

# WILDCAT JOURNAL

Edition 1 - January 2020



“Once a Wildcat, Always a Wildcat”

## *Happy New Year 2020!*



### Teacher of the Year!

By: Ryan Leitrim

**Congratulations to Mr. Maher who has been awarded Teacher of the Year.**

Mr. Maher became a teacher because his wife is a teacher and always came home with the best stories. Also, people always told him he should work with kids. He took their advice in 2007. Mr. Maher has been teaching for 12 years and spent 8 of those years with 3rd graders. He thinks he has made his students feel they are a part of something that is bigger than themselves, but his students teach him something new every day. Mr. Maher was an example of a good student. He was behaved and worked hard. His favorite subject is social studies. He loved 7th grade because he had the best social studies teacher. His favorite book is George Washington’s Socks, he loves this book because it honors and teaches us about a great leader and the sacrifices early Americans made. Mr. Maher loves teaching at Crawford Rodriguez because he works with an amazing group of people.

# Educational Services Professional of the Year!

By: Elizabeth De Palma



Every year in the community of Crawford Rodriguez Elementary School there are two people that are extra bright stars. Mrs. Alvear is one of those stars this year. Mrs. Alvear has been a paraprofessional for 21 years; 2 years at Rosenauer and 19 years at Crawford, since it first opened. Mrs. Alvear said, “I chose to be a paraprofessional so I can help children be their best, and also be available for my own children so we have the same schedule”. As a student herself, Mrs. Alvear described herself as a good student. “I was a chatty student, and words did not come easily to me.” Mrs. Alvear also says her favorite subject was math. Ms. Alvear loves her job as a paraprofessional and says her students have an impact on her. “I could write a book on it.” she stated. “They helped me be a better person, and that it’s important to accept others are different.” Her hope is to, “Make them understand they can accomplish anything they set their minds to”. Mrs. Alvear is dedicated to the school and her favorite part about working there is “That the people who work here are like a second family to me. My students, though at times are challenging, make me happy to be here.”



## What's Happening at Crawford Rodriguez! THIS MONTH'S TOP STORIES



By: Aliza Rose

On Tuesday, January 7th, our school had our spelling bee competition. It was available for students in 4th and 5th grade, and consisted of seven rounds and 31 participants. At the end of the day, we had our top five winners who headed to a second round to decide what place they came in Devin Stab in 1st place, Vansh Joshi in 2nd place, Joshua Torres in 3rd place, Angel Milete in 4th place and Jaida Calvert in 5th place. We were able to interview 2nd place winner Vansh Joshi after the competition. "All the participants' words were all very varied, as they could range from **toad** to **proximo**, which was his hardest word" said Vansh.. He advises future participants to "think about the word before you speak." We wish all of our contestants lots of luck in the District Spelling Bee.



### 5th Grade Chorus Concert

By: Elizabeth De Palma

Every year, the 5th-grade chorus directed by Mrs. Burnett

performs in front of all their peers

as well as family and friends to show off their voices in the annual 5th-grade chorus! Each year has a unique theme of the songs, from Circus to Broadway hits. This year's chorus theme is " Kids On Broadway", where the chorus is singing songs that a famous kid, who portrays the leading character of the Broadway hit, sang. The 5th graders have practiced every Friday. Seven students in the entire chorus were chosen as soloists, to lead a song or have a solo. It takes nerve to be a soloist. Soloist Joshua Torres " I like having a solo because when I'm singing, I stand out," Josh says his favorite part of the chorus is " Singing in a group, where we are all just there singing together."

The chorus will be revealed on January 14th and 15th, when the chorus sings for the school and then for our family and friends. Mrs. Burnett, the music teacher, has worked very hard to make the chorus work.

# Grade Level News



## Pre- Kindergarten - By: Carley Davies

Pre-Kindergarten has many different goals but their main goal is to have their ABCs memorized by the end of the school year. All Pre-Kindergarten classes are learning about the solar system and trying their best. Pre-Kindergarten has an everyday schedule they always come in and write their name, then they do a tabletop game, circle time, and then snack time and they leave. All Pre-Kindergarten classes do combined projects like for the letter A they all did an alligator. Great job Pre-K and welcome to Crawford Rodriguez!

## Kindergarten - By: Logan Cook

Wonder what's going on in Kindergarten? Things are progressing steadily at this point, but soon the kindergarteners will be starting a guided reading where they will read with a group or buddy. They have been working so hard on learning to read and are ready for the next step. According to Ms. Kroeger, "They are also looking forward to going to the Jenkinson's Aquarium in the spring." Have fun on your trip!

## First Grade - By: Shirley Doe

First grade set their goals to work on being strong independent readers. According to Mrs. Georgiano, they are focusing on reading nonfiction in reading workshop and they are also writing nonfiction chapter books in writing workshops. For math, they are learning how to add and subtract. Some special projects they did was making a dinosaur nest as well as making noise makers this year. Keep working hard first grade!

## Second Grade - By: Addison Meringer

Our second grade has been working very hard this year. Mr. Inderwies says their days are filled with learning how to regroup in math, reading nonfiction and the text features of a nonfiction book and writing their own nonfiction text. A special project that they are working on in social studies is learning about the symbols of the United States and why they are important. They are creating a United States symbols book.

# Grade Level News



## Third Grade - By: CJ Hagberg

In these past weeks, third grade has been working on a lot of projects and new lessons. This week I interviewed one of our third-grade teachers Mrs. Ogletree and learned about what they are doing in class. Mrs. Ogletree's goals for her students this year are to have more of her students on grade-level reading also she hopes for them to be more aware of their words and surroundings. In writing students are learning about writing an informational piece, and in reading third grade is learning about fiction chapter books. And finally, in science and social studies for third grade the students are working on creating slides about how people should act and behave. We can't wait to hear more about the learning going on in third grade.

## Fourth Grade - By: Lainey Bloomfield

Fabulous fourth grade has set their goals for the school year on working together, being a good sport, and not yelling out answers. These are goals we should all have. In reading and writing, they are working on non-fiction text while learning division in math. The adventure doesn't end there, they are also learning about Lenape artifacts. We had several students participate in the school spelling bee, and they are looking forward to a class trip to the Old Barracks in April.

## Fifth Grade - By: Ashley Cook

There are a lot of exciting events and learning going on in fifth grade. January brought the spelling bee, chorus concert and the beginning of their clubs week. The much-anticipated clubs consisted of Cooking, Acting, STEM, Journalism, Hometown Heros, Aquaponics and Skill Streaming. They have also been focusing on Social Emotional Learning where they participate in fun activities that are team building and teach them how to deal with real-life situations. WOW, fifth grade is really busy!



# SPORTS NEWS

## Jackson Liberty High School Basketball

By: Justin Togans

The Liberty Lions were one of the best basketball teams in New Jersey last year. Their superstar Daniel Sofield is no longer with the Lions. Now Liberty has to find a way to still be on top without Sofield. Currently, they are 1-5 and the only game they won was against Asbury Park. The sad thing is that Asbury is 0-6 and all of their games they played were blowouts. Liberty's most recent game was against Barnegat. They lost 44-43 in a very tight game in the end. It came down to who scored more in the fourth quarter and Barnegat scored 12 and Liberty scored 11. In the end, Barnegat made more free throws so they won. On January 10th and January 11th, the Lions will face off against their rivals Jackson Memorial. Right now Memorial is 4-2 and is projected to win. In their last game, the Memorial Jaguars won 63-50. Even though Memorial is projected to win let's hope our Liberty Lions come out on TOP!

## McAuliffe Wrestlers Make School History

By: Davide Solano

McAuliffe wrestlers won two big games last month. Let's celebrate this big news! McAuliffe wrestlers beat Goetz for the first time in school history 51-45 and beat league rival Vets Memorial 53-26. "Going into the break we sit at 7-0 in dual meet action and had 5 place winners at the Kingsway Tournament.", said Coach Totten. Congratulations to all the wrestlers and good luck with the rest of your season.





*That's so funny?*

# *The Adventures of Mr. Tortilla Featuring Sandwich & Marshy*

By: Jacob Cofinas and Michael Rousseau



*Olivia's Cooking Corner* - By: Olivia Novellino

**French Toast Sticks** (Makes 15 Sticks) - Prep Time: 8 minutes Cook Time: 12 minutes **(nut free)**

## **Ingredients**

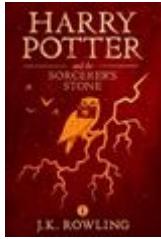
2 eggs  
1/2 Cup whole milk, rice or almond  
1/2 Tsp cinnamon  
2 Tsp honey  
Pinch of kosher salt  
5 Slices of Bread, trim edges and cut into 1 inch sticks  
1 Tbsp. butter

## **Preparation**

1. In a shallow bowl, whisk the eggs, milk, cinnamon, honey and salt until combined.
2. Dip each bread stick in the egg mixture until each side is coated with the mixture.
3. Heat a sauté pan or griddle over medium heat with 1 tbsp. of butter and cook for 3 minutes on each side until golden and cooked through.
4. Serve with honey or maple syrup.

French Toast  
Sticks





## Check out these books and movies!

### Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone - J.K. Rowling

By: Vansh Joshi

Harry Potter is a mysterious boy. When after an accident in which his parents were killed very strange things begin to happen to him. As a baby, Harry goes to live at his aunt and uncle's house where he is mistreated.

He finds out on his eleventh birthday the reason why strange things keep happening ... he's a wizard. He goes to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry where Harry will learn magic. Along the way, Harry makes friends and enemies and embarks on many dangerous adventures.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone is a great book for all ages.

### Spies in Disguise

By: Katie Dressler



Have you seen the movie Spies In Disguise yet?

If you hadn't let me tell you a little about it.

Super spy Lance Sterling (Will Smith) and scientist Walter Beckett (Tom Holland) are almost exact opposites. Lance is smooth, suave and debonair. Walter is...not. But when events take an unexpected turn, this unlikely duo is forced to team up for the ultimate mission that will require an almost impossible disguise - transforming Lance into the brave, fierce, majestic...pigeon. Walter and Lance suddenly have to work as a team to save the world.

Spies in Disguise is rated PG

Genre: Action & Adventure, Animation, Comedy, Kids & Family

Directed By: Troy Quane, Nick Bruno

Written By: Brad Copeland, Lloyd Taylor, Cindy Davis



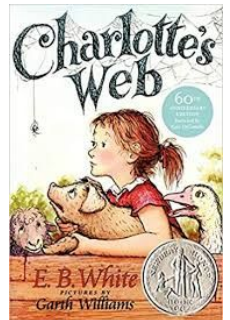
## UPCOMING EVENTS

By: Michael Sukhoviyy

Crawford Rodriguez is always bursting with exciting activities. Over the past few weeks, the fourth and fifth graders have participated in our school spelling bee and the fifth grade has been preparing for their annual Chorus Concert. Here are a few events to look forward to:

In February we will have Candy Bingo, Book Fair, One School...One Book, and the beginning of our Read Across America events, and in March, we look forward to Cupcake Wars and a special event involving a PIG! Yes, a real pig.....stay tuned for more information.

***The One School, One Book*** program is designed to create a shared reading experience across an entire school community. Following a common schedule across the school, every family reads that book together at home. Every family in your school community reads the same book at the same time.



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