



The Wizard Gazette

Staff: 2nd Graders: John Patrick, Olivia; 3rd Graders: Sydney, Vivian, Aideen, Paris, Johnny, Isha, Isabella, Tara; 4th Graders: Lucy, Lauren, Ellen, Lilette, Maeve

Willard Teachers: Ms. McFarlane & Mrs. Puccetti

A monthly publication of articles chosen and created by

Willard Elementary School 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders.

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Purple Palooza

By Isabella, Grade 3

I've been interviewing first and second graders about Purple Palooza. Purple Palooza was on a Friday. It is a dance party at the school. Mr. Davis was there. Also there was purple decorations and purple accessories. There was all different types of music. Most people wore purple there to match.

I asked one second grader what dance moves she did there and she said she danced the floss and the hype.

I asked a first grader what dance move he did. He said the dance move he did was disco fever.

You should go check it out next year.

Valentine's Day

By Aideen, Grade 3

Hello! This is my article about Valentines Day! Valentine's Day is a holiday based on St. Valentine.

Claudia in 4th grade said, " I decorate my house and I go to the library. I also see my grandparents, and and my cousins." Then she said that, "St. Valentine put honey in medicine and that made everybody like him!" Then I asked Claudia if she liked Valentines Day. She said, "Yes. Because I spend time with my family."

I interviewed Helen in 3rd grade and she said, "I make Valentines letters with my family." Then Helen said that, "I think Valentines Day is about happiness, love, and kindness."

I interviewed Viviane in 1st grade and she said, "I like to celebrate with my family." She also said, "I think Valentines Day is about LOVE!" Viviane also said, "I really like it because I get to be with my family!"

I interviewed Grace in 3rd grade and she said, "I make heart pancakes. I like the desserts, they are good!" She also said, "I think it is about kindness." Grace said, "I like all of it!"



Soccer

By John Patrick, Grade 2

I have been asking 1st grade and 2nd graders about soccer.

I figured out that Peter, Tesla, and Calvin scored 82 goals in all and I asked them how far they can punt.

Calvin can punt 10 feet. Tesla can punt 5 yards. Peter can punt 15 yards. They can punt 30 yards in all. Tesla plays goalie. Peter is not goalie. Calvin is not goalie. And that's what I have asked them.

Many people play soccer. They play soccer mostly in the spring. There are not many goals.



Football

By Johnny, Grade 3

Football was not allowed because kids were getting hurt. Tag was allowed because kids weren't tackling each other. Tag did not get abandoned from our school. Then it was most popular then almost all 3rd grade boys played it.

Michael says, "I do not feel so good that we can't play football. I feel awesome. Life is great."

Chris said, "It wasn't the best not playing football. It was very fun."

Mac said, "It was ok because kids are getting hurt but it was fun."



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Ellen, Grade 4

Martin Luther King Jr. Day was made in 1929 to honor all of what Martin Luther King Jr. did. He tried to help all races be equal and started the Civil Rights Act. He believed in peaceful protests and boycotts. Martin Luther King Jr. Day was on the 21st of January this year. We had an assembly all about him and so I went around to different classrooms and asked students about the assembly and Martin Luther King Jr.

First I asked my brother Peter in first grade. He said, "I learned that Martin Luther King's house got bombed. I also learned that he made his first speech in high school. I liked the actor in the assembly. And I liked the background voices. On Martin Luther King Jr. Day I think about him."

Next I interviewed some fourth graders. First I interviewed Abby. She is in Ms. McFarlane's class. "I liked the actor. I learned about some small details in Martin Luther King Jr.'s life. On Martin Luther King Jr. Day I do something fun."

Next I interviewed two other fourth graders in Mrs. McFarlane's class named Nour and Solomon. They said that they liked the sound effects and when the actor changed from a kid to an adult. They learned that his kids are still alive and that he knew Rosa Parks. Lastly they celebrated the holiday by thinking about him and saying what they're grateful for.

The last students I interviewed were named Maddy and Lily. They said that they liked the actor and how he acted out Martin Luther King Jr.'s life. They also said that they learned that Martin Luther King Jr. couldn't play with his friend because he was white and Martin Luther King Jr. was black. Next I interviewed Mrs. Puccetti, and she said, "I know that he wanted his messages to be sent through peace. I celebrate the day by remembering him and his social justice. I also went to the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee."

The last person I interviewed was Mr. Davis. He is the person who helped plan the assembly. This is what he said, "To plan the assembly I worked with the PTO. One of the parents had the idea to get an actor to act out Martin Luther King Jr.'s life so we used the idea and planned the assembly on a day that was available. I know that Martin Luther King Jr. wanted to create a world that recognized people for their strength not their skin color. I think that he is brave and helped bring upon the civil rights act and the voting rights act. Also I know that he won the Nobel Peace Prize. I think it's important for people and kids to know the history of the country and for students to understand the past so that they can avoid mistakes in the future. Also so that they can make the world a better place. To celebrate this special day my wife and I volunteer to help paint and construct unfortunate schools." (cont. on pg. 5)

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Ellen, Grade 4

(continued from pg. 4) Mr. Davis also said, "We also help by going to homeless shelters. A fun fact is that my daughter's school is named after Martin Luther King Jr. There are many things that I like about Martin Luther King. Some of them are that I liked how he raised the awareness that we are more similar than different. And that he helped to create a climate in our country where all people could have the access and opportunity whether you are black or white or any other race. I was happy that everyone liked the assembly and I wish I could have seen it but I had a meeting."

In the assembly, the actor did a wonderful job of acting out most of the highlights in Martin Luther King Jr's life. What I liked about the assembly was how well the actor did with changing into different costumes and explaining through acting how Martin Luther King Jr. had to live and what he did. The assembly was important because it taught me and others students part of our country's history.



The assembly about Martin Luther King Jr.
day was enjoyed by all.

What Did You do Over Winter Break?

By Vivian, Grade 3

Hello! This is my article about what people did over winter break. I really like to know what people enjoy doing, and during this time off I wondered what others did. So I thought why not tell everyone what I found out. So here I am, telling you.

Mrs. Smart said that her family came for the holidays and that was her favorite part. While she was with her family, they talked about how lucky they are, and she enjoyed that. She said that over break she celebrated Christmas and New Years. She also congratulated her nephew whose wife is having a baby.

Lili in Mr. Strains's class said that she had dinner with her family and opened presents. She liked opening presents.

Meghna in Mrs. Gerges's third grade said that she liked celebrated Christmas and she enjoyed it because she got presents. She got a Lego set. She liked it because she loves Lego sets.

I talked to Mrs. Collins, and she said that she loved coming back to school because she missed her students a very lot. She said that she saw many people over winter break. She said that she enjoyed playing with her niece over break.

I interviewed Henry in Mrs. Huska's first grade class and he said that over break he went to Hawaii and L.A.. While he was in Hawaii and L.A., he enjoyed jumping in the waves.

I interviewed Ben in Mrs. McFarlane's fourth grade class. He said that he swam over winter break. He did tops and private lessons. He also went to Connecticut and New York.

I talked to Arzoi in Mrs. Gerges's third grade class. She said that she enjoyed going out to dinner because it was yummy!

Thanks for reading!



The Absent Author

By Isha, Grade 3

"The Absent Author" is a mystery. It about these detectives who are looking for this famous author. It gives you a lot of clues, but I'm sure you'll pay attention to them.

I asked Mr. Strains and Mrs. Kanofsky some questions. I asked Mr. Strains if he liked the book and he said yes because it has interesting clues and even some funny parts. I also asked him he would rate it five stars and he said yes especially to 3rd and 4th graders.

Next I asked Mrs. Kanofsky a few questions. The first thing I asked her was do a lot of people check it out if so about how many each week? Her answer was about 4 or 5 a week. The last question I asked her was have you read the whole series? Her answer was no but I've read about 10.

Who is Mrs. Cruz?

By Lucy, Grade 4

Mrs. Cruz is a fourth grade aide. She helps Ms. Joyce, Ms. McFarlane and Ms. Kennedy. She is married and has two kids-a girl who is ten and a boy who is eleven. She usually pops in and out of classrooms in between subjects. Mrs. Cruz was inspired to teach because she wanted to empower kids and Mrs. Cruz likes helping people. Before she came to Willard to teach she was a reading specialist for 6-7 years. Her favorite subject to teach is reading. Mrs. Cruz's favorite read aloud book for younger kids (K-2) is *The Book With No Pictures*, by B.J. Novak. For older kids(3-4) it is *Stone Fox*, by J.R. Gardiner.

I interviewed one 4th grader about Mrs. Cruz. Here is what she has to say, "She helps me with writing and a little bit of math. I like that she is kind when she helps people. I would like to know what her favorite food is. I think one character trait that describes her is helpful."

And Mrs. Cruz wants everyone to know that she is so happy to be here and is excited to get to know all of you.



Movie Review

By Lillette, Grade 4

Smallfoot is a cartoon about a friendly yeti named Migo who discovers a human. But his village does not believe him, and he is banished. He then embarks on a journey to find another human.

Constance Wilkerson (a fourth grader who watched it) said that the movie had a good message - accept everyone and be honest. Her favorite part was when he finds himself in a cave and there is the other yetis. She had no least favorite part. Her favorite character was Meechee - a yeti.

Claudia Smith said that she liked the whole movie, especially the content. Her favorite part was when they were in the human village. Her least favorite part was when the guy was filming the spider on his arm. Her favorite character is also Meechee. Overall, Smallfoot is a good movie.



The Garden

By Lauren, Grade 4

Did you know that there is a Willard garden? If not let me tell you about it. In spring there is a garden club, run by Mrs. Conrad and Mrs. Smart and it starts in April. Mrs. Conrad says she loves when kids go in and enjoy the nature of the garden. She also says that she loves helping kids learn how to plant things. she also loves when students help each other's learn how to garden. Although the garden is really fun, like many other things there are things that we are not supposed to do, such as, digging in the soil when your not supposed to, moving things where your not supposed to, touching things when your not supposed to, and going into the garden when its off limits. So make sure not to do any of these things unless your told to do so.

Here's what some students said. "Yes, me and my friends would like to join the garden club because we like to see the plants grow," said a fourth grader from Ms. McFarlane's class. Someone else said, "No, I do not want to join garden club because I do not enjoy gardening."



These are pictures of the garden in the winter.

Bakiez Corner

By Maeve, Grade 4

I have interviewed some people on their foodie perspectives on St. Patrick's Day and these are the responses:

Mrs. Joyce (Fourth Grade Teacher): Corn beef, cabbage, and an Irish breakfast! We also make soda bread and brown bread.

Terence (Fourth Grade Student): Corn Beef, potatoes, and Yorkshire pudding.

Patrick (Fourth Grade Student): Potatoes

James (Fourth Grade Student): None

***Soda Bread Recipe from Mrs. Cassidy ***

Ingredients:

- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 tablespoons white sugar C&H Pure Cane Granulated Sugar 4 Lb
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt Great Value Salt, 26 oz
- 1/2 cup margarine, softened
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1/4 cup buttermilk

Directions:

1. Add a note
2. Print
3. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Lightly grease a large baking sheet.
4. In a large bowl, mix together flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, salt and margarine.
5. Stir in 1 cup of buttermilk and egg. Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead slightly.
6. Form dough into a round and place on prepared baking sheet.
7. In a small bowl, combine melted butter with 1/4 cup buttermilk; brush loaf with this mixture.
8. Use a sharp knife to cut an 'X' into the top of the loaf.
9. Bake in preheated oven until a toothpick inserted into the center of the loaf comes out clean, 45 to 50 minutes. Check for doneness after 30 minutes. You may continue to brush the loaf with the butter mixture while it bakes.

CAD Club

By Sydney, Grade 3

We have a new club at Willard School. Mrs. Crannell and Mrs. Bradford teach it. It is called Cad Club, which stands for coding and app design. By the end of the year the students will have made a app that will help the world. The kids first started coding in Swift Playgrounds (a coding game that helps your ability to code). Then they split into groups. Each group had an idea on what the app should be about and how it should work. At the end of the year they will vote and make a app on one of the groups. I interviewed Ms. Crannell from CAD club. Here is her feed back.

"We started this club because students were asking us to create a app for the 2018-2019 school year. They were inspired by the app a third grade class at Lincoln made called Yoga Mood Monster. Mrs. Bradford is full of energy and a positive attitude towards learning. Mrs. Bradford is fun to work with because she isn't afraid to try something new." I also interviewed some kids in the club. Here is their feedback. All of them said they love CAD Club. They all have had at least 1 year of coding experience.

If you didn't get into the club don't worry, Mrs. Bradford and Ms. Crannell might do it again next year. Thank you for reading my article.

Rules

By Tara, Grade 3

In Willard School we all follow the same kind of rules like how to behave, and like the golden rule and the Willard way.

In the winter the rules are no throwing snowballs, no throwing snow in the air and if recess is over and the next day you return and see the people changed it or wrecked it do not be mad because it is everyone's snow and you can always make another one. There is no excluding people and we all share the snow.

So when I went to interviewed some people I asked them some questions like are there any hard rules to follow. One person said to be respectful because when someone gets bullied she wants to defend them.

The rules that we always have to follow is no pushing and no fighting, don't exclude people and the most important rule of all is have fun.



Student Teaching

By Olivia, Grade 2

Have you ever wondered about Ms. Driscoll's student teacher? Well I'm going to talk a little bit about her. First, her name is Ms. Mehia. I interviewed her so, here we go...

Question: When did you know you must be a teacher?

Answer: When I volunteered at an after school program and I really enjoyed being around that many kids. That was in my second year of college.

Question: Why do you like teaching?

Answer: I like learning from kids and teaching them things.

Question: What is your method in teaching?

A: It involves a lot of student involvement. I want to teach them to be confident and be themselves.

Now, I'm going to tell you what Ms. Driscoll said. She said I love having a student teacher. I taught her at Dominican last year, so I know her as a good student and a beginning teacher. I'm also overwhelmed because it's a lot of work to teach someone how to teach when I'm teaching my first graders how to read write and problem solve. Ms Driscoll also said that Ms. Mehia is going to be a great teacher because she's organized, energetic, and eager to learn all the different strategies for teaching students.

PS-Ms. Mehia works part time at Target and the kids love that! I also interviewed some of Ms. Driscoll's kids. Hadley said, "She helps Ms. Driscoll and she does a lot of nice stuff she doesn't have to do."

Emmett said, "When we raise our hands she gives us the answers and for me that's really fun!"



New Year's

By Paris, Grade 3

On New Year's Eve, families stay up late to watch the ball drop and people sometimes do some activities or see the countdown. Or some people watch BET on channel 66 and hear music. Then they can't wait for the count down. I did some interviews to see what students said. Some people drink sparkling water or Sprite. They also use New Year's horns. When they get down to 5,4,3 ,2,1 they say HAPPY NEW YEAR and yell the word new year.

Then they mostly start to eat some cake or ice cream for a special dessert because some people come over to make dinner. Some of their cousins will come over and play with them. Then some time they will stay over one night.

Then some families still have fun there and spend time together. Then they have something special for breakfast and then they start to live for the day. But you still eat a lot of cake.

Then they watch some tv. And they watch sports and the count down And your families might go somewhere else and sometimes they are happy because they get to play with some games.

Then they sometimes go home and watch it on tv instead of staying there and then the next day they probably go out to a nice restaurant. Then they get some great food like..... omelets, pancakes, bacon, eggs. Then the people who say at your home finally go home and spend the rest of the day at home sweet home.. and Lily was telling me that she was great on the New Years.

