

January / February 2022

Mustang Magazine

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Student Art Submissions



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January 2022

Dear Reader,

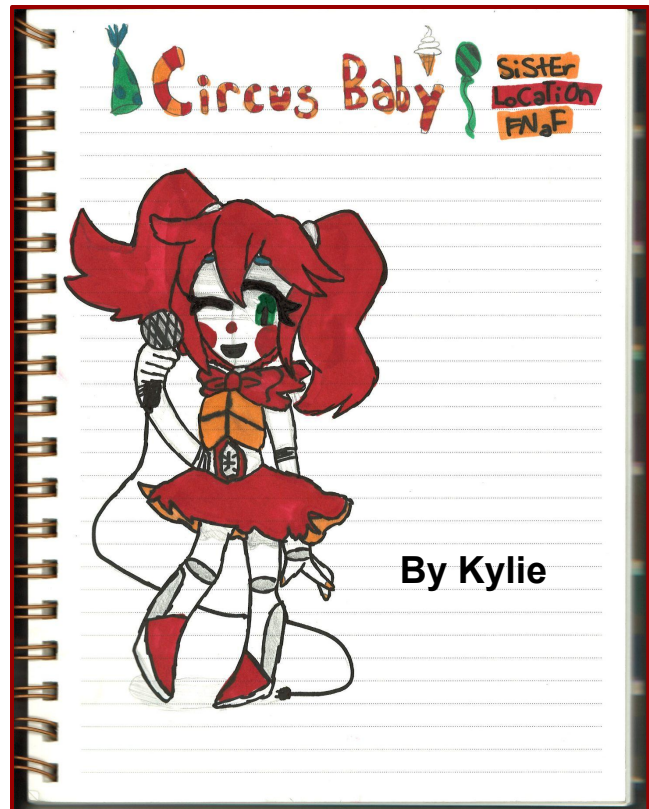
Our Merton Press Room is a place for our Merton students to share their stories, news, art, podcasts and videos with a public audience.

Our theme this month is "New Year New You." Our staff created items that go with this theme. Fifth graders were surveyed about some topics we are researching in language arts. The survey results are included in this issue. We also have our regular sections for school news, opinions and art!

Please enjoy our magazine! If you have suggestions for future themes, sections and articles, please email me at kasproviczs@merton.k12.wi.us

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kasprovicz
5th Grade Language Arts



By Kylie



Merton Community Schools & District Office

Sussex Rd
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We Welcome You!

We're so glad to have you tune in on this informative article about our top-notch public school! Our Schools have amazing teachers, custodians, and other helpful staff!

WHO WE ARE

Making an impact in education

Merton Schools offers a wide variety of academics ranging from Math And Language Arts all the way to wood manufacturing and robotics! Now that with the coming 3rd quarter, we are happy to say that we are halfway through the school year; only 5ish more months of school! Some required classes at Merton Intermediate School are Math, PE, Music, Art, Language Arts, Social Studies and Science.

Fifth graders have two electives per quarter. They choose between Choir, Band, Stem, Art, Spanish, and Science. At the Primary, classes are Math, Readers and Writers Workshop (Language Arts), Social Studies, Specials (PE, Art, Music). Late Spring has "Forward Testing" Students will take this test to show the skills they have in four classes, being... Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science! How well did we do? District data can be found on the [Merton Website](#). Wowza!

Staff

According to the "Merton Community School district" website, there are 107 staff in both schools, there are Teachers, custodians, and more!

Everyone helps! Thanks Staff!

For more Information go to

<https://www.merton.k12.wi.us/directory/index.cfm>

Superintendent and Principals.

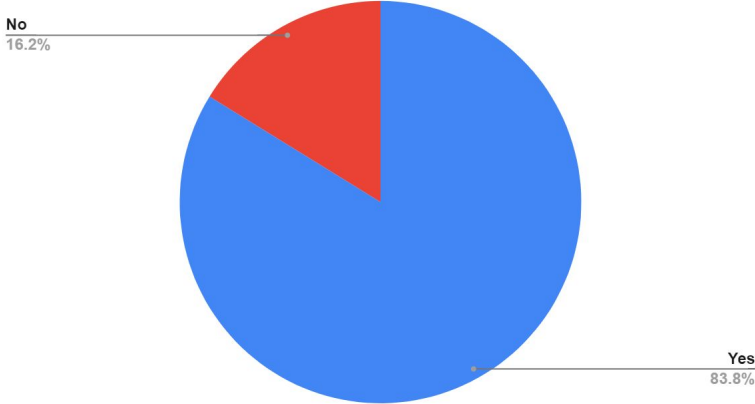
We have one awesome superintendent and two top-notch principals. Dr. Russ is Merton's Superintendent. He is in charge of many important tasks including managing budgets, overseeing student success, making plans and goals for the future of the school, and hiring staff. That's one important job! Also we have two principals at Merton... Mrs. Stein (Primary) and Mr. Posick (Intermediate). The principals oversee all students, school operations, manage staff, and help coordinate curriculums. What an important and dependable job.

Thanks For tuning in on my 2022 school year vision on what our school is going to look like. Thanks! Tuning out now.

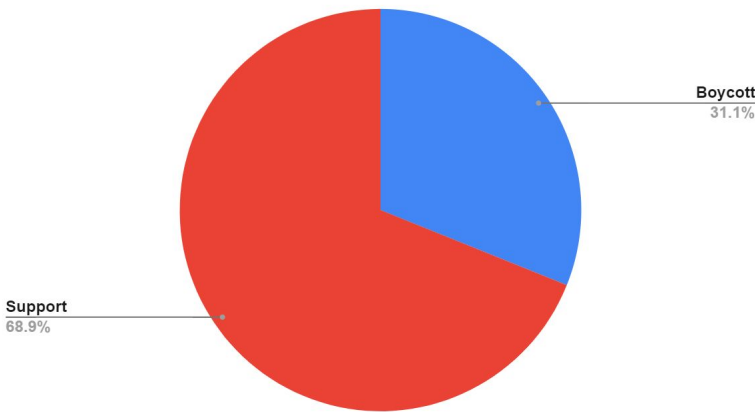
School News and Opinions

5th Grade Survey Results

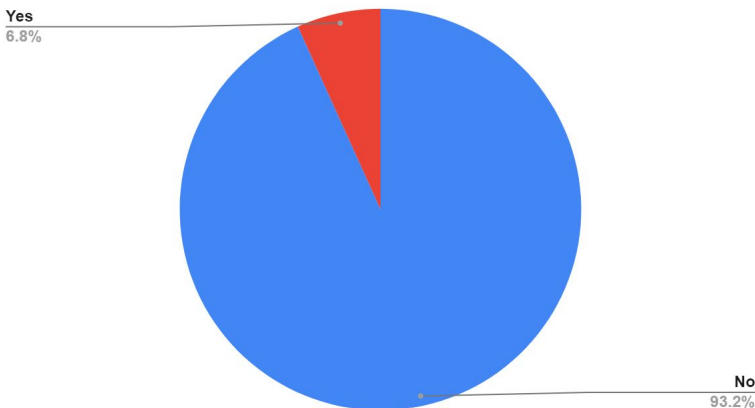
Count of Should Chocolate Milk Be Served In Schools?



Count of Should We Boycott or Support Zoos?



Count of Should we get rid of paper money?



Merton Aces Math Meet!

Congratulations to our Merton Math Meet teams! Teams competed according to the size of their district. New this year, the individual awards were given to the top 2 scores in each size division.

Our 5th and 6th grade Math Meet team came in 1st place for their division and will continue to the Mega Meet in spring. Team members were: Max B., Logan T., Mason K., Olivia S., Lucas L., Liam B., Kaia P., and Emilia R. who stepped in for a team member who was absent.

We also congratulate our top scorers from the large district division.

- 1st place - 5th grade - Max B.
- 2nd place - 6th grade - Lucas L.
- 1st place - 6th grade - Liam B.

The success continued with our 7th/8th grade team. Congratulations on a 1st place win for their division. They will continue to the Mega Meet as well. Team members were: Owen H., Jack B., Aubrey M., Megan S., Raylea R., Dominic S., Dominic M. and Grant R.

Congratulations to the top scorers from the large district division.

- 1st place - 7th grade - Owen H.
- 2nd place - 8th grade - Dominic S.
- 1st place - 8th grade - Raylea R.

Oops, Did I Pollute?

By GS Troop #6380

You may not realize it but every day you and the people you know pollute. Pollution is the introduction of harmful material into the environment, and we all create pollutants in many ways, oftentimes without even realizing it. We've provided you with a list of common ways that people pollute and how we can all make small changes that could add up to big progress.

How you and others pollute

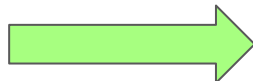
- Leaving your car running
- Leaving lights on
- Leaving the faucet on
- Littering and throwing recyclables in the trash
- Burning waste
- Single-use plastics
- Chewing gum (yep, gum!) Gum contains plastic elements and is supposed to be recycled, but plastic has to be recycled in large amounts...EWW!

It's not too late to start:

- Reducing Carbon Dioxide
- Reducing single-use plastics
- Saving Energy and Money
- Reducing Carbon Pollution
 - Reducing Pollution in our Oceans and Lakes.
 - Keeping waste out of landfills.

You can reduce the pollution you create by:

- ✓ Turn off your engine while you're waiting for your kids at school
- ✓ Don't warm up your car when it's cold outside
- ✓ Reduce your vehicles carbon emissions by:
 - ★ Planning ahead so you can make fewer trips
 - ★ Carpooling when possible.
 - ★ Walking, or riding a bike when possible
 - ★ Driving small - big vehicles equal bigger pollution



Why: 10 minutes is equal to 1lb of Carbon Dioxide.

- ✓ Turn off lights, TV, and devices when you leave the room
- ✓ Use energy-efficient light bulbs

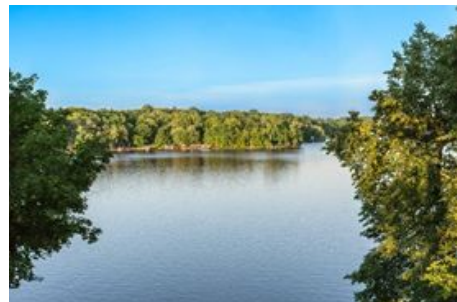
Why: Saves Money per Kilowatt Hours and Saves Energy.

- ✓ Turn off the water when brushing your teeth
- ✓ Use a dishwasher instead of washing dishes by hand

Why: You waste 2 Gallons of water per minute when you leave it running. An energy-efficient dishwasher uses less water than hand-washing dishes.

- ✓ Always throw trash away and use recycle bins
- ✓ Try to use fewer single use plastics, this includes gum!
- ✓ Don't burn your garbage or animal waste
- ✓ Get a permit and start composting

Why: Garbage pollutes our water and fills landfills. Burning adds Carbon Dioxide and dangerous toxins to our atmosphere and the air we breathe.



Let's save our planet together!

Did you learn something new or were you inspired to make one or two changes with this information? Maybe you already knew this information and are happy we are working hard to share it. Please let us know by using this link:

[Please fill out this survey](#)

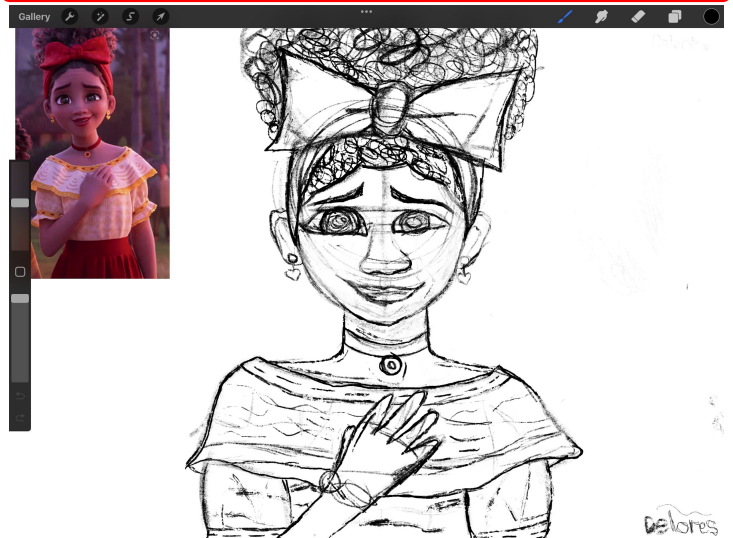
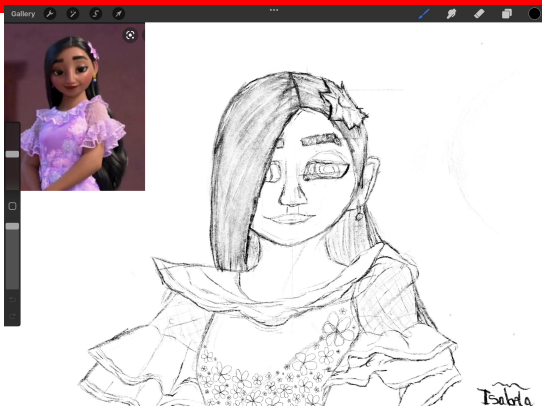
School News and Opinions

~Encanto~

By: Kate

"Encanto" Is a movie by Walt Disney animation and is about a girl named Mirabel. She belongs to a magical family called family Madrigal. They live in a magic casita powered by a magical candle. And when a child of the family comes of age they have a ceremony. They stand in front of a space on the wall and a door appears. That becomes the door to their room, which is magically crafted to match their gift. When they touch that door they get a gift. One of the gifts is to a girl named Isabella. One of Mirabel's older sisters, is effortlessly perfect. Mirabel's oldest sister, Luisa, is super strong. But when Mirabel's time came, she got no gift. She finds out something is wrong with the magic candle. And it's up to her to find out what it is and save her family. I'd rate it about 4 out of 5 stars.

I love how it's different. Mirabel doesn't go on a big quest like in most movies. And it's very funny. The songs are very catchy. The Abuela who found the casita became really strict to try and protect the family. But in the end she realized she never gave enough love to her family. It shows that you're not perfect, nobody is, but you can always learn and try to be a bit better. I think they should have made it a bit more dramatic than "I need to save the magic!" I don't really get why she needs to save the magic. I feel they should have given a reason. It's not like anything big would happen like the world being destroyed if it wasn't saved. Anyway, thanks for reading! See you in the next issue!



Illustrations by Bella

School News and Opinions

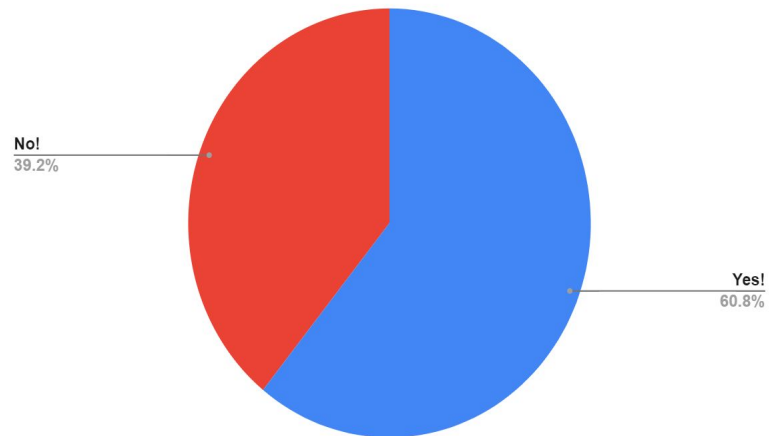
Xbox Mini Fridge

By Blayne

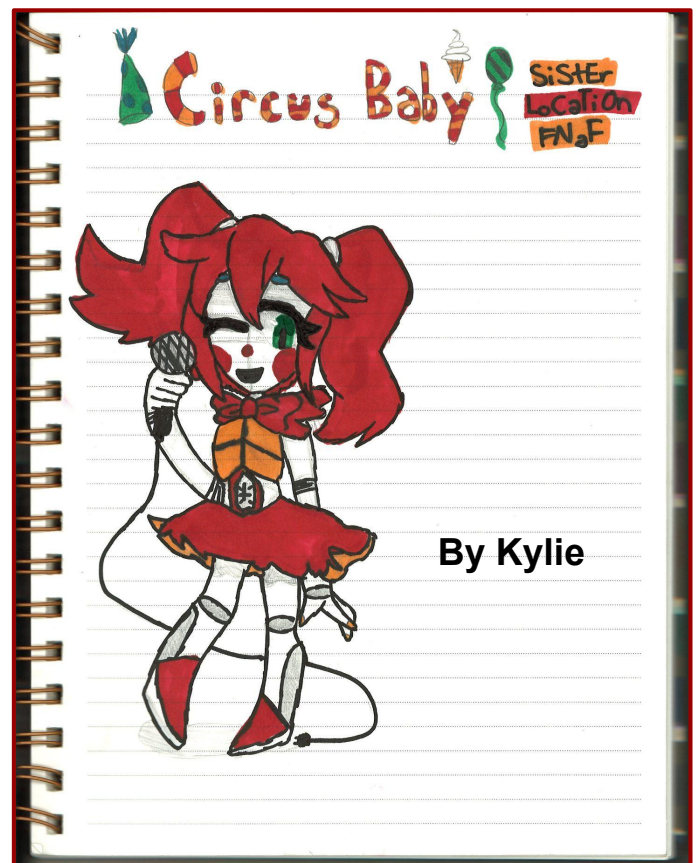
The Xbox mini fridge came out on October 19 of 2021. The mini fridge is pretty nice for starters. It has little shelves on the door to keep snacks in and on the main part of the inside is the spot to keep drinks or really anything you want as long as it isn't that big. In the main part of the fridge there can be two shelves or you can take one or two out. If you take all of them out you can stack cans of soda to fit more. Also the cool thing is that there are two lights on it and you can turn them on and off with two buttons. The only downside is that if you want it in your room it's a little on the loud side so it can be kinda hard to sleep sometimes but that's about it. But if you can find one that isn't that expensive you should totally get it is worth the money.



Count of Should Orca Shows be banned?



5th Grade Survey Answers



Stuck in a Blizzard

By Abbey and Maddie

I was about to take a bite of my baked potato covered in greasy, melty butter. Then my little cousin, Jack, bumped into me and sent my fork flying through the air, splattering my potato all over the waitress.

“Jack, why did you do that?” my aunt asked. “I’m so sorry, ma’am!”

The next thing I knew, the manager of the Double Decker Steakhouse walked up and said, “I’m sorry, but I’m going to have to ask you to leave the restaurant. This type of behavior is unacceptable. You need to keep your kids under control.”

Dad started to protest, but Mom grabbed his arm. “We’re very sorry, sir. We’ll leave now. Right, honey?” she said. Dad sighed and nodded. Our New Year’s Eve dinner was ruined.

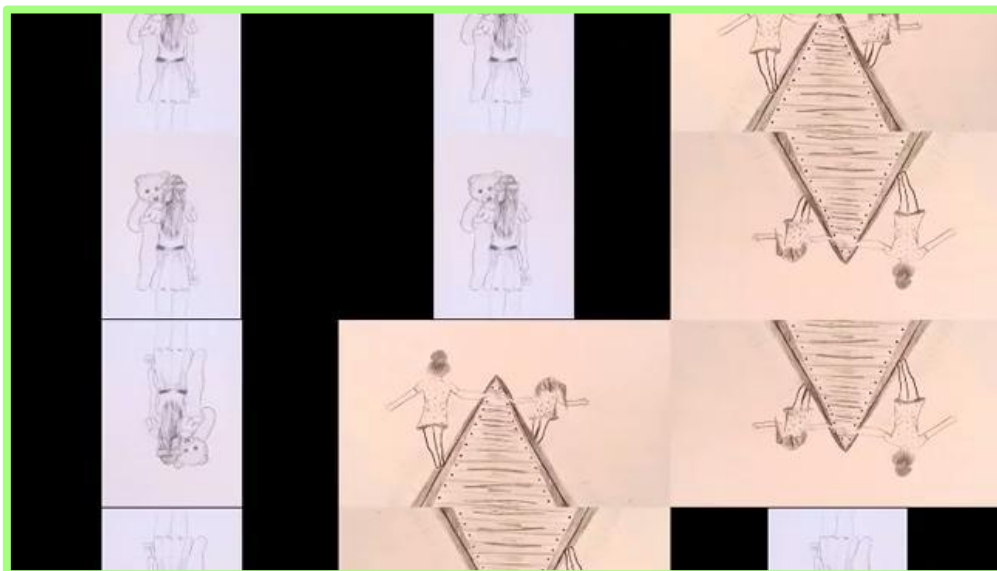
In the parking lot, my aunt looked at us with embarrassment. “I am so sorry Jack ruined your New Year’s Eve. I hope you’re not mad,” she said. I looked up at Mom.

“That’s okay,” she said. “He’s only two. Have a good night.”

We walked to our car and the others went to theirs. We climbed in and pulled onto the main road.

“Wow, the snow is really starting to pick up,” Dad said as he drove. Mom nodded in agreement. “I hope we’ll make it home okay,” she said. I knew that tone. She wasn’t sure we’d make it home before midnight. It was already ten thirty, and if the snow fell any harder, we’d have to slow down or pull over. I wanted to be home for the ball drop and the countdown.

continued...



Happy 2022 Art Show by Emily P.!



Stuck in a Blizzard

Continued

A few minutes later, my baby sister Kaitlin started to cry. She had been taking a nap in her car seat and then woken up. Now she was screaming her head off. Dad sighed loudly. "I can't focus with her doing this," he said. "I'm pulling over."

We pulled into the parking lot of a closed Piggly Wiggly. It was dark inside and the snow pelted down onto our windows. Mom leaned over her seat to unstrap Kaitlin and put her in her lap. I watched as the blizzard seemed to get worse.

"Are we going to be home for the countdown?" I asked, looking at the clock on Dad's dashboard. He shrugged. "Hard to tell," he said. "The snow doesn't look like it's going to stop any time soon."

If we weren't going to be home for the countdown and the big ball drop, what was the point of New Year's Eve? Our dinner had been wrecked by Jack, and now we were stuck in a Piggly Wiggly parking lot waiting out a blizzard. What a great way to start 2022.

All my siblings were worried about spending New Years in a Piggly Wiggly parking lot. "Don't worry. I'll try to get out of here as soon as possible," Dad said. My 5 year old sister Lily asked, "When will we start driving again, Dad?"

"It depends on when the blizzard stops," Dad replied. I was worried that our car was going to run out of gas. If it did, we would be stranded in the parking lot a lot longer than we wanted to be.

We had been in that parking lot for what seemed like hours. We had missed the big ball drop and the countdown. Everyone was upset, even my parents.

But then my mom said, "You know what, we may not be spending New Year's Eve at home, but at least we're spending it together. I think this the best New Year's Eve I've ever had. It's an adventure."

Lily and I looked at her like she was crazy. Why would anyone want to spend New Year's Eve in a Piggly Wiggly parking lot? There was no ball drop. No noisemakers. No sparkly paper hats that said *Happy New Year!* on them. This definitely wasn't a good way to start the New Year.

continued...

In the Woods

By Alex S.

I was looking out the window and I saw a bunny. The bunny was white so it blended in the snow. *Did I see a bunny? Maybe I didn'tits white fur blends in with the snow...oh wait! There it is!* My dog Teddi was outside so I went to let her in so Teddi did not hurt the bunny. My dog Teddi looks like a chocolate bar but she's just a chocolate lab. I grabbed my jacket, hat and gloves.

Then I went outside to follow the bunny to see if it had a nest of a bunch of baby bunnies. I have wood in our backyard so I just kept on following the bunny, not thinking I would get lost cuz I always go back there and have fun with my neighbor. We make forts and this one time we made a humongous fort and we were even camping there for a little bit. It was so dark and we ran home. I even have a little river but I barely ever go past the river.

The bunny left me.

I passed the river and then I realized the sun was setting. Then I looked back to go home but I didn't see the river or our patio light. I started walking back but then the sun was almost setting. I was starting to get cold and the Moon looked like a wolf on it but there wasn't.

I got scared and I started yelling, but no answer, just the cold wind. I felt like I was in the middle of a big cornfield for many miles in the pitch black dark. I started to walk back. I saw my dog "Teddi Teddi" I yelled. Then she took me all the way home. But as I was passing by I didn't see any bunny tracks and it didn't snow at all.

It was like there was no bunny at all.

Stuck in a Blizzard

Continued

Then my mom said, "You know what, we may not be spending New Years at home, but at least we're spending it together."

Mom was right. I was just happy to be spending New Years with my family.

"Hey, it's 11:59!" Dad said as he looked at his watch. "We may have missed the actual countdown, but we can still have our own!"

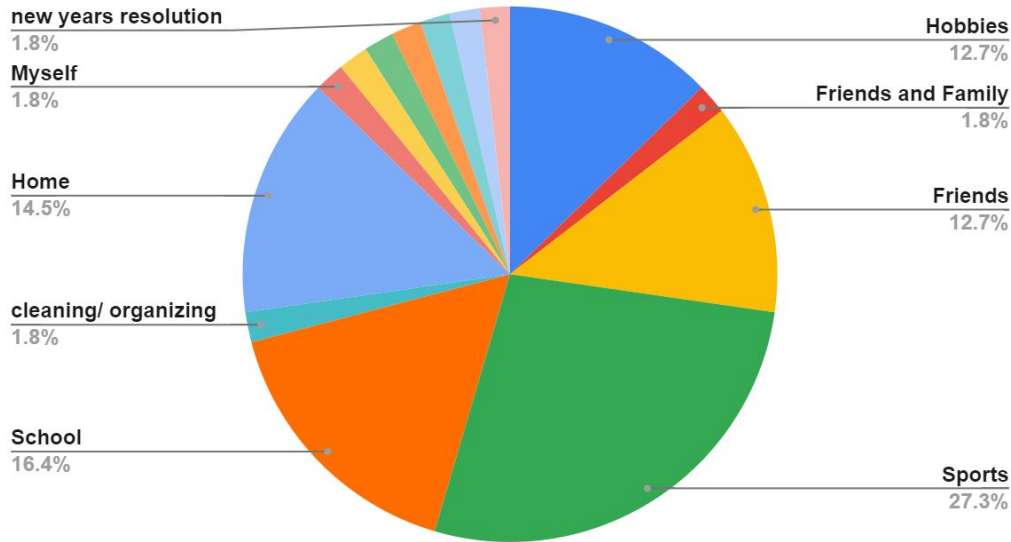
We all counted down from ten, and when the clock struck midnight, we all cheered.

"Happy New Year!"

New Year! New You!

5th Graders' New Year's Resolutions

What is your resolution about?



To be less quiet and shy. I'm always quiet.

Get better at ball handling so I can be a point guard.

Floss my teeth every night because I can get cavities.

Practice more because if I practice more I will get better.

Friends: To not lose my temper

To speak my mind. I usually think of something to say, like to stand up for myself, but I never actually say it. I want to get better at saying what I'm thinking in the moment.

Try a new genre of a book every month, even if I don't know if I'll like it. I usually just stick to realistic fiction, but I think I should try a new genre like fantasy.

My new year's resolution is to spend a lot of time with my family and make them feel special. Because my family has been getting really small and I want to make the moments I have really count.

Work harder and don't give up in soccer because I need to be faster.

To work harder so I can do better.

Be nicer to friends and family. I'm a little bossy.

Team work. This is because I mostly work by myself and I want to start working with others.

To try and keep my room organized because I can never find anything in my room.

Get a lot better at shooting in soccer. This is my resolution because it will help my team and me get better.

I decided

Amelia

Happy 2022 Fireworks Edit by Amelia!

Sports

By: Claire,
Ciana, and
Kate

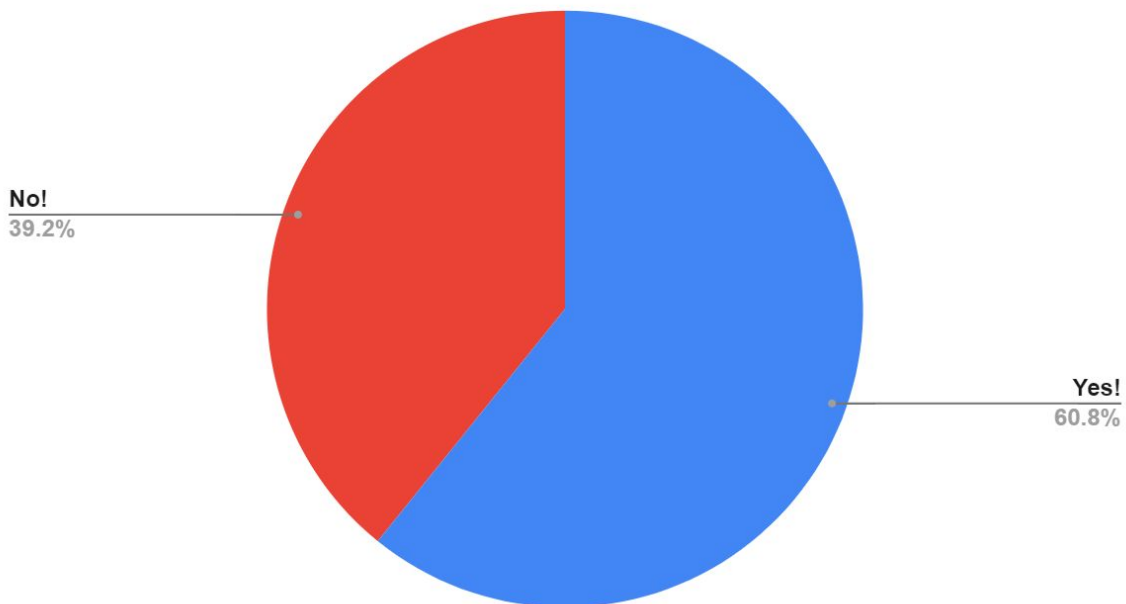


Sports Interview, and
MAA news!



Click Here For Your Sports News!

Count of Should Orca Shows be banned?



5th Grade Survey Answers

Chemistry And At Home Experiments

Toast to The New Year With Chemistry!

By: Ava M

Welcome to the new year! I am so excited to show you how to do a really fun experiment! In this experiment you will toast to the new year with a drink you will make! This experiment is also pretty simple so if you struggle with following instructions this experiment is for you!

Supplies:

- Baking Soda
- Vinegar
- Food Coloring
- Glitter
- Placemat/Tray
- Plastic Celebration Cup
- Ladle

DO NOT DRINK

STEP 1: Take your glass and fill glasses with a little baking soda. After you mix it with baking soda, put some glitter in your mix. TIP: Don't put a layer of glitter on top, if you put glitter on top your 'drink' will not do the intended!

STEP 2: Mix your party punch (Vinegar)! To mix your party punch use vinegar and use some food coloring to add some color! If you want you can put some glitter in your mix.

STEP 3: Use a ladle or pour your party punch into your celebration glass.

STEP 4: Watch your party drink fizz!

The Science Behind This.

This experiment is an example of many things. This gives examples of chemical reactions, and mixtures. When you mix vinegar and baking soda that makes chemical reactions happen.

This experiment was really fun to do and I'm so glad I did this! This really taught me about how chemical reactions can happen with two different things! I hope you try this experiment! Site: [Little Bins, For Little Hands](#)

Chemistry is an important skill to learn because there are simple chemical reactions that happen around your house everyday! Chemistry isn't just all around your house it's fun to learn about too! .



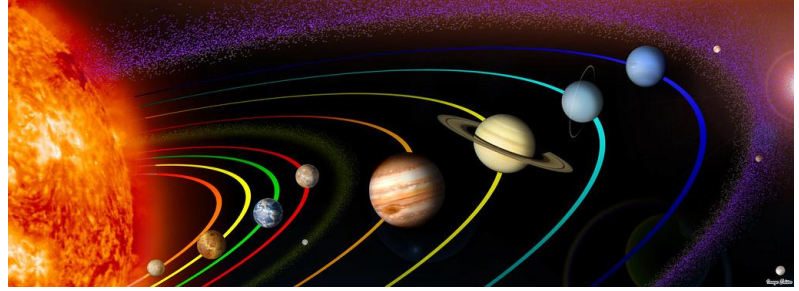
Study of our Solar System

By Lexie

The solar system is like a magical place still yet to be discovered. But we have already found it. That is because we live in it.

The first real discovery of the solar system was in 1609 when Galileo invented the telescope. Using it, he began to believe that all our planets including the sun orbited around the earth. Thus proved wrong by Nicoles Copernicus. In 1543 he created a radioactive model that proved that the earth rotated around the sun. people thought he was crazy and began to ignore his studies. But today we have proof that the earth orbits around the sun. using probes and shuttles and many pictures, we proved that the sun's gravity was holding our earth in orbit.

Speaking of outer space and the sun. What is really going on out there? What does it sound like? What does it feel like? Well in space, there are no sounds. But the planets do make sounds. But not in the way you are thinking of it. They give off vibrations. Causing a humming noise. It can be cool but creepy. And what does it feel like to be up in space? Well it is ot that hard to explain. There is always some type of gravity on all planets. So you would start to float to the nearest planet.



The closer you get the faster you go! It sounds like a roller coaster but you could be traveling at the speed of light. Which is really fast.

Our solar system is a dangerous place. When it comes to all the evidence that scientists have collected. Only earth is the safest. And we should stick there. But we should love our solar system. Because it is so rare! It turns out that other solar systems out there have a 1% chance of having this many planets or more. So we should be proud to be unique!



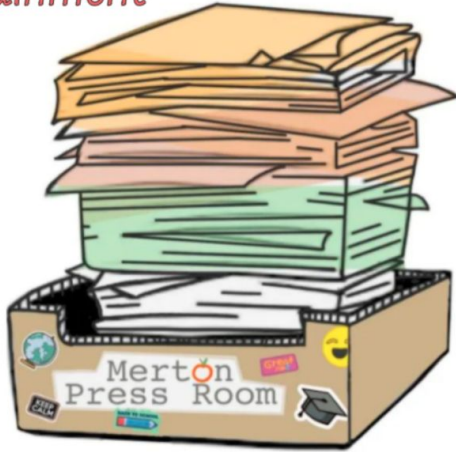
Merton Musical News

By: Emma D and Liam

Merton Cast:

Ariel	Macie B.
Prince Eric	Nolan F.
Sebastian	Tessa B.
Flounder	Ashley W.
King Triton	Nick Z.
Ursula	Addie W.
Flotsam	James B.
Jetsam	Elizabeth A.
Scuttle	Elliott E.
Grimsby	Brooke S.
Carlotta	Kayla M.
Chef Louis	Aurora M.
Adella	Elena J.
Andrina	Emma D.
Atina	Ava W.
Arista	Ava M.
Pilot/Sea Creature	Elliot D.

Auditions for The Little Mermaid were held at Merton Intermediate School after holiday break. These are the final roles. Rehearsals started on the 18th. The shows are on Thursday, April 7th. There will be a small school performance to show the kids what the show looks like. On the 7th, the show is at 7:00 PM. All cast must be there by 5:30 PM. On Friday, April 8th, the show is at 7:00 PM. All cast must be there by 5:30 PM. On Saturday, April 9th, there will be two shows. The first show starts at 2:00 PM. The cast must be there at 12:30 PM. And the second show starts at 7:00 PM. The cast must be there by 6:00 PM. Strike is on Sunday, 12:30-2:00 PM. Strike is where we clean up our area and help take down props and set pieces. Crew's time may be different for show nights. Thank you for listening. If you have any questions, go to our website in the Arts and Entertainment section. There will be an email you can submit questions to. The ticket link will also be posted there.



Merton Mermaid Cast con't:

The Roles

The Little Mermaid has a lot of roles. Here is a list in the order they appear during the show.

- SEA CHORUS** – storytelling inhabitants of the sea
- PILOT** – driver of Prince Eric’s ship
- SAILORS** – crew of Prince Eric’s ship
- PRINCE ERIC** – a prince who would rather explore the ocean than govern a kingdom
- GRIMSBY** – Prince Eric’s valet
- MERFOLK and SEA CREATURES** – residents of King Triton’s kingdom
- SEAHORSE** – herald in King Triton’s court
- KING TRITON** – the King of the Sea and Ariel’s father
- SEBASTIAN** – an anxious crab and court composer for King Triton
- MERSISTERS (AQUATA, ANDRINA, ARISTA, ATINA, ADELLA, ALLANA)** – the daughters of King Triton and Ariel’s sisters
- ARIEL** – King Triton’s youngest daughter who longs to be human
- FLOUNDER** – a rambunctious young fish and Ariel’s best friend
- SCUTTLE** – a zany seagull and self-proclaimed expert on humans
- GULLS** – Scuttle’s friends and fellow seagulls
- URSULA** – a Sea Witch with a vendetta
- TENTACLES** – extensions of Ursula, perhaps poor unfortunate souls
- FLOTSAM and JETSAM** – electric eels and Ursula’s lackeys
- CARLOTTA** – headmistress in Prince Eric’s palace
- CHEF LOUIS** – head chef in Prince Eric’s palace
- CHEFS** – Chef Louis’s assistants
- LAGOON ANIMALS** – musical inhabitants of Prince Eric’s lagoon
- PRINCESSES** – neighboring royalty, vying for Prince Eric’s hand in marriage

Princess/Sailor/ Sea Creatures	Josie C. Kennedy S. Sammy J. Ardiana S. Ivy P. Ella S.
Seahorse Lagoon Animal	Liam F.
Sailor/Sea Creatures	Ben F. Isaac R.
Gulls/Sea Creatures	Delaney A. Ava S. Alex S. Lilia H.
Chefs/Sea Creatures	Emma B. Sammy S. Devin D. Cara B. Anja A. Kate R. Claire S.
Sea Creatures/ Lagoon Animals	Sarah M. Jealynn K. Olivia Sc. Natalia G. Bailey B. Whitney M. Maggie J. Bella M. Amelia C. Abbey D.

Art and Entertainment Scene

By: Emma D and Liam

Hello, and welcome back to the Arts and Entertainment section! For the art section, there is a slideshow on our website with student artwork! If you want to submit artwork, just go to our website to the arts and entertainment section.

There will be a form. For every issue, we will keep adding artwork. It isn't just one and done. For this article, we do have some people who wanted it in the newspaper. Here it is!



By Mackenzie (Mrs. Panaro)

Merton Mermaid Cast con't:

Princess/Sailor/ Sea Creatures	Josie C. Kennedy S. Sammy J. Ardiana S. Ivy P. Ella S.
Seahorse Lagoon Animal	Liam F.
Sailor/Sea Creatures	Ben F. Isaac R.
Gulls/Sea Creatures	Delaney A. Ava S. Alex S. Lilia H.
Chefs/Sea Creatures	Emma B. Sammy S. Devin D. Cara B. Anja A. Kate R. Claire S.
Sea Creatures/ Lagoon Animals	Sarah M. Jealynn K. Olivia Sc. Natalia G. Bailey B. Whitney M. Maggie J. Bella M. Amelia C. Abbey D.

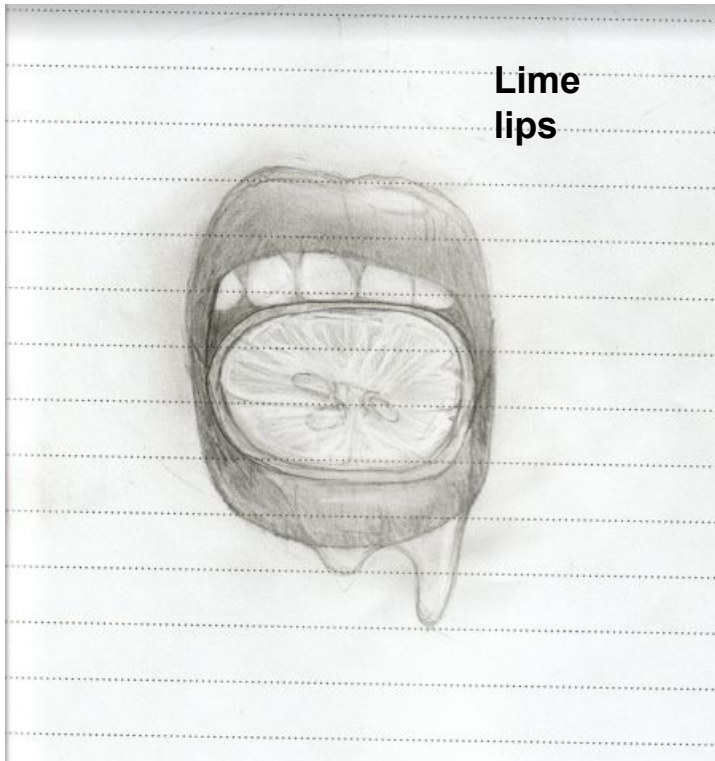
By Bella



Forever



Mardi
gras



Lime
lips



Space Rings

Student Art Submissions



Dominic
Intermediate



Olivia
Intermediate



Anja
Intermediate

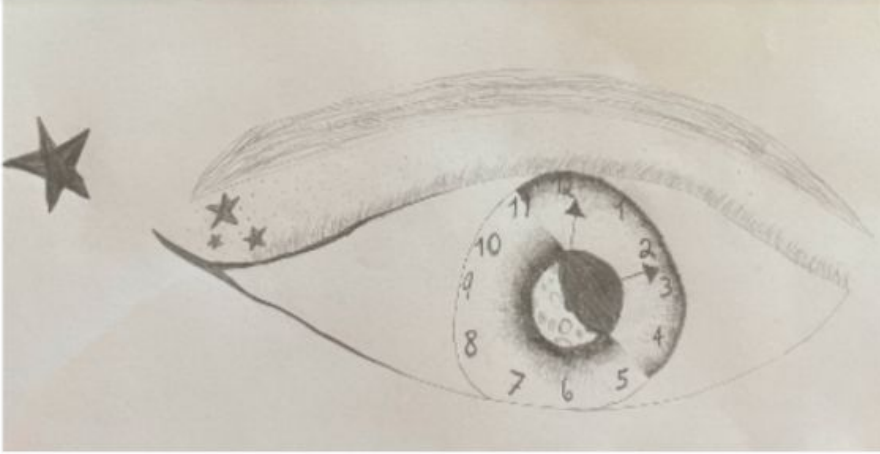


Intermediate
Breleigh



Lacey
Intermediate

Student Art Submissions



Peyton
Intermediate



Peyton
Intermediate



Emily
Intermediate