

## Principal’s Letter

## Dear Parent,

The end of the school year is fast approaching! As I write this in mid-May it is in the 50s and raining, which actually helps the kids to stay focused; however, we look forward to the warm, sunny and relaxing days of summer.

As is usual for this time of year, we have been busily working on the transition of students from $5^{\text {th }}$ to $6^{\text {th }}$ and $8^{\text {th }}$ to $9^{\text {th }}$. Having worked closely with both the Lane and BHS administrations again this year, I can assure you that the transition will be seamless. Our main goal is to make sure that $6^{\text {th }}$ and $9^{\text {th }}$ graders feel welcome, safe, and happy about their new schools and their new classmates.

As discussed at the $5^{\text {th }}$ Grade Transition Night, incoming $6^{\text {th }}$ graders will now be receiving their locker assignments on the first day of school. This change was made due to requests from incoming $6{ }^{\text {th }}$ grade parents, as concerns about the issuing of lockers in the summer presented many difficulties for some students. One of the difficulties was that many students are away for summer vacation and do not return until Labor Day, and, thus, they are not able to select a locker that either fits their height or one that is close to their friends. Other concerns related to the "first come, first served" nature of locker distribution. Oftentimes, students, who arrive to select their lockers later in the summer, must take lockers that do not meet their physical needs. We decided that the issues of equity of distribution and physical need were important considerations, and these, coupled with the fact that we will be undergoing two capital improvement construction projects over the summer, warranted this change to happen this year. Please know that on the first day of school Advisors will distribute lockers to students and provide them with ample time to set them up and to work out the kinks with locker combinations. Also please know that our annual $6^{\text {th }}$ Grade Breakfast on the first day of school will allow parents the opportunity to bring the locker crates, which students often purchase as an organization aid for their lockers, to school on the first day.

Incoming $6^{\text {th }}$ graders will also travel to JGMS on Friday, June $17^{\text {th }}$ for Transition Day. They will meet with their new team teachers and the other students assigned to their teams. These students will also have the opportunity to take part in a "JGMS Scavenger Hunt" on Wednesday, August 31st from 2:30 to 3:30 PM. It's an opportunity for them to learn their way around the school and possibly win some "back-to-school" prizes. The school may seem large at first, but the kids acclimate themselves very quickly. The middle school years also pass quickly...ask the parent of any $8^{\text {th }}$ grader! Enjoy them!

As mentioned previously, we would like to invite incoming $6{ }^{\text {th }}$ graders and their parents to a first day of school continental breakfast at JGMS on Tuesday, September 6th from 7:30 to 8:00 AM. This will be a great time to meet your child's team teachers and the Administration, and it also serves as a nice transition to middle school on the first day.

I encourage all parents to review our 2011-2012 School Improvement Plan that is posted on the JGMS website. Over the summer you will also find interesting information about the school on our website, including but not limited to the updated Student Handbook, the updated curriculum guide and the bell schedule. Also, please review the information on the website regarding JGMS VolNet! We are looking for parent/community volunteers who wish to volunteer their services as guest speakers or presenters in various subject areas that can be related to our curriculum.

A traditional rite of passage for students as they move to a new grade level is their assignment to a new team for the upcoming academic year. Students will receive this information on Friday, June 17th, when current $5^{\text {th }}, 6^{\text {th }}$ and $7^{\text {th }}$ grade students will spend some time with their new teaching teams. A specific schedule for each student will be mailed home in August. Incoming $6^{\text {th }}$ graders’ learning group assignments will be identified on each child's schedule. It is important to note that if you do not wish your child's name to be printed on a learning group list, you should contact the school prior to June 23rd. Also, please know that, with regard to teaming, teachers work very hard to make sure that all placements are based on academically sound reasons, therefore, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's placement for next year, please do not ask your child's current teacher to make any changes. Once a child is placed on a team, the only person who can make any change is the Principal. Any requests for placement change must be made in writing and will be given consideration based upon the educational merit this change may have for your child. We ask that should you wish to request any teaming changes that you do so in writing before the end of the school day on, June 23rd. The JGMS leadership team, which is comprised of team leaders, curriculum coordinators and the administration, will review all requests, and letters will be mailed home with an explanation of the determination at the close of the school year.

As always, I would like to thank each of you who volunteered or who have helped the school in any way this year! Schools rely upon their communities to support them, and, without the various support efforts of each and every one of you, we would not have been able to continue to offer our students the myriad of opportunities that we have this year. There are two particular parent groups I would like to thank publicly. The MSPA has, as always, provided us with continuous support and generosity, and our Accept the Challenge Task Force has been tremendous in its support of our anti-bullying efforts. I would also like to publicly thank Ms. Anderson and Ms. Ham for providing our Chain Reaction Committee of students with the guidance to take on a major role in working to create a safe, bully-free environment at JGMS. As I have often said, our children continue to be academically, socially and emotionally richer because of the efforts of so many of you. Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,
P. Jayne Viladenis

Principal

## Principal’s Corner blog: http://jgmsprincipalscorner.blogspot.com/

## June 2011

| Sun | Mon |  | Tue |  | Wed |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## BEF Grant

Congratulations to Denise Breakall. In response to a grant application that she submitted to the Bedford Education Foundation, 15 copies of Ten Things I Hate About Me will be available for an after school bookclub. The Bedford Educational Foundation is a worthwhile organization that awards grants that touch all of our students. A hearty thank you to all JGMS' teachers for their initiative in applying for these grants and for striving to meet the needs of all JGMS’ students.

Since its inception BEF has responded to JGMS teachers' requests providing funding for:
Multiple sets of the Senteo Interactive Response Systems which are part of our Math classrooms; the Robotics League Kit; the Bones Kit that brings ancient man to life and now is part of our Social Studies curriculum; equipment for world drumming, and Body Sox used as part of the music department's curriculum; and realistic dolls for our Babysitting elective

In three years, JGMS has received approximately ten thousand dollars in BEF funded grants. In this challenging fiscal environment, this money supports initiatives that were beyond the scope of the typical school budget. For more information or to get involved, visit www.bedfordeducation.org or contact their President and Davis School parent Kate Desjardins at kate@bedfordeducation.org.

## Notes from the Gifted and Talented and Differentiated Instruction Program

## MathCounts News

Congratulations to all MathCounts students at JGMS and all students who joined us in solving problems for the Collaborative Problem Solving Contest! We scored $7^{\text {th }}$ this year and were once again the top middle school in the country! We also had the highest score of any team on five of the fifteen problems, including one that asked us to create a CPSC style problem that involved cryptarithms. Our problem required solvers to find the number of different possible solutions for some cryptarithms, then use that in a creative way to solve further parts of the problem.

The Collaborative Problem Solving Contest is our final and favorite competition of the year. This competition consists of 15 problems, most with multiple parts. Each problem is worth 12 points, divided equally among the parts. The problems tend to be very puzzle-like, and can sometimes incorporate mathematics beyond what we are capable of doing. This year included problems that required students to maximize a traveling salesman's profits, use $e, \pi$, and in combinations to approximate numbers like 2011, logic puzzles, a problem requiring us to minimize the number of moves it would take to remove items from a dungeon filled with traps, , and organizing numbers to make consecutive numbers sum to squares. A lot of these are tough, but possible for any student to begin to play with. They take patience and determination, something we have in force!

Students at JGMS work together on the CPSC over the course of a week. In the end, we submit one solution sheet as a school. This year, students in MathCounts and many other students collaborated to solve the problems. Many even stayed after school for two hours on the Friday before break to finish off our answers!

JGMS has participated in the CPSC for four years prior to this. Out of those, we have scored in the top 15 schools nationally for three of those years. In our first year, we scored $11^{\text {th }}$, in our third year we scored $7^{\text {th }}$, and last year we scored $8^{\text {th }}$. This is particularly impressive as the contest is offered to students in $6^{\text {th }}-12^{\text {th }}$ grade, and JGMS was the top middle school in the country in our $1^{\text {st }}, 3^{\text {rd }}$, and $4^{\text {th }}$ years, and again this year! We are extremely proud of how well we do on this competition.

## WordSmiths

Students interested in extending their thinking by playing with words creatively meet after school on Wednesdays in WordSmiths, run through the Youth and Family Services After School Program. This year, we have created a WordSmiths blog - we would love to have you visit! Knowing we have visitors will encourage the students to post more puzzles, creative uses of words, and ideas. Please visit our blog at wordsmithedbyjgms.wordpress.com!

## Advanced Math Pull-Out Classes

The $6^{\text {th }}$ grade advanced math class has been working on geometry. They will be finishing off their unit and moving on to probability soon. $7^{\text {th }}$ graders are finishing up their probability unit and will soon be working on lines and graphs of lines, with an algebra focus. They will investigate how linear equations are set up and how they relate to graphs. $8^{\text {th }}$ grade students tackled some challenging quadratics problems in May, have just finished a unit on radical expressions and equations, including trigonometric ratios, and will now being doing rational functions.

## National Language Arts League

Many $6^{\text {th }}$ and $7^{\text {th }}$ grade students competed in the National Language Arts League, a competition that asks questions on spelling, vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension, and more. These competitions are particularly challenging - I typically do not get them all correct! The $6^{\text {th }}$ grade in particular did very well on their competition, with the top ten students all have scores of 45 out of 50 or higher!

## From the Health Office

Reminder: please send in a physical for your $6^{\text {th }}$ grade student if you haven't done so. I will need them for the immunization report due in September.

Plan ahead for fall sports. A physical is required for participation, and is valid for 13 months. For those moving on to the high school, sports physicals will be available in the nurse's office on June $7^{\text {th }}$. Please call for an appointment.

Students who require medications, including inhalers and epipens, must submit new forms at the beginning of each school year. Forms are available in the health office and will be mailed out in June to students currently taking meds. These forms should be completed by the physician and the parent, and returned to the nurse with the medication the first week of school.

Please call with any questions.
Have a wonderful, and safe vacation.

# JGMS Library News <br>  <br> Joan Collins <br> Teacher Librarian 

## Battle of the Books



The final competition between red and blue teams took place on Wednesday, April $6^{\text {th }}$. Sixth graders watched the show in their classrooms via CCTV and enjoyed their own competition. In the end, red team's $6-9$ was victorious. The Literature Lords and Ladies won the prize. Mary Kalb, Zane Sharkawy, Jackie Helms, and Conor Wisentaner were delighted when their learning group enjoyed pizza thanks to their talents on Thursday, April $14^{\text {th }}$, in the library.

## Author Visit



All the $6^{\text {th }}$ graders assembled in the auditorium to listen to Tim Green on April $14^{\text {th }}$. Tim is the author of Football Genius, a book that is on our Battle of the Books list.

His message was to work hard in school to be ready in life. A huge supporter of reading, Tim encouraged the students in that direction. He signed copies of his books for students. Check out http://www.timgreenbooks.com/

The kids prepared to meet him by doing research on his life and achievements in the library lab with Ms. Salvucci and Ms. Wright. Students created appropriate questions to ask at the end of Tim's presentation.

Tim Green has done it all. Not only has he written books for adults and children, but he is a former professional football player.

He was a Rhodes scholar who currently practices law and works as a television commentator.

## Library Activity

Seventh grade social studies teacher, Matt McGonagle, directed research on Greek philosophers. Students used books, databases, and websites to access information.

Sixth grade science teachers, Lauren Noferi and Nadine Coletta, reserved our large collection of books on the elements to help students gather information to create their own website on elements.

Sixth grade English teacher, Denise Breakall, is in the midst of a biography research project. Students are learning to do research, take notes, create a works cited page, and produce a completed document.


Students under the direction of seventh grade English teachers, Lynda McGraw and Nicole D'Entremont, created glogs about their Global Literature novels ussing Culturegrams and author websites to gather information.
To date, we've skyped with Rosemary Hayes (England), Suzanne Fisher Staples (Pennsylvania), Sherry Garland (Texas), Ying Chang Compestine (California), and Laura Resau (Colorado). On our agenda is Prue Mason this coming Friday who lives in Australia! Because of time zones, she'll be talking with us at 11 pm her time!

Alexa Torres' mother joined the students during lunch on May $12^{\text {th }}$ to share cultural information about the Dominican Republic. That morning, Anne Bouwer, an art teacher from the International School in Boston, related her story of growing up in South Africa.

## 6th Grade

## Math:

The sixth grade math students took the MCAS test at the end of May. The students did a great job preparing for the test and seemed confident on the testing days. We have finished our unit on two dimensional geometry and measurement. The focus for the remaining days of school will be a number project and integers unit, with a cumulative review of the $6^{\text {th }}$ grade curriculum. Some time will also be spent of a preview of some $7^{\text {th }}$ grade material, including integers and pre-algebra.

## Science:

In class, both teams have been working on Physics, and did a great job calculating the speed of objects and describing their motion. The remainder of the year will focus on Newton's Three Laws, and the students will be building balloon-power cars to help demonstrate and describe these laws.

## Social Studies

The red and blue team social studies classes are ending the year with an inter-team project. Students will be working in cooperative groups. Each group is made up of students from both teams, which will be assigned a country in East Asia, Southeast Asia or the Pacific Island Region. They will become the experts on that country. They will research and demonstrate their knowledge of the country through several products and share their knowledge with the rest of the class.

## English:

How does someone go from ordinary to being extraordinary? This is the question we are attempting to answer in sixth grade English. We are in the midst of a research project in which we will investigate people who have had a significant impact on the world. This helps us further develop our understanding of the world in which we live and how each person can contribute on a small or global level. Additionally, we are working on note-taking, paraphrasing, organizing, citing our sources and, of course, writing. We will also be presenting our information so that we can learn from each other's investigations and thorough research. This will comprise most of fourth term's grades.

## A note from Ms. Breakall:

Thanks to all who attended our poetry readings. I appreciated your help and support, and I know this will be a fond memory for our young poets for years to come. To those who donated snacks, an even bigger thank you!

## 7th Grade

It's hard to believe that $7^{\text {th }}$ grade is coming to an end in a few weeks. All of the Navy and Purple teachers have enjoyed teaching your kids this year and we know they have worked hard this year in all of their classes. We also thank you for all of the support you give your kids every day in helping them to be such great students and citizens of JGMS. We will end the year with a fun field trip to Kimball's Farm in Westford on Wednesday, June 22. Permission slips and information about the trip will be sent home on June 10 and will be due back on Friday, June 17.

Here is how the school year is ending in each of the content classes:

## Science:

The 7th graders have been learning about Darwin's trip to the Galapagos Islands that inspired his Theory on Evolution by Natural Selection. Next up is how the millions of organisms on the blue planet are classified. Students will wrap the year up with an overview of the 11 human body systems that work harmoniously together.

## English:

Students have been learning about other cultures and families through literature. They were able to SKYPE with many of the authors asking questions about the cultures of the novels, the writing and publishing process, and what gave the writers their inspiration. In the most recent class novel, The Giver, the students have been examining a controlled culture. They have been discussing and debating the positive and negative outcomes of this control over people. Themes focusing on community, perfection, dystopia and utopia are being discussed. As usual writing will be a way for the students to explain their views and understanding of the themes. The year will end with reading Quicksilver, an interesting and somewhat comical perspective of Greek mythology. The students will also be completing the year with an independent reading project on a book of their choice.

## Math:

$7^{\text {th }}$ Grade Pre-Algebra students turned in some amazing box projects earlier in May. The teachers were very impressed at the effort put into this project. They just completed a unit on probability. The unit culminated with a fun "Deal or No Deal" game. Students will finish the year with the unit on algebra. This unit will help prepare your child for next year's Pre-Algebra or Algebra course. It will conclude with a test during the week of June 13th. $7^{\text {th }}$ Grade Math just completed the unit on geometry. They have just begun a unit on probability that will include many fun games including "Deal or No Deal", "Skunk", and "Release the Prisoners." Be sure to ask your child about these fun probability games. Their unit on probability will conclude with a test the week of June $13^{\text {th }}$.

## Social Studies:

Students have completed their study of ancient Greece, which included some wonderful debates and creative class presentations. Students recently began their final unit on ancient Rome. Throughout this unit, students will be exploring the question of how ancient Rome has impacted Western Culture, by studying the government, building techniques, military accomplishments, laws, economy, history, culture, and the expansion of the Roman Empire. Students will be working on a final essay answering the above essential question, and they will end the year learning about the fall of the Roman Empire.

Although the school year is coming to an end, students will continue to work and learn in classes through the last week of school. We appreciate your help in reinforcing the importance of continuing to complete in -class and homework assignments with the same effort and quality as they have been giving throughout the year. As the year comes to an end, students are wondering about what team they will be placed on in $8^{\text {th }}$ grade. This information will be given to students in June when they will have the opportunity to meet the teachers they will have next year in our annual Transition Day.

## 8th Grade

We would like to take this opportunity to honor the 194 members of the 8th grade class and offer our warmest wishes for a well-deserved summer vacation and a smooth transition to the high school. Finally, we thank you for your ongoing support and kind gestures throughout this academic year.

## Academic Recognition Night - Highlights:

During this annual recognition assembly, we pause and pay tribute to individual academic accomplishments whether it be for an impressive academic record over three successive years or by achieving a perfect attendance record. We also acknowledge individual performance within the various academic and unified arts disciplines. On May 26, 2011, eighty five members of the eighth grade class, by invitation, participated in this event and received awards in one or more of the qualifying categories. Special thanks goes to Mrs. Stephen and Ms. Bemis for organizing the evening.

## Washington D.C. Trip - Highlights:

As this newsletter goes to print, 187 members of the 8th grade class are visiting Washington D.C. in what should be an experience of a lifetime. A special thank you to our chaperones, Mr. Casey, Mr. Nagle, Mr.Glynn, Mr. Norling, Officer Wardwell, Mr. Georgopoulos, Mrs. Ferri, Ms. Hamm, Mrs. Stephen, Mrs. Berinato, Ms.
LeBlanc, Ms. Westenfeld and Mrs. Marchesini, our parent nurse for making this trip possible.
Memorial Day Essay Contest:
Congratulations to the 30 8th graders who voluntarily participated in the annual Memorial Day Essay Contest sponsored by the Bedford Patriotic Holiday Committee and VFW Post 1628. Over 50 7th and 8th grade students entered essays with the title "All gave some, some gave All ." Our turnout was terrific and is yet another great example of the caliber of students we have in this year's $8^{\text {th }}$ grade class. All of the students who participated should be congratulated on a job well done!

## Eight Grade Events:

June 20 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ : Moving-On Ceremony @ BHS 6-7 pm
Dinner/Dance @ JGMS 7-10 pm
June 22nd Grade 8 trip to Canobie Lake
June 23rd School-wide Talent Show
Last Day of School

## Spanish

## Spanish 6:

Students in Spanish 6 are writing an introductory letter to an imaginary student in a Hispanic country who plans to participate in a cultural exchange project. In this letter they are describing their classes and classroom activities. They are saying how often they do activities and discussing obligations. They are learning to express frequency with adverbs and obligation with hay que and tener que. In class they are conversing with classmates using all forms of the present tense of -AR verbs. This chapter takes place in Mexico City, Mexico.

## Spanish 7:

In grade 7 Spanish we are finishing our unit based in Puerto Rico with a chapter on weather, the seasons, and the rainforest. It includes saying how people are feeling using tener idioms, and learning how to use direct object pronouns in Spanish. We also will learn how to say what is happening now.

## Spanish 8:

In $8^{\text {th }}$ grade Spanish we are currently working in both Unidad 5 Etapa 3 and Unidad 6 Etapa 1. We are focusing primarily on the Preterite past tense to describe past activities. Our cultural context is still Spain and we continue to study various traditional foods of Spanish cuisine such as tapas and paella valenciana. We are also learning the use of superlatives in Spanish to express extremes. This lesson takes place in the city of Barcelona, Spain.

## French

## Grade 6 French:

The sixth grade French students have worked very hard this year and can be proud of their accomplishments. We completed most of unit III. We finished up by starting lesson 8. Over the summer, on a rainy day, please encourage your child to visit www.classzone,com. This website supports our textbook and is a great way to reinforce their skills. The kids can use it to review what we have worked on this year.
BONNES VACANCES!

## Grade 7 French:

The seventh grade French students have worked very hard this year and can be proud of their accomplishments. By the end of the year we expect to complete up through Unit VI, lesson 17 or 18. Over the summer, on a rainy day, please encourage your child to visit www.classzone,com. This website supports our textbook and is a great way to reinforce their skills. The kids can use it to review what we have worked on this year.
BONNES VACANCES!

## Grade 8 French:

This $8^{\text {th }}$ grade class and I have worked very hard together for three years and I'm very proud of their accomplishments. They should be, too! They have been a joy to work with and I have no doubt that they will do very well at the high school. I'll miss them!
BONNES VACANCES!


Picture by Ben
By JGMS Students, for JGMS Students
(And the rest of the JGMS community)

## Be a Belieber! By Liz

Everyone knows who Justin Bieber is: a teenage boy music sensation with an "unusual" voice. But how much do you really know about Justin Bieber?

Justin Bieber lived in Stratford, Ontario, Canada with his mother ever since he was born. From a very young age, he was very talented at music. He won a talent show for his singing, and he had a knack for drumming. His mother later posted the videos on YouTube. Then Scooter Brown and Usher saw those videos, and the rest is history!

Justin's new movie, Never Say Never, shows his incredible story, devotion to his fans, and love of singing. It has some 3D scenes and home movies. Even if you dislike Justin's music, you will LOVE his movie!

## 1,000 Paper Cranes <br> By Liz, Emma, and Izzie

When an 8.9 magnitude earthquake rocked Japan on Friday, March 11, 2011, many lives were lost, many people were injured, and many families were torn apart. Thanks to many other countries including the U.S, they are on the way to recovery, step-by-step.

When Ms. Noferi, the Red Team science teacher, found out about this, she immediately started looking for ways that our school could help out the recovery efforts in Japan. She came across the Students Rebuild foundation, and saw that they were
donating $\$ 2$ for every paper crane to the efforts in Japan. She decided to tell the Student Council about it, and the following Thursday, they started to collect paper cranes. There were also "paper crane masters" who could make amazing cranes, and students would pay \$1 for the "masters" to make one for them. Then that money went to the American Red Cross. The Student Council collected paper cranes for 4 days, and then started to count them. We, as a school, made over 2,000 paper cranes. We also received about 1,500 from a group in Bedford. 1,000 cranes were donated to Students Rebuild and the other 2,500 went to Oshkosh, who donated 1 piece of clothing for every paper crane to Japan.

Great job, everyone, for your effort to help Japan!!!

## Tim Green <br> By Liz and Emma

He is a father, a coach, a lawyer, a reporter, and an overall team player. Tim Green, author of Football Genius, is married with four kids. When he writes his children's books, some of the main characters such as Troy and Tate from Football Genius are named after and based on his own kids. Tim was a professional football player for the Atlanta Falcons and began writing at that time. After his career in the NFL, Tim went back and got his law degree. He is now an author and an attorney. Tim likes to coach his kids in sports including soccer, baseball, football, and wrestling. Tim Green is a self-confident person who lives his life fully and shares his talents with others.

Mr. Green recently visited our school to talk to our $6^{\text {th }}$ graders about his books and careers. He told us that character is the most important thing. Mr. Green autographed pre-ordered books for many students and answered all out questions. It was very exciting to have him come to John Glenn Middle School.

## Small, Southern College has Boise-Like Turf Plans

By Ben

The University of Central Arkansas has big ideas to paint over its old, boring football field, with its school colors, gray and purple. Every five yards, gray and purple will transition down the field until it is next to the end zone. One end zone will be gray, and the other will be purple. In the end zone, it will say "University of Central Arkansas" with bear paws logos on either side. People say that this is a little radical, because the college is virtually unheard of. The University's staff says that this will hope to put some eyes on the college. Whether for popularity or to psyche out opponents, this will certainly be one unique football field.

## RED SOX JUNE SCHEDULE ву вen

June 1 White Sox H
June 3 Athletics H
June 4 Athletics H
June 5 Athletics H
June 7 Yankees $\mathbf{A}$
June 8 Yankees $\mathbf{A}$
June 9 Yankees $\mathbf{A}$
June 10 Blue Jays A
June 11 Blue Jays $\mathbf{A}$
June 12 Blue Jays $\mathbf{A}$
June 14 Rays $\boldsymbol{A}$
June15 Rays A
June 16 Rays $\mathbf{A}$

June 17 Brewers H
June 18 Brewers H
June19 Brewers H
June 20 Padres H
June 21 Padres H
June 22 Padres H
June 24 Pirates $\mathbf{A}$
June 25 Pirates $\boldsymbol{A}$
June 26 Pirates $\mathbf{A}$
June 28 Phillies $\boldsymbol{A}$
June 29 Phillies $\boldsymbol{A}$
June 30 Phillies A

## Key

H - Home
A - Away

## Do You Like Waffles?

## By Andrea

Waffles vs. pancakes vs. French toast. According to the eighth graders and various teachers, there can only be one victor. But after a long and hard battle, the contest came to a rather unsatisfying result: a tie.


## Bedford Farms Interview

By Asimina and Erin
Recently, Erin and I, Asimina, got the chance to interview Bedford Farms Ice Cream shop owner, Dave Venuti. Erin and I sat down with Dave and asked some questions we both wondered about this local hot spot.

Q- What is the history of Bedford Farms?
A-Well, Bedford Farms was established in 1880, originally a dairy farm with milk deliveries everywhere.
Then in 1950, the owners decided to change the store from a dairy farm to an ice cream shop.

Q-What are the oldest flavors?
A- The oldest are vanilla, strawberry and chocolate.
Q- Do you plan on adding or bringing back any new flavors for the summer?
A- We are putting up banana chip on the board of selections.

Q- What do you recommend to your customers?
A- Coffee Oreo definitely, everybody loves Oreos in their ice cream.

Q-What is/are your favorite flavor(s)?
A- Cherry Bomb and Red Raspberry Chip
Q-How do you come up with new flavors?
A- I mostly go by customer recommendations.
Q- What is one interesting fact that most people don't know about Bedford Farms?
A- We have over 60 flavors, all including sorbets, ice cream, yogurts, etc.

Q-Have you ever tried to open up a third Bedford Farms anywhere?
A- No, nor do I plan to.
Q- Where do you imagine Bedford Farms in ten years?
A- I hope to see it the same, with the friendly staff, order windows and everything.

Q-If you could change anything about Bedford Farms, what would it be?
A- I would like more parking, like a lot more parking. Also, a crosswalk in front of the store so kids on half days can access the store safer and easier.

Erin and I thank Dave for taking time out of his busy schedule to star in this interview for Buccaneer Buzz.

Waiting for Normal<br>By Leslie Connor Review by Liz

In Waiting for Normal, Addie struggles to be normal when her mother has an all-or-nothing approach of life. Either the pantry is full and they have a feast, or they starve. You get what I'm saying?

Addie's mother has divorced her second husband, who has two (of her) children, Brynna and Katie. Addie misses them so much, and wishes she could stay with them. With her mother's all-or-nothing attitude, will Addie always be waiting for normal?

I loved this book so much. Even though I couldn't really relate to it, I was so immersed I couldn't put it down during class. I would give this book 4.5 out of 5 stars.

# The Mother-Daughter Book Club 

By Heather Vogel Frederick Review by Erin

Over vacation, the book The Mother-Daughter Book Club was recommended to me. I had never heard of this book before, so I decided to read it. The book was so good that I could not put it down. I loved it because it was a book that I could relate to. I would recommend this book to girls in grades 5 to 7 who like realistic fiction.

The Mother-Daughter Book Club tells the story of four girls, Emma Hawthorne, Cassidy Sloane, Megan Wong, and Jess Delaney, who have just entered the sixth grade in, believe it or not, Concord, MA. Middle school is just starting to get better when their mothers sign them up for a mother-daughter book club and they are forced to read the book Little Women. But reading is not the only thing discussed at the meetings. Will the Mother-Daughter Book Club survive these drama filled middle school adventures?

This book is the first in the series The MotherDaughter Book Club; the next books are Much Ado About Anne, Dear Pen Pal, and Pies and Prejudice. I hope you enjoy the series!

## Life

It's something you have to live It's what you have to deal with everyday<br>It's what you look forward to<br>It's what you're scared of<br>It's you<br>It's fun<br>It's boring<br>It's hard<br>You're brought into it for a reason<br>So live it<br>It's your beginning<br>And it's your end<br>-Anonymous

## Fear

Fear is a nightmare that hurts you night and day Fear is an illusion
Fear is in the back of your head
Fear is what you're scared of Fear is what you hide
Fear is your secrets
Fear is a kind of living....
Because it's living in you.
-Anonymous

