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Book review, "The Empty Pot" by Demi.

By: Hannah Prussman

The Empty Pot is a story about a boy given a seed by the emperor, who was the only one that could not grow it out of all the kids. He didn't know that the emperor had boiled the seed to see who would be honest. Being the only kid that could not grow anything, he decides not to present his empty pot to the emperor, but his father persuades him otherwise. When the emperor finally came to him and saw his empty pot he questioned it, and the kid responded by saying that no matter what he did, giving the seed a better pot, better soil, better light, it just would not grow, and to this, the emperor made him next for the throne. I think that this story has a deeper meaning that honesty will get you more than a pot of lies, and even if you do end up with an empty pot, don't be shy or scared to show people that you tried and did your best even if you got nothing.

THE AGORA TIMES

ENTERTAINMENT - NEWS - REVIEWS- SPOTLIGHT- CREATIVE WRITING- INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES

Student Receives HOSA Scholarship

By: Mrs. Cindy Bennett

Brandon Mabey was one of 20 HOSA-Affiliated students in Pennsylvania (through Penn HOSA) to be awarded a HOSA Scholarship for the 2023-2024 school year through the HOSA Scholarship program (awarded March 14th at the PENN HOSA state leadership conference).

The HOSA Scholarship Program is open to current affiliated HOSA members who are either a senior in high school, enrolled in a postsecondary/collegiate institution, or pursuing a certification.

To be considered for the scholarship, Brandon completed an application which included an essay about how he will integrate the core values of HOSA (learning, leadership, service, and innovation) into his future endeavors. He also provided his high school transcript, community service activities, work experience, and internship experience.



As described by HOSA (hosa.org), "HOSA is a global student-led organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services and several federal and state agencies. HOSA's mission is to empower HOSA-Future Health Professionals to become leaders in the global health community through education, collaboration, and experience. HOSA actively promotes career opportunities in the health industry with a goal to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people." In addition, "HOSA provides a unique program of leadership development, motivation, and recognition exclusively for secondary, postsecondary, middle school, adult, and collegiate students enrolled in health science education and biomedical science programs or have interests in pursuing careers in health professions". Agora's chapter of HOSA became affiliated in the spring of 2020.

"Everyone is handed adversity in life. No one's journey is easy. It's how they handle it that makes people unique."

-Kevin Cornoy

ChatterBox's Approval and Promotion

By: Michael ("Mikey") Lapean

On my journey to improving socialization within Agora, I managed to get a club approved and aim to do just that.

Agora's New ChatterBox Club: Where Conversations Come Alive

In a move to foster a more connected community, Agora has approved the establishment of a new club called ChatterBox. This exciting initiative, spearheaded by myself and one of our great teachers, Mrs. Deemer, promises to be a vibrant hub where students can engage in thought-provoking conversations, share their passions, and build meaningful connections. This club officially starts in the 2024-2025 school year.

A Space for Meaningful Discussions:

ChatterBox's primary objective is to create an inclusive and welcoming environment where students can discuss a variety of topics and participate in meaningful discussions. Whether you're eager to explore new ideas, spark conversation, or overall ready for a good time, ChatterBox offers a space for you to share your perspectives and learn from your peers.

Cultivating a Sense of Community:

By encouraging social interaction and communication skills, ChatterBox aims to promote a stronger sense of community among its members. Imagine a place where you can connect with fellow students who share your interests, spark engaging debates, and forge lasting friendships. The club's organizers are committed to fostering an atmosphere of openness, acceptance, and mutual respect, ensuring that everyone feels welcomed and valued.

Unlock Your Potential:

As a member of ChatterBox, you'll have the opportunity to step out of your comfort zone, challenge your assumptions, and broaden your horizons. Whether you're a natural conversationalist or someone who's looking to improve your communication skills, this club provides a supportive and nurturing environment for you to grow and thrive.

Don't miss your chance to be a part of this exciting new chapter in Agora's community life. Join ChatterBox and unlock a world of engaging discussions, meaningful connections, and personal growth.

For more information about the club, contact Mrs. Deemer at jdeemer@agoracyber.net.

Lucy

By: Patrick Stein

Please note: This article deals with evolution which can be a sensitive topic to readers.

Lucy the 3.8 million year old monkey is believed to be the first scientific human. Her fossils were found in Ethiopia in 1974. After reconstructing fossils and looking into its history, it was found that Lucy was the first ever monkey to walk on two feet. She also had the most advanced brain despite having a smaller brain size than the average brain. D.C. honors Lucy with wax figures and an entire room about Lucy and other mammals. Lucy was about the height of a 5 year old girl, even though her other primates were most likely the height of a grown man. This helped scientists figure out that Lucy was not biologically an ape. She was the first human the person the nomads evolved from. She learned to climb trees to hunt her prey and is believed to be the first animal to walk on her two legs. It is not known how or why she chose to do this. It's even stranger when the best theory on her death was that she fell from a tree from a height further proving Lucy was the middle ground of ape and man. The name Lucy came from the popular Beatles' song "Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds", which was playing in the background as they researched her.

Poem

By: Patrick Stein

In the land of the wild, where the sun sets ablaze, A cowboy named Abe wanders in a daze. Running from shadows, from demons within, He left his wife and daughter, his heart full of sin.

With each step he takes, the past follows close, Haunted by memories, like a restless ghost. He seeks redemption in the vast western land, But the darkness within, he cannot withstand.

Abe's heart heavy with regret and despair, He flees from his past, with a silent prayer.

But a debt unpaid, a man on his trail, Chasing him down, like a relentless gale.

Days turn to weeks, as Abe roams the plains, Seeking solace, but finding only chains.

The men on his trail, their voices loud, Yelling his name, through the dusty shroud.

Meanwhile, his wife and daughter, left behind, Rebuild their lives, with strength of mind.

They bear the burden of Abe's forsaken vow, But their love for him, they cannot disavow.

As the chase grows closer, Abe's resolve wanes, Haunted by visions of his family's pain.

He knows he cannot outrun his past, So he faces it head-on, at long last.

In the stillness of the desert, with gun in hand, Abe makes his stand, in the barren land.

With tears in his eyes, and a heart heavy with grief, He whispers a prayer, for a moment's relief.

And as the sun dips low, on the western horizon, Abe takes his final breath, his spirit horizon. For in the land of the wild, where dreams are cast, A cowboy named Abe finds peace at last.

Nature and its Wonders

By: Hannah Prussman

Nature, a wonderful thing, The bees and flowers, The sun and its ring,

The trees and their towers, The birds and their feathers, The moon and its glow,

The field and how it clutters, The leaves and their flow, The river and its shine, The sand and its critters, The log and its vine,

The flower and how it withers.



Somehow, Palpatine Returned...

By: Genesis Greiner-Sparks

Somehow, Palpatine returned. . . Don't ask me how; I don't know. He logically should have more than burned. All I could give was a deflated "wow." Not even a whoa. It's just so unreal.

What do I think?
You can see on my face how I feel.



Summer Haikus

By: Tianna Williams

Dawn comes so softly
 The sun awakes from slumber
 Birds sing their hellos

2) Dandelion fields

Stretch across the sunny scape A sea of flowers

3) Cotton candy hue

Those cloudy summer evenings
Skies of pink and blue

4) A warm breeze passes Crackling fire then cricket song

Fading into dusk

 A firefly dancing Adorns the dark sky above Twinkling flecks of paint



Cleaning Your Electronics

By: Mr. Rublesky

During times like this it is important we take some extra steps in making sure our devices are clean and disinfected properly. However we need to be careful when it comes to cleaning our electronics. The biggest mistake we make when trying to clean an electronic device is using a cleaning product that might damage the device. It is best to avoid spraying or spilling any liquids directly onto any electronic device.

Here is a list of things to consider while trying to clean or disinfect your electronic devices including but limited to your Agora laptops.

What to Do:

- · Make sure the device is powered off completely and unplugged.
- Use a microfiber cleaning cloth, not paper towel or basic cloth towel.
- · Use your cleaning solutions with microfiber cleaning cloths.
 - Do not spray liquids of any kind onto your electronics.
- Use an anti-static cleaner or an Isopropyl rubbing alcohol and water mixture to disinfect your surfaces(You want the alcohol solutions to have at least 70% alcohol).
 - Do not spray it directly on the device and make sure the device is turned off.
- Use a couple of drops of dish detergent and water mixture to clean your display and wipe down surfaces.
- · Use cotton swabs to get to hard to reach areas
 - Be careful of ports on computers like the USB port or HDMI port. You do not want to break anything that may be inside there.
- Use canned\compressed air in short bursts to spray out any dust or debris that may be in the keyboard or fan vents.
- Remove as much dust and debris as you can from cords, and your work area.
- · Wipe down your mouse and use a cotton swab to get into the crevices.

Products to Use:

- · Canned\compressed Air
 - You can get this at any office supply store, this is considered an aerosol so it is not always carried online.
- A few drops of dish detergent in water.
- · Microfiber cleaning cloth
 - Use this type of cloth rather than paper towels or basic cloth towels.
 - Try to use two, one to use to wipe down surfaces and the other to keep things dry.
- Isopropyl rubbing alcohol and water mixture
 - Mix this solution (70% Alcohol mixture) to disinfect the computer from bacteria and viruses.
 - Use with a microfiber cleaning cloth
- · Eyeglass cleaner for glass touch screens
 - You can use eyeglass cleaner to clean any electronic glass surfaces.

Alert - Be careful using certain harsh cleaning products on laptop or computer monitor screens.

What to Avoid:

- Harsh Cleaning products like bleach, or chemical sprays not meant for electronics.
- Spraying cleaner, sanitizer or any other liquids directly onto electronics.
- Keep electronics powered on while cleaning them.
- · Using basic towels or paper towels which may be coarse or may leave cloth fibers behind.



"When I figured out how to work my grill, it was quite a moment. I discovered that summer is a completely different experience when you know how to grill."

Rey! Rey! Rey!

By: Genesis Greiner-Sparks

Rey! Rey! Rey! I need you to stay! Tell you something we'll forget beyond today! Rey! Rey! Rey! I'd bleed for you, okay? Promise me, promise me you won't go away! Rey! Rey! Rey! I can't yet be swayed! Leave me not even after the movie plays! Rey! Rey! Rey! Quite love you? No way! Much of what you remember's the line I say! Rey! Rey! Rey! With you, I say "Yay!" If I ever left you, please make sure I pay! Rey! Rey! Rey!

Rey!!

By: Jenna Greiner-Sparks

Remember the spirit of Rey this May;
May it bring forth
The Force within you
And make you see
That if you be in need
Of someone to yell your name
For five minutes straight... there's always Finn!



Resilience: Embracing Redemption

A true story By: Michael ("Mikey") Lapean

In the hushed stillness of a moment frozen in time, a single misstep shattered the fragile equilibrium of my family. It was a mistake born of folly and ignorance, a ripple that grew into a tidal wave of consequences, forever altering the landscape of our relationships, and it could have changed the very fabric of my own life.

As the gravity of my actions settled in, I watched helplessly as the once familiar faces of my brother and sister turned cold and distant. Their eyes once filled with warmth and familiarity, now held a mixture of disappointment and betrayal. In their eyes, I saw the reflection of my own shortcomings, magnified and unforgiving.

Their decision to cut me off felt like a dagger to the heart, a sharp reminder of the consequences of my actions. The ache of their absence was a constant companion, a reminder of the price I had paid for my misstep.

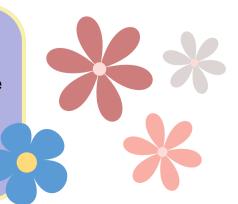
Yet, in the midst of this turmoil, I found a glimmer of hope - a flicker of resilience that refused to be extinguished. As I navigated the stormy seas of alienation, I clung to the belief that redemption was possible, that self-forgiveness could bridge even the deepest divides, and make me stronger.

You see, every story has a theme, a message... and this one has one that to me, is very empowering. I wish to tell everyone who may read this that we all make mistakes. It's human. But those mistakes will only define you if you let them.



"Shall I compare thee to a summer's day? Thou art more lovely and more temperate. Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May, and summer's lease hath all too short a date."

—William Shakespeare





The Defender Of Light

An article and story By: Michael ("Mikey") Lapean

The story of my online persona holds immense significance for me. Approximately two years ago, I recognized the need to make changes to my online identity, feeling uneasy about using my actual name as my username. When I initially created my persona, I sought a name that reflected both myself and the character Rengoku, ultimately leading to the creation of "The Warrior of Faith." However, as my profile picture changed to Nightwing, I felt compelled to alter my name once more. Collaborating with a friend, I sought a name that harmonized both my identity and Nightwing, ultimately discovering "The Defender of Light," a name that resonated deeply with me. To this day, "The Defender of Light" remains a significant part of my online presence, encompassing my morals and personality. For me, the name embodies the ongoing battle to preserve the inner light within myself and the support I offer to others. While the full persona name is lengthy, I commonly go by "Light" on most platforms, reserving my actual name for those I trust. Recently, I transitioned my display name on Discord from "The Defender of Light" to "Captain Light," paying homage to my current profile picture as Captain Rex from The Clone Wars. This journey has been profoundly uplifting, emphasizing the importance of creating an identity that reflects one's true self and inspires others. In conclusion, my online persona has been a source of great upliftment for me, a testament to the power of self-expression and individuality.



Johnstown Teen Organizes a Unique Large Scale Easter Egg Hunt

By: Dylan Laverty

When I was in fourth grade, I was diagnosed with Autism. I saw how differently some people acted towards me once they found out about my Autism. They treated me very differently because they thought I could not understand the world around me. I even had a teacher in my public school tell me that I was unteachable. I really didn't like how I was being singled out for having a disability. I then noticed it was other people as well, like people in wheelchairs, people who are blind, etc. It really made me sad. So, I had an idea to have a big Easter egg hunt for people with disabilities.

We really didn't know just how to get my idea started. I told my teacher Lauren Svonavec all about my idea and she tried so very hard to get the ball rolling but then Covid hit and threw a big wrench into our plans. Then one day out of the blue, Moneyman who is a local celebrity here in my hometown of Johnstown made a post on SnapChat saying he needed ideas. We sent him a message all about my idea and he loved it. We met his team and I gave him all the ideas I had. It still didn't feel like it was real at the time until we went shopping for eggs and candy!!! Moneyman picked out two places to have my Easter egg hunt at and I was in charge of picking the place I thought would be the best. I picked Sargent's Stadium at that point. This was the best choice because there is artificial turf so then if it rains there will not be any mud and the people in wheelchairs will not get stuck. It also had a fence that we were able to tape eggs to so the people with wheelchairs and walkers can just reach for the eggs instead of having to bend over for them. We also had special grabbers as well for those who wanted to use them. Moneyman and his team helped by getting our sponsors to support my event. Then, my mom and I were on a live television show called Studio 814. That was a super amazing experience!! I was even in our local news and our local newspaper.

During the first year we bought over 10,000 eggs, 10,000 pieces of candy and a whole bunch of sensory toys and stuffed animals. Our second year was the biggest one yet! We bought 17,500 eggs and 17,500 pieces of candy! Some of our eggs have a device inside that will chirp or blink colorful lights so people who are vision impaired can find the eggs. I do not want anyone to go home empty handed. Once the people are finished collecting their eggs and taking the candy out of the plastic eggs they turn in the eggs for a bigger prize of their choosing.

This event is so special to me and I want it to grow bigger and better every year. It is my dream for it to go nationwide and for Mr. Al Rooker from Good Morning America to see this and bring his son who is also Autistic like me to join in on the fun! The looks on these people's faces, the thanks I get, the stories I hear fills me up with so much pride because I know how it feels to not be included because of a disability and I want to change it. My favorite quote is: See my ability, not my disability! And just remember one thing, you can do anything in life as long as you never ever give up!! I am living proof of it!!























Chicken Cordon Bleu | RecipeTin Eats

Chicken Cordon Bleu Recipe

By: Hannah Prussman

There are two methods to preparing this yummy dish. Both methods are included below. Give them a try and see which you like best!

Ingredients:

Raw chicken breast Cheese Sliced ham Breadcrumbs

(Method 1 Ingredients)

Mayo Mustard Oil

(Method 2 Ingredients)

Egg Flour

Tools:

Toothpick, (optional) Baking tray.

Instructions:

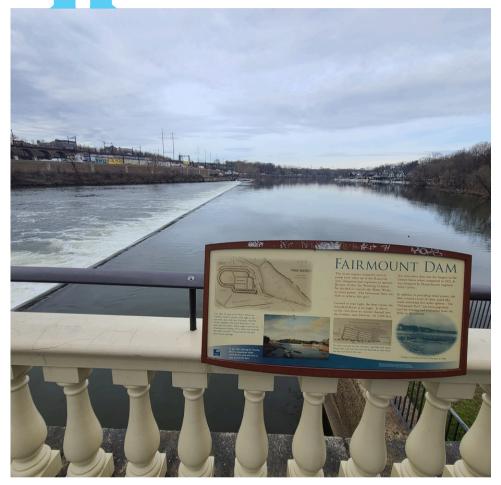


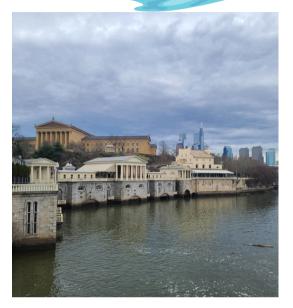
Cut a pocket into chicken breast, then roll the cheese up and place into sliced ham. Next, roll up the ham and place it into the pocket.

(Method 1) Coat the chicken breast in a mayo mustard mixture, spread breadcrumbs, then drizzle oil on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes (or until golden brown).

(Method 2) Mix an egg and 2 tbsp of flour in a bowl, then dip in breadcrumbs. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes (or until golden brown).

AGORA'S WATERWORKS ADO













Travel Club Announcement

By: Mrs. Ericka Nicol

Out with the old, in with the new! Due to a lack of registration for Puerto Rico, we have decided to change destinations.

We are proud to announce our Summer 2025 trip to Washington D.C.! Travel by train from Philadelphia to D.C. for 4 jam-packed days sightseeing around our nation's capital. Led by educational experts, we will not only visit some of the most famous memorials in the world but also explore amazing museums. Check out this itinerary!

Day 1: Arlington National Cemetery, US Marine Corp War Memorial, 9/11 Pentagon Memorial

Day 2: Alexandria, Mount Vernon, Smithsonian Institution, Jefferson Memorial, FDR Memorial, MLK Memorial. Spy Museum

Day 3: Ford's Theatre, Petersen House, the White House, National Archives, Capitol Hill, Lincoln Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Day 4: Washington Monument, WWII Memorial, Holocaust Museum, National Cathedral, Embassy Row, National Zoo

Ready to join us?

You can register for this trip by going to our website here: https://worldstrides.com/custom/2025-agora-cyber-charter-school-dc-216022/

Financial assistance and scholarships are available by CALLING World Strides!!!! Almost all Agora families qualify for a discounted price, but you must CALL to find out! Details on our website.

Have questions? Reach out to Ericka Nicol at enicol@agora.org or 610.230.2978

James Gunn 'Superman' Project

By: Bilianys Correa

James Gunn and his crew have already begun filming the 2025 Superman project and it appears to be promising. Following the DCEU's much needed reboot, James Gunn has the script and main castings for the new Superman movie (formerly titled Superman: Legacy). David Corenswet as Superman/Clark Kent, Rachel Brosnahan as Lois Lane, Nicholas Hoult as Lex Luthor, Skyler Gisondo as Jimmy Olsen, Nathan Fillion as Guy Gardner (Green Lantern), Isabela Merced as Hawkgirl, Edi Gathegi as Mr. Terrific, Anthony Carrigan as Metamorpho, and María Gabriela de Faría as The Engineer. There are even rumors going around that Krypto the Super dog and Supergirl will make an appearance. The movie will not be an origin story even though he will be a younger Superman. Instead, this Superman has been a hero for a while, but he struggles with his identity as a Kryptonian and regular citizen with loving Kansas parents. The movie was also described as a "workplace origin story" so it will most likely also be centered a lot on his identity as Clark Kent and his job at the Daily Planet. Moreover, due to Superman being younger, his son Jon Kent will not even exist in this universe which is a shame as the Brave and the Bold project for Batman will include Damian Wayne so sadly there will not be any Super Sons project for the DCU. There are a lot of rumors surrounding the film, but the movie is set to be released in Theatres on July 11th, 2025.



Lake Shifter

By: Mihraaj Smith

"My name's Josh Lewis, I'm looking for my bounty," said a young man with a Boston accent as he flipped open his badge.

An old man peered at the badge, "That you are," then he looked around, "But do you really wanna go bounty hunting in this weather?... you could wait it out here if you like,"

Josh looked around the man was right the rain had picked up and the turbulent winds were doing nothing to improve the situation, "I think I will," he took one more look at the sky, "Just for an hour,"

The old man brought Josh some tea and fruit, then sat down next to him, "Sssssso, what's the name of the guy you're looking for maybe I've seen them around,"

"His name's Leak Shifter-" Josh began but was cut off by the old man's unsightly laughter.

"I'm sorry but that is a terrible name,"

Josh cleared his throat, "I guess,"

"So, what'd the guy do?"

"He's a serial killer with-,"

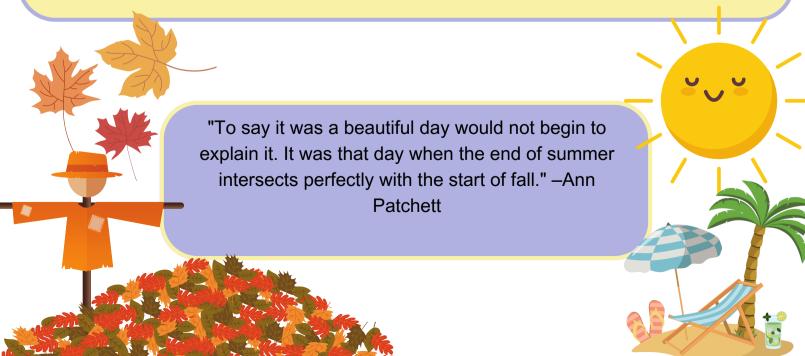
"I'm sorry - once again - but what is a serial killer?"

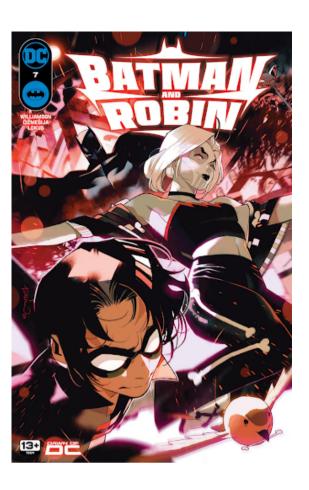
Josh glanced at the man with a precarious look, "Someone who kills multiple unrelated people within a month usually for no reason."

"Then this Leak Shifter cannot be a serial killer."

Josh's hand moved to the hilt of his gun, "How do you know?"

"Because Lake Shifter always kills for a reason," The old man laughed maniacally. Josh had his gun out ready to shoot but the old man had turned into an 8 ft long and 3 ft wide viper.





Batman and Robin #7 Review

By Bilianys Correa

DC dropped Batman and Robin #7 on March 12th, 2024, by Joshua Williamson, and artist Simone De Meo. In this issue Damian's friend/crush Flatline appears in Gotham, attempting to find her sister Mila. Damian joins her and finds Mila leading a criminal organization. Meanwhile, Batman is attempting to figure out Man-Bats plan. In the end, Shush confronts him, asking to team up, ending in a cliffhanger.

Personally, this issue was uninteresting. Williamson returning Flatline and continuing Damian and her Batman and Catwoman esc relationship is okay and adding her sister to the story could make her more interesting. Though in a panel as she was opening up to Damian, she has a vision of Ra's al Ghul advising her to tell him the truth as to why she wanted to see him. That was by far the most interesting thing that happened this issue and I forgot about it, only remembered it on my re-read. Williamson must be trying to have some Ra's plot, possibly trying to bring him back and Flatline is working for him. I can't understand Williamson's idea with Man-Bat and Shush. Now Man-Bat's a cult leader and Shush's resenting him for not helping her take down the duo sooner. Shush feels out of place throughout these past issues and her asking Batman to team up feels so unnecessary. The art was lovely and my favorite part out of the whole thing, though many of the characters look too similar. Overall, 5.5/10.

Batman and Robin #8 Review

By Bilianys Correa

DC dropped Batman and Robin #8 on April 9th, 2024, written by Joshua Williamson and art by Nikola Cizmesija. In this issue Batman continues investigating Man-Bat and his cult and Robin joins Flatline in investigating her sister. Batman teams up with Shush who leads him to the cult lair but get ambushed while Flatline betrays Robin and joins her sister, then double-crosses her sibling during a car chase scene to prevent her from further getting into the dangerous criminal business for good.

This issue was more enjoyable than the last, though it feels rushed like Williamson's trying to fit everything in one or two issues, just like with the dilemma with Zach which lasted less than an issue but could've certainly been more. Williamson doesn't really explore Mila, her powers, or her relationship with Flatline. Though, at the end of the issue it shows Flatline joining Damian entering his high school which could lead to a fun next issue.

The Batman side-plot has gotten slightly more interesting now that Williamson is delving in a bit more on Man-Bat's plans and ending their little fight scene with them flying off into the sky and I'm curious as to how this will develop with Shush's future and identity. My main problem with these issues is Damian's lack of personality. He feels so out of character and unnatural at times. He lacks the flare and edge his character is popularly known for. He might as well be Tim Drake. Overall, 6.9/10.



Culmination of The Jedi's Mistakes

By: Genesis Greiner-Sparks

(Master Windu)
Wiley conniving Sith,
I never knew that it was us you were with.
But as surely as amethyst shines,
I declare passionately that up's your time!

(Anakin)

Master, please, he must stand trial!
(Force me not to turn up the dial!)
There must be a way we can talk,
Cool off, and slow down a while.
There must be a formal course of action we can follow.

(Master Windu)

His philosophy makes him too unsafe! His psychopathy makes him insinuate Suffering from air, so even if it seems unfair, The galaxy we must protect; have faith!

(Chancellor Palpatine)
Help me; help me, Ani!
I'm loved by some, but not many. . .
I am the Senate, and I meant it!
But you know I'm the father,
You never had; I basically said it!
I'm just an old man,
And I can no longer stand—

Purple points in the air,
With a flash of sky there,
Sails off Windu's hand;
And an instant later,
There's a deafening bam
Accompanied by a veiny glam
Revealing without doubt a corrupt hater—

(Chancellor Emperor Palpatine)
POWER!
UNLIMITED, POWER!
No one can stop me at this hour!
Watch your heroes die,
And your galaxy sour!
Flee and hide!
See it wide!
Shiver and cower,
Realize your futility,
Your dis-utility, light-vowers,
As your final stand is electrocuted
And blown off this tower!

Windu is thrown impossibly far, Into the jungle metropolis of Coruscant And so begins a drawn-out war, Where for freedom will many want. . .

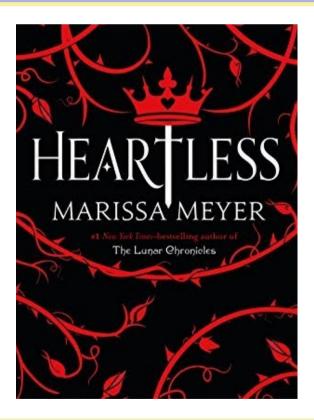
Heartless

By: Mihraaj Smith

I am giving Heartless by Merissa Meyer a 4/10. This doesn't mean it was a terrible book, but rather, I didn't prefer it. Heartless is intended to be a forbidden love story set in Wonderland: The main character, Cathrine (Queen of Hearts before she snapped), is in love with the court jester, but the king wants to marry her. I love romance books, but in this book, I felt the actual build for a romance was missing, and the characters were just a play on the trope, "You're not like other girls."

Despite that, I greatly loved the male lead and believe he was written very well in his short book time. He was one of the only people I believe could actually be found in Wonderland. Many of the characters had abnormal bodies, but they didn't have the element of madness Wonderland characters typically have. It greatly hurt me when the Mad Hatter came in as a rather corny side character. I have seen good Mad Hatters before; they were mad like in Once Upon a Time (which I will have to review once I finish it), but the Mad Hatter in Heartless didn't cut it.

Despite all of this, I finished the book. It had an ending I was not expecting. It could be a believable story for why the Queen of Hearts is the way she is. It just needed more depth, and there was more than enough time for that, especially since the book was 453 pages.



"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness."

—John Steinbeck





Agora held its annual Art contest in March. Winners were chosen on the following criteria:

- Followed theme
- ∘ Design/Composition
 - Craftmanship/Skill
- Creativiy/Originality
- Aesthetically pleasing

Elizabeth C Interviewed By: Autumn Perez

How long have you attended Agora?

Two years; Kindergarten and first grade.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

I loved drawing the swirls and bird and I learned about them from videos.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

I used paper mache, cardboard, paint and glue.

Why did you choose this medium?

I really like dinosaurs and birds and I thought they (and the art materials) would make a cool design.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

I'm super excited and happy.

What made you sign up for the contest?

I love art and I love creating things.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I did my work first and then I did my art on my break. I had a lot of fun making my art and I like mixing colors to make new ones.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, it's so much fun. (Interviewer note: She had a fun time painting and mixing colors. She wants to create more in the future.)

Any additional information.

I did a paint pour over on one side of the bone because I love the way the colors flow into each other. On the side of my bone there are two words. Can you spot them at first? If you pay close attention, it says "then and (n') now" (It looks like one word at first). I love putting on googly eyes, and the way they shake. Lastly, the bone is tilted so that the T-Rex has to walk on the ground so the bird can fly.

Ahmed Ibrahim S Interviewed By: Saavon Jackson

2nd Grade 1

How long have you attended Agora?

For 3 years.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

My parents inspire me; they're always inspiring me to make paintings.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in? I used acrylic paint.

Why did you choose this medium?

It's my favorite kind of art to use. I constantly use it.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

Amazing, I'm overjoyed!

What made you sign up for the contest?

My mom. I didn't think I would win, but my mom made me sign up anyway.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I just did my work and in my free time, painted.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Absolutely. Art is a passion of mine, and it is calming to me.



3 months.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

I have always enjoyed doing art work since I was 3 years old.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

I used pencil, crayons, and a blank leaf. I thought of what I wanted to draw and it was the colorful frog.

Why did you choose this medium?

Because I think that it's better than using markers and the colors are very bright.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

I am feeling happy that I won 3rd place.

What made you sign up for the contest?

I think I can do great art work and it was appealing.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I did it when I had small breaks.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes I do because I enjoy doing it.

Any additional information.

The blue dots are bubbles.



Eden H

Interviewed By: Saavon Jackson

How long have you attended Agora?

2 or 3 years.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

My sister and dad.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

Paint.

Why did you choose this medium?

Because I like to paint.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

It feels good. I'm excited to be an art winner.

What made you sign up for the contest?

Thought it would be fun to do, and to be creative.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I don't.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, It's my hobby, I want to be an artist someday.

1st

Grade 3



6 years

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

My dog, Princess.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

Pencil for the drawing and paint for the coloring.

Why did you choose this medium?

It's the easiest for me.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

It feels amazing.

What made you sign up for the contest?

I love art. I draw every day.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I did it after school.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, I love art.



Interviewed By: Mrs. Fiscus

How long have you attended Agora?

Since Kindergarten.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

A peacock is such a beautiful bird. The colors are so hard to beat. No other animal has those colors. The turtle was made colorful. There are actually frogs that are just different colors like this.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

Gems, feathers, crayons, glitter, and glue.

Why did you choose this medium?

I was able to make the animal many different colors. Since they are colorful, I could make them look nice and colorful. The glitter made it pop.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

It feels very good to be in 3rd place!

What made you sign up for the contest?

Since I want to try everything, I tried this.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I waited until after school to work on it.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, because art is nice and colorful. People make things that are so realistic and I want to be like that too. Plus you can get a medal. Eventually I want to win 1st place.

Any additional information.

I love exotic animals, I even caught a fish by hand, turtles too!



3rd Grade 5

Coming Up: Grades 6-8

Ayden P

Not interviewed, but still placed!

1st

Grade 7





"Creativity is seeing what others see and thinking what no one else ever thought"

—Albert Einstein

3 years.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

The book series, Wings of Fire.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in? Pencils.



Why did you choose this medium?

Pencils are erasable and I can alter my artwork when needed.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

I am very happy because I work very hard on my drawings.

What made you sign up for the contest?

I saw that the theme was colorful creatures and thought I could make a dragon colorful.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

Usually I did it after school, then decided on the colors. The process took a couple of weeks. The artwork was actually submitted at the last minute.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, I have four sketchbooks and really love drawing.

Ja'Naya S.J. Interviewed By: Hannah Prussman

3rd Grade 8

How long have you attended Agora?

About a year.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

I was inspired by animals on pinterest.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

I used a digital art program called Medibang paint.

Why did you choose this medium?

It's what I'm familiar with.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

It feels amazing!

What made you sign up for the contest?

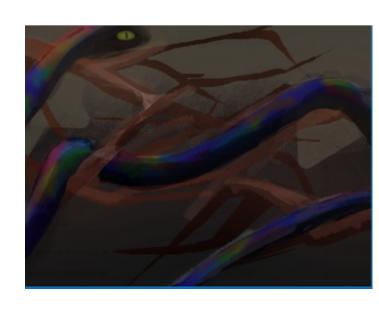
I always wanted to join an art contest, I thought it would be fun.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I worked on it during the weekends.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes! It's fun to draw.



Since 2nd grade.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

My mom inspires me. She really likes to draw and paint and I really enjoy doing it with her. She teaches me different ways to do things. My mom tells me I can do anything I set my mind to and just try my best. I really like animals and dogs are my favorite. That is why I did a dog.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

I used colored pencils.

Why did you choose this medium?

My mom says you can really get the most out of using color pencils because you can make it show lines swirls or light to dark. It all depends on how you hold it.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

I was speechless. I didn't know what to say when I was told.

What made you sign up for the contest?

I signed up because I like to draw and it was fun. It didn't matter if I won; I just enjoy doing it,

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I did a little bit at a time in between my classes. Instead of playing video games, I focused on my drawings.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, my mom and I love doing things together and we both really enjoy drawing, painting and coloring so I will continue to do more art.

Any additional information.

I would just like to say it doesn't matter if you win or lose just as long as you had fun and you tried your best. Congratulations to everyone and for those who didn't win, don't ever give up.

Coming Up: Grades 9 to 12



I have been with Agora since kindergarten.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

My inspiration behind my art was my cat Moonshadow. He was sitting still and acting so calm so I took a picture of him and decided to draw him.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

I used watercolor paper, I inked it in, and used colored pencils.

Why did you choose this medium?

Originally I had been thinking about using something other than colored pencils, but once I inked it in, I realized it would be difficult to use another wet substance such as watercolor with the ink, so I used colored pencils. I used the ink to try and give it a professional look.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

It feels pretty good. I did not create this for the art contest at first, it was originally supposed to be a gift for my mom, but I decided to finish it and submit it for the art contest.

What made you sign up for the contest?

Honestly, I've been signing up for art contests since it first started in 2021.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

This is something I would usually draw at night. I usually draw in the family room while watching TV. This would help me break it up into multiple days and focus on my schoolwork during the day.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, I do! I would like to sell artwork when I get older as an online business. Creating art is also something I am good at.

Any additional information.

This was really fun and I hope Agora continues this contest every year, because it's really fun to see other peoples' art and their talents through this competition.

2nd Grade 10

Brianna E., Interviewed By: Hannah Prussman

How long have you attended Agora?

About 3 years.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

A cuttlefish, because they blend into their environment and mesmerize with their color scheme.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in?

Digital art, in a program called procreate.

Why did you choose this medium?

Because I feel confident in it and it's easy to draw anything with it.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

It feels good. I never thought I would win. I'm very excited!

What made you sign up for the contest?

I wanted to but was not very confident until my mom told me to.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I took time on the weekends and after school to work on it until it was done.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Yes, it's fun and I feel confident doing it.



3-4 years. I started in either 7th or 8th grade.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

I have 2 cats and a dog. The one dog was older and was constantly messed with by the cat. The cat would always bat at the dog and mess with them. So, the relationship between the animals was the inspiration.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in? Acrylic paints on a canvas.

Why did you choose this medium?

I use acrylic for other paintings, so it was my main choice.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

I wasn't expecting to win. I like the painting but feel like I could have done better with the line work.

What made you sign up for the contest?

When the art contest started, I hadn't been doing art much recently. I didn't have much motivation or energy. So I took the opportunity of the contest and the fact I had been sketching animals recently to create some art for the contest. My cat Wilbur sits perfectly for sketching, so they were part of the inspiration behind my art.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I completed the artwork during Easter break. I didn't have much to do, so it was a good opportunity to occupy myself with something.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

I have loved art since I was little. When Covid hit, I had a friend who taught me how to draw figures. That sent me down a spiral of learning art. I wouldn't be as good as I am now without that friend.

Cadence Dollinger Interviewed By: Hannah Prussman

3rc

Grade12

How long have you attended Agora?

For 3 years.

Who/What was the inspiration behind your art piece?

My parents inspire me; they're always inspiring me to make paintings.

What medium (pencil, watercolor, oil, clay, etc.) did you choose to do your artwork in? I used acrylic paint.

Why did you choose this medium?

It's my favorite kind of art to use. I constantly use it.

How does it feel to be one of the art winners?

Amazing, I'm overjoyed!

What made you sign up for the contest?

My mom. I didn't think I would win, but my mom made me sign up anyway.

How did you manage creating this artwork while balancing school?

I just did my work and in my free time, painted.

Do you plan on creating more art, and why?

Absolutely. Art is a passion of mine, and it is calming to me.

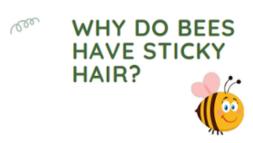


april/may

R	Ε	٧	Α	Ε	В	E	L	Ε	Р	Н	Α	N	Т
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Α	Т	P	I	Ε	Α	C	L	U	C	S	L	N	В
В	0	L	R	S	E	S	С	0	В	T	Т	W	F
В	Υ	Н	Α	R	В	Υ	C	0	W	R	Α	E	0
I	0	Н	F	0	Α	D	В	R	С	I	Т	Α	X
Т	С	R	F	Н	R	С	Α	R	Α	С	Α	L	S
M	Α	Ι	Е	Α	Α	Α	V	R	С	Н	N	Н	В
В	D	Υ	Р	Т	Р	М	Α	D	0	Α	Ε	Α	Ε
V	0	0	R	Α	G	N	Α	K	0	L	M	T	Α
Н	Ε	0	Α	Ε	Α	E	R	Н	I	N	0	Е	0
L	R	N	0	Ι	L	S	Q	U	I	R	R	Е	L
Y	C	Α	R	Ι	В	0	U	Α	0	Ε	R	Н	F
R	Α	Н	Ι	Н	P	Α	N	D	Α	G	Н	C	S

CHEETAH BEAVER WOLF CARACAL KANGAROO ELEPHANT BOBCAT RHINO **PANDA** OSTRICH RABBIT GIRAFFE CAMEL LION LEOPARD COYOTE HORSE FOX CARIBOU BEAR SQUIRREL BISON

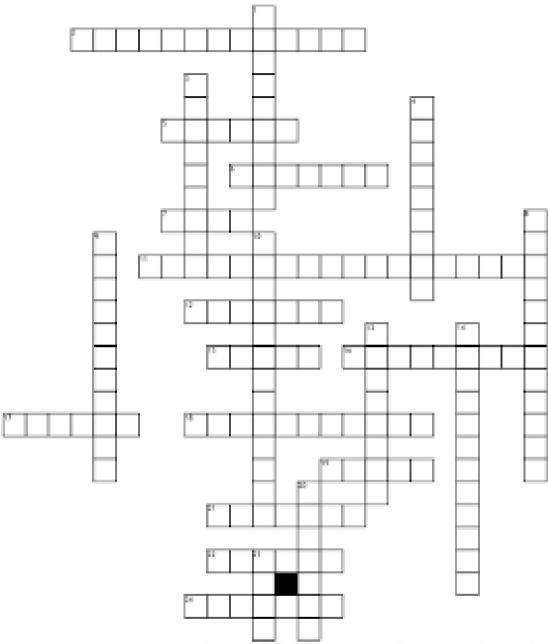






realities.

High School Graduation



Across.

- The smartest one at graduation
- They'll be there in the audience cheering you on.
- choosing which one to go to after graduating can be difficult
- The robe you wear
- 11. BEI
- What you say to all of your freinds as you leave
- 15. The students as a whole.
- 16. Don't for get to sign all of your freinds
- 17. Make sure you smile in all of

- Hopefully you get one of these so you don't have to pay too much for college
- 19. Celebrate till early morning
- you recieve this upon graduating
- 22. When you recieve your diploma you move your from right to

left.

 Don't forget to thank them for getting you this far.

Down

- Prom, Dance or _____
- Don't forget to send these out when all is said and done.

4. General

Developement

- 8. Pomp &
- These invite all friends and family to the ceremony
- 10. throw it in the air at the end of the ceremony
- instructors and coaches
- 14. Another word for graduation
- 20. You'll look back at these and smile.
- Listen to the validictorian give his _____.







School was almost over, and	_ was really going to miss! She
tried to think of some th	nings to do to keep herself from getting too
She decided it might he	elp to build a (noun)
But that didn't work. So instead she de	ecided to visit, but it was
closed. Then she thought it might help	o if she sang while she
, but that didn't work	either. She wondered if shopping would
help her feel better, so she went to	and bought a,
a, and a (noun) (noun)	Unfortunately that didn't even
work. She tried turning on her TV and	watched for a few minutes.
Sometimes food can help, so she ate so	ome and, but
then her started hurting. S	She even tried to read for for
a while. Finally, she pulled out a book o	of pictures from her
class, and that's when sh	ne felt It

turns out that memories of her class was what made her happiest!



100 Summer Vacation Words\



MOOUVGLYAXBGMCSSOF YPE G \mathbf{T} QQLWOFI \mathbf{Y} GOMG USR. CUBURKSE I G 0 0 8 т EAD REMMUSODO T - HМ W M M I \mathbb{N} G М 100 \mathbb{R}^{2} D. $\overline{\mathbf{T}}$ GRMIGPCBNLBRCDIA \mathbf{F} H X - \mathbb{P} 80 $E_{-}G_{-}X_{-}T_{-}$ 33 30 \mathbf{G} J. L. N. O. \mathbb{R} 160 \mathbb{R} \mathbb{R} 36 \mathbf{T} \mathbb{E} BAOVOD T₁ 8 Ι 35. \mathbb{F}^{\prime} W 8 \mathbb{P} т G \mathbf{U} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{W} B \mathbb{R}^{n} C35 X^{\prime} (0) OE) 8 53 CLD: YP A A. C M A. \mathbf{B} \mathbf{T} E D A 19 0 M \mathbb{R}^{2} \mathbb{T} L \mathbf{T} T. Ψ m 63 II A I T L S 16 90 T A E E 191 49 3. 161 \mathbf{K} T O \mathbb{R}^{2} т 47 M 80 Di-BEFAPEGNONLSZERMSSEI G L X P M OEEFMFEGEGGALSRAB 37 Ö 13 35 E M U B G G O M. M. ISOL $A \cdot V$ ATEUOB 8 2 M = UH H Ψ 8 100 A S 36 ${\bf V}^{\ast}$ R D O 39 \mathbf{I} 3. 8 \mathbb{I} J Ci. U 0 2. U D. \mathbb{R} \mathbf{L} H 0 Ι U. Ψ Ι E \mathbf{T} \mathbf{F} 25 I N I M E 16 NO E L J = E0 \mathbf{T} 36 16 18. W L 13 B 80 D. J = S73 0 \mathbf{Y} 100 COUXOS \mathbf{D} T $\mathbb{R}^{-1}\mathbb{N}$ A A \square D. 25 10 Ċ 26 100 X R R \mathbf{Z}_{i} \mathbf{Y}^{\prime} V = XPGMFOSDB \mathbf{x} SE Ι BVOVV \mathbb{R} \mathbf{F} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{z} 25 A. D = XΙ MFAE I В. \mathbf{T} \mathbf{N} т NGMCEEG Т **F**C P $O \cdot E$ \mathbb{R} L O \mathbf{W} \mathbb{B} Ж. \mathbf{z} Т To. 30 \mathbb{R}^{n} 3 Π To. \otimes 80 23 D. DFHUAANRC L NCSEUC E B R.A. В \mathbf{E} ∇ G. E H Ι Τ BNMA T H S Y E N G O X N S N C T Y S H C G A R D E N V S T X N L IAVE JBFE SHEDT TODXU \mathbf{Y} N L O A T Ι R. M. T 0 J 0 Ι \mathcal{J} ABT 8 D = U \mathbb{R} K B PU ${\bf W}^{\prime}$ \mathbf{B} X0 80 \mathbb{P} \mathbf{U} G3. 8 L H 150 760 \mathbb{P} 181 0 19 Y. 0 \mathbb{L} G В н \mathbb{P} J \mathbb{D} \mathbf{U} \mathbb{I} M M В G C U 16 SEAT $\mathbb{Z} - \mathbb{D}$ 8 -I A FA \odot \mathbb{R} 0 L A L 100 G В G. EJDE JAAQRC IORYRJAOL Ι $G \cdot F$ Q. 100 G MD $G \cdot J$ Ι \mathbb{Z} T. T 0. XKSBDEOYCKCLDI GN Ι \mathbb{R} Ι В \mathbb{P} B L N NHV \mathbb{P}^{1} 10 В 10 \mathbf{w} GUSKLJIMM E 0 G ILLAB Y. E L L O \mathbf{I} B N & AZPCVLANN \mathbf{T} SHFOCADBKBFEOAAT D S I W NWOIRTADRESE IGRELLAGOLOMFLOWER \mathbf{E} 8 ZKEOIB Y = UW FXZ SE Ι 180 Ι D- \mathcal{J} E L 22. F8. 39 \overline{x} A. K. \mathbf{x} 73 \mathfrak{X} L 24 U.C. F C A. D 10 10 -1 \times G: \mathbb{P} Ι М \mathbb{I} \mathfrak{S} Σ \mathbb{E} H N E W \mathbb{N} \mathbb{R} \mathbb{R}^{n} \mathbb{C} A. 19 \otimes A. \mathbb{U} \mathbb{R} I \mathbb{C} \mathbf{E} C EOGAQZTRKZUODV Υ 18 \mathbb{R}^{2} \mathbf{U} 30 Ι \mathbf{L} A |w|J M 187 H. L H. K O H B) Z S O 88 180 \mathbf{E} C \mathbb{R} D \mathbb{R}^{3} D 10 KFU π U. K C OMMA 100 100 8 10 0 100 80 100 L [6] 100 31 R. P. 37 E X JAVBU $O = I_{\bullet}$ I F O B 8 W Ι \mathbf{E} \times \mathcal{R}_{i} L. 10 B. S. I I 8 A 0 E 161 150 Υ AEK D. 0 U D 30 OCK I E O Y w \mathbf{x} 0 X S \mathbb{E} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{B} Н \mathbb{R}^{n} \mathbb{C} 8. 8. G J L A CME EGTMRZNINW C. D D N W. \mathbf{T} RRLI \mathbf{z} \mathbf{F} 0 HWHHOZCTS JH 0 ZXXNUYASW ELTERINGUGVDBBLERNNTPALGTAUZL N P A T I O B S P I C B M X L G M L R J A F R C T R X C A D X G J Y G E H Y J R X S J X U S O K P R V T Y V D Z Y C X Z L A R A O D N O D D G M V L L C C U W N

AIR CONDITIONER
BEACH
BOCCE BALL
DIVINS
GARDEN
ICE CREAM
LIGHTNING
PATIO
RELAX
SEASHORE
SMORKEL
SUNFLOWER
SWIMMING
TRAVEL
WAVES

Q K P R V
ALLERGIES
BEACH BALL
BUTTERFLIES
FIREFLIES
GRASS
INOEPENDENCE
MOWING
PICNIC
REUNION
SHORTS
SOFTBALL
SUNGLASSES
SWIMSLIT
TRUNKS

WEATHER.

AUGUST
BEAN BAG
CAMPING
FIREWORKS
HAMBURGERS
JULY
POOL
ROAST
SIGHTSEEING
STARGAZER
SUNNY
TANK TOP
VISOR

BADMINTON BEES CANDEING FISHING HAMMOCK JUNE NO SCHOOL POPSICLE SALING SKEZLE SUMMER SUMMER SUMSCREEN TEMPERATURE VOLLEYBALL

BARBECUE
BIKING
CHARCOAL
FLOWERS
HOLIDAY
KICKEALL
OCEAN
RAFTING
SANDALS
SKING
SUMMER SCHOOL
SURFER
TENNS
VOYAGE

BASEBALL
BIONI
CRUISE
FRISBEE
HOPSCOTCH
LEMONADE
OLITS IDE
READING
SAMDICASTLES
SLEEPING IN
SWEATY
THUNDER

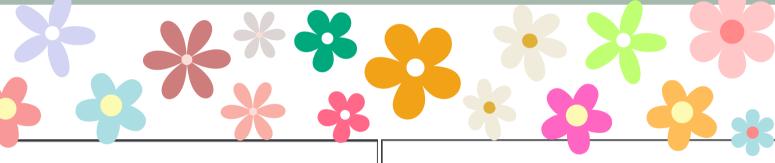
WATERMELON.

BASKETBALL BEATING DAMOEL DIN FRUIT HUMID LIBRARY PARADISE RECREATION SCOUTER SMORES SUNDRESS SWELTERING TRAMPOLINE WATERPARK 1000

WHY WAS THE BABY STRAWBERRY CRYING?









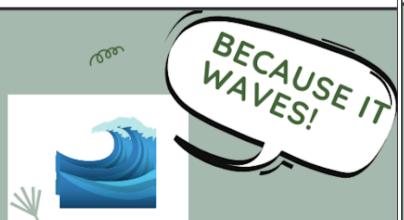
HOW DO WE KNOW THE OCEAN IS FRIENDLY?

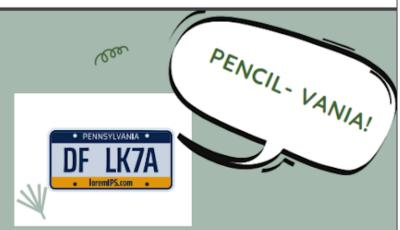




WHERE DO PENCILS GO ON VACATION?









Thank you to everyone who has read our newsletters and supported us through the school year. We could not have done this without you. Have a great summer and we will see you again next year!

- Eduardo, Kalub, and the Agora Times Club

Congratulations to all who are graduating!