

# the **TIGER TIMES**



*Co-Advisors: Mrs. Sharp and Mrs. Plescia*

## **Period 0 / Advisory**

By Jared Delventhal



Advisory is a 16-minute long period that starts at 7:50 in the morning every day. It used to be called Home Base. During Advisory, kids check their grades on Power School and spend time organizing their binders for the week. Students also write in their journals about prompts given

by the teacher. The teachers also have announcements about the week that they share with students during Advisory. Sometimes, there is a school-wide activity that each Advisory class participates in. All Advisory classes read the book, "Out of My Mind" out loud. The book is about 11 year old Melody who has Cerebral Palsy. She conquers many challenges. Advisory period is a great way to wake up and start a new day.

## **Up to Granite Mountain**

By Linnea Shah-Gustafson

On October 24th, 2018, members of the Garden Club had the opportunity to take a hike on the Granite Mountain Trail located in our own town. It is run by the Hudson Highlands Land Trust. Along with the Club on their journey was Mrs. Crill, Ms. Sommer, and a local ornithologist. On their journey they were taught about the woods surrounding them. The trail was well marked and everyone was engaged in the tour. The Garden Club was happy to come home after a long and exciting day of exploring!





## The Fifth Grade Goes on a Journey

By Madison Keeler

On October 31st the fifth grade started out their day like any other day. Because it was Halloween, we were allowed to wear costumes to school. We attended period 0-2. Then both lunch groups ate lunch together. The lunch room was packed. Then the entire fifth grade piled on to buses to go to SUNY Purchase College at their Performing Arts Center. The performance was about Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead). This holiday is celebrated in Mexico to honor family members that have died. The story was told through an unexpected style of dance with touches of humor.

Thank you to the Putnam Valley Middle School PTA for putting this wonderful trip together!



## Books Galore!

By Linnea Shah-Gustafsson

From October 29th to the 31st, the Scholastic Book Fair was held. For the three days, after eating lunch, students could shop for various items. Some of the objects sold were books, posters, erasers, invisible ink pens, aromatic highlighters and various bags. There were many genres of books: sports, graphic novels, Star Wars, science fiction, thrillers, puzzle books and Harry Potter. The Book Fair is a great way to stock up your home library with great reads!





## Sustaining Putnam Valley Middle School

By Linnea Shah-Gustafsson



This year PVMS decided to take a “sustainable turn” for our environment and well-being. They installed solar panels on the roof of the Middle School. This provides free and renewable energy. Our water

fountains are a great way to cut down on the use of water bottles. The fountains are designed so a water bottle fits under the spigot to allow you to fill up and reuse your water bottle. On the side of the fountain is a counter for how many bottles were saved. Our classes have also been learning about the importance of sustainability. In short, it is continuing growth and mindfulness for future generations.

## Cafeteria Redo

By Liliana Caldwell and Payton Ferraguzzi

Cafeteria redo, sounds fun! Or does it? We get to eat with our friends, without those assigned lunch groups. But these changes will be done over the next few years! But then... what would happen to our recess time? We would all have lunch first and then recess? But our small recess space isn't large enough for full grades. Maybe we should have the choice to go outside or inside. The cafeteria will be expanded to the courtyard so there will be plenty of space for the whole grade to eat at the same time. But then where will our healthy, beautiful school garden go? Will it will be moved to the back of the school? There are many questions. But all of us here at PVMS are very excited for these changes, but it might not affect the current students here because, by that time, we will probably be in High School.

## Chromebooks ... YAY or NAY

By Madison Keeler

These new Chromebooks can do so much like fold into a tablet and there is a touch screen so if your mouse malfunctions you can use the alternative of the touch screen. The 5th and 6th grades have these new Chromebooks. They can do so many things that make the school day much easier. If you have any problems with your Chromebook, see your teacher and if they can't fix it, you can always go to our school computer wizard, Mrs. Sherwood.





## F.A.C.S.

(not the machine)

By Linnea Shah-Gustafsson



FACS: Family And Consumer Sciences. It is currently a 5th and 6th grade Encore. The Encore is designed to give a peek at adult life. One of the topics we are studying is about family and we learn about the different kinds of families. The next topic is about careers, where we use the website *careerzone.org* to think about possible careers that we might be interested in. After that is cooking, where we learn about kitchen safety and cooking basic dishes such as biscuits, cookies, pancakes, and pizza. Lastly we work on basic sewing techniques. We learn how to tie a knot and sew basic running and over stitches. This amazing Encore is taught by Mrs. Albano!

## Capstone

By Abby West and Jessica Paredes

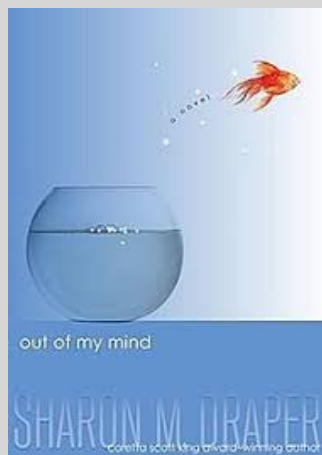
Capstone is one of the new encores offered to the 7th and 8th grade. This class teaches students how to present and solve a problem. Capstone is a very important encore because it helps the students have a voice. Students identify an issue, research current solutions and propose new solutions. Students learn that with every solution a new issue arises, and therefore simple solutions are not always the easiest choice. Our personal project was on the issue of paper towels vs. hand dryers, which shows how we thought paper towels were worse for the environment over hand dryers. Through our research, we found that although hand dryers still used energy, they were better for the environment in the long run. Throughout this course, we would spend weeks preparing and gathering information for our final projects, and near the end of the Capstone encore, all the groups would hopefully present their issues in front of Mr. McCarty and the administration. There were other issues brought to the table, such as, allowing phones in school, 80-min. block periods, less homework, the need for adults to listen more, and others. Mrs. DiSiena is the teacher for this encore.



## Going “Out of Our Minds”

By Madison Keeler and  
Linnea Shah-Gustafsson

The Middle School is continuing the “**One Book, One School**” program where the entire school reads the same book during our Advisory period. We are reading Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper. This book is about a girl named Melody with a disease called Cerebral Palsy that she battles. Even though she can not speak with her mouth, she is very smart but has a difficult time showing it. She experiences many ups and downs. But because of certain people in her life, she makes great strides. The book is wonderfully written with a great message about accepting differences. The book also teaches you to be an upstander and not a bystander. Everyone should read this book.



## Red Ribbon Week

By Henrik Shah-Gustafsson

The week of October 22 - 26 was National Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week is a program designed for the purpose of raising awareness about drugs and alcohol abuse. The week’s quote was “*Life is your journey...travel drug free*”. Bracelets were distributed during Advisory in honor of Red Ribbon Week. At the start of Red Ribbon Week there was an assembly in the PAC. We watched a video titled “It’s My Life ” featuring students who spoke about their experiences with drugs. It clearly presented the theme of the week. During Advisory period, classes spent time decorating their doors following the theme of Red Ribbon Week. Wednesday’s dress theme was “Wear Red”, such as pants, socks, shirts, or sneakers. The PTA set up an event at recess where students could earn tickets by completing games. The games included a plastic skull toss, using spaghetti and marshmallows to hold a pumpkin and the partner ski race. These tickets could be redeemed for candy. Many students enjoyed this event and hope for many more just like it.



## The Halloween Bash Was An Absolute Smash!

By Payton Ferraguzzi

The 2018 Halloween Bash happened on the 26th of October, 2018. It was hosted by the Student Government/Student Council. There was the annual Costume Contest, and then there was the Treat Wars. The games played were The Mummy Wrap, The Blind Pumpkin Face Draw, Bucket of Bones, Spider Crawl, The Scavenger Hunt, The Witches Cauldrons, The BOO Bag Toss, and more! The costume contest categories were, "Best Group Costume", "Scariest", "Most Creative", and "Funniest". The Scariest Costume winners were fifth graders Payton Ferraguzzi and Leah Harman, dressed as the twins from *The Shining*. The best group costume was a tie. One of the groups was dressed as s'mores, who were seventh graders: Faith Marrero as the fire, Ava Buerkle as the marshmallow, Adrienne Jenness and Izzy Cerrato as the graham crackers, and Angelina Martinelli as chocolate. The other group dressed as Mickey Mouse characters played by sixth graders: Mia Cinquegrana as Daisy Duck, Camryn Delamater as Minnie Mouse, Lily Hilyer as Clarabell, Alysa as Mickey Mouse, and Maddy Longden as Pluto. Most Creative Costume was tied with Sixth Grader Sophia Garibaldi who was Darla from *Finding Nemo*, and sixth grader Hayley Craane who was the solar system. Best Costume Overall went to fifth grader Izzy Picard who was The Joker. Fun was had by all. We are all looking forward to next year's Halloween Bash.





## New Recess Area

By Henrik Shah-Gustafsson

A new place has opened up for PVMS students to enjoy their recess. Behind the gym is a new basketball court with benches and tables for the students. The high school field was also meant to be part of this area, but it is currently off limits. The school playground used to be out in the parking lot, but this was unsafe so the PTA made the decision to move down to the high school turf. By the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year the students of PVMS had a brand new recess area! Many activities are performed during recess, such as soccer, basketball, wall ball, or just holding conversations. So far there are no problems with this new area and everyone is having fun.



## Bond Vote

By Jared Delventhal



On Tuesday, December 4, 2018, from 6:30 AM to 9 PM, the Putnam Valley community voted on the Bond Issue. That day over a thousand people voted on whether or not to renovate the Middle School. These renovations include bathroom updates, making a health and wellness center and many other updates to our middle school. The bond also would include updates and changes in the other schools of the district. In the end, the vote passed with 775 votes for the bond and 644 against the bond. It will be very exciting to see the upcoming changes. These changes will hopefully start in 2019.



## Truckloads of Food

By Linnea Shah-Gustafsson

On December 12th, the Food Drive at PVMS began! The food collected was all for charity. There was a competition between grade levels; the grade that brought the most canned foods will compete against the staff in some kind of game. The results? The winner, on a 2-win/win streak, is... 5th grade! This year 5th grade donated 113 cans. The 6th grade, sneaky as always, brought in 80-90 cans on the last day. In total they had 105 cans. The 7th grade brought in 35 cans and the 8th grade, 43. The PVMS staff donated 61 cans. The winning 5th grade shone above them all in the end!



## The New Encore for Sixth Grade

By Payton Ferraguzzi



There is a new Encore for Sixth Grade this year! It is called, “Safety and Well-Being”. It is one of the six Encores that is offered to the sixth grade. This class is taught by Mrs. Parchen, who is also one of our Physical Education teachers. The students learn about what to do if you see someone choking, and how to use the Heimlich Maneuver. They also learn how to do cardiopulmonary resuscitation, or CPR. They review fire safety techniques such as, “Stop, Drop, and Roll”. Other information that is taught in this class

includes information about allergies, seizures, and safety in the ocean. This is Mrs. Parchen’s first time teaching a class besides gym, and she agrees it is a big leap from a gym to a classroom. She agrees that the class focuses mostly on safety. This class is a wonderful addition to our Encores here at PVMS.





## Winter Band Concert

By Michael Harris

On December 18, 2018 the 5th and 6th grades had their winter band concert. It was held in the High School PAC. The 5th grade played “Centurion”, “Two Sunset Sketches” and “To the Fore”. After watching the 5th grade’s performance, the 6th grade played. They played “Ghosts of the Lost Ship”, “...At Twilight” and finally, “The Theme from Jurassic Park” where there was a video of several scenes from the movies playing in the background. On the following day, December 19th, the 7th and 8th graders had their band concert. In this event the 7th graders played, “Gates of Orion”, “Winter Whispers” and “Due North”. Then same as the 6th graders after the 7th grade performance, the 8th grade performed. They played “Into the Light”, “Cataclysm” and “Ukrainian Bell Carol”. These were amazing events that all family members loved. We can’t wait until the spring concerts.



## A Special Guest Visits PVMS

By Linnea Shah-Gustafsson

For their Sustainability Unit, Mrs. Boryk’s 5th grade class was visited by Mr. Oliverio, our Putnam Valley Town Supervisor, for a presentation. His presentation took place for two periods. Subjects included Lake Peekskill’s air pump, a story of a dirt road mine, the past and present of Putnam Valley, and staying safe in the woods. The day started out normally, but during 6th and 7th period, Mr. “O” came to visit! A great thanks to Mr. O for the amazing presentation! He was full of interesting facts and much knowledge about our town.





## **PVMS Chorus Concerts**

By Michael Harris Jr.

The 5th and 6th grade chorus concert was held on December 11th. Our Chorus teacher, Mrs. Craane conducted the students throughout the entire concert. The piano accompaniment was performed by Mrs. Bennett, the music teacher from the Elementary School. The 5th grade sang “Somewhere In My Memory”, “Parade of the Wooden Soldiers”, featuring soloists Madison Koballa and Izzy Picard. The last song was “Nun Gimel Hei Shin”. The 6th grade sang “I’ll Be There”, and “Please Don’t Sing Another FaLaLa”, featuring soloists Hailey Kliegl and Aydon Travis. The last song sang by the sixth grade was “Al’Shlo’sha”. Finally the 5th and 6th grade sang “Polar Express” together featuring soloist Gabby Patino. Switching gears to the 7th and 8th grade chorus concert... The 7th grade sang “Make a Joyful Noise”, “Imagine”, with soloists Brandon VanValkenberg and “Ocho Kandelikas” featuring soloists Taylor Rodgers and Ava Buerkle. Finally, the 8th grade came up to sing “Like the Beat of a Drum” with soloists Gracey Mazzella and Amarah Salgado, accompanied by drummers Ethan Grossman, Gabrielle Rodriguez and Hudson Sperrazza. Another song sung by the eighth grade was, “When You Believe” with soloist Danielle Carpenter and finally, “Winter Wonderland” with soloist Ava McGinty. Then the two grades together sang “Carol of the Bells”. This was an amazing event where parents, grandparents and friends all enjoyed. It was a great kick-off to the holiday season.

## **PVMS Modified Sports**

By James Apostolico

Do you like sports? Well then you should play Modified Sports. The teams meet after school from 2:40 - 4:15. Sometimes there are late practices to 5:30. Our coaches are mostly teachers from our district. But sometimes coaches are from the outside. Modified Sports are a great way to prepare you for our JV and Varsity teams in the High School. Here is a list of some modified sports.

Fall Sports: Cross Country, Field Hockey, Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Volleyball

Winter Sports: Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cheerleading, Wrestling

Spring Sports: Baseball, Boys Lacrosse, Girls Lacrosse, Track and Field, Softball

There are many sports to choose from so, dust off your athletic shoes and get out and join a team!



...to all of the teachers and staff that stay after school for clubs

... to the PTA for amazing events they provide for us!



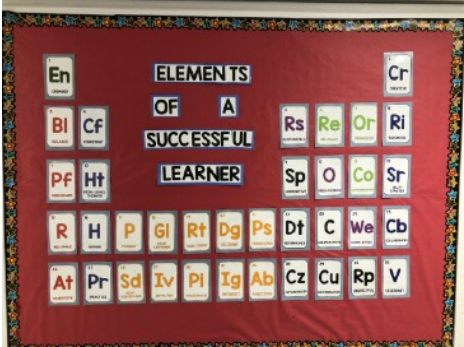
...to Dr. Mojica for joining us at PVMS

... to Mrs. Sharp and Mrs. Plescia for all the work they do for the Tiger Times

... to the Garden Club for making a great garden in our courtyard

### The Bulletin Boards around the School By James Apostolico

The bulletin boards in the middle school are getting more and more creative. One bulletin board was set up like the Periodic Table of Elements. But instead of scientific elements, the letters stood for “positive thoughts”. An example of this is; “Cr” which stands for **Creative** and “P” represents **Patience**. Another bulletin board in the middle school displays current themes such as, Black History Month. Pictures of famous African Americans were placed on the bulletin board with a small blurb of their contributions to society. These are just a couple of the bulletin boards featured around the school. Walking around the halls of PVMS is fun and interesting.



# Fun, Fun, Funny!!!

## CAN YOU FIND THE FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE TEACHERS?

By Jared Delventhal

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



Boryk  
Cohen  
Hannigan

McGee  
Sousa  
Johnson

Stein  
Dreessen  
Byrnes

Crill  
Posch  
Carlin

Kraus  
Sommer

*Solution to puzzle on page 14*



# Fun, Fun, Funny!!!

## Jokes

By Madison Keeler

**Q: Why were the Pilgrims' pants always falling down?**

A: Because they wear their belts on their hats.

**Q: What did the monster order on his bagel?**

A: Scream cheese

**Q: Why did the skeleton go to the barbecue?**

A: Because he wanted some spare ribs.

**Q: How do P.E. teachers like their eggs?**

A: Runny

**Q: What do Science teachers eat?**

A: Pretty much everything, they like to experiment.

**Q: What do History teachers eat?**

A: Who cares, it's all in the past.

**Q: Why did the teddy bear not eat any dessert?**

A: Because he was too stuffed.

**Q: What do you get when you play tug o' war with a pig?**

A: Pulled pork.

**Q: What do you get when you throw a book in an ocean?**

A: A title wave.

## Jokes and Riddles

By Gordon Babbitt

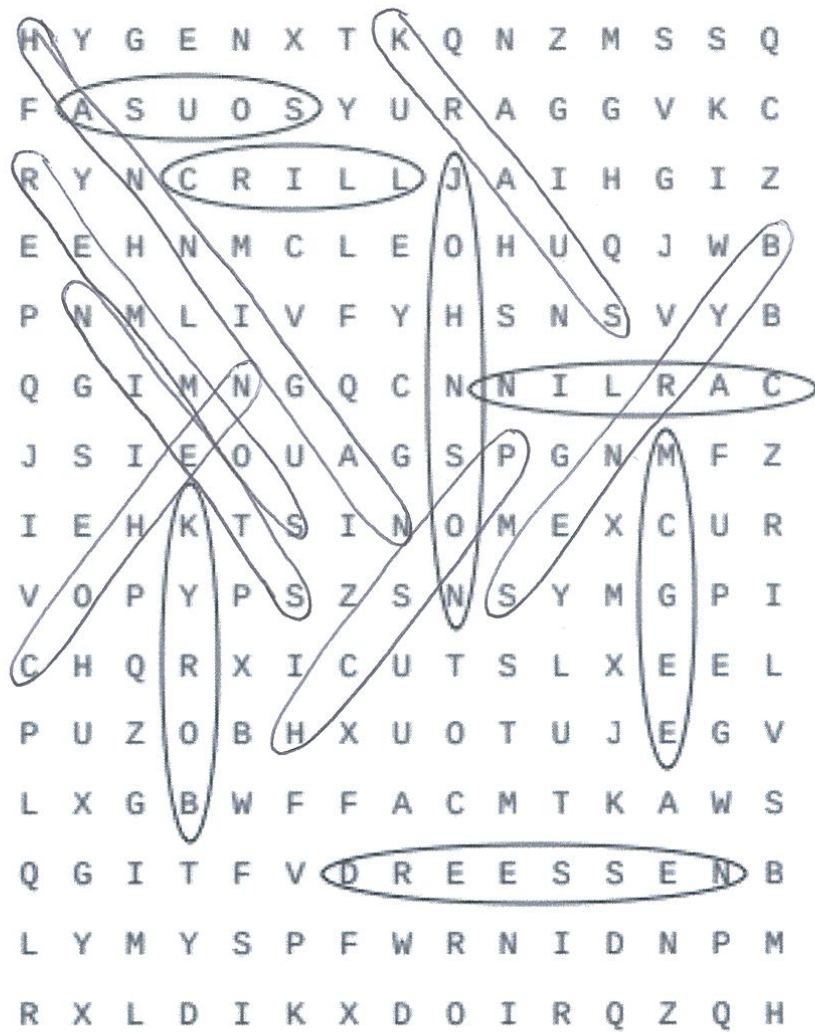
1. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away?
2. How can you tell that a reindeer has passed your roof?
3. What does a snowman eat?
4. Which Reindeer can be seen on Valentine's day?
5. What can point in each direction but can't reach the destination by itself?

*Answers on page 14*





- Answers to riddles on  
page 13
1. Charcoal
  2. Look for yellow icicles
  3. Frosted Flakes
  4. Cupid
  5. your finger





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*We hope you enjoyed this edition of  
the **Tiger Times.***

*Look for our next edition in the  
Spring of 2019!*

