

Elizabeth Public Schools, Elizabeth, NJ

May 12, 2016

Elizabeth Public Schools “Light it Up Blue”

Elizabeth Public Schools participates in “Light it Up Blue” campaign for Autism Awareness Month. EPS would like to extend a special thanks to all their electricians and support staff who helped to make this happen.

What is World Autism Awareness Day and Light It Up Blue? World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD), observed on April 2, was adopted by the United Nations in 2007 to shine a bright light on autism as a growing global health priority. Every year on World Autism Awareness Day, Autism Speaks celebrates its international “Light It Up Blue” campaign. Thousands of iconic landmarks, skyscrapers, schools, businesses and homes across the globe unite by shining bright blue lights in honor of the millions of individuals and families affected by autism. Individuals everywhere wear blue in honor of the community. Elizabeth Public Schools has extended this campaign to “Light it Up Blue” for the month of April.

Light It Up Blue

- Spreads awareness and understanding of autism
- Celebrates and honors the unique talents and skills of people with autism
- Brings attention to the needs of all people with autism



For more information, please click on the link
<https://www.autismspeaks.org/liub>



Autism Awareness

Donald Stewart Early Childhood Center School No. 51 is celebrating Autism Awareness in a multitude of ways.

Collectively, students drew pictures of what they feel makes them special on a puzzle piece. All puzzle pieces are displayed in the front of the school.

Additionally, students are honoring their friends in the special needs classroom by dedicating the week of April 25 to celebrate how special they are!



Winfield Scott School No. 2 wears blue for Autism Awareness.



Alexander Hamilton Classes Collaborate to Honor Gandhi



Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy art students joined forces with the English department in a cross-curricular project honoring Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi is renowned for his efforts to find peaceful ways to resolve political and social differences in India and has been a model for peaceful conflict resolution around the world.

Gandhi's words "I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent," served as the inspiration for student writing and art which art teacher Mr. Robert Liquori combined to create a bulletin board illustrating the ideals that Gandhi stood for.

Week of the Young Child with a Book Fair

Frances C. Smith Early Childhood Center School No. 50 celebrated the *Week of The Young Child* with many activities. On Monday, students wore pajamas to school and brought their favorite stuffed animal. They also had the opportunity to hear the author Laura Sassi read her book, *Good Night Ark*.

Tuesday through Thursday, School No. 50 held a book fair. In addition, there was also Crazy Hair Day, Color Day (each hallway wears a particular color), Dress like Your Favorite Book Day and Camouflage Day. Look for the Earth Week celebration in the next newsletter.



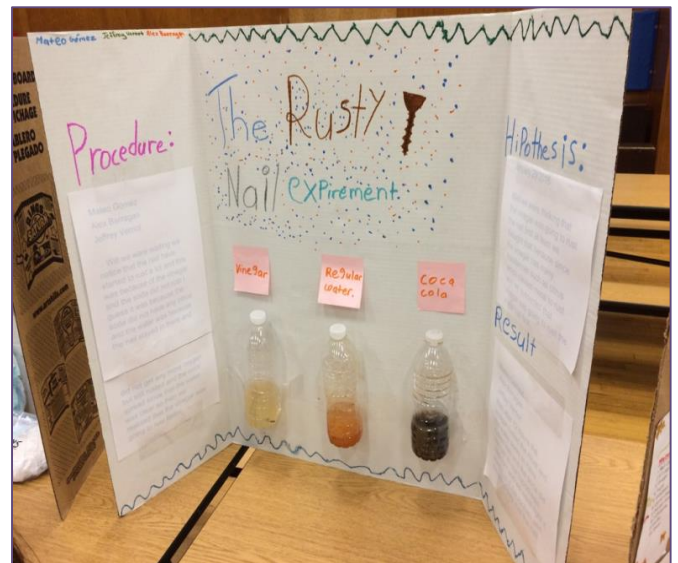
Challenge Based Learning is Flourishing



Challenge Based Learning is a vehicle used in bridging the gap between learning within the classroom and real world application and problem solving within one's community. While Challenge Based Learning has been embedded in all of **Terence C. Reilly School No. 7's** enrichment classes this year, it took a front seat during the recent "CBL day." During this time, students were given an opportunity to focus their time and energy on their specific area of concern. Whether it be the 2nd grade Exploring Life Cycles, the 4th grade focusing on Entrepreneurship, the 6th grade Harvesting a Healthy Lifestyle or any of the other classes throughout the building, Challenge Based Learning is moving full steam ahead with Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 leading the charge.

Science... All Around Us

Students at **Abraham Lincoln School No. 14** conducted scientific experiments individually or in teams to demonstrate the practices of Science.



To show their academic accomplishments, parents were invited to the annual Science Fair where they observed various science demonstrations. At the conclusion of the evening, certificates were awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners at the fifth through eighth grade levels.

West Side Story

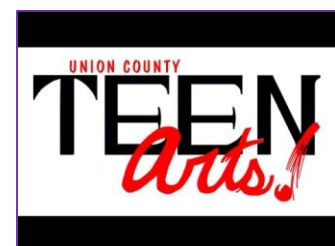
After rehearsing for over three months, students of **Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy**, under the direction of Sandra Toll, presented a beautiful production of *West Side Story* on March 17th, 18th, and 19th. The performers did an excellent job with the complex choreography, singing, and acting. Students were also responsible for the technical aspects of the production; they designed lights, ran sound effects, and managed scene changes with grace. The production addressed difficult issues about immigration and violence. Students also mounted a hallway display replete with research and artwork related to the production. The fruits of this collaboration were well received by sold out audiences.



2016 Teen Arts Festival

Under the direction of Mrs. Nicole Lemoine, dancers from the **Elizabeth High School Dance Program** performed their ballet piece, *Lively Strings*, at the 2016 Teen Arts Festival.

They received an outstanding critique from the professional dance adjudicators at the event at Union County College on March 23, 2016. The dancers had an incredible experience performing and enjoying the performances of many other schools in Union County.



Family Literacy Night



Robert Morris School No. 18 hosted a Family Literacy Night Event. The evening promoted literacy and family involvement through various activities. Students enjoyed a read aloud of the book, *Hooray for Diffendoofer Day* by the school's Library Media Specialist, Mr. Richter. The various ELA teachers in displays throughout the school. For example, kindergarten through middle school students were able to create rhymes and silly-Seuss words that rhymed with their teacher's last name on the Rhyming Wall. In addition, students were

encouraged to bring books for a book exchange at the door upon entering the cafeteria. The literacy night embraced the love of reading and support for family involvement. It also fostered a sense of community and helped build a partnership between home and school.

Children's Dental Health Month

Joseph Battin School No. 4 celebrated Children's National Dental Health Month. The Children's Oral Health Program informed students about their teeth, proper dental care, nutrition, and the role that sugar plays in tooth decay. Each child received a free toothbrush and given instructions on how to properly brush and floss their teeth. Several teachers extended the discussion of healthy teeth in their classrooms. Mrs. DeCapua and her students created a poster highlighting three important steps for mouth care and keeping a healthy smile.



Jump and Hoops for Heart

On March 18, **George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1** and **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9** hosted their first joint school Jump and Hoops for Heart event. Both schools raised close to \$2,000.00 for the American Heart Association. During the week leading up to the culminating event, students from both schools participated in various high intensity stations, discussed heart health, and competed in multiple competitions relating to basketball and jumping rope. School No. 1 scholar Luz Mendez and School No. 9 scholar Stephanie Boayke opened the event as the emcees. Scholars listened to testimonials from classmates Fatim Wells, William Mendez and Elvin Arias who all have battled heart disease. Winners from the week's competitions were able to compete alongside staff members in both the hotshot shooting and jump rope endurance competitions. This year's extravaganza will be remembered for years to come.





Happiness is... at Jerome Dunn Academy

Inspired by the New Jersey Alliance for Physical Education, Health, Recreation and Dance annual convention attended by the P.E. team, the scholars at **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9** created a happiness wall to remind everyone that happiness and education go hand in hand. Students were asked to think of one word or phrase that makes them happy and write it down on a sticky note paper to place on the wall. The "Happiness is..." display empowers scholars to truly be happy.



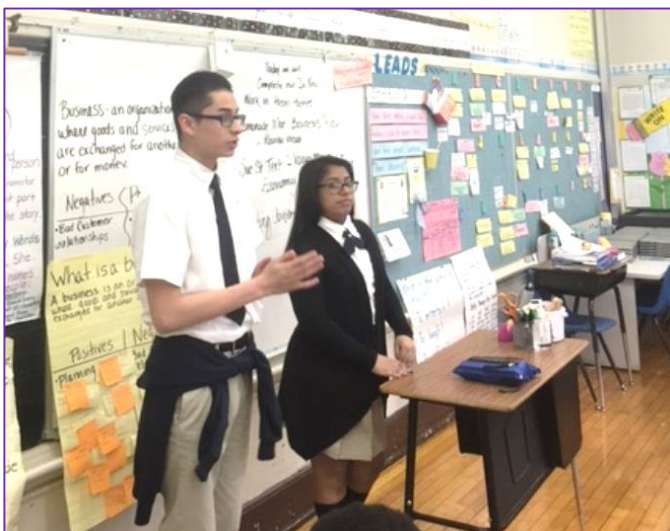
Lyle! Letter Writing!

Mrs. Diane Kennedy's kindergarten students from **Victor Mravlag School No. 21** collaborated with Mrs. Phyllis Taub's fifth graders from **Madison-Monroe School No. 16** to create letters about a fictional character.

This happened recently when Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Taub's students met up at School No. 16 and heard the story of Loveable Lyle. Lyle is a crocodile who moves in with a human family and tries to make friends. The story was told using giant hand-drawn flip charts and letters reproduced from the actual book by Bernard Waber. Then, with the help of their fifth grade buddies, they composed their own letters to the fictional book characters.



1st Debate at School No. 12



Elmora School No. 12's fourth grade students in Mrs. Henkel's Class participated in their first debate. Eighth grade journalism students Camilo Guzman and Hilary Lozano, led the lesson by providing students with the topic of school uniforms. Fourth graders had to choose whether they agree, disagree, or felt neutral about the topic. Camilo and Hillary assisted students in their research and modeled how to use the research as evidence for their arguments. As students debated through the 'philosophical chairs' process, excitement and intensity sparked the room. Sarah Perez, fourth grader said, "I look forward to being in an AVID class next school year, so I may participate in more philosophical chairs. I loved it!"

Scholars are Awesome to the Core



On April 7, one hundred six **Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3** student scholars were honored for their outstanding academic achievement in the second marking period with an apple “nacho” bar social. Students who received Teacher, Principal, and Superintendent Scholars were invited to celebrate with their fellow peers and indulge in creating their own apple “nacho” bar.

Vice Principal Cristina Brito, guidance counselor, Briana Helm, speech therapist, Sima Hansalia, and school social worker, Nafeesa Simmons certainly made the celebration a *fruitful* event.

2016 Unified Bowling Shriver Cup Championship

The Elizabeth Unified Bowlers from **Juan Pablo Duarte - José Julián Martí School No. 28** competed in the 2016 Unified Bowling Shriver Cup Championship against team from West Windsor- Plainsboro, Burlington City, Raritan, Notre Dame-Eden, Chatham – ECLC, Monroe Township, Montgomery, Randolph, and Salem.

The Play Unified School Partnership provides schools throughout the state with the resources and support needed to bring students with and without disabilities together in truly inclusive experiences that promote fun, friendship and opportunities for all students be part of their school community.



Egg Hunt



The third grade students at **iPrep Academy School No. 8** had a multiplication egg hunt where they matched eggs based on different multiplication facts.

Students in Ms. Caulfield's and Mrs. Sarmiento's class practiced their basic multiplication facts in a nontraditional and fun way as they laughed and smiled working together.

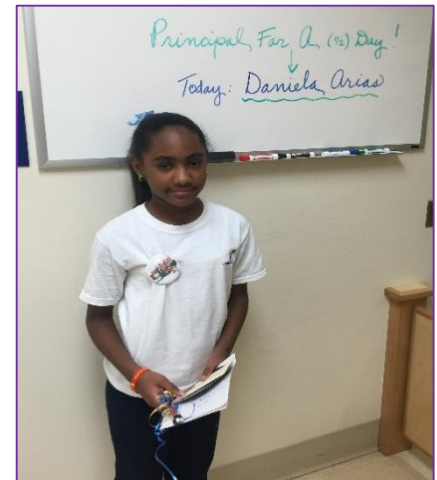
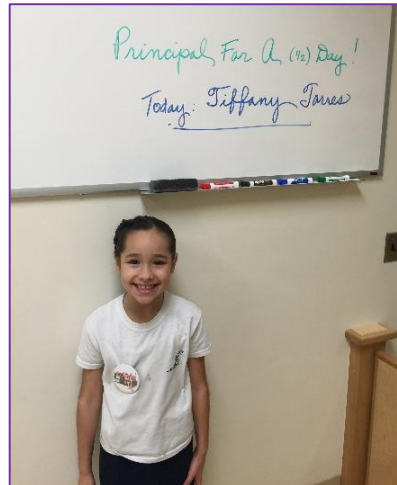
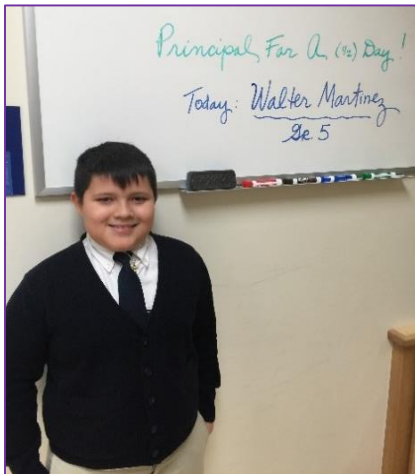
Students Welcome Spring



The teachers and assistants in Rooms 133, 135, 136, from **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Early Childhood Center School No. 52**, met with parents and students for a fun spring activity incorporating literacy, math and science. The children participated in an egg coloring experiment, personalized spring pictures with letters in their name and were engaged in a counting activity. The purpose of this school event was to promote quality interactions between a parent and child. Teachers, students and parents enjoyed their time during the event and showed how important it is to maintain positive relationships between home and school. The main goal is to teach the young children in a happy and loving atmosphere.

Principal for a Half-Day!

Students at **Victor Mravlag School No. 21** were recognized by their teachers for their positive behavior and respectfulness every month. Once nominated by their teachers, they had the opportunity to be *Principal for a Half-Day*. Second grader, Tiffany Torres, fourth grader, Daniela Arias, and fifth grader, Walter Martinez had the opportunity to learn several factors about how to lead a school. Some of the principal's duties that they learned and wrote down included checking backpacks at the door, greeting all students in the morning, conducting morning announcements, monitoring students in the hallways, visiting classrooms, checking email, inserting papers in mailboxes, checking PowerSchool, reviewing lesson plans, participating in meetings, and many more activities. Students truly engaged this leadership experience.



Math Competition

Students at **Woodrow Wilson School No. 19** participated in an online math competition.

Cheerleaders cheered them on as grades 3-8 worked hard to complete challenging math questions. Go Warriors!!



Creative Communications Poetry Contest

Mrs. Gillio's seventh grade Language Arts students from **William F. Halloran School No. 22@31** worked on writing their own original poems to submit to the Fall 2015 Creative Communications poetry contest. School No. 22 is so proud to share that 12 students' poems were accepted for publication for this poetry contest! Those students were able to purchase a hardcover anthology book that their poem was published in.

School No. 22 has been recognized for receiving a *Poetic Achievement Award*. This award is given to schools who have a large number of entries of which over fifty percent are accepted for publication.

Congratulation to the following students for your recent publication.

Alijah Taylor
Vanessa Marmolejo
Sariah Fullman
Natalia Patience
Emilio Herrera
Ivan Lin
Natalie Cangas
Alyssa Feliciano
Sadie Vizcaino
Sofia Diaz
Maira Nadeem
Tarneem Gadelseed



Fourth Annual National Junior Society



On March 22, **Juan Pablo Duarte - José Julián Martí School No. 28** inducted 30 students in their fourth annual National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) Induction Ceremony. These students have demonstrated, through their character and academics, that they possess the qualities and requirements to be part of this prestigious organization. Mr. Frank Cuesta, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, attended the ceremony and along with parents and team members expressed pride for all students honored. Students, faculty and parents are proud of the school's recent recognition as a National School of Character.

Volleyball Tournament

Middle school students at **Elmora School No. 12** challenged their teachers to a Volleyball Tournament. All three games were very close. Cheers from team members and students brought more excitement to the game.

Victory went to the team members who won two out of the three games. At the end of the game, all players shook hands in celebration of positive sportsmanship. *Go Elmora School 12 Eagles!*



Ellis Island



Thirty-five 4th graders in Mrs. Kauffman's and Ms. Malcolm's classes from **Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27** received a special opportunity to visit Ellis Island on March 22. This trip was part of the *Every Kid in a Park* program. Students completed activities in class before the trip and then arrived on Ellis Island as actual immigrants did in the early 19th century. Students participated in a mock medical inspection, answered questions and took quizzes. The students were guided by three park rangers through some of Ellis Island's historic features and had a wonderful time.

Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Celebrates Literacy



To help celebrate Read Across America week, **Terence C. Reilly School No. 7** held its annual character parade. The participants dressed up as characters from their favorite novels and marched through the aisles of the Reilly auditorium. Some of the Pre-k students dressed up as Cinderella, Rapunzel and Snow White. Some of the middle school students portrayed such characters from *The Cat in the Hat*, *Amelia Bedelia* and *The Outsiders*. The teachers and administrators joined in the fun by dressing as the peddler from *Caps for Sale*, crayons from *The Day the Crayons Quit*, Red from *Little Red Riding Hood* and even The man in the yellow hat from *Curious George* stopped by. As a special treat, the Performing Arts students' took the stage to perform a few numbers from the Spring Show *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, debuting April 14th and 15th. What a wonderful parade at Terence C. Reilly School No. 7.



Pen Pals

Ms. Vargas' 2nd grade and Mrs. Romero' 3rd grade bilingual classrooms, at **Winfield Scott School No. 2**, have been communicating with 3rd grade teacher Mrs. Lourdes Espinal from Honduras.

Students have been given this great opportunity to meet children from another country and learn about their differences and similarities. Students from both schools are now pen pals and continue to learn about each other's culture.

Making Robots

Mrs. Valente, Mrs. Sanchez, Ms. Sader and Mr. Acebo from **Donald Stewart Early Childhood Center School No. 51** worked together with their students on a collaborative project entitled 'Robots.' The students began by reading "If I Had a Robot." This book transported young readers into the mind of a young boy who thought of what he would avoid doing if he had his own robot.

As a result, the children decided they wanted to create their own robots in a collaborative project with their parents. Parents were encouraged to use materials from the recycling bin or use recycled materials from home, also referred to as 'Beautiful Junk.' Children were invited to share their experience with the rest of the students including what materials they used and who helped them make the robot. This experience fostered language development and enhanced their social emotional skills by encouraging the students to work together.



Welcome Home Spc. Michael Toro



On March 17, Spc. Michael Toro returned home from his deployment, surprising his daughter Genesis a first grader at **Joseph Battin School No. 4**. Her teacher, Mrs. Staggers, Principal, Mr. Candelino as well as all of her classmates were on hand to witness this joyous reunion. Also present for the reunion were Superintendent, Olga Hugelmeyer, Assistant Superintendent, Linda Seniszyn, Board President, Charlene Bathelus, and board members, Stephanie Goncalves and Daniel Nina. The City of Elizabeth Mayor Chris Bollwage was also on hand to greet Spc. Toro. EPS would like to thank Spc. Toro for his dedication and sacrifice in serving our country. The Battin community wishes him and his family all the best in his homecoming.

EHS Speech & Debate Team

On March 18-19th, the **Elizabeth High School** Speech and Debate Team competed at the NJSDL District Tournament.

David Ecarneção, 12th grade student, took home the title of District Champion of Humorous Interpretation.

John Paipilla, 12th grade student, took 2nd place in Humorous Interp.

David and John qualified to compete at the NSDA National Tournament in June in Salt Lake City, Utah with their Coach Renee Drummond.

Congratulations for this prestigious accomplishment.



Arbor Day



Ms. McLaughlin and her Kindergarten students from **George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1** 108 decided to help the earth by planting a tree on Arbor Day. Ms. McLaughlin's class is a large advocate of the school's recycling program and have carried it one step further by committing to taking care of this tree that is an addition to the environment.

Bring your Daughter/Son to Work Day



Madison-Monroe School No. 16 celebrated Bring your Daughter/Son to Work Day on April 28, 2016. Honored guests were provided with a delicious breakfast and were warmly greeted by Principal Belinda Abruzzese. Children of various ages learned about several different occupational opportunities within the educational environment as they shadowed their family members. School social worker, Mrs. Uniacke was pleased that forty-three children accompanied staff members and actively participated in learning job responsibilities at the school. In addition, the *Skyhawk Students* who accompanied their parents to work on this day reinforced career development by helping students connect school to the world of work and their own futures.

Another Successful Year of HISPA

Each month, 6th and 7th grade AVID students at **Benjamin Franklin School No. 13** are given the opportunity to listen to stories of successful Latinos who overcame hardships to become who they truly want to be.

For the last session, on April 26, excited Manfred Morales, a Corporate Operations Project Manager for UPS, and Steven Jimenez, a major in mechanical engineering at NJIT, came to speak with students about what it takes to live a life of true success. Students were truly inspired and took the opportunity to ask various questions regarding their career paths and the choices they made to get there. While the HISPA program for this year has come to an end, students and faculty alike look forward to what is in store for the following school year and many years to come.



A Great Opportunity



On April 13, **John Marshall School No. 20** students who participated in the Disney's Musicals in Schools Program were invited to attend a matinee performance of *The Lion King* at the Minskoff Theater in New York City. After the viewing, students were asked to participate in a talkback session with the actors.

Poetry Slam

Seventh and eighth-grade students at **Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5** on April 8 participated in the school's first ever Poetry Slam.

Twelve creative teens who love to read or write their own poems were judged based on their ability to perform using their emotions, inflection and body language. Students "slammed" in front of their seventh and eighth-grade peers, parents and Judges Principal Gonzalez, Vice Principal Basso, and ELA teacher Krystal Brown.

Poem topics ranged from an original work



on the death of a student's grandparents, to a satire on Kanye West, to a limerick on school lunches. Students rehearsed tirelessly, for five weeks giving up recess often and time after school, with Eighth-Grade ELA teacher, Anne Marie Calzolari. Slamming is a competitive form of performance poetry. Slams were invented in 1984 by Chicago Poet Marc Smith and are now used in schools, coffee houses and performance spaces everywhere to inspire the love of the written word.

Zumba Family Night

On April 05, the Gateway YMCA of Eastern Union County collaborative with **Woodrow Wilson School No. 19** to offer a night of family Zumba. YMCA Zumba Instructor Patty, provided one full hour of appropriate Zumba dances that was geared for the entire family. The PTO offered fresh fruit and kale salad. The evening was sponsored by The C.A.T.C.H program. C.A.T.C.H (Child Approach to Child Health) is a grant program that's alliances of parents, teachers, children nutritional personnel, school staff, and community partners to teach children to make healthful decisions and to create changes in the environment that support these decisions.

Union County Tennis Tournament

Senior Josep Mejia competed on April 27-28 at the Union County Tennis Tournament – 1st Singles. He finished on the medal stand with 3rd place.

The two day tournament was held in Plainfield at the Van Blake Tennis Courts. Varsity Coach, Joe Carnevale (Jefferson) and JV Coach Rene Cras (No. 14) comments that Josep is always hardworking on the tennis court. Josep does play competitive tennis throughout the year and also kept himself busy athletically by competing with the Elizabeth Wrestling team this past winter season.



Jefferson Arts Film Students Premiere Latest Film in Partnership with HBO

The students of the **Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy** AV Media studio under the direction of Mrs. Mary Rivera worked in partnership with the HBO Corporate Social Responsibility Project to produce a short film about overcoming adversity. HBO sponsored guest artists Angela Kariotis, Pierre Coleman and Theo Perkins to host workshops on the craft of filmmaking and storytelling, including: learning to conduct narrative interviews, creating a story, turning it into a screenplay, manning cameras and filming equipment, acting and producing their work.



The film, *What It Takes*, pits a resilient spirit against insurmountable odds. *What It Takes* is a film written and produced by Jefferson Arts students while in workshop with the Elizabeth Youth Theater Ensemble. It pays homage to their hometown of Elizabeth, declaring that one does not have to leave one's hometown to be successful. This program was made possible by the support of the Elizabeth Board of Education, the City of Elizabeth, and HBO's Corporate Social Responsibility.

Destination Imagination

On March 12, seven teams representing **Elizabeth High School** competed in the Destination Imagination State Tournament at Ridge High School. Two teams competed in this year's scientific challenge, "In Plain Sight," in which each team presents a story in which a character hides in plain sight using camouflage methods found in nature. The Deep-Sea D.I.-vers, led by senior Mona Elsaai, and D.I.-ligence, led by junior Diana De Sa, placed first and second. Both teams received invitations to compete at Global Finals at the University of Tennessee from May 25-29.

In addition, three teams from EHS competed in the fine arts challenge, "Get A Clue," in which teams had to present a mystery in which three characters are suspects and the culprit is randomly revealed mid-performance. The Flu Crew, led by junior Jeyna Tutundzic, finished fourth; the Poe-ets, led by junior Taicha Normil, finished fifth; and the Fifty Shades of Wrap, led by junior Corayma Cueto, finished seventh. Two teams competed in the technical challenge, "Pace of Change," in which each team has to build a vehicle that transports a team member using two different propulsion methods. Dungeons and Dragon-Cows, led by senior Raquel Jordao, finished fourth, and Pundemic, led by junior Ryan Salvador, finished fifth. Deep-Sea D.I.-vers and Dungeons and Dragon-Cows also received Renaissance Awards for extraordinary amounts of effort and preparation in their solutions and outstanding skill in engineering, design, or performance.



Celebrating Art Day



In honor of Youth Art Month, **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9** art teachers, Ms. Barbara Leyva and Ms. Jeannette Martinez hosted Art Day on Wednesday, March 16. Scholars had the opportunity to participate in two activities during their 45 minutes of activity time. The activities involved crafts, scratch art, drawing, and coloring. The stations were run by 8th grade scholars. Students who participated were in K-4th grade.

Scholars enjoyed being creative, and participating in the various art activities. Many thanks to the administrators and Mrs. Tracy Monteiro for attending the event and demonstrating their support for the Visual Arts program at JDA.

The Great American Mail Race

Second graders in Mrs. López's and Mrs. Sutera's classes from **William F. Halloran School No. 22 @ 31** are participating in the Great American Mail Race. This project was designed to have students write letters to other second graders in all 50 states to share information and learn about America.

Each student has been assigned two states. In their letters, students wrote about themselves, their school, their families, city, and state. During Art with Mrs. Politi, the students were assigned one state to color, cut, and put together on a giant map.



Students have received many letters from some states and we are discovering the similarities and differences about schools throughout the United States.



Ms. Borys's Avid Class

Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27's 8th grade students from Ms. Borys's AVID class went on a field trip to Seton Hall University. Students toured the campus and learned all about Seton Hall from their tour guide, who currently is a senior at Seton Hall.

Students learned about the different majors offered at the college as well as the other amenities offered at the school. The students posed for a picture around the campus seal.



Family Fitness Night

On March 22, physical education team, Ms. Brooks, Mr. Goodman and Mr. Harms hosted a Family Fitness Night at **Nicholas S. LaCorte - Peterstown School No. 3**. Students, parents, and team members participated in a 40-minute warm-up session in which they visited 17 different interval fitness stations focusing on strength, cardio and abdominal workouts.

The night included a sponsorship from Shop Rite in Elizabeth, providing refreshments for the participants, as well as a family yoga instructor from *A Tribe Called Ohm*, to bring attention to the different methods to help families stay fit and healthy.

The night was a success as many parents enjoyed an evening with their children and the school faculty. Plans for additional events, including a Family Square Dance Night, have been planned for later dates.



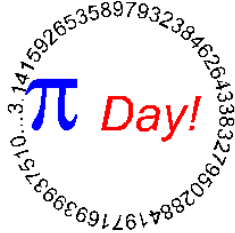
Catching a Leprechaun



Students in Mrs. Loomis' kindergarten class at **Robert Morris School No. 18** explored the engineering process as they designed and built traps to catch a leprechaun on Saint Patrick's Day. The students spent time thinking of the best way to catch one. They drew up a design, wrote about it and then ultimately implemented their designs with the building of their traps. Sadly, the children did not catch a leprechaun, but did manage to catch the leprechaun's pants as he escaped out of the window. The leprechaun caused a great deal of chaos in the classroom before he escaped.

3.14159265358979323846264338327950288419716939937510... Pi Day

In celebration of Pi Day, 3-14-16, **Abraham Lincoln School No. 14** held their annual Family Math Night. Students and their families enjoyed a fun-filled evening of various math games and activities. Students were not only excited to learn about math with their families, they were also thrilled to be participating with their teachers outside of the school day.





Caring Goes Beyond Words for Two Hamilton Students

Students, Maria Camila Gomez and Isnada Dorelien, from **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy** recently showed a level of compassion that embodies the family spirit that we strive to foster within the student body.

The family of a Hamilton student tragically lost their home in a fire. Thankfully, no one was injured in the fire, but the family of six were left homeless. Once the two students found out what had occurred, they quickly organized ways to assist their fellow Hamiltonian.

“That could’ve happened to any one of us,” Maria Camila commented. Maria and Isnada led the efforts among the entire Hamilton student body to gather funds and goods for the family after school hours, completely on their own. The student was very appreciative and said, “It is uncommon to see people go out their way to help others, but when it was done for me, I really saw its effect.”

HeART of Healthy Cooking

Thomas A. Edison Career & Technical Academy and **Terence C. Reilly School No. 7** conducted the district’s first “HeART of Healthy Cooking” series on March 2. The goal of the program is to give parents and students the educational tools & skills to prepare nutritious, low fat/low sugar meals for their family. The program is in collaboration with the American Heart Association, Rutgers SNAP nutrition program, Elizabeth YMCA and Shaping Elizabeth organizations. The night was spearheaded by Mr. Paul Conte and his culinary arts students. The night began with Team Conte preparing a delicious healthy meal for parents and students at Edison Academy. The action then moved to the iLeap Center and auditorium. Parents received instruction from Culinary Arts students Sam Henriquez and Leonardo Barbano, who demonstrated how they prepared the food that was served. Parents and students will attend a second day of preparation and instruction on April 21. The event culminates on May 18 with a parent/student “Top Chef” competition, complete with prizes such as free YMCA memberships.



Worldstrides Heritage Music Festival



The **Elizabeth High School** bands competed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on the first weekend of April as part of the Worldstrides Heritage Music Festival. The competition took place at the University of Pennsylvania's Irvine Auditorium, and featured twenty three ensembles from across the north east. Here are the results:

Lower Academy Concert Band - Silver Rating - 1st place
 Lower Academy Jazz Band – Gold Rating - 1st place
 Upper Academy Symphonic Band - Gold Rating - 1st place
 Upper Academy Jazz band - Gold Rating - 1st place
 Upper Academy Jazz Band - Outstanding Band of the Festival
 Upper Academy Jazz Band - Adjudicator's Award
 Upper Academy Jazz and Symphonic Bands - Highest Combined Scores - Sweepstakes Award

Steven Urdaneta- Lower Academy- Maestro Award (solo)
 Brandon Mercado- Upper Academy- Maestro Award (solo)
 Jessa St. Laurent- Upper Academy- Maestro Award (solo)

EHS won three of the eight Maestro Awards presented.



Every Child, Achieving Excellence!

Send Excellent News articles describing the great things happening in your school to:

Delilah Sousa, EPS, Tel: 908.436.5206 or email: enews@epsnj.org

Visit our website at www.epsnj.org

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