

Words of Wisdom

Issue 10

Spring 2012

TALENT SHOW IS TERRIFIC

By Jennifer Daly and Newspaper Staff

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Excited spectators packed the Wisdom Lane auditorium on Friday night, January 30, 2012 for the Wisdom Lane Talent Show. The variety showcase was full of surprises, including rappers, a violin quartet, actors in an anti-bullying skit, and even a magic show.

Kyla Silk opened the show with a stirring rendition of the national anthem. The many singing acts included: Sophia DeFranco ("Call Me, Maybe" by Carly Rae Jepsen); Meg Ruane ("Can't Help Falling In Love" by George Weiss);

Kyla Silk sings the national anthem



Domenick Napoli ("For the First Time" by The Script); Camille Martinez ("Misery"); Jaida Rivera ("King of Anything" by Sara Bareilles); Kyla Silk ("Jar of Hearts" by Christina Perri); Subin Heo, Jenni Luong, and Annie Tao ("Honey" by Mariah Carey); Olivia Vecchio

("Rolling in the Deep" by Adele); Sheridan Vahldieck ("Back to December" by Taylor Swift); and Joe Nabet who sang a flash from the past -- the Sinatra favorite "New York, New York".

Several musical duos took the stage by storm. Taylor Moy sang "Mean" as Nick Rigali accompanied her on soulful guitar. Kevin Lopez played the sampona (South



Mr. Breves entertained the packed house. Photos by Newspaper Staff

American wind instrument) and sang with Michael Mahoney to the Carlos Santana song "Corazón Espinado." Jason Eccles and Brian Lucha rapped about the "Angry Birds."

Nimble dancers Kiara Colthirst ("King of Hearts"), Nick Alvino ("Billion Hits"), Brianna Sullivan ("Chipmunk Song"), Sarah Herrschaft, and this newspaper's own editors Alexa Farrell and Sara Schonmann ("Turn Me On") held the crowd spellbound as they performed.

(continued on page 5)



Introducing the Wisdom Lane Glee Club

Science Olympiad Team Scores High

On March 3, 2012, for the ninth year in a row, the WLMS Science Olympiad Team prevailed at the regional level to qualify once more for a place at the state tournament. Wisdom won a total of 38 medals. The Eighth grade team finished second out of the 44 teams that competed. The seventh grade team finished 6th in the region.

Many students won Individual medals, including eighth graders Haniya Abbasi, Sophia DeFranco, Robert Evanas, David Lavigne, James Lunetta, Michael Mahoney, Sara Pedroaz, Kristen Schmidt, Brendan Skillman, Jess Vesseggi, Brittany Voboril, Jessica Wagner and Anna Yoo. Joseph DiPaolo and Taranjit Parmar also performed well.

The seventh grade team won 13 medals, including one first place medal. Medal winners included Michael Barsch, Andrea Gathwaite, Bridget Johnson, Zach Lavigne, Janniver Luong, Danielle Mahn, Alex Montoya, Deanna Pasqueralle, Steven Reilly, Brandon Rohman, Jamie Sculco, Melanie Singh, Marcus Tan and Annie Tao. Dawn Kim performed admirably, as well. The team went on to finish in the top ten, and fifteenth overall, at the NYS Competition at SUNY Ulster on April 21, 2012. Congratulations to all team members, and to the teachers who dedicated their time and effort to them.

Frog Week Hopping Good

On Monday, March 19, 2012, Frog week began for the seventh grade science students at WLMS. This educational extravaganza features daily informational competitions and lessons about biological systems that culminated in a team dissection of the frog. Students and staff wore green on Tuesday. On Wednesday, everyone wore frog pins in solidarity with their subjects. On Friday, the classes served frog-themed foods.



Photo by Mrs. Koines

Sixth Grade Science Projects

As a follow-up to their study of acids and bases, Mrs. Koenig and Mrs. Mortillaro's classes studied "Your Body and pH". They learned how the acid levels in their bodies vary and the reason for the differences.

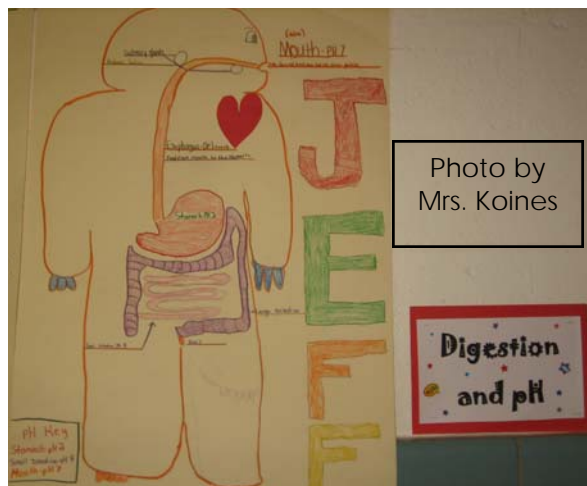


Photo by Mrs. Koines

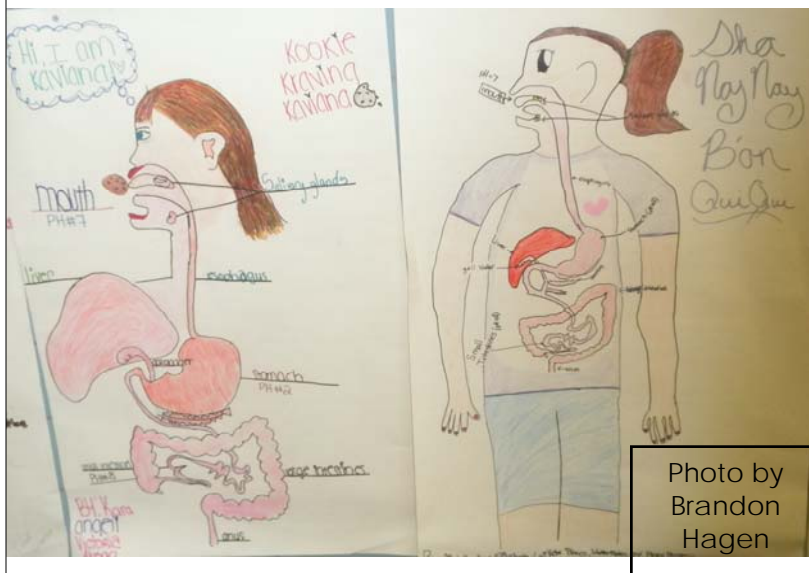


Photo by Brandon Hagen

See more "Sixth Grade Science Projects" photos online. Go to the last page of this issue, click on the slideshow.

Badminton Tournament



On Thursday, March 22, about eighty teams competed in the second annual WLMS Science Olympiad Badminton Tournament. This good-natured competition is an extremely popular event

that raises money for the WLMS Science Olympiad team.

The funds from this event benefit the Science Olympiad participants in many ways. This year, it paid for the team shirts that the students wear to the Regional and State competitions. The tournament funds purchase supplies needed to run experiments, such as the solar panel array located in the courtyard this year.

This year's first place winners, Ms. Fusco and Taranjit Parmar each received a gift card for a pizza at Calda Restaurant. The best team name,

"We FLATen the HAL out of you", belonged to Mrs. Haverson and Michaela Flatley. They received a \$10 gift certificate to Fred's Deli. The top costume prize went to Ms. Baker (Sheriff Citrus) and James Lunetta (Cowboy Clementine). They received any item of their choice from the school store. Thanks to Mrs. Going for organizing this event, and the many faculty members who made it a lot of fun for all.



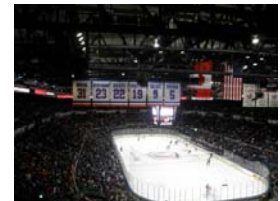
AATF Hockey Night 2012



WLMS French Students



"Allez les Habs!" Canadiens fans



WLMS French students and their families attended this year's AATF Hockey Night on February 9, 2012 at the Nassau Veteran's Coliseum in

Uniondale. The fans thrilled to watch the Islanders do battle with the Canadiens.

Glee Club

This year, the ranks of the Wisdom Lane Middle School Glee Club swelled from twenty-two members to over eighty members. Their song list includes: "Just the Way You Are" by Bruno Mars, "Where You Lead" by Carole King, "Hey Jude" by Beatles, and "Rolling in the Deep" by Adele. They have performed at the Wisdom Lane Talent Show (see page one) and will sing at the end of the year for the IDC Show.

Glee Club has only one requirement for membership: maintain a positive attitude. The club is always looking for more opportunities to perform. The

club is selling t-shirts to offset the cost of the music they sing. Mrs. Spainer has done a wonderful job with this talented group of youngsters.



Terrific Kids 2012

February 2012



(Left to right) Councilman Hudes, Kevin Downing, Kiwanian Mr. Dalton, Julio Viafara, Kiwanis Club President Mrs. Torvicia, Jada Olivo, Brynn McLaughlin, Marcela Vasquez, and Principal Avena.



(Left to right) Councilman Hudes, James Lunetta, Rachel McGuire, Kiwanian Mr. Dalton, Alexa Nania, Kiwanis Club President Mrs. Torvicia, Julia Kempster, Principal Avena and Chelsea Morrison.

March 2012



(Left to right) Mr. Regan, Arjuna Bello, Councilman Hudes, Cameron O'Keefe, Town of Hempstead Supervisor Murray, Jenna Stone, Mr. Pappas, Anthony Anzano, Kiwanian Mr. Dalton, Nicholas Weinert, and Principal Avena.

April 2012



(Left to right) Mr. Regan, Kevin Granger, Councilman Hudes, Nicholas Cody, Supervisor Murray, Alex Raia, Mr. Pappas, Steven Schmider, Kiwanian Mr. Dalton, Thomas Louie, and Principal Avena.

Talent Show (continued from page 1)

The Glee Club made a spirited special appearance to sing "Just the Way You Are," by Bruno Mars.

The second act opened with another crowd favorite, a short play called "Starve a Bully, Feed Your Soul" created by Danielle McDuffie. The play starred Danielle, Dominick Napoli, Elijah McCallum, Andrew Bett, Taylor Moy, Nick McDuffie, Aryana Caputo, and Mrs. Spainer.

As Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Breves, did a great job. He kept the audience laughing as he introduced each act. Behind the scenes, Mr. Carey was the sound and lighting expert. Hats off to Mrs. Haug, Ms. Cappello and Ms. Isernia, who worked tirelessly at rehearsals and offstage. Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time to make this successful show. The crowd was entertained from start to finish, and this reporter cannot wait to see next year's talent show.



Kevin Lopez and Mike Mahoney

For more "Talent Show" photos online, go to the last page of this issue, click on the "Talent Show" slideshow.

In the News...

Honor Society Inductions

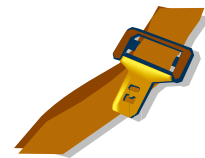
On Tuesday, March 27, 2012, the National Junior Honor Society and the World Language Honor Society held their induction ceremonies. The societies honored seventh and eighth grade students for their achievements. Mrs. Katcher was honored this year for her dedication to Wisdom students. Ms. Suppa, Mrs. Ehrlich, Mrs. Belz, and Mrs. Humphreys organized this wonderful event.



Battle of the Belts

The First Annual Battle of the Belts Competition took place on March 27, 2012. One hundred students on twenty-five teams participated in a series of relay race events.

The fastest eighth grade team, "The Fast and Furious Four," comprised Bhavi Kadakia, Michaela Flatley, Brynn McLaughlin and Sara Pedroza. Two seventh grade teams tied for first place as fastest team: "Super Mega Foxy Awesome Hotties" (Ana Argueta, Shannon Erickson, Camielle Martinez, and Bridget John-



son) and "The Unknown Girls" (Kayla Samala, Lorraine Oswald, Ana Argueta, and Hannah Muller); and the sixth grade team "Tiny But Mighty" (Olivia Vecchio, Alyssa Phillips, Nicole Smith, and Christina Smith). The best team uniform award went to "Click Trick" (Jessica Pedroza, Kayla Scardaccione, Jasolinn Riveria and Lily Soriano). The best team name was "Click It To Win It Divas" (Grace Colon, Ally Barion, Chantelle Whitney and Victoria Laport). The teams received a pizza party as prizes.

Thanks to Mr. Arvelo-Shaw and Ms. Cappadoro for their support of this event, and to Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Going, Mrs. Glenn and Mrs. Carrillo who served as referees and timers. Special thanks to Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Going, Ms. Baker, and Ms. Suppa for the use their cars.

The Freshman Experience

By Alexa McCall

When you're a sixth grader, you feel scared and lonely the first couple of days in middle school. Some people forget the most important thing: they are not alone. More than two hundred kids go through this experience every year. I asked three kids (Amanda Beller, Michael McQueen and Erin McCall) about their experiences. Here's what they said.

R: Amanda Beller, what do you like most about Wisdom?

A: I like having a locker.

R: Do you like changing classes?

A: Yes, it is fun having different teachers every period.

R: What clubs have you joined?

A: I have joined chamber orchestra.

R: What is your favorite period of the day? Why?

A: Lunch, because I can hang out with my friends.

R: Erin McCall, what do you most like about Wisdom?

E: I like my teachers.

R: Do you wish you were back in elementary school? Why or why not?

E: At first, it was hard to get to classes on time, but I am happy I am in middle school.

R: What clubs have you joined?

E: I have joined the newspaper club.

R: Michael Mulqueen, do you wish you were back in elementary school? Why or why not?

M: No, I like middle school better because you don't have to sit in the same desk all day.

R: Is it difficult to get to classes on time?

M: Not really because we have two minutes to get to class and there is a warning bell to tell you have one minute left to get to class.

R: What is your favorite period of the day? Why?

M: Fourth period because I have either work study with my friends or beginner band to play alto saxophone.



Drawings by Kevin Lopez



CREATIVE CORNER

The Bully by Ariana Antonakos

My name is Olivia Carson, and I was walking down the hallway of my new school. I had just moved from Los Angeles, California to Levittown, New York. I only had a few friends. Their names were Jaime, Natalie, and Eliza. I was at my new locker when someone came up from behind me.

"Hey, new kid," they called from down the hall. I've heard about these guys before. It was the bullies of the school, and the last thing I needed was to be bullied. I had just moved, and I wanted to stay out of trouble. So, I sprinted away.

I walked to school the next day. I was on the field when I saw the gang of bullies. I tried to walk quickly, but they spotted me anyway. They pointed and laughed, but I ignored them and got to school. I was at my locker when they came up to me. "Get away from my locker, loser," they called, and I moved. I walked to class. Before I knew it, the day was over. I was staying after school with my best friend Natalie. We were walking. She told me that she knew that I was getting bullied. But I told her that I didn't care. They kept bullying me and bullying me. But when people saw what they were doing, they actually helped me.

I was going to lunch. They were sitting by my table. I tried to ignore them. I sat down with my lunch with my friends. They came up to me and called me ugly, stupid, and annoying. My friend didn't like it very much. She stood up for me and said, "Leave her alone! She never did anything to you! You think you're so cool, but you're not! You're just trying to make yourselves feel better by making her feel worse. and I don't like you tormenting my friend!"

She cleared her throat and sat down. They just stared at her like she was crazy. I was hoping that they wouldn't treat me any worse, and they didn't. A week passed, and they hadn't done anything to me. Then another week, and then another.

I realized that if you stand up to a bully that they'll stop bullying you. I didn't want to do it, because I was afraid it would get worse. But it only got better. I never got bullied for the rest of my life. That is thanks to my friend who I know will always be by my side.

The Hunger Games Review

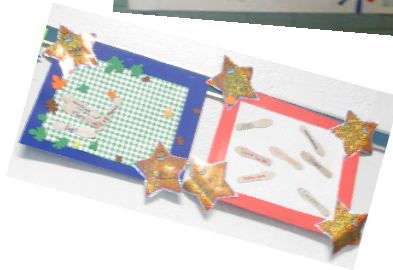
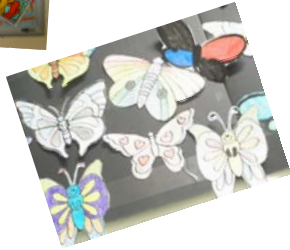
By Alexa Farrell and Sara Schonmann

"May the odds be ever in your favor." Those famous words from Effie Trinket may not be familiar to you, but it's a common topic for the millions worldwide who have read the book or seen the film "The Hunger Games." The Hunger Games is about two representatives from twelve districts who go head to head to fight to the death. Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark, the main characters, are chosen to represent District 12. If you win the battle you get goods and the gift of living. So, "will the odds be in your favor" -- or not so much?



Seen Around the School

Photos by Brandon Hagen



Cool Quotes

By Jessica Zopoth

1. "The tragedy of life doesn't lie in not reaching your goal. The tragedy lies in having no goals to reach." ~ Benjamin Mays
2. "Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere." ~ Albert Einstein.
3. "You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take." - Wayne Gretzy
4. "By changing nothing, nothing changes." -Tony Robbins

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If you have a problem, write a letter to the "Wise Wildcat". Don't use your real name, and put the letter in Ms. Green's mailbox in the main office. The Wildcat will answer you in the next issue!



Ask the "Wise Wildcat"

Dear Wise Wildcat,

I've been getting bullied by a kid in my class and I don't know what to do. If I tell someone, I'm afraid the kid might beat me up or bully me worse. What should I do?

—Bullied Beverly

Dear Bullied Beverly,

The one thing you shouldn't do is keep this problem to yourself because you're afraid of more bullying or being a rat. I've gone through this myself, so I know how you must feel, and I don't blame you for being afraid, but you've got to do something about it.

Tell a teacher or parent so they can help you. You could go to the assistant principal for help and ask to remain anonymous, so the kid will never know.

—Wise Wildcat

Dear Wise Wildcat,

I can't wait until summer vacation. I really am having a hard time focusing on my classes. All I can think about is the fun I will have on my days off. How can I make sure I don't fail everything until then?

—Summer Break Blues

Dear Summer Break Blues,

You should get something to motivate you -- an incentive to inspire you. Memorial Day weekend will come before you know it. Study hard and you will do just fine.

—Wise Wildcat

WEB EDITION SPECIALS

These slideshows are available on the WLMS website.

[Click here for more Talent Show photos](#)

[Click here for more Badminton photos](#)

[Click here for more Sixth Grade Science project photos](#)

[Click here for Sixth Grade Social Studies project photos](#)

