

THE PENGUIN PRESS



SERVING WORLD, COMMUNITY, AND M.L.K SCHOOL NEWS!



© Photo Credit: Mr. Salcedo
Families, staff, and students spent their day off to give back to our community.

MLK STUDENTS, STAFF, AND FAMILIES GIVE BACK

BY: NIRALI PATEL AND ANGELICA FERNANDES

“If you can’t fly then run, if you can’t run then walk, if you can’t walk then crawl, but by all means keep moving.” By: Martin Luther King Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King was one of the most influential people in our history. He was one of the main reasons that people of different races can go to the same school. Can you imagine all of us being separated into different schools because of our color? MLK Day is a day to honor this great man.

MLK Day was found on November 3, 1983 by president Ronald Reagan, but was first celebrated on January 20, 1986. This year’s MLK Day took place EXACTLY 34 years after it was established! The 2nd annual MLK Day took place on January 20, 2020. Many people attended to help create items to assist the needy and the **WORLD!**

On Monday, January 20th, many people came to our school such as students, families, teachers, and friends! To be exact, 253 people arrived at MLK day! They helped make many items such as greeting cards, animal toys, T-shirt bags, blessing bags, and cutlery sets. All of these stations were set up by the one and only, *Mrs. Sharon Davis.*

People also helped out with the Crayola Colorcycle and other M.L.K activities. For refreshments, people got food from Alex’s Lemonade Stand set up by Mrs. Bal! In total, we made 53 greeting cards, 288 animal toys, 223 place settings, and 237 blessing bags. All these stations helped a lot of people and made a difference in our community! The number of items produced is amazing too! There were 6.2 lbs. of markers for the Colorcycle program, 18 lbs. of crayons to recycle into new ones, 45 lbs. of plastic bags recycled, and three large bags of clothing. Wow, talk about a huge success!

Out of all the people that came, three people were lucky to get interviewed. Mr. Fernandes, parent of a 4th grader, said “I like to do community service because I like to help people”. Ms.Schilla, the orchestra teacher, said, “My favorite station was the dog toy station because...I LOVE DOGS!” Om Patel, a fifth grader, said, “If there was one station I would add, it would be to have a station where we take trash and turn it into something useful.”

At the end of the day, we are all equal and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. taught us that lesson. We celebrate MLK day because of him, and the change he made in our world. Tiny acts of random kindness can make the world a better place!

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JAPANESE TRENDS

TEACHER INTERVIEWS

CULTURAL CORNER: JAPANESE TRENDS

By: Shruthi Anand and Reva Gill
INTRODUCING JAPAN!!!

What country has over a thousand islands, is famous for delectable sushi, and is a hub for arts and business? That wonderful country is, Japan! According to <https://www.brittanica.com> , “Japan is an island country lying off the east coast of Asia. It consists of a great string of islands in a northeast-southwest arc that stretches for approximately 1,500 miles through the western North Ocean.” Sound interesting? Japan is a country in East Asia. This is a wonderful country that has lots to do, including cool trends!



THE FAMOUS FAN FAVORITE: ANIME!!!

For starters, Japan has an amazing art style called “Anime”. Anime is a term for animation, using colorful graphics and calligraphy to create beautiful media. According to BBC.com, Japanese anime is one of the most influential pop culture trends in the world. Japanese anime is spreading like wildfire around the world. It is one of the most popular trends of 2019. Anime started in the 20th century, and it still is as popular as ever. While we are talking about anime, I think it’s time to introduce its sister, Kawaii.



Here, we see an example of an anime character.

THE SISTER TO ANIME: KAWAII!

Kawaii is a trend that started when Japanese teenagers started writing horizontal, decorated calligraphy that defied traditional calligraphy. While this, “kitten writing” was frowned upon in schools, it soon became a worldwide delight. According to <https://www.japanpowered.com/>, “What is cute? Actually, the English word “cute” is a poor substitute for kawaii.” Kawaii is one of the most frequently used Japanese words. In a broader sense, it describes the culture of celebrating all things adorable and embracing fictional characters as the embodiment of positivity. While we talk about cuteness, we’ll talk about some Japanese spicy food: SPICY NOODLES!!!



This is an example of a cute Kawaii dinosaur.

SPICY NOODLE CHALLENGES (AKA SPICY NOODLES)

Moreover, another popular trend that I’m sure you have heard about is the Spicy Noodle challenges on YouTube. Well, guess what? Those spicy noodles originated in Japan. They are ramen-based noodles in a soupy broth. According to, <https://taiken.co/> the author states “When I’m missing the burn on my tongue, these are what I make and get my fill at home nowadays. I have experienced spicy noodles, and I think that as soon as you eat this bowl of fire, you will be running for water.” You’ll be running for water, all right!

To sum it up, Japan is a wonderful country full of cool trends! It has spicy noodles, anime and kawaii! If you ever go to Japan, try some spicy noodles, check out some anime, and get a kawaii plushie; you won’t regret it!



This is an example of one of the brands you can buy of this spicy noodle goodness.

Safety Tips 101

BY: MERRY N PASSMAN AND SOFIA GIRALDO BARRIENTOS

Mr. Ralph’s Top Three safety tips:



Staying safe in school is an important thing. Mr. Ralph is one the people who help us remember that safety is important! Here are his top 3 tips to stay safe.

- See something, say something.
- During all emergencies, stay calm, quiet, and follow directions.
- When walking home from school, always be aware of your surroundings.

Hope you stay safe while walking home from school, during lock downs, fire drills and shelter in place drills, and of course, if you see something, say something!

- Thank you to Mr. Ralph ☺

STAY SAFE STUDENTS OF MLK!!!! ☺

Just for Laughs!

HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!

By: Aarav & Arka
Q: What do you get when you cross a vampire with a snowman?
A: Frostbite

Knock Knock!
Who’s there?
Says!
Says Who?
Says me, that’s who!

Knock Knock
Who’s there?
Oink Oink
Oink Oink Who?
Make up your mind - are you a pig or an owl?

Knock Knock
Who’s there?
Scold!
Scold who?
Scold outside let me in!

Knock Knock
Who’s there?
Needle
Needle who?
Needle little help getting in the door?

AUSTRALIAN BUSH FIRES MAKE A BLAZE

By: Ayush Sangannagari & Yash Tunguturi

A fire grabs your house, and tears fall down your face... But there is no time to cry. The next thing you know your whole town is filled with dancing flames, and this is what is happening in the whole country of Australia...

What is going on in Australia?

Since September, bush fires have struck the continent of Australia. According to Time for Kids, droughts and a severe heat wave are feeding the flames. CNN.com stated, “Blazes have torn through bushland, wooded areas, and national parks like the Blue Mountains. Some of Australia's largest cities have also been affected, including Melbourne and Sydney -- where fires have damaged homes in the outer suburbs and thick plumes of smoke have blanketed the urban center.” Additionally, in December, the smoke was SO bad, that the air quality hit an 11 which indicates a “hazardous” level. As of now, 2.5 million acres have burned. That’s about the size of South Korea! On January 3rd, officials stated that Australia is experiencing some of the worst fires to ever to hit the continent. By January 10th, another round of massive evacuations began.



What is causing these Ferocious Fires?

There can be a million reasons why these ferocious fires are occurring in Australia. Lightning strikes, pyro cumulonimbus clouds, and wind are all natural causes of these fires. Also, people are causing Global Warming, which increases the chance of a fire to form. Temperatures in Australia have reached up to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Wow!



Ways to prevent Fires

You should remove flammable things that are close to your house, like firewood and plastic. Shut off all fuels like gasoline. Never leave a fire unattended, or it will spread and cause a lot of destruction. Finally, fill pots with water and put them all around your house so it will slow down the fire, and if you have a pool, fill it with water.

The End of a Blaze

We hope that you learned a lot about the devastating fires of Australia. We also hope that Australia gets rid of all the ferocious fires that have caused hardship over the past several months.

Sources
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-50951043>
<https://www.timeforkids.com/g56/fires-in-australia-2/>

MAY THE BEST CHOICE WIN: SCHOOL POLL

BY: AARAV SHAH & ARKA GUPTA

On 2/4 and 2/5, fourth and fifth grade students voted for their favorites. 198 students participated in the 5 polls that were given. Thank you to Mr. Salcedo for administering this poll and all of the students who participated!

RESULTS!

For the best sport, the WINNER is **soccer** with 56 votes while basketball had 55 votes, volleyball had 45 votes, football had 25, and baseball had 17 votes. Close call!

For the best book series, the WINNER is **Diary Of A Wimpy Kid** with 46 votes, while Dog Man had 41 votes, Magic Tree House had 9 votes, and I Survived had 6 votes.

For the best instrument, the WINNER is the **string instruments** with 87 votes, while Flute had 31 votes, Trumpet had 30 votes, Percussion had 27 votes, and Saxophone had 23 votes.

For the best subject, the WINNER is **Math** with 82 votes while science had 64 votes, literacy had 36 votes, and social studies had 16 votes.

For the best soda, the WINNER is **Coca-Cola** with 59 votes, while Sprite had 55 votes, Ginger Ale had 13 votes, Fanta had 48 votes, and Mountain Dew had 23 votes.



What are the teachers hiding?
Featuring: Dr. Gray

Interviewers: Sophia Lojko and Laila Simmons
Who knows about our principal? Find out some of the super, hidden facts about him!

Where did you grow up?

“I grew up in Piscataway, right around the corner of MLK.”

If you had to live in any other country than America, what country would you live in?

“Canada, because it still has NBA basketball and football teams like the USA.”

What country do you want to travel to?

“Italy, because I like Italian clothes and Italian food.”

What college did you go to? What was your favorite memory from it?

“I went to three colleges, North Carolina A+T University, University of Michigan, and Rowen University. My favorite memory would be when I was elected and crowned king of the school. ”

What was your first ever job? What job did you have before coming to MLK?

“My first job was painting houses with my dad. My job before coming to MLK was being the school counselor at Quibbletown, then the Vice Principal.”

What is your dream job?

“I would be a fashion model, or a fashion designer, or maybe a personal shopper.”

THE LATIN CAFÉ!

Grab a cozy mug of hot chocolate, and learn some traveling tips!

BY: MERRYNN PASSMAN AND SOFIA GIRALDO BARRIENTOS

Want to take a Spanish trip? Are you waiting to put your Spanish speaking knowledge to good use? Well... here are the top ten best Spanish speaking travel destinations!

- 1. Costa Rica
- 2. Mexico
- 3. Peru
- 4. Argentina
- 5. Colombia
- 6. Venezuela
- 7. Dominican Republic
- 8. Chile
- 9. Cuba
- 10. Bolivia

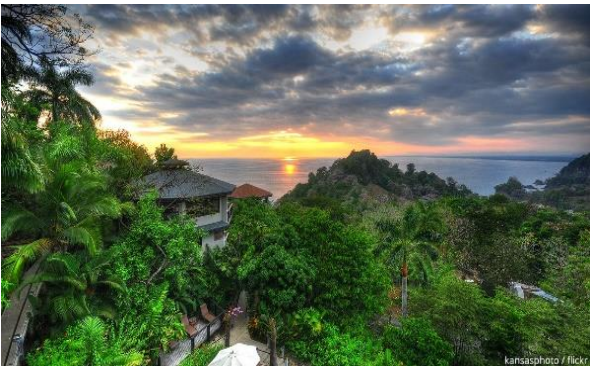
Maybe someday if you’d like to, you could visit one of these AMAZING Spanish speaking countries to see for yourself.



If you like traveling and you’re planning on going to a Spanish speaking country, here are some handy Spanish phrases!

- Hola-Hello
- Por favor- Please
- Gracias-Thank You
- ¿Puedo ir al Baño? –Can I go to the Bathroom?
- Aqua (the q sounds like a g)- Water
- Sí-Yes
- No –No
- Reloj (the j is silent) - Clock/Watch
- Que hora es? (que sounds like ke) – What time is it?
- ¡Buenos días!-Good morning!
- ¡Buenas tardes!-Good afternoon!
- ¡Bienvenido!-Welcome

In coda, Spanish is a wonderful language. It shows great culture and has beautiful countries.



This is a picture of beautiful Costa Rica!

-Thank you to Sra. Torres for her excellent help and advice. ©



SUPER BOWL 54



What are you going to do Sunday, February 2nd? Well what you should do is grab some chips, dip, and wings. Then, WATCH THE 54TH SUPERBOWL! The San Francisco 49ers and the Kansas City Chiefs are going to be versing each other at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami, Florida. Singing the National Anthem is Demi Lovato. The best thing about this Super Bowl is the halftime performance. Performing at the halftime is Shakira and Jennifer Lopez! (JLO)

What is the Super Bowl?

The Super Bowl is the annual championship game of the National Football League (NFL). It is played in between January and early February. The first Super Bowl that was played was on January 15th 1967. The New England Patriots and the Pittsburgh Steelers have the most Super Bowl championship titles with six each, but the Patriots have the most appearances in the Super Bowl with 11. In 2015, the Super Bowl became the most-watched American Television program in history with 114.4 million views according to CNN.com. In the Super Bowl commercials are very important, and some people think it's the best part of the Super Bowl. Commercial airtime during the Super Bowl broadcast is the most expensive of the year. According to Ducksters.com, "The game began in 1966 when the Green Bay Packers defeated the Kansas City Chiefs. Since then the game has become increasingly popular.

Many people have Super Bowl parties each year with the spectacle around the game becoming a huge event itself. The halftime show, the week leading up to the game, and the trophy celebration are all big events. Even the advertisements have turned into an event with people tuning in just to see the ads!"

Who is playing in the Super Bowl?

Specifically, in the 54th Super Bowl, the 49ers and the Chiefs are going to be versing each other. According to profootballhuf.com, "The 49ers were granted on June 5th 1944 as Charter Member of AAFC. They started their first season in 1946, and merged into the NFL in 1950. Moreover, their stadium is named, Levi's Stadium. They have won 5 Super Bowl championships." Next up, we are going to talk about the Chiefs. Once again according to profootballhuf.com, "The chiefs started their franchise on August 14th in 1959 as the Dallas Texans and Charter member of the AFL."

Halftime Performance

The halftime show is one of the best parts of the Super Bowl. This year, Jennifer Lopez (JLO) and Shakira performed. The crazy thing about this is that they had a 30 second commercial that costed \$5.6 million.

Crazy right?!? According to NFL.com, "The Pepsi Super Bowl halftime telecasts will be produced by NFL network with Ricky Kirshner." Now let's do something a little more fun, and talk about other great halftime performers. Celebrities like Beyoncé, Justin Timberlake, Lady Gaga, Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Madonna and many more have performed!

All and all, I hope you enjoyed reading our article. *Just a little spoiler...THE CHIEFS WON THE SUPERBOWL!!!!* That is their 2nd win. We want to know, what your favorite football team is, and who your favorite halftime performer is!

This article was written by, **Liliana Fay and Devin Kelly** from Martin Luther King School's Penguin Press. But we have to give credit to our Penguin Press creator and editor, Ms. Pontoriero!

Sources:
www.profootballhuf.com
ducksters.com/sports/football/super_bowl_fun_facts.php
www.NFL.com



WHAT YOUR BRAIN DIDN'T KNOW...

PISCATAWAY FUN FACTS!



- The name Piscataway came from the original Native American people. It transfers from near the Piscataqua river.
- Piscataway Township was formed on December 18th 1666.
- Piscataway has advanced in education and research facilities, due to the presence of Rutgers University.
- In 2008, "Money Magazine" name Piscataway 23rd out of the top 100 places to live in America.
- In 2014, the "Money Magazine" ranked Piscataway 27th out of top places to live in the U.S.

By, Liliana Fay and Devin Kelly



MUSICAL CONCERTS ON CUE

By: Norah Rodriguez and Tara Sarma

Do you love music like we do? The orchestra, chorus, and band students have been working diligently to make their concerts sound astonishing. These kids have been practicing day and night to make sure they sound great on this big day. Mrs. Schilla, Mr. Plesnarski, and Mrs. Harrington have worked hard to make every tune sound great. The music concerts themselves took place on Wednesday, January 29th (chorus) and on Wednesday, February 5th (band and orchestra).

The 4th Grade Chorus Concert

During the concert the songs, Tic Tac, Happiness Runs, Kye Kye Kule (chay chay cool lay), and Hey Ho/Soul Cake were sung by the 4th grade. These kids worked hard to make sure everyone was on tune, and blended their voices in harmony. Some children had small speaking parts, that made the show a bit more... what's the word? Oh right, interesting. Actually, this concert was not only performed by the 4th grade, but the 5th grade as well. During, the song Kye Kye Koole, some 5th grade students from the hand bell choir played a beat along with the 4th graders, with tin cans, a "drum", tambourines, and two wooden sticks hitting against each other.

The 4th Grade Band Concert

The 4th Grade Band performed the songs Rolling Along, Go Tell Aunt Rhodie, Lightly Row, and London Bridge. The instruments, flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, trombone, trumpet, percussion (bells and drums) and, one French horn, were played by these students, along with Mr. Plesnarski conducting the band. The concert was a success!

4th Grade Orchestra Concert

At 7:30 the Orchestra performed. In this concert the songs, Hot Cross Buns, Natural, and Salamander Samba were played. Additionally, some songs were played in a small group: Song for Christine, Old McDonald, Semolian Chant, and Rolling Along. The instruments, violin, viola, bass, and cello were played. The conductor, otherwise known as Mrs. Schilla, um well... conducted the orchestra, as you could imagine. The sounds blended beautifully. Overall, the students played well, and a lot of effort and work was put in! Congratulations and a job well done!

NEW JERSEY MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES

BY: SOHUM KORGAONKAR, NAVIN SAKTHIVEL, AND RISHAN RAJESH

Minimum wage workers will see another boost in their paychecks as the minimum wage rises to \$11 an hour in 2020.

Minimum Wage is the legal minimum amount of money an employee can earn in an hour. Minimum wages are important to the economy as they serve as a standard of life to defend the health of employees (Cornell Law School). Without minimum wage, employers can choose an employee's salary, which may not be high enough for the worker to make enough money. In 2020, the minimum wage increased up to \$11.00, unlike last year (2019) with \$10.00. Governor Phil Murphy is also contributing to the cause by signing a legislation that will gradually raise the minimum wage to \$15.

“This is a big, big step forward for New Jersey. And particularly, it’s responsible,” said Murphy at a virtual town hall “We are changing the lives of a million workers in this state. I can’t stress that enough.” New Jersey Policy Perspective predicts that it will affect at least 1 million New Jersey residents. However, 10% of those employees are on a slower route. Advocates claim \$15 per hour will raise incomes for workers who need to afford basic needs in New Jersey. Someone working 40 hours per week at the standard minimum wage, \$8.85 an hour, will earn \$354 a week, or \$18,408 a year. At 2024’s minimum wage, according to Phil Murphy, that same worker will earn \$600 a week and \$31,200 a year, a drastic increase compared to the conventional minimum wage. Because of the increase on minimum wage, there will have to be inflation to even it up. Inflation is an increase of prices and a decrease in the purchasing value of money. This inflation will start, when workers reach \$15 per hour.



Proponents (people who are fighting for the cause) say that we should increase the minimum wage in NJ. Most people in this state believe that the current minimum wage is too low, and higher the minimum wage is, the more our economy will grow allowing people to turn their backs on poverty. It will also create more jobs.

However, the opponents say that the minimum wage should stay still. They say that the minimum wage will force companies that hire workers who get minimum wage salaries, to pay more to their workers. This may cause businesses who cannot afford to pay extra, to shut down, fire employees, or reduce their hiring. This may be the cause of the high demand for jobs themselves, as now they will have to work harder for that spot. People who are just starting to look for jobs, may lean on the minimum paid jobs for temporary support. However, this may be hard for them as they will actually have to work it, or they might not even get the job in the end. Are you FOR or AGAINST the minimum wage increasing?



Governor Phil Murphy speaking about the minimum wage.

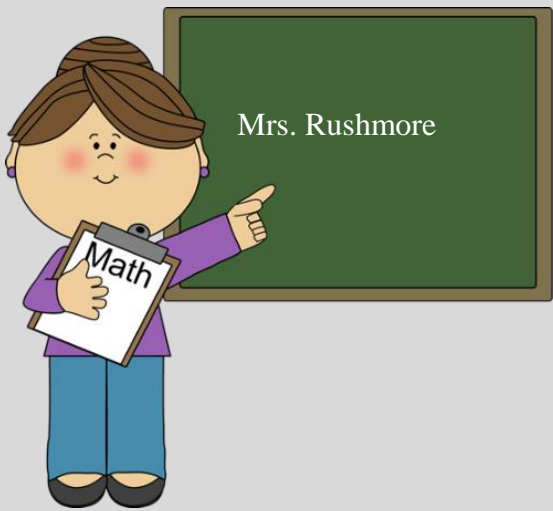
Bibliography:

- Website: Procon.org/ Author:ProCon.org, Last updated 5/9/2019):
- N.J. minimum wage to rise to \$15 an hour as Murphy, top Dems strike deal/ Author: Samantha Marcus and Brent Johnson; Last updated Jan. 17 2019
- Website: https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/minimum_wage

What are the teachers
hiding?
Featuring: Mrs. Rushmore

Interviewers: Sophia Lojko and Laila Simmons

MLK has many teachers, but today we are focusing on one of them. The one, the only.... MRS. RUSHMORE! She is one of the newest teachers. She teaches fifth grade math.



Did you have a job before coming to MLK?

Yes, I was a teacher

What college did you go to?

Fairleigh Dickinson University

What town did you grew up in?

I grew up in many towns, but mostly Roselle, NJ

What is your favorite part of teaching?

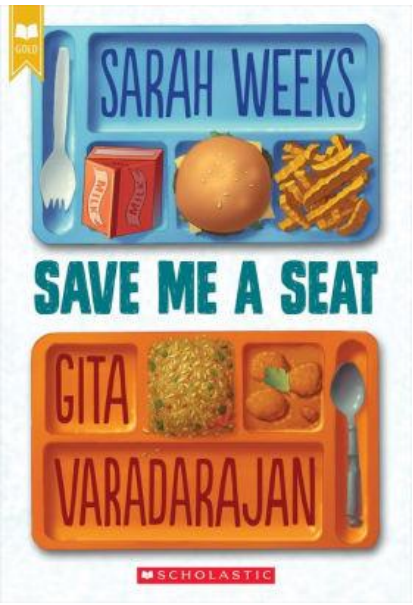
When students say, “I got it”

What is your dream job?

Travel around the world and be a motivational speaker

BACKGROUND INFO-

Roselle, NJ is in Union County. It is about 30 minutes away from Piscataway. Fairleigh Dickinson University (Also known as FDU), is a collage in Maddison NJ. It is the largest private university in NJ.

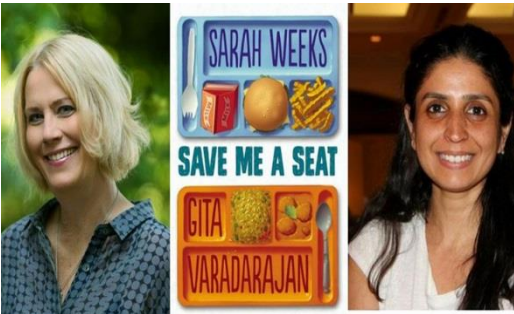


SAVE A SEAT FOR THE
BOOK, Save Me a Seat

By: Asmi Nakhawa and Jahnavi Patel

Have you read the book Save Me A Seat? If you have not, you should go to the library and check it out! The novel is about two main characters, Joe and Ravi, who have both started fifth grade at Albert Einstein Elementary School. Ravi and his family just moved to Hamilton, New Jersey from Bangalore, India, but he believes that school here will be a breeze because he was the top student at his old school in India. On the other hand, Joe, has lived in Hamilton his whole life. Joe dreads school because he is picked on by the school bully, Dillon.

As you can see, Ravi’s journey has been very interesting. If you enjoy a good fiction story, then we recommend this book, 5 out of 5 stars!



Authors of this book:
Sarah Weeks and Gita
Varadarajan

The teacher, Mrs. Beam, thinks that Ravi needs extra help while learning. So, she sends him to Miss Frost, the ESL teacher. Ravi tries his best to impress Mrs. Beam but it is no use. UGGGHH! Joe however, loves going to Miss Frost, only because she has peanut M & M’s and she lets him eat as many as he wants. Joe tries to warn Ravi about Dillon, but Ravi does not listen to him and rather tries to be Dillon’s friend and ignore Joe.

STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

TOPIC FOR THIS MONTH: ART



Artist: Josiah Skyers
5th grade student in Mrs.
Friedman's class



Artist: Adrianna Lu
4th grade student in
Miss Pontoriero's class
Room #3

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR READING THIS ISSUE OF
THE PENGUIN PRESS!

- Miss Pontoriero and the Penguin Press journalists

Special thank you to Mr. Simmons from TAPinto Piscataway who came
and presented to our club about journalism!



TAKE A PEAK
at our next issue!

- Coverage of Tacos & Tiles
 - An advice column
 - More teacher interviews
- Test taking tips for the NJSLA

...and much more!