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B-W Media Lab

Panda xPress



STAR OF INDIA - BY CALLEY S. ROOM B-2

Inside this issue:

Back to School Night	2
Recycling Program	2
Book Review	2
Halloween Happening	3
New Reading Program	3
Movie Review	3
Principal's Post Comics	4 4

Hi, this is Calley S. reporting for Benchley-Weinberger's Panda xPress newspaper! Every year, B-W's 5th graders get to spend the night aboard the Star of India.

This year, the first group of 5th graders went on the Star of India on October 4th. Right when we got there they started bossing us around! When we formed our groups we were able to go on the ship. The Captain came out and he was not very happy! He started talking to us about chores and it didn't sound like fun. We started working and it turned out to be fun! Have you ever had rat stew? Well, we had it for dinner, but don't worry, it is not actually rat stew (luckily). All of us had to work during the night shift and nobody really slept. In the morning, the galley crew got to wake everyone up banging pots and pans. It was so much fun! Next was breakfast which was more normal (oatmeal). We learned the best

type of discipline is self-discipline!



Our New Art Teacher - by Aubrey C., Room B6

Guess what? Benchley-Weinberger's new art teacher is from Australia! Her name is Mrs. H., and she is super excited to teach us art this year. Let me tell you

some things about Mrs. H. so you can get to know her better. She has many hobbies other than art. She likes reading, quad biking, yoga, and traveling! Mrs. H.'s favorite art celebrity is surrealist artist, Vladimir Kush who lives in

Hawaii. Her favorite art technique is using the grid method (many squares on a sheet of paper and in each square is a part of the whole picture). Mrs. H. hopes that everyone has a great school year learning about art!

Back to School Night - by Abby F., Room B8

On Friday, the 27th of September, Benchley-Weinberger had our annual Back to School Night. The PTA went all out this year, the theme was Endless Summer, so the place was decked out with surfboards of all sizes and colors. The Book Fair was also opened and it was *packed*. You could hear the DJ from all around and the dance floor was filled with kids of all ages.

Los Primos set up a tent in the kindergarten area and the line twisted all around!

The kids played out on the soccer fields and Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough had a tent with tasty cookies to try. Innisbrook also had a tent showing off the cool toys you could get from the fundraiser.

The PTA did an awesome job this year with the Back to School Night. Remember, all the money comes right back to the students for things like our wonderful art teacher. Did your parents join the PTA?



Recycling Program by - Lily B., Room B6



Two of our 5th graders, Natalie J. and Summer R., both in B6, came up with the idea to recycle to raise money for the 5th grade. This recycling program is called **Cash for Trash**. At every lunch, there will be two 5th graders or an adult helper reminding you to put your empty recyclable bottles or cans into the tubs. Make sure your bottles or cans are completely empty before putting them into the tubs. These tubs will either be blue or have a recycling sticker on them. Please do not get them mixed up with the lunch tray tubs. Remember, **Cash for Trash** helps raise money for the 5th graders and their end of the year activities AND, it keeps our school and environment clean.



Book Review - by Maddie F., Room B8

Serendipity and Me is about a girl's life crisis and grieving that makes things worse for her, on top of this she must plea to her dad to keep a cat. Sara loves cats. Her room is full of cats. Well, stuffed toy cats, pictures of cats, and "cat head" slippers. Her dad has always said no to getting a real

cat. Her dad has a "no cat policy" and Sara is miserable! Her friends will always help her out and so will a college student her dad teaches. Then one day the doorbell rings and in comes a fluffy white kitten. She has to show her dad the kitten must stay, but how? Sara has lost her mother in an

accident along with the normal 6th grade trouble caused by Kelli, a jealous girl who wants everything Sara has and more! Sara must learn to stand up for herself and her little fuzzy friend. She also wants to know more about her parents.

Does Sara get to keep the cat? You must read the book to find out!

HALLOWEEN HAPPENING - BY EVAN M., ROOM B6

The Halloween Happening was held on Saturday October 26th and it was awesome! The Haunted Hotel which is created by the 5th grade students every year, was very popular. I overheard many kids say the surgical room was the scariest. As you exited the Haunted Hotel, you couldn't miss the cake walk and the delicious treats donated by kind families.

The sit and spin was a very popular ride at the Halloween Happening. There was always a giant line to go on

it. The fire truck and the slide were also a big hit. It was obvious that people were enjoying the games with the ratapult being really cool. The tickets won playing games could be cashed in for prizes. The Vuvuzela horn seemed to be the best prize and they could be heard throughout the entire evening.

Ms. Patton's band "Night School" rocked the playground starting their set with Pat Benatar's 'Hit Me With Your Best Shot.' Adults and kids were

dancing, having an awesome time. A big thank you to the PTA and especially Bobby Byrne (parent) for putting on this great event!



New Reading Program - by Andre C., Room B8

Do you remember our Books and Beyond Program? Well, it is back and has begun except this year we have changed the name to Panda Pages! The difference is all minutes will be entered online.

For all the new students and parents to B-W, Panda Pages is a program where students log the minutes they read. These minutes will be tracked and tallied on a monthly basis.

If your class wins for the month, a giant stuffed panda will visit your room! Monthly individual rewards may include things such as extra

library time, decorating Ms. Patton's bulletin board, reading to the school on the "all-call" PA system, etc. I would read a lot if I were you because your class might get to go to recess earlier than usual.

At the end of the school year there will be a medal ceremony and if you have met the goal you will receive a medal. I have to say the medals are really cool.

Remember, it has already started so get reading!

Movie Review - by Jacob C., Room B2

Despicable Me 2

Despicable Me 2 is a fun-filled family comedy rated PG. This is the sequel to Despicable Me. In the first movie, Gru (one of the main characters) is evil but in the second movie his adopted daughters help to change his mind. In Antarctica, a secret chemical is stolen and mankind needs to capture the criminal and secure the chemical.

Gru is found by a justice group and they need his help. He eventually joins and they start their mission. At a mall, they pick up small traces of the chemical so they start to search there. The mission goes on and Gru has a suspect. They go on a wild chase and get in some very dangerous situations. Gru's minions disappear and get possessed with the chemical. There is a dramatic twist to win and capture the criminal. I recommend this movie if you like to laugh and like a little action and drama.



San Diego Unified School District

Benchley-Weinberger Communications Magnet School
Media Lab

6269 Twin Lake Drive
San Diego, CA 92110

Phone: 619.463.9271
Fax: 619.496.8716

Panda Pride!



Principal Patton's Post by Kaylie W. Room B2

I am really proud of all the work students have done already! Remember, Panda Pages has begun and reading 1,000,000 minutes is going great, keep reading! I am so happy to see everybody putting "heart" into school!



Pando's Adventures- by Cole H., Room B6



Cole Hamilton