

the **TIGER TIMES**



The Tiger Times is so happy to be back! This year we have some new, energetic and eager reporters that joined our staff along with our dedicated returning members! They are all full of wonderful and creative ideas! We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Tiger Times! Also watch for our next edition this Spring!

Co-Advisors: Mrs. Sharp and Mrs. Plescia
Co-Editors: Jon Fuchs and Dominic Mantilla

Dining Hall Monthly Trivia

By Giovanna Cartategui

Do you like to be challenged? Have you ever heard of the word, trivia? Trivia is pieces of information of little importance or value. At PVMS our assistant principal, Mr. McCarty, organizes a monthly trivia game for all grades 5-8 during our lunch period!

This is how it works: Every month in the cafeteria, Mr. McCarty projects on a screen trivia questions with multiple choice answers. All the students at your lunch table have to write down their names on a paper and write the answer and the letter choice that they chose. It is very fun!!! Whoever wins gets Jolly Ranchers and their names go up on the wall in the cafeteria for the whole year. We would like to thank Mr. McCarty for doing this for us. Be sure to participate in the trivia game for a chance to win. You'll be glad that you did!!!

D.E.A.R Time

By Olivia Goncalves

Putnam Valley Middle School is participating in an activity called D.E.A.R. Time. D.E.A.R is an acronym that stands for Drop Everything And Read. It is a technique that is used to get kids to read for a small amount of time over a long time period. D.E.A.R. Time will happen four times a year (Sept. 30, Nov. 22, Feb. 17, and May 25



during second period). It is fun to see EVERYONE in school, from Nurse Jacqui to Mr. Hallisey, stop what they are doing and read!



WATCH OUT!

By Dennis Crowell

DRONES. They fly through the sky with four or more propellers. Most of them are controlled with remote controls similar to a remote control car. Some of the drones have cameras on them. Some you can build yourself. In movies you see drones delivering supplies. There are drones that have virtual reality headsets. You can see everything that the drone sees. Drones range from \$30 to over \$3,000.



Campus Clean-Up

By Alana Hess

Our school recently had a Campus Clean-Up on November 10, 2016 and was sponsored by the Go Green Club. It took place from 2:45-4:15pm. Forty-five students participated and they worked in groups of ten helping to "Beautify our Campus". They cleaned up from the end of the football field to the main entrance on Peekskill Hollow Road. Many candy wrappers were found and sadly, hundreds of cigarette butts were found too. This was very disappointing knowing that we are a smoke-free campus. Mr. Carlin was very pleased with the number of students who spent their time cleaning our campus. Our next Campus Clean-up will take place in Spring, 2017.



Go Green Club

By Jon Fuchs

The Go Green Club is a club where Mr. Carlin teaches us what we can do to keep our school clean and to teach us the importance of recycling. The whole point of the club is to make us aware that just one person in this world can help make it look better. Mr. Carlin also wants us to make other people aware how they can help keep the Earth clean. By volunteering your time to recycle paper and plastic bottles we are decreasing the amount of garbage the Earth creates.



The Tiger Times

By Julianna DeGiorgio

The Tiger Times is the name of the PVMS newspaper. It is a club that is held after school for any PVMS student that would like to join. Our newspaper can be found online on the Putnam Valley Middle School website. The articles have all been written by students in the club. At Tiger Times we report on school events, middle school activities and sports. We write facts, take polls, do shout-outs, and more. In our articles we also include pictures from different events such as the Halloween Bash and Red Ribbon Week. The newspaper club meets every other Wednesday. Newspaper Club is a fun club and helps us improve our writing and organizing skills. It is a learning tool and helps us how to plan our writing. All the students enjoy writing and love to have their own articles to be in a newspaper. The reporters work really hard. So look for our newspaper on our PVMS website, and enjoy reading!

Shrek The Musical

By Tara Dolack

This year's musical at the PVMS is called Shrek The Musical. We have an amazing cast of characters and I bet it will be a great play. Here's the list of some of the characters:

Shrek: Parker Sperrazza(F), Christian Dilapi (S)
Fiona: Kathleen Gallelo (F), Gigi Bianco (S)
Donkey: Nia Givan (F), Tristan Calvente (S)
Lord Farquaad: Devon Rooney (F), Daniel DeChristopher (S)
Dragon: Ciana Mendez (F), Gracey Mazzella (S)

The cast has many wonderful and talented actors along with a great stage crew. The play will be performed in April. Look for more information after January.





New Teachers at the Middle School

By Benjamin Wopperer

This year you might have seen or even have some new teachers here at Putnam Valley Middle School. One new teacher is Mrs. O'Leary. She is a Special Education teacher for the eighth grade. Another new teacher is Mrs. Johnson. She has lots of different jobs such as an ELA, Science, Digital Citizenship, and Social Studies teacher. Mr. Posch is a new Social Studies teacher for the 6th grade. Another new teacher is Ms. McGee. She is a 6th grade math teacher. Another teacher is Ms. Magneri. She teaches Reading in 6th grade. Yet another new teacher here at the middle school is Mr. Meier as our new ENL teacher (English as a New Language). We are all happy that we have these teachers here to help us with our education. If you see them in the hallway, please say hi to them and welcome them to our school.

Book Reviews

By Abby West

Jacky Ha-Ha

By James Patterson



Jacky Ha Ha is about a girl named Jacky who wants to show everyone what a comedian she is. Her 6 sisters try to have the best summer ever. Emma, the youngest, likes bossing people around. Riley, the second youngest, looks up to her big sister, Jacky. Jacky, the middle of the pack, struggles with her dad disappearing every night forcing the girls to use the emergency money to get pizza, her mom in service for Operation Desert Shield, and all of her sisters orbiting around her like planets. There are a few other sisters, including Sydney, who is the oldest. This book made me laugh and is very humorous. I recommend this book to ages 7-12.



Flying Solo

By Ralph Fletcher



When the substitute for Mr. Fabiano never shows up and his sixth-grade students are on their own, they set out to prove that they can run the class by themselves. But a fight breaks out between Rachel and Bastian over another classmate who died six months earlier. Rachel hasn't spoken or uttered a single word, or shown her expressions since the death. The book is sad at times and also funny. I recommend this book for ages 8-12 because it is a small book, only 100 or so pages, but is very small print.



Google Classroom

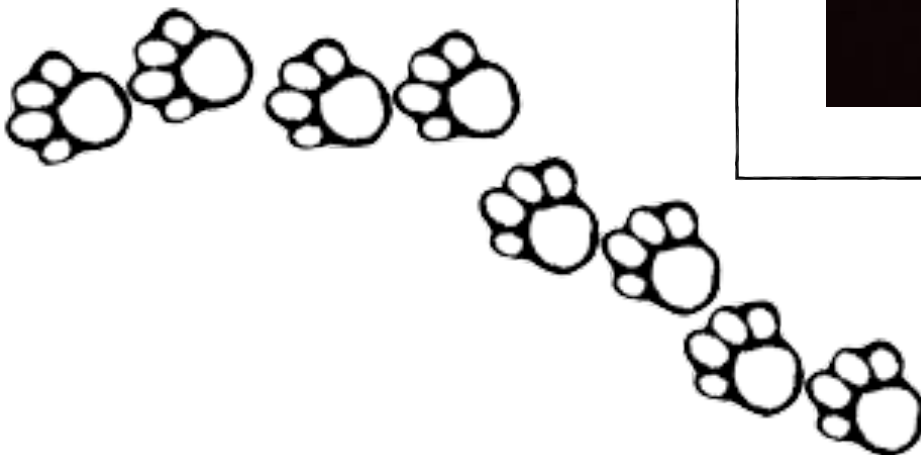
By Jon Fuchs

Google Classroom is a new site that the whole school is using. It is similar to MBC (My Big Campus) that we used in the past. We use Google Classroom to communicate with fellow students, to talk about the homework, and even post our homework. The teachers use Google Classroom to post homework, communicate with students, post resources, and much more. It is compatible with Google Docs, Microsoft Word, Powerpoint and pretty much anything that can be saved as a PDF. Some of the teachers are still a little wobbly with Google Classroom, but I am sure that by the end of the year everyone will be pros.

Can You Survive on Mars?

By Sophia Goncalves

Imagine you are stuck on Mars and your rescue team can't get to you until June 1st. You have to find a way to survive until then. Well, that is just what the students in Mrs. Brothers' and Mrs. Johnson's science classes have to do. Since the beginning of October the students have been put into groups and are learning what they would have to do to survive on Mars. They need to use all of their knowledge learned throughout the year. The students need to make a video and build a model shelter. They will make changes throughout the year because they will learn new things. This is a very exciting project. It will be interesting to see all of the different ideas the students will come up with.





A SHOUT-OUT TO...

By Teresa France

***...Mr. McCarty
for organizing
our monthly
Trivia Game!***

***...Our Lunch
Monitors for
having patience
with us!***

***...Student Council for
a super fun
Halloween Bash!***

***...Our Clinical Staff
for an awesome
Red Ribbon Week***

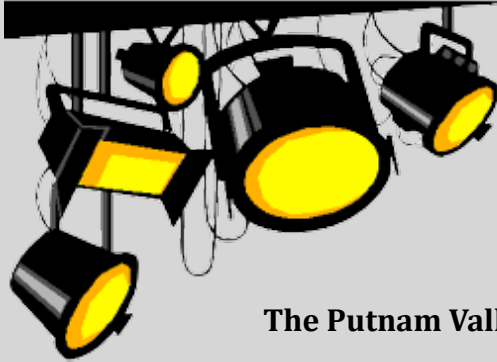
***A Special "Shout-Out" to
Mr. Hallisey!
Good Luck on your
retirement!!!***



***...Our Gym
teachers for
making every
class a fun one!***

***...Mrs. Casey's class for
winning 1st place on
their Door Decorations
for Red Ribbon Week!***





The Putnam Valley Variety Show

By Jon Fuchs

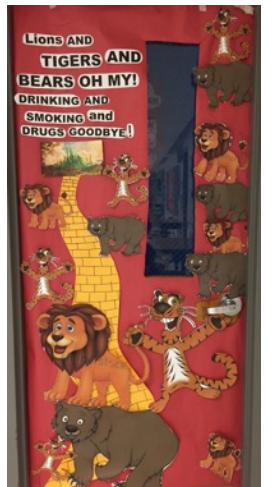
The Putnam Valley Variety Show was another sold out event! This year was a very special show because it was the 15th Anniversary of the start of the Variety Show. It is always a fun time watching the PV teachers and staff doing very funny skits. Some of the skits even show how talented our staff is. For example: Mrs. Soprano, a teacher in the elementary school, sang a song dedicated to Mrs. Craane's son, Liam, who is fighting an illness. She sang, "The Fight Song". Now that was an example of true talent! Another act was a guitar battle between two other elementary school teachers: Mr. Evans and Mr. Sperling. Well, Mr. Evans actually plays the guitar very well and Mr. Sperling was just faking it. It is always super fun to go and watch our teachers dress up and do crazy or talented things. All the money made from the Variety Show goes towards the PV Music Department. They then use the money to help the children of PV with instrument rentals. The money is also used for stage props for plays and concerts and even music scholarships. The PV Variety Show is for a great cause!

Red Ribbon Week

Every year PVMS celebrates Red Ribbon Week. This week makes us all aware of the dangers of drugs and bullying. We celebrate by having different themes for each day of the week. For example; on Monday the theme was to wear red. The theme on Tuesday was to wear pajamas to follow the quote, "*Follow your Dreams...Don't Do Drugs*". We also had a door decorating contest. Each home base decorated their door to the theme of Red Ribbon Week. The Clinical Staff then went around the school and judged each home base door for the most creative door. They also looked for the door with the best message about anti-drugs and bullying. The winner of this contest was Mrs. Casey's home base. They had a "Grumpy Cat" theme that was really cool. Second place door went to Mr. Gallo's home base. They all won a bagel breakfast.

Look at the pictures of the doors on the following page to see the creative work of our PVMS students and teachers.







The Food Drive

By Tara Dolack

This year the Student Government had yet another food drive. This year the donations went to the Putnam Valley Food Pantry housed at the Grace Methodist Church in Putnam Valley. Each grade level had a competition to see who brought in the most food items. Having a competition was a great way to get a lot of participation. Throughout the drive, the competition was very close but in the end, the eighth grade won the competition. The prize was a movie at the PAC. All together there were over 500 food items collected. Also, each student that brought in a food item got a ticket for a chance to win a pizza lunch. Sixth grader Adam Barti and fifth grader Sammie Wilder won the pizza lunch. This is always a great event for a great cause.



Mr. Carlin's class helping to bring down bags of food for Pick-up.



Photos courtesy of Mrs. Byrnes



A New Way of Telling

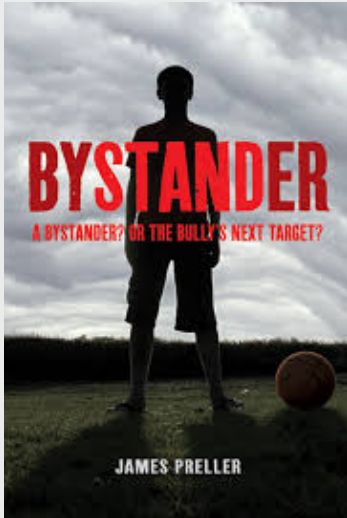
By Dennis Crowell

"Anonymous Alerts" is a new program that we are using in the Putnam Valley School District. It is a program that allows you to report any activity that you see happening that could involve bullying, drugs, or anything that might be unsafe. There is a website that you go on and report the activity. You can stay anonymous if you want to. This is a great way to try to make our school a safer place. Adults and students can report important issues. Of course, if it is something serious that needs to be reported immediately, call 911! This site is only used for serious issues. If someone is caught sending fake information though, the law will get involved. This can be very serious. So take this program seriously. Let's help to keep PVMS a safe school.



BYSTANDER

By Olivia Goncalves



Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during home base the entire Middle School is required to read a book called Bystander by James Preller. In the book Eric, the main character, is a thirteen-year-old boy who moves to Long Island from Ohio. He experiences struggles trying to adapt to a new life. He misses his father, and his mother is busy trying to create a typical life for her kids. Eric, being the new kid in town, meets a group of kids which he thought were his friends. Griffin Connelly, the leader of the group, shows that he is not the person Eric thought he was. Now Eric must make a decision that will take him from being the bystander to the target. Home base teachers discuss the book with us at certain points. The class discussions are very interesting as students share their thoughts and experiences about bullying.

Chorus & Band

By Adrienne Jenness



The fifth and sixth grade band teacher is Ms. Kraus. There is also Mrs. Bennett that comes from the Elementary school to help teach. Mr. Beucke is the band teacher for the seventh and eighth grades. The songs that Mr. Beucke chooses for his bands to play are a little more difficult because the bands have more experience than the younger grades. Band teachers are really cool because they know how to play so many instruments.

Ms. Woltersdorf is our substitute chorus teacher. She has been filling in for Mrs. Craane while she is on family leave. She does a great job teaching us new songs and how to sing them. Mrs. Craane comes back in January.

Students at the Middle School choose to either take chorus or band. However, the new trending is to do both! It is so much fun to sing and play an instrument.



Fun, Fun, Funny!!!

Holiday Word Search

By Max Fuca



E G F G F S M O F S F E P F Q
M Y F T A N S A M T S I R H C
I B B T B O A J J N S P I Z K
T J P M G W H O F I W Q R I Z
T D Y P H F L A C Q W S W S S
E T T X U L C M N O Z C X I U
N T Z B B A C V E U C U R A D
S S V V B K D J E H K T T N S
Y F C G Q E K B K R Y K O F A
K H U K I S H L O E N W A H N
S T N E S E R P N F D Q X H F
Z A F I W U W M S N O W M A N
S V X W D U I O G T N R L E S
D F L I A H K S L J O T W R C
B M K J C Z K W A N Z A A O W

CHIMNEY
HOTCOCOA
PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS
KWANZAA
SNOWFLAKES

HANUKKAH
MITTENS
SNOWMAN



Solution to puzzle on page 13





Did You Know that.....

.... More than 95% of lipsticks contain fish scales!

.... Kangaroos cannot walk backwards!

.... Venus is the only planet in the solar system that rotates clockwise,

.... Dogs nose prints are unique just like humans fingerprints

.... Apples float on water because they are made of 25% air

Riddles of the Day

By Max Fuca

1. What belongs to you but others use more?
2. Feed me and I live, give me a drink and I die. What am I?
3. What can you catch but not throw?
4. What can travel around the world while staying in a corner?
5. You will always find me in the past but I am created in the future. What am I?
6. What is it that no one has never seen, it hasn't happened yet, but will always happen?
7. What five letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?
8. What time of day is the same forwards, backwards and upside down?
9. What is harder to catch the faster you run?
10. What is a seven letter word containing thousands of letters?

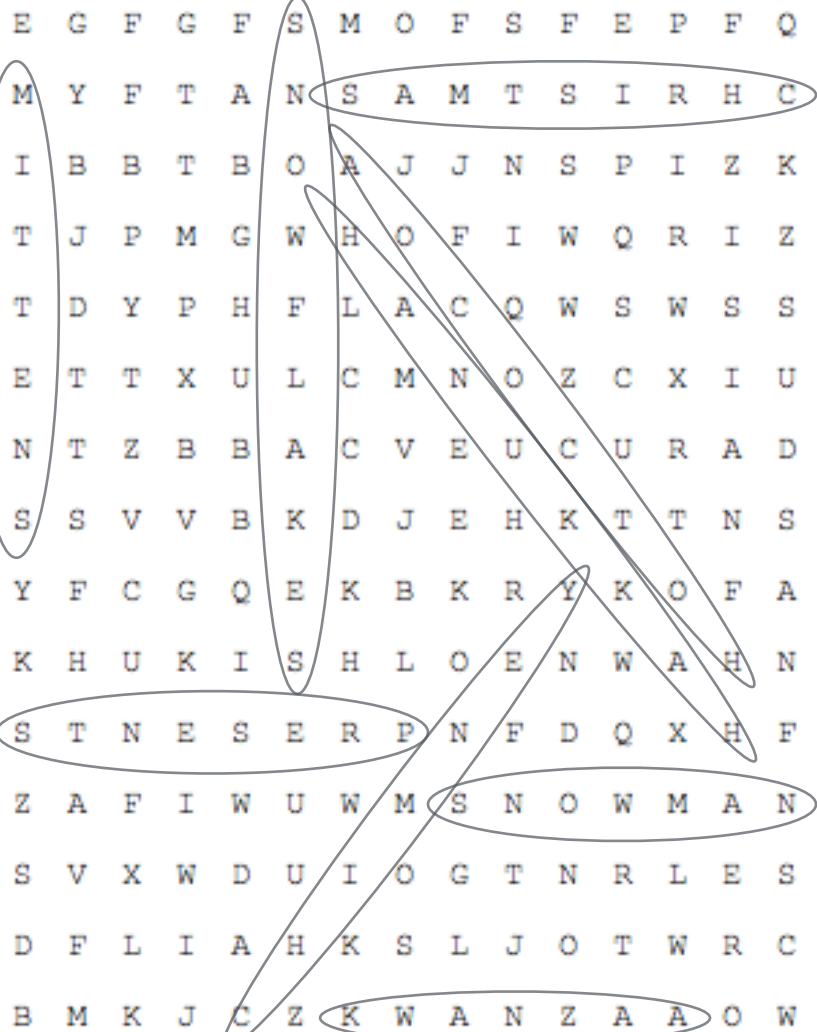


Answers to riddles on page 13

Fun, Fun, Funny!!!

Answers to Riddles of the Day

1. Your name
2. Fire
3. A cold
4. A stamp
5. History
6. Tomorrow
7. Short
8. Noon
9. Your breath
10. A mailbox





Our Staff

**Ava Broccolo
Julianna DeGiorgio
Maximus Fuca
Sophia Goncalves
Dominic Mantilla *
Benjamin Wopperer**

**Giovanna Cartategui
Tara Dolack
Jon Fuchs *
Alana Hess
Miranda Sposato**

**Dennis Crowell
Teresa France
Olivia Goncalves
Adrienne Jenness
Abigail West**

** co- editors*

*We hope you enjoyed this edition of
the **Tiger Times**.
Look for our next edition in the Spring!*