

**St. Patrick
School**

What's The Buzz?

Happy Spring!

April 2010

Issue



Our LAST meet-
ing for the year
is on
**Tuesday, May
18th**
from 2:30 to
3:30 P.M. in Ms.
Smith's room.
We thank our all
of our reporters
and editors for a
wonderful year,
and we look for-
ward to bringing
you the latest St.
Pat's news next
year! A *special*
thanks and good-
bye to our two
eighth graders,
Brittany and
Thea...we'll miss
you!

The History Of April Fool's Day

By Ryan T.

Did you know that the world is going to end tomorrow?!? Ha! Ha! Gotcha! April Fool's! April Fool's Day began about 1582 in France. This holiday was the time to play your sneakiest tricks on family, friends and even strangers.



April Fool's Day was connected to New Year's Day many, many years ago. How is this possible? Well, back when France adopted the Gregorian Calendar they shifted the date of New Year's Day from the first of April to the first of January. Many people did not accept the new date and some people just simply weren't aware of the change, so they continued to celebrate on April 1st. The tradition of playing jokes on people began and spread throughout Europe.

As most people know April Fool's Day is a time to show others your best jokes and pranks. This has become one very fun holiday because it allows you to have a good time with your family and friends. Here are two examples of some classic April Fool's Day tricks:

1. Put a rubber band around the push button of a kitchen sink spray nozzle so the button stays down. Point it forward. When the unsuspecting victim uses the sink they will get a wet surprise!
2. Leave a phone message for the victim that says that "Mr. Lyon" or "Mr. Behr" called and wants to be called back.
3. Then list the phone number of the local zoo.
4. And finally the joke that my dad played on me this year. . .

Switch all the bags of cereal around to different cereal boxes. The type of cereal on the inside doesn't match the picture on the outside of the box.

.I hope you had a Happy April Fool's Day!!!

How Was Your Spring Break?

By: Ethan C

How was your Spring Break? Many people went out of town, out of state, and some even out of the country! The weather here in Wadsworth, Gurnee, Beach Park, and many suburban cities in our area was perfect! When I say perfect, I mean seventy to eighty degree days!

Spring Break is also called "March Break", "Spring Recess", "Spring Recession", or even, "Reading Break"! Colleges and Universities usually schedule their Spring Break during Saint Patrick's Day week, the week of the seventeenth of March. Grades kindergarten through twelfth usually try to schedule their Spring Break between Easter, a Christian holiday, and Passover, a Jewish holiday. But, the strangest thing is that in the state of New York, their schools schedule their break in April.



Our Wonderful Planet

By. Jenna W.

Everyone's heard of this wonderful planet; Earth. We're standing on it right now. This wonderful planet of ours gives us so much, and the main thing is water. It gives us water for drinking, bathing, swimming in, all sorts of activities.

Earth has only so many resources for us humans, so we must reduce, reuse, and recycle. A lot of people have heard of these things, but haven't really done any of them. And when you don't do these things, you're hurting our planet.

Reduce: Buy big bottles of water, or big containers of laundry detergent. Bigger is better. If everyone buys a lot of smaller bottles or containers, we won't be reducing.

Reuse: When you're done with plastic water bottles, wash it with hot soapy water for five minutes in a storage basin, and reuse the water bottles.

Recycle: Everyone says, "Recycling old." and that's not true. Recycling is very new; now people have recycling bins and recycle paper, plastic, and aluminum.

Several people are helping out the planet by making commercials to kids who watch T.V. I know Disney Channel has a program called Disney's Friends for Change. Since their first commercial, many other kids have helped out the planet because their favorite Disney stars are doing it.

Our planet, Earth, should be very special to everyone. It's the planet we live on, breath on, do everything on.

Have a very happy Earth Day, and thank God for this wonderful planet we live on!



What's that Mean?

By: Maggie M.

Have you ever wondered where popular sayings come from? We hear people saying things everyday and we understand them because the sayings are familiar to us. We hear phrases such as: "Bite the bullet", "Sleep tight", and "In a pickle" but where did these sayings originate? I decided to look a few up and find out. For example, the phrase "Wrong side of the bed" was because long ago, the left side of the body or anything left was known to be sinister, mysterious, dangerous or evil. Innkeepers pushed the left side of the bed against the walls so that guests would get up on the right side. With king and queen beds today, people get up on either side and don't really worry about it. The phrase today means a person is cranky or clumsy. Another familiar saying, "Get the lead out" means to work or move faster. When car racing became popular, lead was used to patch and repair holes in the body. This added weight to the car making it slower in races. It was said that if you could get the lead out the car would go faster. So the next time you hear or say a popular phrase, get on the ball and pull out all the stops to find out what it truly means.

"I'm in a pickle!"
"Sleep Tight!"

We Remember It Still Today...

By: Ethan C.

The Holocaust. It was a terrible time. The German Nazis had begun to kill all Jews and take over the world. We mostly remember this as a very hard time for the Jews, but we should also remember all the people who had fought in that war and those who gave their lives in that war, too.

We still and hopefully always will remember the Holocaust. This word, *Holocaust* is rooted in Greek. It is made of two words, *olos*, and *kautos*. *Olos* means whole, and *kautos* means burnt. So together they mean "fully burnt", or "destroyed". Although the word holocaust implies religious sorrow and pain, the true word has nothing to do with that.

The United States of America will celebrate Holocaust Remembrance Day on Sunday, April 11 in 2010, this year. In Hebrew, the language of the Jews, the word for this day is Yom Hashoah. It was strategically placed by the Israeli government. They chose this day because it is before Israel's Independence Day but in a Jewish time of mourning, the Counting of the Omer.

One person, who had faced this terrible time, the worst time in history some say, was none other than a young Jewish girl named Anne Frank. Many people now-a-days know her because we have found a journal of hers that has been published and made into a book.

We remember this as a sorrowful time, we remember it as a very unfortunate event, but we should also remember it so the human race may not make such a great mistake again.

Inside the Meeting!

By: Abbey K.

Where it all happens...the stories you newspaper lovers all read. Here is where we go inside the meeting. Come on in! Sit right down! The meeting is about to start. Don't forget your pencil! Here is where all the ideas for your favorite stories happen. Sports, comedy, even science and history all are covered here.

At the beginning we assign board writers, people who write all the topics and ideas on the white board. Then we think of ideas that we could use for the next issue of the newspaper. (This takes about 15 minutes). This is kind of like a "brainstorming session." There are no bad ideas, all are considered. If ideas are not used, it is often because of the timing of the next issue. We have to look ahead several weeks and see what will be the most important topics when the paper will actually be published. We work really hard to come up with ideas that would be interesting to our students.

Next, we assign all the topics to each reporter on the staff. We do this in a certain order. For example, senior reporters are people who have been on the staff for 2 years. They select their favorite topic first. The next time the people you turned in their article on time go first. Then the rest of the reporters select from what is left. Sometimes we work together with another reporter to complete a story, especially if there are several interviews to complete.

Thea and Brittany, our editors, tell us things we need to work on as we write our articles. They also tell us what we did well in the last issue.

Miss Smith dismisses us, while Thea and Brittany stay behind to design the layout of the current issue and create new Google docs for the next issue. They also write up the assignment sheet that tells us when our new articles are due, and the next meeting date (which is once a month). This sheet also tells us how long our stories are supposed to be. Then it is hung up in Miss Smith's window for everyone to see.

Working on the newspaper helps us with our writing, interviewing, and even photography skills. It also teaches us to work with others, communicate ideas, and be creative!

That's the news. That's the Buzz. And that's how it's done!

"Working on the newspaper helps us with our writing, interviewing, and even photography skills. It also teaches us to work with others, communicate ideas, and be creative!"

St Pat's Got Talent!

By: Angela A.

On April 6th, the day right after Spring Break, 34 nervous kids entered the St Pats gym, hoping for a part in our first annual talent show! They know that they might not be picked, since only 20 kids get in the show.

The afternoon started with warm-ups by the candidates, who had talents from dancing to singing to magic tricks! After the warm-ups, the kids sat on the bleachers waiting to be judged. Many of them were nervous, but some were relieved after their turn was over.

I interviewed Emily S from 7th grade about her talents.

"What do you think about your talent?"

"I think I did well."

"What is your talent?"

"Singing"

"How do you think you did?"

"I think I did good, but I needed music."

"What do you think the show is going to be like?"

"I think it will be fun."

The first rehearsal took place on April 20th, at 3 – 4:30 pm. The dress rehearsal took place on the 29th of April, at 3 – 4:30 pm. Some of the costumes and props are objects such as pianos, i-Pods, batons, instruments (of course), and whatever you can to

On the 30th is St Pats first annual talent show! It takes place in the evening (7 to 8:15 (sadly you can't see the show during school) and will charge minimal fees that go to the Scholarship Fund.

Even if you don't have the time, props, or talent, please come to the show to see our classmates and friends perform on the big stage.



D-Money Yelk

By. Monica and Allison

"Simmer down class!" You may recognize these words from Mrs.Ortega's student teacher, Mr.Yelk. As you all know, Mr.Yelk, has left our school and will be greatly missed. We have put together an article with some interesting facts and quotes about him. We got the chance to interview Mr.Yelk, and yes you will finally learn what "Simmer down" really means. As you may know Mr.Yelk uses very interesting phrases and some appear to have no meaning. Here are a few that he uses often.

"Is this really happening"? "Please Refrain", "Let's bring history to life!", "Housekeeping": One day during an English class Mr. Yelk was bringing one of the Elmo's to Ms. Smith's room and he walked in with the cart and said "Housekeeping!" in a high pitched voice. He got this from an episode of Family Guy. "This is serious. This is real. *This* is social studies." "Brisk Walk": Mr.Yelk told 7C how much he enjoyed taking brisk walks (across the classroom). "I need a young historian to read": This is how he would ask the students to read a paragraph in the social studies book. "Simmer Down" He got this from the Food Network because some chefs say that want their food to simmer.

We got a chance to it down and ask Mr.Yelk a few questions. Here are his responses:

What topic in history did you most enjoy teaching?

"Probably...hmmm... The Great Depression."

What is your favorite TV show? Why?

"The Office because I love Michael Scott.

What is your favorite food?

My favorite food is Panda Express.

What is your favorite color? Why?

Green, because it is the color of St. Pat's.

As a kid what did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be a fireman or an airplane pilot.

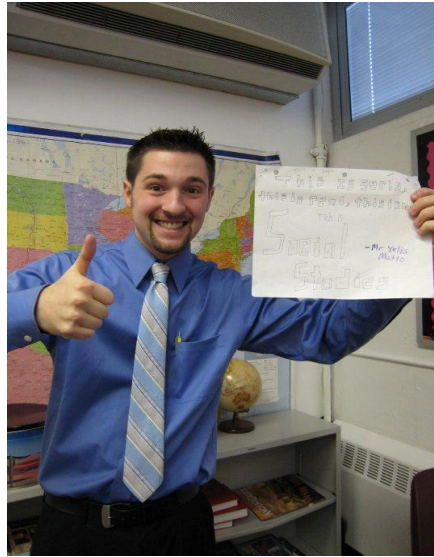
Why did you choose to become a teacher?

Because, as River puts it, knowledge is the best thing in the world.

What do you think is the biggest challenge facing teachers today?

Keeping students interested and their minds stimulated,

Mr.Yelk has now left St.Pat's , but we hope we can see him in the future!



The Jr. High will greatly miss their student teacher, Mr.Yelk.

The Lightning Thief Review

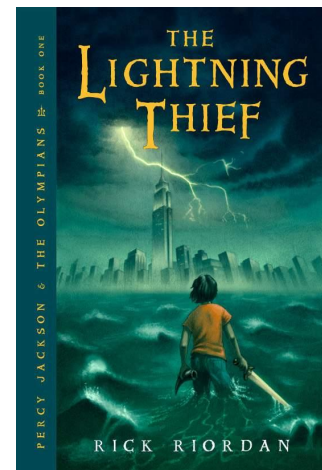
By:Will

Do you wonder about the Greek Gods? Ever wonder about Olympus? In the book "Percy Jackson & the Olympians, The Lightning Thief", Rick Riordan tells a tale where monsters, legends and myths mix together.

This tale is interesting because it is full of action, situations arise around every turn, and myths are brought to life. The central characters are Percy Jackson, Grover Underwood, and Annabeth Chase. Until he was twelve years old, Percy lived a normal life. He was brought to Camp Halfblood by his mother, where he discovers, during a game of capture the flag, that he is the son of Poseidon, the god of the Sea.

Camp changes his life, as he finds he will never be a "normal" person again. Suddenly Percy finds he has powers he never knew he had. He finds out that Zeus thinks that Percy has taken Zeus' ultimate weapon, the lightning bolt. The action and adventure continues as Percy and his friends try to recover the bolt and return it to Zeus before the summer solstice.

This book is recommended for anyone who is looking for action, history and adventure, with a twist of Greek Mythology.



Holy Week

By: Jacob

It's Easter time again, but that doesn't mean to go out, get your Easter baskets and have an Easter egg hunt. It's also time for remembering everything that Jesus has done for us during this particular week. He suffered, died, and resurrected during the long week to save us from sin.

The week starts on Palm Sunday. Jesus rode through the city of Jerusalem on a colt that day. As soon as He entered Jerusalem, He attracted a crowd of people who would lay palms on the ground before Him so Jesus wouldn't get dirt on his clothes. They would say this as He passed: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!" (Mark 11:9-10). After that was over, Jesus sent two of his disciples out to find a place where they could feast. While the two disciples were doing that, Jesus went into the temple of God. There, He saw moneychangers selling doves for profits. The sight of this outraged Jesus started to overturn the tables and their seats. After he finished doing that, the moneychangers started to flee and before they left, Jesus yelled, "My house shall be called the house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves.

The next time you hear Jesus is on Holy Thursday. That was a very large room, furnished and ready for the feast. Before the feast, Judas met secretly with the chief priests and planned to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. When it came time to feast, Jesus started to wash the disciples' feet. They gazed in shock at Jesus because here was their Savior, who could probably change the world, down on the ground washing their feet like a servant. Peter wanted to do it instead, but Jesus told him that you should love one another as you want to be loved. Later, as the disciples began to eat, Jesus took the bread, blessed it, and said, "Take this and eat it, for this is my body, which is now given to you. Do this in memory of me." Then, he took the cup full of wine, blessed it, and said, "Take this and drink it, for this is the cup of my blood, which will be the blood of the new covenant. Do this in memory of me." During the meal, Jesus explained how one of the disciples will betray him that very night. At this, the disciples started to ask if it was them, but Jesus didn't answer. After the disciples sang a little hymn, they went out to the Garden of Olives where Jesus told them to pray with him, but they fell asleep. Jesus woke them up, but they fell asleep again. At that moment, Judas disappears and follows the chief priests' soldiers to the scene. Once they got there, Judas explains how he will kiss the one who is the Savior. As the soldiers approached, he kissed Jesus on the cheek and immediately they arrested Jesus. As the disciples woke up, they found out what they did to Jesus. Peter, outraged, slashed at one of the soldiers and sliced his ear off with his sword. At that moment, Jesus told Peter to put his sword away and healed the soldier's ear. Also he said that Peter would deny him three times and each time a crow would crow; that's exactly what had happened to him. Meanwhile, Judas went to the chief priest for his reward and as he got his reward of thirty pieces of silver, he felt a sudden sensation of guilt. So Judas gave the money back to the chief priest, admitted that he had sinned, and hung himself.

Jesus was taken to Pontius Pilate on Good Friday. The chief priests said that Jesus was a wrongdoer and Pilate believed that, but after Pilate examined him and asked him a few questions, he decided to leave it to the crowd's decision. They either had to free Jesus or Barabbus. Barabbus was a robber and a murderer at the time and had been locked up in jail for many years. Surprisingly, the crowd of people wanted to free Barabbus and crucify Jesus, thus starts the torture of Jesus Christ. He was supposed to wear a crown of thorns and a scarlet robe during the whole time. While he was wearing that, the soldiers mocked him, beat him with no purpose, and struck a reed repeatedly to his head. Then, Jesus carried his own cross from central Jerusalem to Calvary. While on the way, he fell three times, the cross on his shoulder with unbearable pain. It wasn't all bad, however. Jesus still got to meet his mother on the way, he met Veronica who wiped his face from all the sweat, and Simon who helped him carry the cross a couple of miles. Finally they made it to Calvary, but the worst part was still to come. The guards stripped him from his robe, nailed him to the cross, and mocked him the whole time he was up there. Jesus looked down at his mother and told her that John is her new son. Then John brought Mary to his house. Also on the hill were two other wrongdoers on crosses; the one on the left of Jesus begged for mercy to him and Jesus forgave him. After that, Jesus gave up his soul to God and said to everyone, "It is finished". From then on, the sky was dark, and the Earth looked like it was coming to an end. A guard was sent to stab a sword into Jesus' side just to make sure that he was dead. Pilate wrote something over Jesus' cross that said, "Jesus, King of the Jews". At the remark, the crowd became furious because they wanted it to say, "Jesus, who thinks he's the King of the Jews" but Pilate kept his statement up there. Meanwhile, the chief priests wanted to keep the tomb very secure so Jesus wouldn't rise again, so Pontius Pilate let them have that privilege.

Holy Saturday was the day that Jesus lay there in the tomb dead. However, many people think that Jesus rose from the dead on the night of Holy Saturday. In fact, how and when Jesus rose from the dead is a mystery even today. Although, there have been very accurate theories about what happened and here is the most common one used. Mary and Mary Magdalene were walking down the street where Jesus was buried and they found the boulder that sealed the burial was rolled away. In there was nothing but his garments. Then, Mary Magdalene knelt there weeping when Jesus came up from behind her and asked why she was crying. Mary Magdalene didn't recognize Jesus because to her point of view he was disguised as a farmer. So she told him, "If you have taken my teacher or know where he is, tell me." Finally, she notices him, they embrace each other, and Mary Magdalene spreads the news to the disciples. Later on in Easter Sunday, the news reaches to the apostle Thomas. Thomas is doubtful that this is true, so he gets all the apostles together and says that he doesn't believe it. Despite that they were in a locked room, Jesus appears in the room and tells him to touch his gashes that he from his crucifixion to prove that he was raised. Thomas believes that he has risen at last and he embraces Jesus.

“Take this and drink it, for this is the cup of my blood, which will be the blood of the new covenant. Do this in memory of me.”