



THE TAG TIMES



BIG STUDENT TRIPS

Washington DC

By Jasmine P.

This Spring Break I was very lucky to have been able to go on the Washington DC. trip. We did many exciting things during the five days that we were there.

Day1

To start, we took a plane at 4:30am and arrived in DC. at 6am and that is when our extravaganza started. Our transportation was a bus that had a bathroom in it, so you can imagine how big it was.

Our first stop was some of the Smithsonian Museums: the African American Museum, Natural History Museum, and American History Museum. There were many amazing things in there, but what I enjoyed the most was the Natural History section which covered animals and sea creatures. Then our lunch and dinner time setting was at the Regan Center and to finish our night we went to the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Memorial. We ended our day at our hotel where we all fell fast asleep.

Day 2

We started at 8am when we took a tour of the Arlington National Cemetery, including the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where we saw the "Changing of the Guard" ceremony. We also saw the Kennedy Grave sites there. Then we drove out to Mount Vernon where George Washington lived (and died) and it had an the Educational Center.

What I enjoyed the most was tour of George Washington's home because of the difference of what is in now and what was in style back then. For instance, the comforter's pattern was what the wall paper was, so basically everything looked the same in each room.

Day 3

We started this day with a drive down Embassy Row, then off to the Capital Building and White House where we were in a protest. All these places were pretty amazing, but my favorite was the protest. The protest was about the anniversary of the Columbine shooting. They were protesting about how Congress does nothing to stop school gun violence. I, as a student, am against gun violence at school as well because we just had a scare at our school 3 weeks ago. I never thought we would even have a scare at our school, but we did and that's why I think Congress should be more active in school gun violence.



Chestnut TAG students protest school gun violence in front of the White House. For more pictures of the trip, check out the color insert.

Day 4

On this day we visited the Washington Monument, Air and Space Museum, Holocaust Museum, Martin Luther King Memorial and also passed by the Jefferson Memorial.

My favorite tour for that day was the Air and Space Museum because we went on a 360* "Space Ship" ride. It was like we were on a real space ship and we even got to control the space ship ourselves. If you plan on visiting this ride, make sure you have a strong stomach because at times I thought was going to puke.

Day 5

This was the last day of our fun trip. We started our day at the Newseum and ended it with the National Zoo. The Newseum was all about different kinds of news, but my favorite was the National Zoo. The Zoo had so many animals like, tigers, lions, bears, gorillas, orangutans, elephants, lemurs, Perry dogs and so much more. The gorilla exhibit was the coolest and the mama gorilla had a new baby that week who was named Mooki.

I was sad the trip was coming to an end, but also happy because I really missed my family. Next year I hope that you can do it too!

Dominican Republic

By Ndilei L.

Four Chestnut TAG students (I happen to be one of them), accompanied by Mr. Paskov, embarked on a trip to the Dominican Republic on a service learning trip this April Vacation. TAG students, along with two other schools, went on this trip to empower girls age 7-13 to choose education over... other things. During the trip, TAG students had also did a project where we built a wall behind the school as a part of the Mariposa DR Foundation.

A little bit of background information on the Mariposa DR Foundation. The Mariposa DR Foundation was created to help girls to stay out of prostitution, which is a big problem in the Dominican Republic. They have helped hundreds of girls already, and this number continues to grow.

Saturday

The students arrived in the Dominican from the United States on Saturday evening and drove about 3-4 hours to their resort-style hotel: Puertas Del Paraiso. The hotel was isolated away from the city and was highly elevated from the city below. The students reached their destination around 10:30 and were tired, so they were split into their bungalows where they were able to put their stuff down and get comfortable. The staff knew everyone would be a bit ravenous from being on the road all day, so they invited everyone to dinner and then all of the students went to bed.

Sunday

Students enjoyed a fun and laid-back day where they visited the beach as well as went on a tour of the Dominican Waters. The students were treated to a ride inside of a cave and swimming in a cove. After the tour though, the students hung out on a nice white sand beach. They had lunch at a restaurant and explored the Dominican for the rest of the day after that.

Monday

This was the beginning of the service and learning part of the trip. The students were up bright and early at 6:30a.m. to wash up and get ready for breakfast. They were going to be headed to the Mariposa Center to start with what they had originally came for. The students arrived at the center and were greeted by Amanda Bucci, the Program Coordinator and Patricia Thorndike Surriel, the Founder and Executive Director. They both introduced themselves to the students and gave them a better look into what they would be working on and helping with during the week. Afterwards, they were given a tour of the center and the surrounding community. Then students were all rewarded to a nice drink at Cabarete Coffee. Right

afterwards, they had lunch and soon were introduced to the wall project and began working. The girls were not present as they only attend Tuesday through Saturday.

Tuesday & Wednesday

The students were introduced to the Mariposa girls and then were split up into groups to work with them. Some of their classes include Sewing, Art, Reading, Math, and Swimming. The girls were awefully adorable and were fun to play with. The girls were FULL of energy. After the girls had left around 11:30, we enjoyed a specialized lunch. This routine continued until Wednesday.

Thursday

This day we had the same morning schedule with the girls. The students had lunch, but after lunch we headed out to the beach for a surfing lesson. Of course, you can never have a perfect day in the Dominican Republic, so in the middle of the lesson, it started to rain.



Chestnut TAG students help build the wall in the Dominican Republic. For more pictures of the trip, check out the color insert.

Friday

This day was more of an emotional saying goodbye day. They had just finished the wall, and everyone was celebrating. Then it went from happiness to gloominess. This time around when the girls were leaving, they went up to the students and hugged them goodbye. After our last lunch at the Mariposa DR Foundation, the students departed Cabarete and headed the three hours to Hotel Hodelpa to be closer to the airport for early departure the following day. The group flew back on the same flight. People traded contacts, people gave hugs. Students boarded buses to their destinations. It's truly an amazing experience to be able to interact with children from other economic backgrounds and make a difference.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

By Daniela R.

On Tuesday May 8th its going to be National Teacher Appreciation Week. This holiday has started in May 7, 1980. Then they continued to do Teacher Day on the first Tuesday in May until 1985. Eleanor Roosevelt was the one to create this. He has persuaded Congress to make a day that we can recognize and appreciate educators.

This holiday usually happens the first Tuesday of May. In this week you can appreciate your teachers for what they have done for you. For example, one thing you can do is Host a special breakfast for your teachers and staff or you can create a giant teacher thank-you card for your teacher. This helps them know that you appreciate them.

However, you should appreciate your teacher. One reason you should appreciate them is because they care about you no matter how much trouble you cause them. Another reason is because they help you out when you feel down. And the last reason you should appreciate your teacher is because they teach you no matter how you look or where you come from.



ALL AROUND TAG

HONOR ROLL

By Ianas G.

Honor Roll is when a student gets all A's and B's. Honor Roll requires nothing but those grades - if any C's then you don't get on Honor Roll. Plus, you need to turn in all homework when it is due, and getting the answers right, and finishing them. You also need to be positive and hardworking.

Here are some responses from interviews with our 6th, 7th, and 8th graders on the Honor Roll:



6th Angelina D.

What was the hardest part about getting on Honor Roll?

The hardest part would have to be the homework because some of the questions were kind of confusing.

How did you get on Honor Roll?

I got honor roll by being a positive and respectful and responsible student at Chestnut TAG . But I worked hard for this and it was one of my goals for the school year. I noticed it was easy to get Honor Roll just by being here every day and working hard and doing homework. To get Honor Roll all you must do is get an A and be a hard worker in class.

7th Danicha A.

What was the hardest part about getting on Honor Roll?

The homework because sometimes it wouldn't be turned in on time when it was due and I would have to make it up.

How did you get on Honor Roll?

By keeping up with my classwork and doing what I was supposed to do and trying not to get stressed about work.

8th Tandy B.

What was the hardest part about getting on Honor Roll?

The hardest part would have to be the homework because sometimes it would be difficult with a bunch of other homework.

How did you get on Honor Roll?

I got onto honor roll by turning in my work trying my hardest at my work and completing it on time.

LGBTQ+

Destiny A.

Okay people, to start this off, you need to read this because I put a lot of time into it and if you skip over this article I will find you. Okay shall we begin?

At school we have a new LGBTQ+ group. The original LGBTQ+ group was founded all the way back in 1924 by a gay man named Henry Gerber. During the 1950's, gay rights continued being fought for. Since then, over the years all these different flags came along to represent the different types of people in this world. Different names for what people are.

This club is a way to help people show who they are. To help all those who are the above find out more about them self. This club was made to show those who are different that there are people just like them. You aren't alone if you are gay or whatever. In 1996 there was the first same-sex marriage. Then in 1997, one person was doing an important interview and said, "yup I'm gay" which changed everything.

After that people started coming out more. In the year 2000, Vermont became the first state with same-sex couples. To this day there are so many same-sex couples that its normal for people to see a girl and girl or boy and boy holding hands on the streets. But there are also people who judge same-sex couples.

I intervened an eighth grader named Emily. I asked her "Does this club help you show who you are as a person?" And she said something in along the lines of "In a way because its accepting of who I am as a person and I'm open to my sexuality." Then I asked her "Have you ever been judged when dating someone of the same gender?" So, Emily said "I have only dated one person of the same gender and there weren't too many people who knew about it. But the people that I told were okay with it."

Her responses show's me that she isn't scared to show who she is as a person and that's always a good thing.

Then I went ahead and sent an email to Ms. Woody and asked her a few questions.

The first question I asked her was "Why did you bring this club to school?" So, she responded with "I thought it was important to have this club at the school for two main reasons. First, I wanted students who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community to have a safe space to go and express themselves. Second, I wanted to create an environment where ALL students could learn about the LGBTQ+ community, events and different issues that affect that community. As an adult who is openly "out" to my students, I had a lot of students come and talk to me about these issues, and therefore it seemed appropriate that we have a club to spread awareness."



The second question I asked her was " Is this club a safe place for everyone to come even those who support LGBTQ+" She said "Definitely! Ms. Jones and I work hard to make sure that this club is a safe space for everyone, including allies. If you are not a part of the LGBTQ+ community, but are an ally, then you are welcome to come learn and be a part of our cause."

Finally, I asked her "Do you think this club could help us students with our sexuality?" So, she responded with "I wouldn't use the word "help," but I would say that I hope that this club creates a space to support people no matter what their sexuality is (even if they are unsure). That being

said, the primary reason for this club is to educate and share our experiences."

I then went ahead and asked Ms. Jones a question. I asked her "What made you want to bring this club to the school even though you identify as straight?" She responded with "I felt like this was an important group to bring to TAG so that those who identity as LGBTQ+ have a safe space, but also for those who identify as straight, but consider themselves an ally and supporter. A club like this allows LGBTQ+ youth to identify peers in the building who can also be a support for them."

Hearing this shows me that there are always people out there you can trust with your life and sexuality.

This article is to show you that this club is open for everyone even if you just support those who are LGBT or Q+

LIBRARY VISITS

By Amor J.

HELLO CHESTNUT TAG! Shhhhh! We're in a library... you need to be quiet because people are reading...

Well I heard 6th Graders have been getting their library cards and ELA classes are taking the students to the library more.

Checking Out Books

You can check out an unlimited amount of books, but can only check out four DVDs at a time, which I think is pretty awesome. Most ELA teachers have their students' library cards with them, but the students have smaller cards which are clipped on to their laptop case so they can never lose it.

Fun in the Library

The library is full of fun. You know why? You can choose from a crazy amount of books,. From graphic novels to huge chapter books. Amazing right? Also, they have some comfortable couches, and chairs. Also, it is nice and quiet, so you can focus on reading and not on the things around you. The library also has amazing help and the librarians are so nice, but don't make too much noise or they will kick you out.

Remember stay quiet and return your books!



BAKE SALES

By Joshua Z.

The TAG Bake Sale is where we sell snacks for a couple dollars. The one we had before vacation was all week lasting from Monday to Friday. Some of the prices for that one were \$1 for four chocolate covered marshmallow sticks.

Anything from the bake sale is \$1 but there are different amounts of snacks for that price. Also, if it is the last day of the bake sale and you get something for 1 dollar you can get more than just one thing.



The next Bake Sale that Chestnut TAG is having is going to be this month and next month in May and June so have your money ready if you want to get snacks! The next Bake Sale will have different kinds of snacks and different amounts of snacks than the first one did.

Upcoming Bake Sales that Chestnut TAG will have will be mostly on Wednesdays on (or around) the following dates:

April 25th, 2018
May 2nd, 2018
May 9th, 2018
May 16th, 2018
May 23rd, 2018
May 30th, 2018
June 6th, 2018
June 13th, 2018



APRIL ACADEMY

By Jaquarri W.

The criteria for going to the April Academy ELA Camp was wanting extra help with ELA so anyone could go.

What is involved in the ELA Camp?

What is involved is learning ELA (obviously) and having fun. At the math camp in February there was a bounce house. And I heard from the teachers that it was going to be fun.

What is it for?

It is for students to get more help and academic for ELA.

Why is it important?

It is important because students need to get their grades up for ELA and if you don't get help then you will fail. You don't want that to happen so that your parents to get mad at you and take your "precious" phones.

One person who I will be interviewing is Thalia W. and she is a 6th grader who went.

Was it fun?

Yes, because there were lots of raffles and gift cards to win. Also we got to make things and play games. I love how they ended it with ice-cream, going outside, and doing raffles. And I got to spend time with my friends.

What did you guys do there?

We wrote some essays and we did lots of activities. One of the activities was Kahoot and whomever was on the score board got candy and a ticket.

Are there any special things that happened?

Ice cream and Social Day. We got to go outside for one hour to play with our friends.

Was there a bouncy house this time?

No, but I wish that there was!

What did you guys get for going and wasting your "vaca" as people like to call it.

Not having to do the criteria for the little carnival that they are going to provide. Also dress down!

SPIRIT WEEK

By Cameran B.

Pajama Day

On Pajama Day, everyone wore their pajamas to school which was nice to be super comfortable.

Camo Day

On Camo Day, everyone wore clothing that had a camouflage on them and the ones who looked the best got to take a picture with the principal (Dr. O'Connor) in their camouflage outfits.

90's Day

On 90's Day everyone had to dress up like they were from the 90's. This was probably the hardest day because none of us were alive then!

Color Wars

On Color Wars, every grade had to wear a different color. 6th grade had to wear purple, 7th grade had to wear green, and 8th grade had to wear red.

Network Day

On Network Day everyone had to dress as their favorite character from their favorite network.



NEW 6th GRADERS

By Thalia W.

Welcome to Chestnut TAG New Students!

Have you ever been a new student? I have been a new student in seven different schools! It can be hard being a new student, especially when schools have different education standards. It was hard for me because most of my different

schools were in different states so all their education standards were way different. But enough about me, back to new students at TAG.

Here are some new 6th graders:

From the sixth grade we have Jeriel R. who switched from Rise at Van Sickle because his family felt Van Sickle taught him things that he already knew.

Something that Jeriel noticed education-wise between Chestnut TAG and Rise at is that Chestnut TAG seems to prioritize the children's education more.

Another student we have is Ellizabeth P. who switched to Chestnut TAG from Gateway Middle School because her parents didn't particularly like the school.

One difference she notices between TAG and Gateway educationally is that the work we do at Chestnut TAG is harder but she did think there was a little less drama there.

Then the most recent new sixth grader we have at Chestnut TAG is Johnny Perez who came from Feltonville School of Arts and Science which is in Pennsylvania.

One thing that Johnny noticed in terms of education is that the work at Chestnut TAG is a bit harder. He likes Chestnut TAG better than his old school because the people are nicer, and he doesn't get into arguments or fights with people here at TAG.

SPRING FLING

By Maria

On April 12th, our school had a dance called the Spring Fling. The Spring Fling was fun and a little more different than the other two dances.

At this dance, almost everybody was dancing. Unfortunately, in the other dances there were only one or two people dancing. Now that's because of the music, and DJ's. In the Spring Fling we had a couple of eighth graders as the DJ's, and they were killing it.

The Expectations

To go to the Spring Fling you had to meet certain expectations. For this year the expectation was that you needed 100% attendance from March 5th until April 12th. However, for the other kids that were going to the ELA academy, they go to the Spring Fling automatically.

Unfortunately, those people that didn't meet the expectation had to stay in the math rooms (Mr. Malinoski and Mr. Hurst) and do work. Doctor O'Connor allowed kids to bring in excuses from their parents or Doctors. So, that gave a chance for some people to go to the dance.

The Dancing and Shoutouts

Almost everyone in the dance was dancing. There were people who were dancing separately from the other groups and a dance that everybody knew. There was the cha cha slide, Rolex, etc., and almost everybody was enjoying all these dances.

Besides the dancing, staff and teachers worked very hard to make the dance spectacular. Like the Pinterest club, decorated the party - shout out to them! Also, I want to give some shout outs to the eighth graders who DJed and the teachers who helped with snacks. In my opinion I really loved the dance.

How about you. Did you love the dance?



8th GRADERS GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL

By Luis C. (6th grader)

Students in Chestnut TAG in the 8th grade are going to be going onto **High School** soon.

High school can be a fright fest. This will be the biggest change these students have ever witnessed. These group of kids will be moving on to 9th grade - The scariest place ever.



These students will have 8 more weeks of the school year, then summer vacation to get to into high school (the scary place). Most people look on the positive side of high school, but not enough on the negative side. High school will be harder than middle school. This transition in these 8th graders life's can be tough.

One thing freshman are scared of is the crazy amount of homework. These students will have way more homework than they had in 8th grade when they get to high school. They will have to put more time and effort on their homework too. Maybe those 8th graders going on to high school are going to have to stay after more if their high school stays after like our middle school does.

8th graders can also be scared they won't see the same familiar faces as last year. There will be more faces just like how they joined 6th grade after leaving elementary school just like a couple years ago. They will meet all these scary teachers and huge people that all called principals. Then they will see the scary vice principals. 8th graders watch out!

MONTH OF MAY



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Lupita Gonzalez

Mental Health Month is one of the most important in world today because it is the month that we need to support people that suffer from things like depression, illness, diseases, and disorders. Some people don't know the difference between illness, diseases and disorders. But mostly all these are not healthy for a single person to have that's why we have this type of awareness and fundraiser.

Some people are diagnosed with Cancer which is a common disease, but there are different types of Cancer and different stages to. When people get diagnosed with cancer is mostly called a disease. Some people survive cancer, and some don't. That is why we have this month to support the people that are fighting everyday of their lives. During this month there are usually fundraisers like five-k run or some people donate their money.

This month is important, but some people think it's irrelevant. We must be aware of this month because so many people suffer from depression and illness. These can cause a mental break down or as doctors call it, stage 4.

It is important to take care of your mental health including psychological, and social well-being. This can affect the way you think, or act. For example, some people suffer from clinical depression, which is an anxiety disorder. This disorder is caused by our emotions. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health issues can start at an early age in a child life. From childhood into adolescence through adulthood.

When growing up your mind has not developed yet, but for adult the human brain isn't fully developed until your 25. So mental illness can be caused by a memory or something you're going through as a child, that's why when you become a parent the doctors tells you to always be careful.

The other reason is that you are remembered something about your childhood and that causes people to suffer as well.



NATIONAL INVENTION MONTH

By Josiah J.

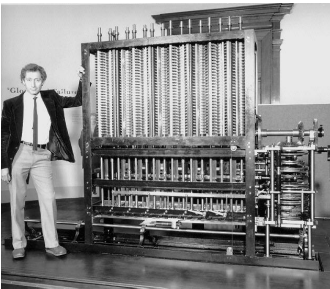
There are many cool things we use every day but don't think about. For example the computer, the light bulb, and cars. But have you ever wondered who created these everyday items?

I will be writing about this month: National Inventors Month which is the month of May and s celebrated to honor all

the inventors who made our lives much easier. This month is also a thank you to them.

I will be starting with Thomas Edison, he invented the light bulb. We use the light every day and it has become a part of how we live. Thomas invented this in 1879 and it is still effective now in 2018, we humans use this invention every day. This month is how we greatly honor Edison.

Did you ever wonder who invented computers? It was Charles Babbage. He changed the world between 1833 and 1871. He made the first computer which as you know is probably taking over the world. This famous invention has been useful since 1833. We honor Babbage for the world changing invention.



Finally, cars. You probably have drove in one before this was invented

by Karl Benz. He revolutionized the way humans transport. Benz invented this in 1885/1886 and we want to honor him this month for making transportation way easier.

These people and many more invented these items to make life easier and for that we give the month of May to honor them for their great inventions.

NATIONAL BURGER MONTH

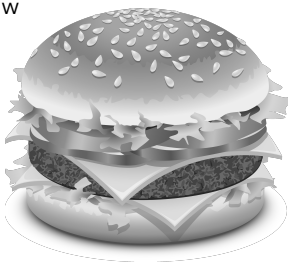
By Bennielyz

Burger Month is in May. Have you ever wondered how burgers were made? Or who made them? Fletcher Davis claims to be the inventor or creator of this delicious burger. But the question is how did it all start out for the hamburger?

Well the history of burgers goes way back because it wasn't all fast food. Hamburgers started out as garbage or meat waste of cut out of steak. So, Fletcher had an idea and his idea was the hamburger.

So, with that idea he opened his own restaurant to sell hamburgers. The restaurant was named Louis' lunch claims to be the first restaurant to sell the first hamburgers in the world located in New Haven, Connecticut 261 crown street.

So, the next time you ask how where hamburgers made you will know where to find it.



<https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/hamburger-month/>

http://www.gone-ta-pott.com/national_hamburger_month.html

<http://blog.mtiproducts.com/hamburger-history>

NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

By Michelle Tran

Every year in May we celebrate National Foster Care Month. It began in 1988. Then people started to celebrate it and recognize it. The focus of Foster Care Month was to help and recognize foster parents who foster the kids. They need all the attention they deserve because they help open a new house and care for a kid. The goal is also to encourage parents to adopt a kid and help them out.

Every May they celebrate Foster Care Month however, they have a different theme every year. Some of these themes support you with becoming a foster parent or how to be a good foster parent. For example, the theme in 2012 was “Achieving well-being with a child and youth in care.”

People estimate that there are 408,000 children in foster care. Sadly, some of the kids cannot be adopted but many of them are. Even the president works with the foster care month. They can help by giving the foster house money to help them or other things. There are many ways to celebrate this day in May. One way someone celebrated this day is giving the parent a break. The parent that foster them took their time to help the kids, so they need a nice break. Sometime people might be nice and babysit the kid, so the parents can go out.

Another way they can celebrate this day is to show the love around the foster kids and parents on social media. People that own a business can host an event to show kindness to the foster parents and foster in general. Those are some ways people can celebrate this day. You can help them out by raising money to them. Many people raise a lot of money to help all the kids and foster parent. We all can support this foster family. Some ways you can support this foster family is not to judge then. If they are happy let them be a happy family. They would love to be appreciated like a normal family.

Therefore, foster care month is an important month to appreciate the foster family. And all the foster parents that helped a kid to get a home to live in, also a family that will love them. These are many reasons why this month can help encourage other people to help.



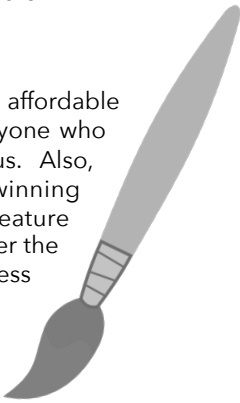
ART WEEK

By Alondra M.

I am very excited to talk about Art Week, and how much fun you would have if you went. Anyway, this year starts and ends from April 27 to May 6. You might as well hurry up and start to plan on going before it's too late.

What is Art Week?

One thing for sure is that it's affordable and will be enjoyable for anyone who is creative and adventurous. Also, there's a ten-day award-winning spring festival, that will feature amazing experiences that offer the behind the scenes and access to artists.



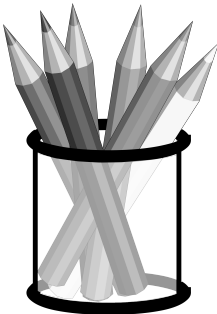
What events are expected to be seen?

Alright so the things you should be excepting to see while you're there are, for example; Multicolor lighting of iconic structures, Biking tour of Allston's cultural landmarks, Open mic night, becoming a Jedi Lego master, learning traditional Greek dance, Behind the scenes of Urban Nutcracker, Mastering the art of TEDx Talk, learning to paint like Monet, etc.

The Three Initiatives?

Also, there will be art of food, which is celebrating the beauty in different varieties of the meaningful food items, as well as restaurants being invited to create a dish that is inspired by art. And there is Light up Night, which is a visual display that shows landmark buildings and locations (Commonwealth's Creativity Landscape).

Well, are you willing to go?! If you are, I hope you have a wonderful time while you're there. I think you will though, because I think that just from reading and knowing all this is going to happen there, is just making me more interested in this. Especially since I love art, I bet if you went you would probably love it as much as I do.



MAY DAY

By Amerie W.

Ahh! May the month of flowers, green grass, and DEATH. Does anyone know what may day is? No, that's why I am here to tell you.

May Day occurs every first of May, hence the words "May Day." Did you know that May Day originated in America? Most people believe that it was celebrated in Cuba or the Soviet Union. To some people it meant flowers, and the "first day of spring," but to others in the work force it meant violence and speechmaking. People were working 10-16 hours a day in bad conditions. Bad injuries or even death would often occur in these places.

Going back to May 1st, 1886 over 200,00 workmen took an eight-hour nationwide strike. Maybe we should go on a one-hour strike about the eight-hour school days? Huh, anyone? No? Ok then - your loss.

Anyway, this event wasn't just a strike, it also became part of the Haymarket affair. It was also to support the eight-hour work day in Chicago and many other countries. The Haymarket affair occurred on May 4, 1886, it was a rally that was organized by labor radicals to protest the killed and wounded workers by the police in Chicago.

Many 8-year old victims of those event s marched in streets to protest child labor. They also got beat down by police officers and company thugs during the protest.

By the way, the phrase "Mayday" has nothing to do with the first of May. It was a distress signal from French, "venez m'aider",meaning "come help me." Fun fact: without those protests and these acts we wouldn't have a Saturday as a part of our weekends.



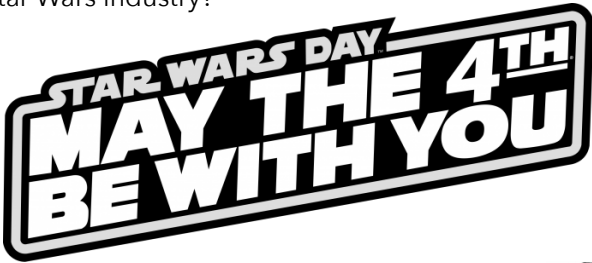
Well actually - you're wrong...

IT'S STAR WARS DAY !

I know right never heard of it but it's a real thing. It is a special day in my house because it's my parents wedding anniversary. But let's get back on track here saying May the 4th be with you was first used in a UK Parliament defense debate on May 4th, 1994. But it was only first celebrated on May 4th, 2011. I was only in preschool! But anyways... I have a few people that are obsessed. I even have Mr. Lessard who was actually the owner of the Star Wars club last year.

I also got Ramone Soto to answer a few questions he was the captain of the Star Wars club. My question was... What is your favorite Star Wars movie? Ramone said "I really don't know? Star Wars Empire Strikes Back." It wasn't very thorough, but it gave me an answer. Star Wars creators did make a lot of money on that on one website they said "Box office: \$534.1-538.4 million" that is a lot of money especially considering that the budget was \$18,000,000.

I also heard from Leverett Horrigan. One of his answers was pretty funny I asked him... What are you looking forward to in the Star Wars industry?



He responded "Nothing because the new Star Wars movies are no good. He might be right in his own opinion, but it shows that the newer movies are ranked higher than most of the old ones. But I'm not going to argue. Everyone has their own opinion.

And like I said in the beginning there are a few obsessed ones and our own Mr. Lessard is one. I asked him a simple question... When was the first time you ever watched Star Wars? He gave an amazing answer! He responded with "My father showed me the original trilogy a few months before the Prequel trilogy was released. I must have been 10 or 11 at the time, and when I finally saw Episode 1 in theaters I was hooked!" That is crazy he was only most 6th graders age. Just imagine being in his shoes when he was our age.

The history of Star Wars day is pretty crazy. On another website it said "Star Wars Day, May 4, celebrates George Lucas' Star Wars. It is observed by fans of the media franchise. Observance of the commemorative day spread quickly through media and grassroots celebrations." And it is even considered Geek Pride Day. I love that!

This was my Star Wars day report

CINCO DE MAYO

By Fernando B.

Who celebrates Cinco de Mayo and why

Cinco de Mayo is a holiday that Mexicans celebrate in May 5th. They celebrate it because the Mexican army won against the French army.

The food people eat in Cinco de Mayo

They mostly eat tacos daily in Cinco de Mayo. Another kind of food they eat is Tortilla Soup, Chicken Enchiladas, Avocado Taco Quesadilla, Black Bean Tostadas, Watermelon Guacamole, and they drink Red Sangria and frozen Margaritas.

What people do during Cinco de Mayo

During Cinco de Mayo Mexicans go to a place where the war was at which was in the town of Puebla. In Cinco de Mayo people in Mexico dress as Mexican and French soldiers. Mexico celebrates Cinco de Mayo with decorations by adding balloons and flowers. When people wear cloths in Cinco de Mayo it has the Mexican flag colors, so you'll often see it on May 5th

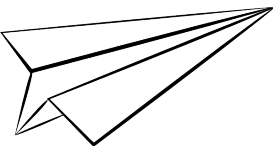
NATIONAL PAPER AIRPLANE DAY

By Paul L.

National Paper Airplane day is a day to get crafty. This Paper Airplane day is on May 26. It's easy to celebrate this day, all you have to do is create an airplane and organize a paper airplane contest. There are many ways to start a paper airplane contest, you can judge by the best paper airplane, the fastest paper-airplane, which paper-airplane goes the farthest, or whatever floats your boat.

On March 26 you don't need to use electronics to celebrate all you have to do is take some time out of your day and go outside, enjoy some fresh air and have a fun contest. There are no age requirements or any restrictions, you can make your own rules to the game and your own settings. This game is free! This day is a good day to be active and go to parks too.

Don't get worked up on not knowing how to make a Paper-airplane either. The instructions are easy.



MEMORIAL DAY

By Azriel K.

We celebrate Memorial Day because it is important. It is important because it is a day to remember the people that have died while fighting in a war. Memorial Day was originally called Decoration Day until the Federal Law made it officially called Memorial Day in 1967. Memorial Day is always celebrated on the last Monday in May every year. Sometimes people get Memorial Day and Veterans Day confused but they are different. Veterans Day is to celebrate men and women who served in a war and are still alive now.

One-way people celebrate it is by joining in on parades, another way people celebrate it is by going to the cemetery, and another way people celebrate it is by gathering their family. There are many other ways to celebrate it, but you can choose how you celebrate. National cemeteries will usually have a little American flag by the gravestone of someone who died fighting in a war because volunteers decide to place a flag there. Memorial means something that reminds people of an event or person. Other countries do celebrate Memorial Day but not on the same day and month.

The next couple of photos were taken by students in Washington DC and are of some of the memorials they visited there. In order: The Navy Memorial, The Vietnam Memorial (part of it), The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Iwo Jima (Marines), and the World War II Memorial.



BIRD DAY

By Mayno V.

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on April 22 in the United States to Support the environment. What is Earth Day?

Earth day is a time we all celebrate and help the environment here on "Earth".This a day were the whole world celebrates and appreciates it. People plant trees and crops on earth day. Earth day was first celebrated in the year of 1970. It is still celebrated today.

In the world not everybody celebrates all the holidays. Just like how everybody doesn't celebrate Earth Day. Scientist think if nobody celebrated earth day the world would be more dirtier than it already is. If we didn't celebrated earth day more fishes would die by the pollution in the water. More animals would choke on pollution and die. Than the animal that eats fish would begin to die because they cant eat fish anymore. Than so on and so on.

If the world didn't celebrate or start this tradition then the world would be worse than it already is.



OTHER THINGS

WHY YOU SHOULD GO TO SIX FLAGS

By Jomairys M.

Have you ever gone to Six Flags? Well if, you haven't this article is for you because you won't believe what you might be missing out on by not going! So today I'm going to help you by giving you some personal thoughts that kids in TAG have about this theme park.

To start, I have interviewed some TAG students about what they think of the place:

Sabrina T.

Why do you like six flags?

Because of its fun, entertaining and the rides are appealing .

Okay, what's your favorite ride and why?

The Scream because I'm tall enough to ride it.

If you can rate the theme park from 1-10 - why?

I would rate it 10 out of 10 because it is super thrilling and the food is good, but just not as good as my mom's.

Gabby I.

What is your favorite ride?

The Scream because it gives you a thrill feeling.

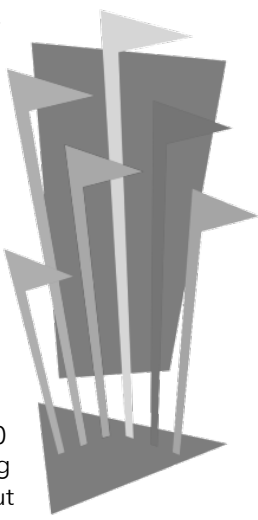
Why do you like six flags?

Because of the rides and the food and I rate it 8.5/10

BUT WAIT! Now it's time for my response and trust me I won't let you down. So, if you haven't heard about the different passes and events that Six Flags has, and yes indeed Six Flags has lots of different types of passes and events, but let's start with passes like the season dining pass, regular season pass, gold member pass, platinum member pass, diamond member pass and diamond elite pass. And another reason why I like Six Flags is because for 2018 which is this year a new Harley Quinn ride is going to be built so you don't want to miss out.

Events

Now let's go to the events in Six Flags like fright feast fight feast is basically Halloween, you know people dress up in costumes go around the park and scare and ride coasters with you. But don't worry if you're not interested you can either one stay in the kid's area or two go another day there are more events being held in the park September 22nd to October 28th.



This brings me to holiday in the park where Six Flags turns into a winter wonderland and where you can meet Santa and take picture with the Looney Toons characters all dressed in their cheerful outfits. This is from November 23rd to January 1st.

Next is Coca-cola 4th of July Fest where at night you will see lots of colorful fireworks up in the sky June 30th to July 4th.

Next is the Prom Dress Drive they have there which sounds odd but basically you recycle your old prom dress for free admission to the park, but this only is for June 1st and 2nd.

GLOBAL WARMING IS WARMING UP THE EARTH

By Jayla M.

What is Global Warming?

Global warming is also known as climate change, and it is when Earth's average temperature rises. So... this is all it is so... on to the next section!

What Causes Global Warming?

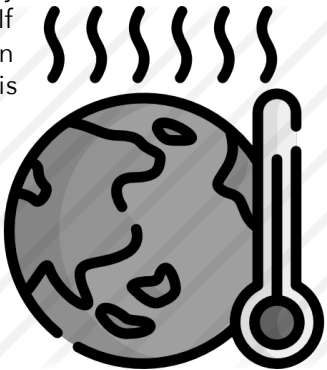
One of the causes of global warming is... people! The reason behind this is that humans are burning fossils fuels and it is going into the atmosphere. These fossil fuels trap heat, which makes the Earth warm. Things like cars and factories are burning these fossil fuels and sending them up into the atmosphere. It is also causing a lot of the greenhouse effect. Even operating our homes could be one of the causes! This is a serious problem for the life on this planet, as the environment and animals are changing!

How Do We Stop It?

Well, one way to stop it is to use renewable energy. Renewable energy are things like solar panels, wind power, or hydropower. These energies do not use harmful chemicals like the burning of fossil fuels. First, people would have to install solar panels on top of their houses to get their energy from the sun. This is a safer way to get energy. Some may also use wind to power things. Hydropower is the energy of water, since hydro means water. Just doing simple everyday tasks differently can help prevent global warming.

How Does It Affect Animals?

It affects animals severely. This is because ice is melting and causing the sea levels to rise. One of the animals affected by this is polar bears. They have trouble finding food and they cannot survive in the warmer climate. Some animals adapt to the cooler climate, and when there is a sudden change in the weather that they adapted to, it may be hard for them to adapt to the new weather, and they may not survive. If one species of an animal dies, this will cause others to die. This is because they might be the food supply for another animal and so on.



How Does Global Warming Affect Us?

Global warming affects us in many ways. One way is that our water supply is getting lower. This is because most of the lakes that we get it from is drying up from the heat. Crops also needed to make food is also disappear because the growing conditions are changing. Another food related thing is coffee. The arabica trees are at risk, and this is the main source of coffee beans. These trees need coolness to grow, and with the Earth heating up, it is not much help for these trees.

Source: www.ndrc.com

CREATIVE COLUMN

Mr. Clown Man

By Destiny A.

One night a teenager was called to babysit two kids. She was about 16 years old. When she had got to the house the parent's house. They had asked her a favor, "When you put them to bed can you watch TV in our bedroom. The kids have been having nightmares and would wake up screaming." in a sweet tone she said "Sure."

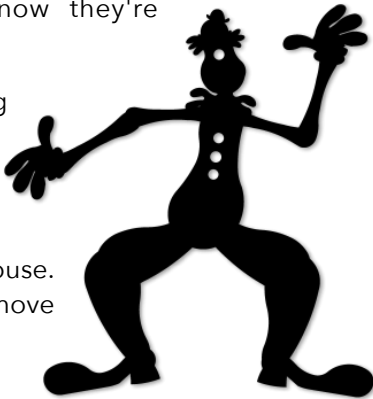
So, the parents headed out. They played games and watched TV. Until the time came that the babysitter was dreading all night, bedtime. She put the kids in bed and one of them said "Please don't let it get us." The babysitter smiled and said, "I won't let anything happen to you."

So, just like the parents asked she walked into their bedroom. The first thing she notice was a clown in the corner. A very detailed, realistic clown. She thought, well no wonder why those kids have been having nightmares. She sat on the bed, but all she could do was look at the statue. Then she thought to herself "Was it looking at me like that before?"

The babysitter went down stairs to go call the parents about it. She said, "Hey what's up with that clown statue in your room?" The parents said there is no clown statue in our room..." She was terrified, then the kids screamed, "DONT TAKE ME!"

The babysitter ran upstairs, but was too late, the two young kids were killed. No one was there. She ran into the parent's bed room and the clown was gone. She went back down stairs to call the parents. She said with a terrified voice "You know, how I called you about the statue... well I think it was a man and it well the kids screamed...and now they're gone."

The parents hung up so, the babysitter put down the phone and went to run out the house. But she didn't move fast enough.



The Un-average Teenager Part II

(See the April Newspaper for Part I)

By Milad O.

My life completely turned around from this day... my DAD CAME BACK. Me and my dad were talking to each other secretly I haven't seen him since I was a baby. He told me too meet up with him because he had something very important to tell me. He met up with me at Starbucks I didn't know how he looks like, but he knows how I look like.

A man came up to me and he said I'm your dad and he gave me a hug and then he said that my mom that I thought was my mom really wasn't my mom. He explained that my real mom died when she gave birth to me and then he gave me up because he was scared that he would give me a bad life without a mother. I didn't believe what he was saying so I just left crying.

I spent that night thinking about everything and if that guy was really my dad. And the next morning I found out that he was my dad and that everything he said was true. So, we met up with him and he wanted me back and he had the papers to get me back, but I really didn't know what to do at this point everything was so confusing right now.

TO BE CONTINUED...

My Hotel

By Destiny A.

The following is a real story that I have lived and none of it has been made up. My family was on a trip, we had just finished visiting an arcade. I had just woken up and saw that we were at this hotel.

When we walked in I found that this place had something strange about it. My parents were getting the card to our room, so I sat down with my brother and sister.

This odd man was next to us. He was fat and his face scared me. He started talking to us, but I had forgot what about.

That night there was no one there, it was just us. I heard some strange noises. Then what hit me when was I heard a girl scream. I thought it was just in my head because I was watching scary things. The worst thing about this all was that my parents had rented a room next to ours and there was a door and a wall between us.



I left our room and looked down the hall, no one. I ran back into the room. Maybe someone was in their room and yelled. But then I heard banging on the wall. I started texting my friend, but the messages wouldn't send.

Suddenly, a private number called me. I picked up but didn't say anything. Nothing happened. I eventually fell asleep, but I felt like someone was

right next to me. The next morning, we left, but before I got on the elevator I realized we were on floor 6 the whole time. I got chills right then and there. When we got home I went on my computer and looked up. The internet claimed the hotel was haunted.

That Summer Night at the Witches Hideout

By Ella S.

One humid afternoon, my friends were talking about a house on top of the hill and saying a witch lives there. I didn't believe them, so I told them it was bull and they told me to stay there for a night.

I took the challenge thinking I do it. "I can do this." I told myself, "I'm definitely gonna prove that this all bull." I told my parents that I'd be stay with a friend tonight, so I gathered what I'd need for my night stay at the "witch mansion" is what everyone calls it.

When I walk half way up the hill, I see a sign that says 'NO TRESPASSING'. It looked like a house that was at least ninety years old. It was a faded blue. I start to sense that something isn't right.

I open the door ajar, a cold breeze seeps out of the crack. I walk into the house, there's a spine chilling feeling about this place. I walk into the house. "AHHHHHHHH!" I screamed from a gigantic spider landing on my arm.

Now I was trying to be aware of my surroundings. I run further into the house, hoping nothing else would land on me. I somehow navigated a stair case.

Suddenly I remember I brought a flash light. I turn it on to see what's ahead of me. I shine it up the stairs and see a tall figure at the top staring down at me.

Terrified, I back up and trip over something. Once I got up, I shined my flash light at the top of the stairs, thinking it would still be there but to my surprise, it was gone. I was curious to where it had gone. Then the thought crossed my mind that my friends probably were hiding throughout the house waiting to scare me. So, I told myself that for a few minutes until I look behind me to see what I tripped over. I slowly turn around, hoping nothing would come out to scare me. I look down at the floor to see that it was just to see it was a broken floor board.

I turn the other way and head up the stairs. I reach the top of the stairs and felt the air get colder as if it was winter. I keep walking, folding my arms tightly. I find a room with a bed. It was a velvet bed and was decorated with skulls. I instantly back away and I then thought that way be my friends weren't lying. I try to find a room that doesn't seen used. I walk into a room far away from that room.

As I walk in, I see someone on the floor, whispering in a pentagram with candles at each point of the star. I stand there for a while and whoever was whispering, noticed and started to get up. I realized, it was the tall figure I saw at the top of the stairs.

I ran as fast as could all the way down to my house and I swore I could have saw them outside my window that night and ever since then, I've had nightmares of that visit.

Bloody Mary

By Destiny A

When I was younger me and my friends heard of this thing called bloody marry and everyone was talking about it. We never did it until we were in high school. It was me and my best friend and we

were having a sleep over at my house. We went in the bathroom, lit a candle and chanted bloody marry three times. My friend screamed so we ran out. I asked her "Why did you scream like?" She whispered, "She got me" We sat down on the couch and started to watch TV. My dad came in the room and told us "I have no clue what's going on but when you girls get a chance clean up the bathroom there is blood everywhere." We looked at each other with the most terrified face ever. When we went in the bathroom I screamed because of how much blood there was. My friend ran out the house and left me all alone.

MCAS STRESS

Address Stress and Improve MCAS Scores

By Julius M.

We all know that MCAS is super stressful and the amount of anxiety the wait for it to finally come can cause. Well, let me tell you about some very helpful things that will help you relieve your stress and anxiety.



A popular method everyone uses is to rub their temples. Though people do this its purpose is to actually relieve headaches and though you do get headaches when you overwork your brain it doesn't help you very much. A way to relieve stress is to massage your earlobes in small circles with your thumbs to remove tension. The reason is because not only does it relieve stress if your earlobes are normally associated with your brain and so if you message your right earlobe it allows you to trigger your left brain and your pituitary gland which would increase your capabilities because the left side of your brain preforms tasks that have to do with logic such as, mathematics and science.

Some things you can do on your wait until MCAS is to be more active. Exercise and physical activity tells your body to release some of your stress battling hormones it also helps you procrastinate less, focus more, and act more disciplined. A not likely way to relieve stress is to read a book. Yes, you read right read a book. A study has found that reading a book can reduce up to 68% of your stress. Reading a book can truly help free you of the stressors in your everyday life. Those are just some of the ways you can relieve stress and anxiety, there are many, many more than just those though.

“CAN’T”

By Edgar Allen Guest

Can't is the worst word that's written or spoken;
Doing more harm here than slander and lies;
On it is many a strong spirit broken,
And with it many a good purpose dies.
It springs from the lips of the thoughtless each morning
And robs us of courage we need through the day:
It rings in our ears like a timely-sent warning
And laughs when we falter and fall by the way...

Can't is the word that is foe to ambition,
An enemy ambushed to shatter your will;
Its prey is forever the man with a mission
And bows but to courage and patience and skill.
Hate it, with hatred that's deep and undying,
For once it is welcomed 'twill break any man;
Whatever the goal you are seeking, keep trying
And answer this demon by saying: "I can."