

Puma News



Puma Press

South Meadow School

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Mannequin Challenge

by Bella Schwabe

On December 9, 2016, the South Meadow School student body and faculty participated in a school wide mannequin challenge. The school created a mannequin challenge in order to launch a new campaign to help cure Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. This campaign, called Freeze That Disease, was launched by the Hope For Gus Foundation, a foundation also trying to raise funds to research and cure Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. The goal of this challenge is to raise awareness about the genetic disease that plagues boys almost exclusively and causes their muscles to weaken. In order to create this mannequin challenge, our school gathered in a routine Puma Pride assembly, and our principal, Mrs. O'Bryant, put on some music and told the teachers to get up and start dancing! Then, Mrs. O'Bryant told everyone to freeze, like mannequins. Next, we had about four people filming the whole thing so it could go up on the website. The video was then edited and put up on the website. If you want to support this cause, go to either freezethatdisease.org or hopeforgus.org and get more information. Please create a video of your own, upload it to the Hope For Us facebook page and donate!

Hour of Code in Seventh Grade Science

by Sarah Knowles

Do you ever wonder how apps or computer games work? How they know what to do? In seventh grade science, we learned how to do some basic coding on computers. Coding is when you write a program for your game or app. We are using this program called Hour of Code, found on code.org. We all started at the basic level by doing a Moana themed coding activity. We had to help Moana and her friend Maui fight the Kakamora, the evil coconuts, and destroy their ship. We were given a set of commands to put in the correct order to help Moana and Maui. The commands included: move forward, turn left or right, dodge, strike, and fish. As we went through the lessons, it got a little bit more challenging as we got closer to the ship of the Kakamora. After we went through the twelve lessons of Moana, we were free to try whatever coding activity we wanted. Some options we could try were Anna and Elsa, Minecraft, Music Maker, Star Wars, Name Animation, Lightbot, Stop Frame and Spritebox. Overall we all had a fun time learning how to create codes and see what really goes on in a game or app!

Fifth Grade Breakfast with the Peer Mentors

by Leah Krason

The fifth graders invited the peer mentors to a holiday breakfast that took place on the last day of school before break. To prepare, the Peer Mentors took the time to make paper ornament notes for their fifth grade mentees. They had three different times to work on their notes, and it took them about thirty minutes for each note. Most peer mentors have two or three students, so they had to use all of their time wisely. When the peer mentors got into the fifth grade wing, they led their group to the table that they would share with another peer mentor's group. After everyone was settled in, the groups went to get breakfast. There were eggs, bagels, bacon, fruit, muffins, juice, and much more. This experience was a great chance for the fifth graders and their peer mentors to get to know each other better. Along with the notes, the peer mentors gave their mentees South Meadow School drawstring bags. Many of the mentees gave their peer mentors cards that they made on their own. The breakfast was a really fun time, and the peer mentors are looking forward to another one!

Spelling Bee Champs!



A Christmas Carol

by Nicky DiNino

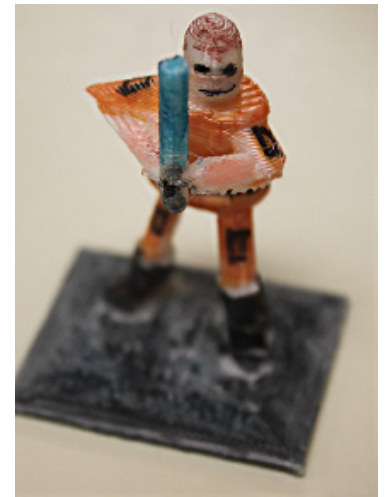
On December 22nd the Seventh Grade went to see A Christmas Carol at the Palace Theater in Manchester. The bus ride was not too long, but I get a little bit carsick when I'm riding on the bus so that was not a great experience for me. Also it was snowing and while that wasn't a big deal to us kids, the bus driver must have been so stressed out. The play started about five minutes after we got there. The curtains went up and the set was amazing! I'm sure that everyone in the audience was instantly transported to London in the 1800's. One weird thing was that everyone talks about how this is a play, but really it was a musical. There had to have been at least fifteen songs, and each of the songs was like a mash-up of lots of different Christmas songs. At intermission, we were talking and suddenly this kid in the seat in front of us gets really mad that we were talking, and we were super confused because it's intermission, we can talk if we want to talk. The play started up again, and while the second half was a little less exciting than the first half it still was very enjoyable especially the very end. On the ride home I did not feel as sick, and it was a faster drive due to there not being anymore snow. What a great field trip! Thanks to the teachers for taking us.

new year's resolutions ottava

rima

by reagan riffle

on january first the new year is here
 but there's something we must do before it comes
 reflect and set goals for the year that is near.
 resolutions are not about bums or slums
 but it's rather a way to clear the unclear,
 to change your lifestyle whatever may come
 resolutions are healthy and welcome change
 to a brand new life you can now rearrange



3D printed
 Luke Skywalker
 Created
 by Brigham Boice

Advertising in FACS

by Jack McLaughlin

FACS class, also known as C&F class, is a special for grades 7 and 8. The seventh graders in FACS cook, sew, and currently, the 7th graders that have FACS are learning how to be a good consumer and the laws that make you a good consumer. The students in this class are going to the computer lab to make brochures about a made up product that the students of that class came up with. Students have also been learning about the techniques of advertising. For example, if there is a product explaining that a ton of people are using their product, that is the bandwagon technique. Another example of an advertising technique is called the general technique. This is when a product just shows their logo or symbol without giving any information about their product. When making the brochure students had to use at least two techniques of advertising. Students would also have to explain the warranties of the product. For example, if the product breaks in within 30 days they would get another one of the products. This product took about a week, and the outcome of the project turned out amazing! When printing the brochures Mrs. Couture had the kids use a special paper that made the brochure look even better. Students then glued the brochure to another sheet of colored paper. At the end of the day, this was a very fun project for Mrs. Couture's seventh grade classes.

Atomic Learning

By Kendall Larson

In EHP, all classes have started using a program called Atomic Learning. This program allows us to search any tutorial video on how to perfect a certain computer skill. Since the EHP students frequently use the Adobe softwares, we can look up how to do different tasks on Adobe Photoshop and InDesign. With over two hours of videos on Photoshop alone, there is so much we can learn. For example, in my class, some students are learning how to do animation on Photoshop! They have been working hard on them for over a week, and can't wait to see how they will turn out. So, when they have finished the animations, they will be posted on the website newspaper to be viewed. Furthermore, there are so many other programs or softwares we can learn, too, not just on the Adobe products. We'll be able to learn how to do anything we want that is computer related. Atomic learning is a website, so it can be accessed at home, too. We have only recently started using Atomic Learning, so we still have much to learn and discover from this program.

Tree Paintings in Art

by Meara McClusky

In Ms. Russell's art class, the seventh graders made tree paintings. The students painted a tree on a small canvas, then used cool colors, like blue and purple, to create the image. First, they used side to side strokes to paint a blue and purple background. While the paint was drying, the seventh graders made practice sketches of trees. Working on the form of the tree before painting was important, as many students had never drawn trees before. When the students and Ms. Russel were satisfied with their tree sketches, they started painting their trees. Students painted their trees with various shades of blue, purple, and black. Creating the tree took a lot of concentration, because the seventh graders wanted them to be as realistic as possible. When the trees were done, they painted a moon and added reflected light. After the moon and light were complete, they splattered paint over the tree to create a snow effect. Soon after the paint was dry, the seventh graders added final touches to their project. The students gave paintings as gifts, or kept them for themselves. Overall, these projects were extremely fun!

Mrs. Parker, Vice-Principal

by Ted McLaughlin

If you have been to this school, you probably know the Vice Principal, Mrs. Parker. Around a couple months ago she was named the Vice Principal of New Hampshire. I'm part of student council, and the week when she was nominated, 3 weeks before Christmas break, we threw her a surprise party. We also made her

a card out of really big cardstock, so it was like a jumbo card. We all said thank you for your teaching and the bright energy you bring into the school. The best part was that we got to have hot chocolate and play board games like Battleship and Monopoly. The real reason why she thought she was coming over was bringing the sweatshirts, so when she gave us a present we gave her a present. Also, last Friday at the school assembly, Mrs. Parker was honored for being named the Vice Principal of New Hampshire. She was honored with flowers, a poster, a bunch of balloons, and a big cake. So the next time you see Mrs. Parker strolling the halls, just say thank you for all she has done to make this school a better place.



SMS Sweatshirts and Patches

by Maddy Cilley and Gabby Oja

The eighth grade peer mentor class (Gabby Oja, Maddy Cilley, Breanna Hutchinson, Quinn Kelley, Lila White, Alanna Batty, and Jack Hatmaker) along with their teacher Mrs. Brezovec, organized the sweatshirts for the whole school. It has taken a lot of work and effort, but it was worth it! It all started on the first day of school, when they prioritized what they needed to get done and decided that after making the staff T-shirt, they would organize the sweatshirts. The first step was to organize everyone's ideas and get in contact with different companies who could tell them what their options were. After all the information and ideas were collected and organized, it was time to create a form for students and parents to fill out.

The form was made by Lila White. A form sounds pretty straightforward, until you start creating it. It is actually, one of the most tedious parts of organizing a project such as this. The form needed to include sizes, the student's full name, their advisor, the name they want on their sweatshirt, the patches wanted on the sweatshirt, whether the student would sew the patches on themselves or not, the costs, advisor's signatures (to prove that the student is in the club), and the sweatshirt they wanted (zippered, ¼ zip, or pullover). The form took about two weeks to accomplish! Once it was completed, Gabby Oja and Maddy Cilley organized a booth on parent teacher conference day for parents to ask questions and hand in their form.

After all of the forms were collected, the organization came. Lila White, Gabby Oja, Maddy Cilley, and Mrs. Brezovec worked together to create a spreadsheet with everyone's names and information. This was a long and complicated process, but eventually all the information and money was sorted and sent to the embroiderer.

The patches themselves were a very long and difficult process. The first thing that we had to do was figure out what patches we needed to make. We made patches for most of the activity clubs in SMS. Gabby Oja, Maddy Cilley, Quinn Kelley and Alanna Batty are the creators of the patches. To make the patches they used Photoshop. On Photoshop they put the name of the club and drew a symbol that represents the club. For example, the newspaper one has a newspaper on it, and "Puma Press". After, they made the patches on Photoshop they sent them into the company that would be embroidering them. Some patches they could embroider immediately, but others the company needed to change. Some reasons that they needed to change the patches were because there were too many colors or some patches looked messy, so they cleaned up the sides. For example the puma head patch that is on every sweatshirt, took around 15 times to get right.

Finally, after the company made all the patches, they sent them to us. When the patches came in the mail, they all looked wonderful! Gabby Oja, Maddy Cilley, Lila White and Mrs. Brezovec sorted the patches into Ziploc bags. Each person who ordered a sweatshirt got a Ziploc bag with their name on it. That way it was easier to sew the patches on the sweatshirts and to hand the sweatshirts out. Some people wanted to sew the patches on their sweatshirt themselves. Those who did got their patches with their sweatshirt separately. The people that didn't get any patches, because they either didn't want them or weren't in any clubs, get their sweatshirts alone. And lastly the people who wanted the patches sewn on, had their patches and sweatshirt sent to a company that would sew them on for them. Once the patches were sewn on the sweatshirts, many children helped to hand out the sweatshirts. The sweatshirts looked amazing, and many kids who didn't get them now wish they ordered them.



Life of a Twin at SMS

by Otto McLaughlin

My name is Otto McLaughlin. You might know me as a twin with Ted McLaughlin, and being a twin with Ted at SMS can be fun, as well as annoying. Some of the reasons why being a twin with Ted at SMS can be annoying because: some people at SMS try to guess our names and not try and start a conversation, and some people like to guess our names like it's a game, so if they get it right there is one tally and if they get it wrong there is no tally. With some teachers they think I am Ted, and then they ask me to do his paper then I say I'm Otto, and then they start a conversation to tell who is who.

One, positive of having a twin at SMS is that you can compete with your twin with grades (at least that's what Teddy and I do). We also compete in running races at recess. At the Turkey Trot (a run the school does every year) there is always someone to look out for. There's also Oliver Wilson to look out for; that kid can run.

At home, my brother Jack can consistently tell us apart, and then my parents get us mixed up because they're distracted by either being on their phones or having a conversation. Interesting enough, both of my grandparents can get us right consistently, as well. Well, my grandpa calls Ted and me T and O, so I guess it's consistent.

Some advice to figure out who is who; I have a mole on my ear and Ted doesn't, I have gray shoes and Ted has blue shoes, Ted is usually wearing a green sweatshirt and I'm usually wearing a JR Swamp Bats sweatshirt, I'm the better looking one, and from what I hear I have darker hair.

Good News!

Sports patches for sweatshirts are now available! Just contact Mrs. Brezovec to receive a form.

December 2016 Puma Pride Winners

