parents went to Atlantic View Cemetery for some Halloween fun!

-Stephen Schmeider





## Veteran's Day

**Veterans Day is on November 11<sup>th</sup> this year. As it approaches, we should know what we are celebrating as it comes. We all know Veteran's Day as a day to remember our veterans who fought bravely for our great nation. They made brave sacrifices on the battlefield and risked their lives so we can live happily and free. Some men and women suffer from loss of limbs, Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome, and much more. Some veterans are young in their 20s, and some veterans are old in their 80s, but either way, they are very brave and deserve to be celebrated.**

**Veterans Day originated almost 100 years ago. World War 1 had just officially ended on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1918 when the treaty of Versailles was signed. The fighting among the nations had stopped seven months earlier when an armistice between Germany and the Allied nations went into effect of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. That is the reason November 11<sup>th</sup> is typically regarded as the end of the war. In 1919, president Wilson issued an Armistice Day to celebrate the end of the war. In 1938 it was declared a legal holiday in the nation. It was changed later that year to "Veteran's day" to not only celebrate the Veterans of WW1 but the veterans of WW2 and all other wars and battles that were fought by our brave soldiers.**

**The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held every year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony starts at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is meant to honor, respect and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces to help keep our country safe and free.**

**-Ethan Willis**

# ROBOCROW

When summer ends most kids are scared, worried, or even annoyed that the school year is going to start up and the weather is going to get colder and colder but most kids don't stop and realize the beauty is right outside your door. Fall is not just a time for worrying about your first marking period grades or playing videogames tucked away in a corner. Go outside, feel the breeze, or maybe..... make a scarecrow.

Every year Manasquan hosts a scarecrow competition on Main Street, and if you win, you get prizes and gift cards to use in town. This year Manasquan Elementary School's 8<sup>th</sup> grade STEM class had the pleasure of making the Robocrow. Get it? Robot- Scarecrow. The class cut out wood, broke computers, smashed hard drives, and dropped printers to make the Robocrow come to life. The class drew a design for their "scarecrow" and collected parts for construction. Parents, Mrs. Trischitta, and almost every student gave the Robocrow their all.

Even though we won first place, that wasn't our goal. Our goal was just to have fun and get to know each other better, outside of school. Though the competition is over for this year, it is not over forever. Next year you can try this and see what you can create. It was an amazing experience to create the Robocrow and the memories that came from it will stuck with the STEM class for a long time.

-Jillian Spalt



## History Club

The History Club, run by Mrs. Yellovich, is the best possible club you could join at Manasquan! Now, I know what you may be thinking, “I don’t want to join a club where I have to learn and do a bunch of work.” Well, I promise you, it’s nothing like that! Each year, we attend an event called The Model UN. This is where you are given a worldwide issue and have to research how your chosen country is trying to resolve it. You then get to go to the Manasquan High School with other schools and give your ideas and debate over whose is better. You will also be baking a traditional treat from your country and bringing it to the event for the other countries to try. From personal experience I can tell you that it’s lots of fun and I found myself to learn a lot about what’s around me without realizing it.

While speaking with Mrs. Yellovich she told me how she’s planning lots of events this year, including the spring and winter Model UNs, a guest speaker from the UN, and a spring New York trip! Last year the New York trip was tons of fun. We were able to go to the 9/11 memorial, a museum, and out to lunch. It is a fun day to spend with your friends and get a day off from school! The meetings are only a few times a month during lunch and will be announced. If you’re in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, come to one of the meetings and you’ll see how fun History Club really is.



## Life in an Image

Even the best of memories can slowly fade away or change, but a photo can't. I wasn't into photography until two summers ago, when one of my best friends, Stephen Schmieder, brought his Gopro to the beach to take photos of the barrels that were amazing that day. It was one of the best days of my life, we took photos for about two hours, non-stop. Each time you go to take a picture of the wave, the barrel forms over you and all you can see is what is through the tube (barrel) and time freezes with only an amazing view to see. I wasn't the best at taking photographs at first, but I wanted to get better because how amazing the experience was. That Christmas, I asked for a Gopro and I was fortunate enough to get one.



Last summer, I brought my Gopro to the beach every day, taking photos of surfers, body boarders and waves. I got so many photos that I had to clear up a lot of space on my phone. The summer was coming to an end but I didn't want to wait until next summer to take photos again so I got a wetsuit for when the water was freezing, unfortunately the weather was horrible for a whole month. On one weekend, the waves were amazing and the sun was out. Plus, one of my surfing friends, Noah Desibio, was going to the beach so I could get some photos of him. It was amazing, I got to watch everyone surf and I got to do what I love most.



-Luke McHugh

# Boy Scouts of America

Boy Scouts, when you think of them do you think, trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent? I bet not, but these words all describe what a boy scout is. Boy Scouts has been an American tradition for youth since 1910. The organization was founded by Robert-Baden Powell. The Boy Scouts do many activities to prepare you like camping, being a good citizen, and helping out your community in many ways. When you are in scouts you go through a ranked system where you must meet certain requirements to go up through the ranks, and they are Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and finally Eagle Scout. The most prestigious class is Eagle Scout and you must create a project to help out your community. Many scouts do projects to renovate buildings, like the building for VFW, or the St. Denis School.

My experience with the Boy Scouts has been great. I am currently first class and about to rank up to Star; we recently went on a trip to Gettysburg for a 10-mile hike and are soon going to Forestburg, a scout reservation in New York. Scouting has helped me by teaching me to be a better citizen and to live by the Scout Oath and Scout Law. There are no cons to joining Scouts, you meet new people, go on fun and adventurous trips and you create memories for life, so what are you waiting for!

-Cameron Perna



BOY SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA®

# Your Monthly Horoscopes– December

Based on the day you were born, every person has something called a Zodiac Sign, or a star sign. Some people believe it, some don't, but these horoscopes are said to influence your personality or predict your near future.

**Aries (March 21 - April 19)**- You tend to be spontaneous. It's never a bad thing, but right now, thinking before acting could be rewarding.

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)**- You may feel confused with matters that regard your heart. Look at what's right in front of you.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 20)**- Laughing helps you live longer. It's okay to be sad, but don't wallow in your despondence.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 22)**- New beginnings are always valuable, and you shouldn't be afraid of them.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22)**- You are a natural leader. Don't be hesitant to use your talent for something impactful.

**Virgo (August 23 – September 22)**- You can read people like books. However, you need to vocalize your feelings, because many people are not as intuitive as you.

**Libra (September 23 - October 22)**- Step outside of your comfort zone! Life is exciting when it's lived adventurously.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)**- Greatness will come your way, if you let it.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)**- Don't be passive-aggressive. Be bold. Stand up for yourself and others.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)**- Have confidence in yourself and your abilities. Confidence is half the trip, you know.

**Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)**- If you want something, work for it. You have the potential to be great.

**Pisces (February 19 - March 20)**- Don't assume a victory based on previous ones. You must work for what you want.

# Rogue One: A Star Wars Story



Last year, on December 18th, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, was released, producing over \$2.066 billion dollars. On opening weekend alone, over 28 million tickets were sold. Star Wars was the new old rage. The last Star Wars movie was made in 1999, the first in the prequel series. *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* occurred after *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi*, the sixth (or third) movie in the Star Wars Trilogy.

On December 16, 2016, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Movie*, will be released. *Rogue One* takes place in between the third and fourth movie (*Revenge of the Sith* and *A New Hope*). I am very anxious to see this new movie. Each time I watch one of the seven Star Wars movies, and even though I have seen each one several times before, I end up finding something new that I didn't notice before.

I am curious to see how each movie will relate to *Rogue One*. I have seen both trailers and many questions have circulated in my mind. Will Rey be a relative of someone in the new movie? Will the First Order defeat the Rebellion, causing the long-lasting war? Who will step up and be the hero that defeats Darth Vader?

As a huge Star Wars fan, I cannot wait for the new movie to be released. I hope it ties in each movie and reveals clue and ideas that I never thought about before. In every Star Wars movie, there are a lot of things that connect.

In *The Empire Strikes Back*, we find out Darth Vader is Luke Skywalker's father. In *Return of the Jedi*, it is revealed that Luke and Leia are brother and sister. After watching *The Force Awakens*, the shocker comes to us, that Kylo Ren is really the son of Han Solo and Princess Leia.

I am curious to see what new secrets we will find out while watching *Rogue One: A Star Wars Movie*. I am sure I will watch it more than once, so that I can catch all of the little details.

**See you December 16th! And may the force be with you.**

-Fred Ramire

# The Music Man

I received the privilege of interviewing the MES band teacher, Mr. Clark. He teaches mainly the upper grades about the fascinating art of music. Music is one of many ways humans express their feelings or in some cases tell a story. There are many different types of music, such as classical, country, rap, metal, jazz, blues, folk, opera, and others, but Mr. Clark's favorite is the genre rock and roll. Specifically, Pearl Jam and the Dave Mathews Band. His favorite song is *A Day in the Life*, by the Beatles. In my talk with Mr. Clark I covered a lot but focused mainly on the topic of the MES band.

Let's start with before you started at Manasquan. Mr. Clark, where else have you taught? He responded with, "I have taught at South Brunswick and Little Silver. I taught at Little Silver for 9 years." I asked him next what his favorite things to do outside of teaching were. His response being: I am a fan of the New York Yankees and love surfing and skiing, but I love fishing the best.

Is it true that you play in a band, Mr. Clark? His response to this went as follows: Yes, I actually play in a very successful cover band. We play at weddings and parties. I am trying to get a gig down in Florida.

Last question, how do you think the MES band will do and can we expect any surprises for the concert? "The MES band will be very good this year, because we didn't lose too many people and everyone keeps getting better. And I am thinking about a surprise for the spring concert, so be sure to check that out."

-Conner



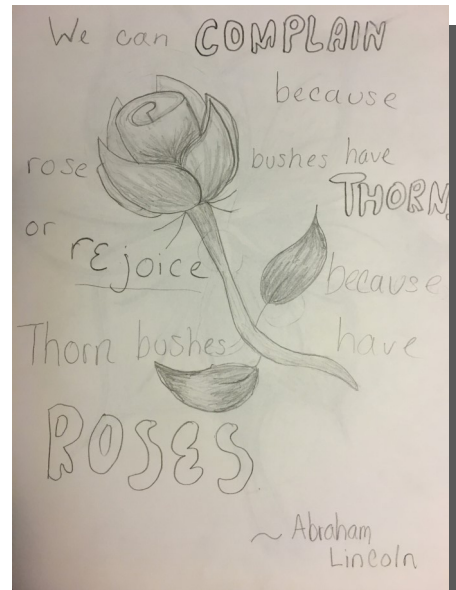


# Art Center



Drawn by: Makenzie  
Wiseman

This was inspired by a  
picture I saw online.



The girls' soccer captains: Kate Capodanno; Fredi Ramre; Peyton Rhydholm; Mr. Russ

Congratulations to Coach Russ and the girls' soccer team!

# THE RHYME OF LIFE

DRINKING IN THE DUST,  
WE'RE TRAPPED IN A MALODOROUS LIFE  
FILLED WITHOUT LUST  
BUT LOST NOT IS FORMIDABLE STRIFE

CHOKING BACK A LAUGH  
AMONG THE STARS WE THRIVE  
I FEEL A SLIGHT DRAFT  
"3, 2, 1, WE GO LIVE"

## Take me to Church

take me to water  
poisoned with perfect  
take me to white and gold  
take me to purple, take me to red  
take me to stories retold.  
take me to echoes and sighs and yells  
take me to exclaims of praise  
but don't ever bring me too close to the altar  
because there, I feel His gaze.  
take me to music and high expectations  
take me to passion and lust  
but if I were to scream  
'til the prayers gave out  
we would all be reduced to dust.

Brigid McCarthy is fourteen years old. She is not professional in any way, but she loves words and hopes that's enough for now. You can find her on Tumblr at [midnightinterruptions.tumblr.com](http://midnightinterruptions.tumblr.com).

# Wild

By: Megan Lisk

In a small suburban town in southern California, laid out with a crisp green landscape, mighty oaks with gently-twisting branches, and abundant wildflowers, there lived a thirteen-year-old girl named Holly. She appeared to be a normal girl, and she was on the tall side and lanky, with olive skin, light brown eyes that appeared almost orange, and long, medium-brown hair tied back in braids. Holly enjoyed warm, sunlit days spent with her friends, as well as writing poetry about the world around her. She laughed a lot, was full of optimism, and seemed to be well-received in the community.

However, Holly had a deformity- one she would hide from anyone and everyone.

On the last night of each month, exactly after sundown, she would turn into a crane, one not like any in existence. Her appearance turned into a beautiful wading bird, where olive skin was replaced with long, silky, blue-grey feathers, and her neck and legs slowly contorted to avian standards, becoming slate-grey and scaly. Holly's appearance was stunning, indeed, yet twisted. Tiny, translucent sapphires lined the back of her legs. The only thing that gave her away once she became a person at sundown was a grey-blue crane birthmark on her right shoulder blade.

For this reason, her family rejected her as an anomaly, leaving only her young mother, Becca, to care for the girl. She nurtured her well, taking care of her, sending her to a nice public school, teaching her how to play basketball, and, by nightfall, teaching her how to cover herself up. For this reason, she always stayed inside on the nights she was to transform.

"Holly, remember. Kids can be cruel, which can lead to adults being downright nosey. So, always chose your words wisely, or you won't hear the end of it."

One day, in the stormy beginning of November, Holly walked into school, expecting the average day full of lectures and night filled with homework. However, as she took the daily route to her locker, she noticed a half-circle of people crowding by her locker, blocking her path. Confused, she gently pushed her way to the crowd, only to be met with a hard shove at the front. She felt her balance go off, and suddenly, she collided with an unfamiliar person, who had previously been putting her books in the locker next to Holly's. After a second in the air that seemed like an eternity, Holly hit the ground, while the unfamiliar girl went into the locker, but braced her landing with her hand. She'd absorbed most of the impact, but Holly had not. As she laid on the ground, dazed, the unfamiliar girl reached out a hand.

This girl was **massive**, standing around six feet tall from what Holly could estimate. She had tawny skin, dark brown hair, striking amber eyes, and her arms were indeed muscular. She seemed like the ultra-athlete type, and yet, something inside of her felt that she'd make a great ally. Holly accepted her hand, and the two exchanged smiles.

"Hi, I'm Tori," the girl stated in a loud yet gentle voice, "and what's your name?"

"I'm Holly," she said with a slight quiver, as she felt intimidated by the thinning crown, "and I guess you're my locker mate! What homeroom are you in?"

“I believe Maddox’s,” Tori responded, looking at her schedule with hints of confusion, “do you happen to know where 204 is?”

“I’m in her homeroom, too!” Holly replied, excited. “I can show you where it is, if you like.”

“It’d be my pleasure, since I still hardly know a thing about this danged school.”

As the girls left, the remaining few people lingered and chatting parted like the Red Sea. Holly led Tori down the hall and into Miss Maddox’s room, where she received a warm welcome. For the rest of the day, Holly sat next to Tori, and the two chatted during the free time of each class. Holly learned that Tori was adopted because of an unknown problem with her biological parents, she originally came from Utah, she loved dogs, and was an avid reader of comic books. On her own, though, Holly discovered that she had a good sense of humor and was insanely talented at basketball. And, to her delight, she quickly made friends with Cynthia, McKenna, and Vance, her best friends from the start- and the only others who knew and could be trusted with her secret. Each of them were in different classes, so they had yet to meet Tori. Luckily, the three seemed impressed, something Holly was worrying over a great deal.

However, the most memorable part of the day was in English class, which followed after lunch.

“Okay, class, today we are writing haikus,” the teacher, Mr. Zimmerman, droned on, “and I’d like you to find an idea and write a first draft. I have one rule in here, remember?”

“Copying is **not** the finest form of flattery,” the class answered back flatly, as this had been said many a time in this class.

“Good, good. Now, you can look to your friends for help, and even chat a little, but try to stay on topic. This is not your time to talk about boys and cooties,” Mr. Zimmerman said, making some of the girls giggle a little, “and remember, you don’t have to share them afterwards!”

Holly looked at Tori for a second, who already knew about her “weird poetry obsession” (as Tori jokingly put it). The two, who were sitting side by side, gave each other a smug grin, then Holly suddenly looked down at her notebook and immediately began writing furiously. She checked over her completed work, gave it a nod, and then tried writing her signature, only to have the pencil tip snap. Holly cursed quietly, then shut the notebook and went to the sharpener.

When she came back, Holly saw that Tori’s playful expression became serious, which startled her. As she sat down, bewildered, Tori looked down at Holly’s poem.

“They tried to chain me. But, the chains don’t help at all. I’m wild at heart,” she whispered. Then, looking into her eyes, she replied, “Me too.”

*To Be Continued...*

# Incursion

By Jack Hamilton

Once upon a time, in the midst of the Atlantic Ocean, lay a town so obscured by the ebbs and flows of the weather that they were completely cut off from the outside world. This town worked as any other cozy town would, though unknowing of their origin. They had no religion. They had no greed. They only had each other.

Together in this lull of a quiet life, they lived peacefully with no knowledge of the cesspool of violence and anger that was slowly growing in the outside world. The fear that the townsfolk felt was little. The occasional rainstorm or animal escapee would frighten them, sure, but nothing truly struck fear into the heart of the citizens. That was, until the fateful day.

On the shores of the island, a boat approached, a great gray whale of a vehicle that opened on the top. Thousands of men, more than the residents have ever seen, poured out in dark suits. These men wore masks that covered their faces and held dark metal sticks that seemingly pulsed with malice and spite. They pillaged the households and slaughtered the livestock. By the end of the invasion, the town was leveled, one-quarter of it still standing. The rest was burned to the ground with corpses littered throughout the street. They had all been pierced by the instruments that the strange men carried. The final confrontation was horribly biased, the strange men outnumbering the town chief's final guard fifty to one. An agreement was reached. The men would be allowed to use this island as launch station, as long as the townsfolk did not interfere. The population was sent to the outskirts while the platoon of men took over what used to be the cozy village.

Over the next few years, the townsfolk grew restless, the tranquility of life before the men were known only to the town elders. The tales that were told became so warped by mouth-to-mouth communication that the stories became exaggerated, so much so that the young rebels of the town wanted to fight back. Daily the townsfolk would watch in disbelief as the strange men shot these fiery metal birds into the air that would shake the earth with such great force that it destroyed parts of the town.

The day that the townsfolk revolted, the mood was especially shaky. Tensions were high, but nobody quite knew why. As the people forced their way into the stronghold, they broke many machines, not knowing exactly what they were. The guards in the base did not exactly take delight in this, and promptly fought back. Innumerable amounts were killed in the revolt alone, but the true death toll came not too long later. What the townsfolk destroyed was one of the most vital machines in the entire base. Whatever the machine was, it was the one thing keeping them safe from total annihilation. And then, the sound was heard.

Growing exponentially, and with the ground shaking with greater force than ever before, the light started to disappear from the island. Nobody quite understood what was happening. There was only fire. And then...nothing.

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

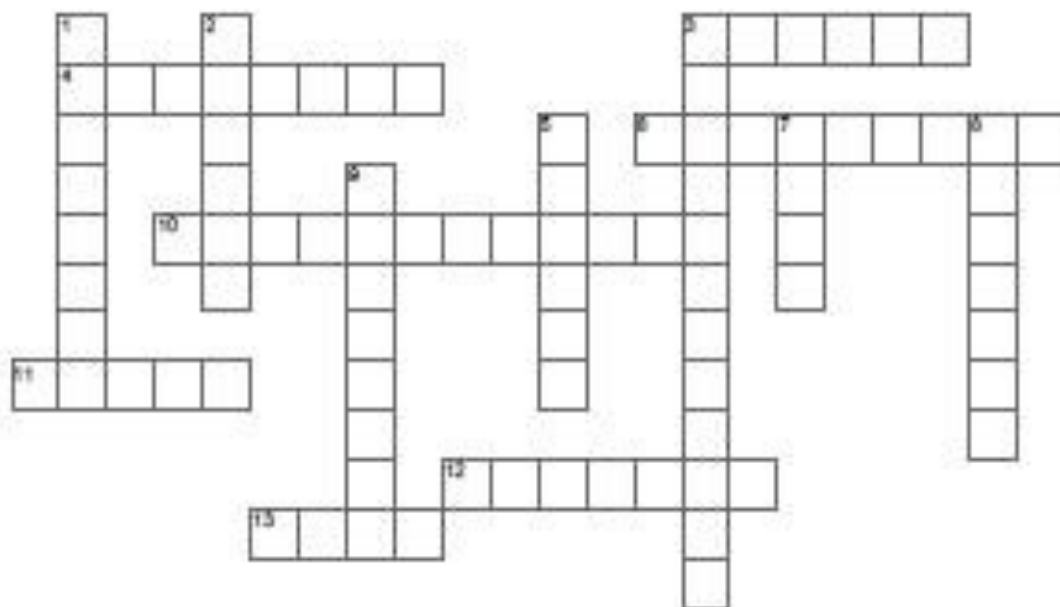
APPLE PIE  
BEANS  
BREAD  
CORN  
CRANBERRY SAUCE  
GRAVY  
HAM  
MASHED POTATOES  
MILK  
PUMPKIN PIE  
ROLLS  
SQUASH  
STUFFING  
SWEET POTATOES  
TURKEY



N S T U F F I N G I R L U N Y  
F G K D A E R B V G C A D Q E  
A B E A N S I L S O R Q G S K  
O G K E I P E L P P A P A E R  
N R O C M L W U Q D N G O O U  
U E J L X E S M S Y B Z O T T  
Z P U M P K I N P I E V N A Z  
H B O J I L C F A G R Y F T V  
N E M Y K U S L L O R Q K O X  
K S A B Y Q T Z H W Y P S P K  
T G H S A U Q S O R S J L T A  
G M A S H E D P O T A T O E S  
Z D L U C W F Z L M U K S E K  
C A K C G T H T T I C R N W B  
G J X S G R A V Y I E Q I S T

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

# Thanksgiving Crossword



## ACROSS

3. Bird eaten at Thanksgiving.
4. Thanksgiving food that can be mashed or baked.
6. The ship that brought the Pilgrims to North America.
10. Where the Pilgrims got off their ship.
11. A big meal.
12. Large orange vegetable.
13. Yellow vegetable grown by Native Americans.

## DOWN

1. Thanksgiving dessert made from apples.
2. People you are related to.
3. Holiday of this crossword.
5. Long line of people marching down the street.
7. The season of Thanksgiving.
8. Country that Pilgrims came from.
9. Eleventh month of the year.

|           |               |          |              |
|-----------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| CORN      | PLYMOUTH ROCK | NOVEMBER | THANKSGIVING |
| MAYFLOWER | FAMILY        | ENGLAND  | FEAST        |
| TURKEY    | APPLE PIE     | POTATOES | PUMPKIN      |
| PARADE    | FALL          |          |              |

# Announcements

**Spear Head Cover Contest:** for our next edition, we need a talented artist to represent Manasquan with a picture of what they believe the Manasquan Warrior spirit is to them. THIS CAN BE ANYTHING! The winning artwork will be our next cover page of the newspaper with credits. Email either Brigid or Makenzie your artwork.

**Dear Teachers:** Do you have an exciting event that you feel should be covered in the newspaper? Contact Brigid or Makenzie using the emails below!

**Writing Contest:** Hey aspiring writers! Want to have your work featured in the newspaper and win a prize? Write a story (maximum 250 words) that applies to the prompt and email it to Makenzie or Brigid. This is your prompt:

**The first people are sent to Mars. What do they find?**

## **Emails:**

Makenzie: 2448@manasquan.k12.nj.us

Brigid: 21580@manasquan.k12.nj.us