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Insurgent Barely Makes The Cut

By Claire Yoo

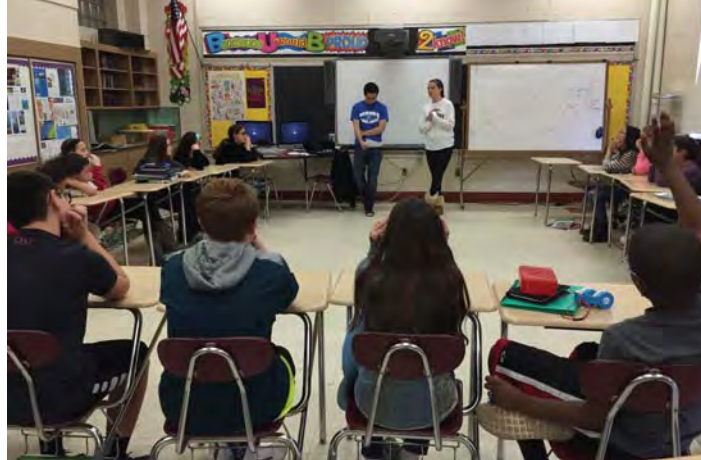
I have developed multiple categories, with a percentile that shows how well the movie did in each. After, I averaged the percentages and gave them a final score.

Cast: 95% Shailene Woodley was the perfect Tris Prior, as she portrayed a realistic Tris. Theo James made teenagers all over the country swoon, and he had just the right amount of tough mixed with a nice dosage of sincerity. Kate Winslet was a crisp image of a highly knowledgeable antagonist and stepped up her game. The rest of the cast, from the very popular Ansel Elgort to the extremely talented Miles Teller, performed excellently.

Special Effects: 80% Reminded me of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone: amazing and sharp but could be better.

Deal Breaker: 0% The box. The box was a representation of what the whole book was about, and by taking everything that was amazing about the book and stuffing it into a metal box, the

(continued on page 3)



6th graders watch the heroes

It's Cool To Be A Hero

By Rhea Tejwani

Being a younger student in middle school could cause many thoughts and questions about your future life. Heroes and Cool Kids is a program run by high school juniors and seniors. These students travel to the Demarest Middle School to educate the sixth graders on issues, such as drugs, alcohol and other dangers. These students come to the school three times throughout the year to educate the sixth grade students.

Heroes and Cool Kids has the students participate in hands-on activities to help reinforce the lessons. These activities allow

the students to experience multiple scenarios that are used to help the students remember the lessons.

The Heroes and Cool Kids also allow the students to ask anonymous questions about anything they may be curious about. This gives the sixth graders the chance to ask anything they want without the fear of being judged. A question box is located in each sixth grade classroom, and students can place questions in the box at any time. At the next session, all questions in the box will be answered.

The most recent session, on March 31, focused on drugs and

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Track is Back!

By Jerry Abramson

With winter over, Demarest Middle School students have begun to join the track team. The basketball season did not end amazingly for the Wildcats, but with new seasons come new beginnings. Mr. Lefer, Ms. Ruberto, and Ms. Torres coach the track team in the spring. The track team consists of a total of thirty-six students from grade levels 6-8. 5th graders will have the opportunity to join the team next year, in 6th grade. There are twenty-four seventh graders on the team, seven sixth graders, and five eighth graders. The five eighth graders happen to be Alexis Klein, Roe Maor, Eva Cami, Isabella Scanlan, and Ohr Yahalomi. The track will hopefully have a great year against the competing towns. Ohr Yahalomi said, "Track is a good time to get in shape, play in warm spring temperatures, and have fun." Ohr also informed me that the meets are not for competition and are mostly to see if you improve as a team. Be ready for a great season for spring's greatest sport: track!

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Creative Writing

By Claire Yoo

Pantoums are poems that consist of three stanzas, in which the lines repeat in a pattern of 1, 2, 3, 4, 2, 5, 4, 6, 5, 3, 6 then back to 1. So, the first line of the poem will be the same as the last one, and so on according to the numbers.

Drifting

1 An old memory fading away
2 Blowing through the wind
3 A paper floating upstream
4 Against the raging current

2 Blowing through the wind
5 Resisting the act of forgetting
4 Against the raging current
6 To be back where it belongs

5 Resisting the act of forgetting
3 A paper floating upstream
6 To be back where it belongs
1 An old memory fading away

We asked students and teachers of all grade levels, **how do you think the PARCC corresponded to the curriculum taught in class?**

“You have to remember everything you learned, even from 4th grade.” – Lillian Kim, 5th Grader

“The PARCC had the same information that we learned in class.” –Alexander Lee, 5th Grader

“The information in class was the same as the PARCC because we learned the same knowledge, but the math was different than what we were taught. It was harder.” - Carly Sherman, 6th Grader

“The PARCC did not correspond because some curriculum that we learned was not on the PARCC.”

Heroes And Cool Kids (Continued)

By Rhea Tejwani

their negative effects. The high school students explained how drugs can affect a user’s future and why the sixth graders should never use drugs when they get older. After the lesson was explained, the high school students provided scenarios for the students to answer and think about to help the lesson have context. Finally, the meeting was concluded with the traditional anonymous question and answer session. The students greatly



enjoyed the presentation.

Sixth grader Lauren Kim reflected on the most recent Heroes and Cool Kids session by saying, “They helped us think about how we shouldn’t do drugs and how they are bad for you. The

**“greatly enjoyed
the
presentation”**

presentation affected us because when we grow up we won’t [want to] do drugs.” The Heroes and Cool Kids program is the perfect way for younger students to learn about issues that they might face later on in life.

P.A.R.C.C. Reactions

By Jackson Hecker and Rhea Tejwani

- Aidan Diresta, 6th Grader

“The PARCC was a lot harder than what was taught and you really had to think about the text.” –Jisan Kim, 7th Grader

“I believe that the teachers did a good job preparing us for the PARCC. Even though it did not count, it helped to be a benchmark test.” –Phillip Gong, 8th Grader

“Due to the PACC being aligned to the new curriculum there is no need to spend time preparing or reviewing for the test.” –Mrs. Erol, 7th Grade Math Teacher

“I feel that the PARCC corresponded to the curriculum to some degree because we adopted the common core standards which is

what the PARCC test is related to. I also believe our teachers do a fabulous job engaging the students in activities that relate to higher level thinking.” – Mrs. Rinckhoff, Guidance Counselor



5th Graders, Alexander Lee and Lillian Kim



6th Graders, Aidan Diresta and Carly Sherman

Goodbye to Glee

By Kyri LePree

For one last time, Gleeks around the world didn't stop believing as Glee aired its series finale episodes on Friday, March 20th. After an amazing six year run the producer, Ryan Murphy, finished the series off with two-hours of a very emotional closing plot. *Glee* ranked as the fourth best on the list of "Best and Worst TV Finales Of All Time," by E! Online. Following, *Parenthood*, *Parks and Recreation*, and *Breaking Bad*. 90% of critics loved the *Glee* goodbye.

Glee closed with two episodes airing on one night. The first episode, titled *2009*, went back in time to *Glee's* pilot episode. The episode ended with season one's cover of *Don't Stop Believing*, featuring Cory Monteith singing alongside Lea Michele. Many fans of the show were shocked to see Cory again as he had passed away in

2013.

The next episode, titled *Dreams Come True*, was set in the future of year 2020. The show came full circle with past antagonist, Sue Sylvester, finally seeing what good that the glee club has done. William McKinley High School becomes a performing arts school, leading students to their dreams.



Cast members that make the show so special

Glee has been a huge piece of many fans across the world. Brooke Silver spoke about the topic of *Glee's* final

episode saying, "I think that the sentimental pieces of Cory's performance and Lea's Tony Speech, or the final *Glee* performance of all of them together completely brought the episode together. *Glee* said goodbye in an amazing way, and I hope to remember it forever." *Glee* closed with Rachel Berry stating, "I used to think that being a part of something special makes you special. But no, you being a part of something makes it special." *Glee* will live on forever with a certain specialness that no one will be able to forget.

Insurgent Barely Makes the Cut

By Claire Yoo

From Page 1

movie was ruined.

What Made it Okay: 100% Peter. The character was seen negatively in the first adaptation. In Insurgent, Peter is lighter and wittier, and he was a main character in this movie adaptation, which I will happily accept.

Compared to the Book: 50% Horrid. Absolutely awful in the most terrible and horrifying way. I was utterly unsatisfied with what they warped the book into, especially how they managed to ruin some of my favorite scenes and characters, like Marlene and Cara, from the book.

Averaged out: $95\%+80\%+0\%+100\%+50\%=325/5=65\%$

So in conclusion, Insurgent was barely above the failing percentile of 64%, which is a passing grade. I would say that Insurgent needs to work harder and improve over the next year for the third installment, Allegiant: Part 1.

Now some questions...

Do I want to see it? Yes if you are a true initiate. No if you are a pansy cake. Wait; aren't you going to provide a summary? No! That's why we have Google.

Get Ready to Spring into New Sports

By Jerry Abramson

Spring is the season filled with joy, colorful flowers, and amazing new sports. Spring is bringing new sports and outside activities. For every season, there happens to be a new sport that pops up. With Spring coming in and winter leaving us we have new sports for children around Bergen County.

Sports such as basketball and hockey are out the door, while lacrosse and baseball are two examples of sports that are entering the picture. Even though sports are coming to a close there are many sports that spring brings. In spring many kids can play almost any outdoor sports because of the climate. Children and teenagers play clubs out of their towns, and these clubs promote all sports being played year round. After interviewing

multiple kids at DMS, I have found that they love the warm weather the most because of outdoor recesses.



Outdoor recesses at DMS



Frogs Hopping Through The Cold

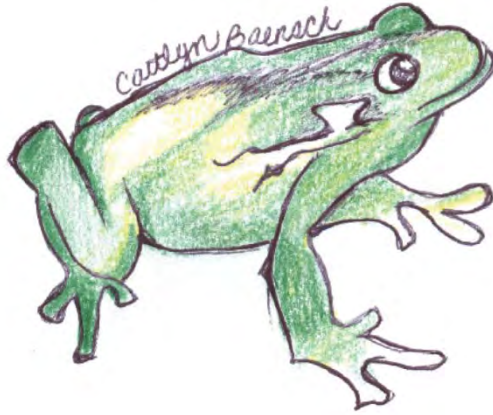
By Ben Alfano

Spring has finally sprung, but the winter seems to still have a presence. Hopefully the really cold weather is over. It's about time. As we all know, this winter was one of the coldest Demarest has ever been through. There was a huge amount of snow on the ground that never went away, and we had more snow days than ever. Surviving the winter was difficult enough for us humans, but the tiny wood frog had to overcome an even colder winter in Alaska.

Most animals survive the winter by hibernating, or sleeping through the winter in a nice habitat. Frogs are amphibians, so they do not hibernate. That is why most of the frog population is found in warmer climates. But the few frogs that do live in cold areas, such as the wood frog, had a very challenging winter because it was so long and cold. The

Wood Frog has adapted to the cold climate by miraculously freezing its body.

The wood frog managed to freeze roughly 60 percent of its body.



throughout the winter.

The frogs sweeten their cells with glucose, increasing the amount of urea, so the frogs are able to retain or 'freeze' their cell water, helping them survive. These

frogs are like the living dead. Basically, they stay still as a frozen solid for the whole winter, and then come back to life when it gets warmer.

The Wood Frog is a magnificent species that seemed to have accomplished the impossible. It was hard enough to live through winter in a warm home, let alone the wilderness of Alaska. These tiny little animals have more strength and power than huge bears because they can survive winter not by hibernating. What the tiny wood frog did to survive the winter is truly unbelievable.

“These frogs are like the living dead.”

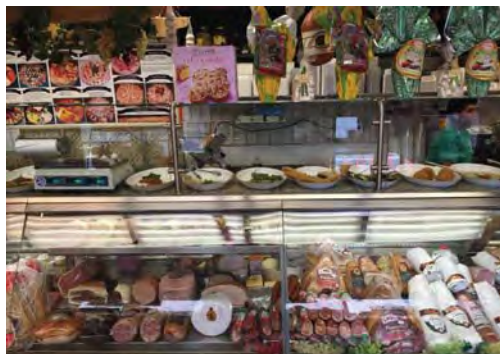
Nonna Clementina: Fresh, Delicious Sandwiches

By Ohr Yaholomi

When walking into Nonna Clementina, the scent of delicious sandwiches wafts into your nose. This small Italian deli offers fresh sandwiches (that you can either build yourself or pick from a selection of), cookies, and other Italian delicacies. Having tried a tomato, mayonnaise, roast beef sandwich there myself, I found that it was very good and definitely very fresh. They make the food right before your eyes, but you can also pick something out already prepared from behind the glass wall. Next time you're in Closter, be sure to stop by Nonna Clementina for a delicious deli sandwich and much more!



Nonna Clementina's Deli



Delicious deli meats found in the shop

Upcoming Events In Demarest

- Field Day – May 8
- DMS Spring Concert – May 14th
- Demarest 5k Run – May 17
- 8th Grade Trip to Washington D.C. – May 19-21
- DMS Rock and Jazz Band Tour – June 4
- 8th Grade Graduation Dance – June 11
- 8th Grade Graduation – June 22



Spring Break

By Jackson Hecker

Spring Break finally came, as everyone had been waiting for this break since February. During the break, some 8th graders went to Spain and some people stayed in the lovely town of Demarest. Here are submitted pictures from students in our school who went on vacation.



**From Disney World Submitted by
Michael Shaari, 5th Grade**



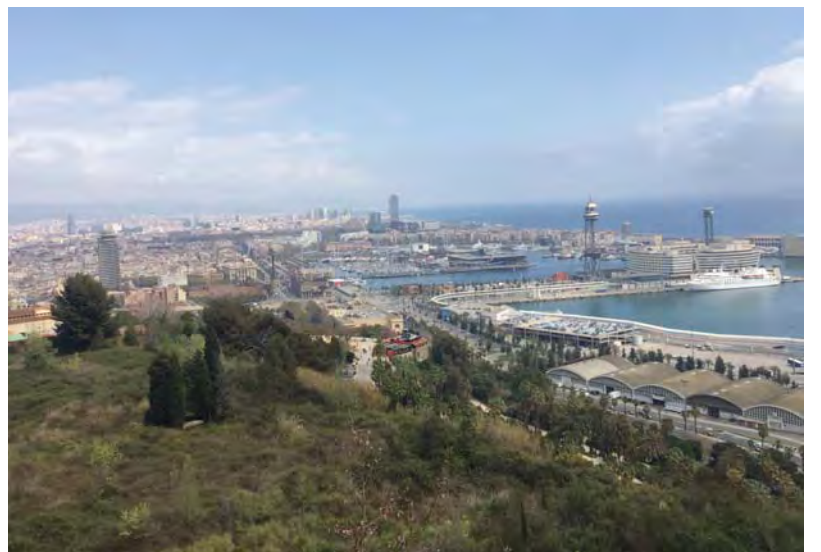
**From the Galapagos Islands Submitted by
Daniel Reshamwala, 5th Grade**



**From Seville, Spain Submitted by
Valentina Rosso , 8th Grade Student**



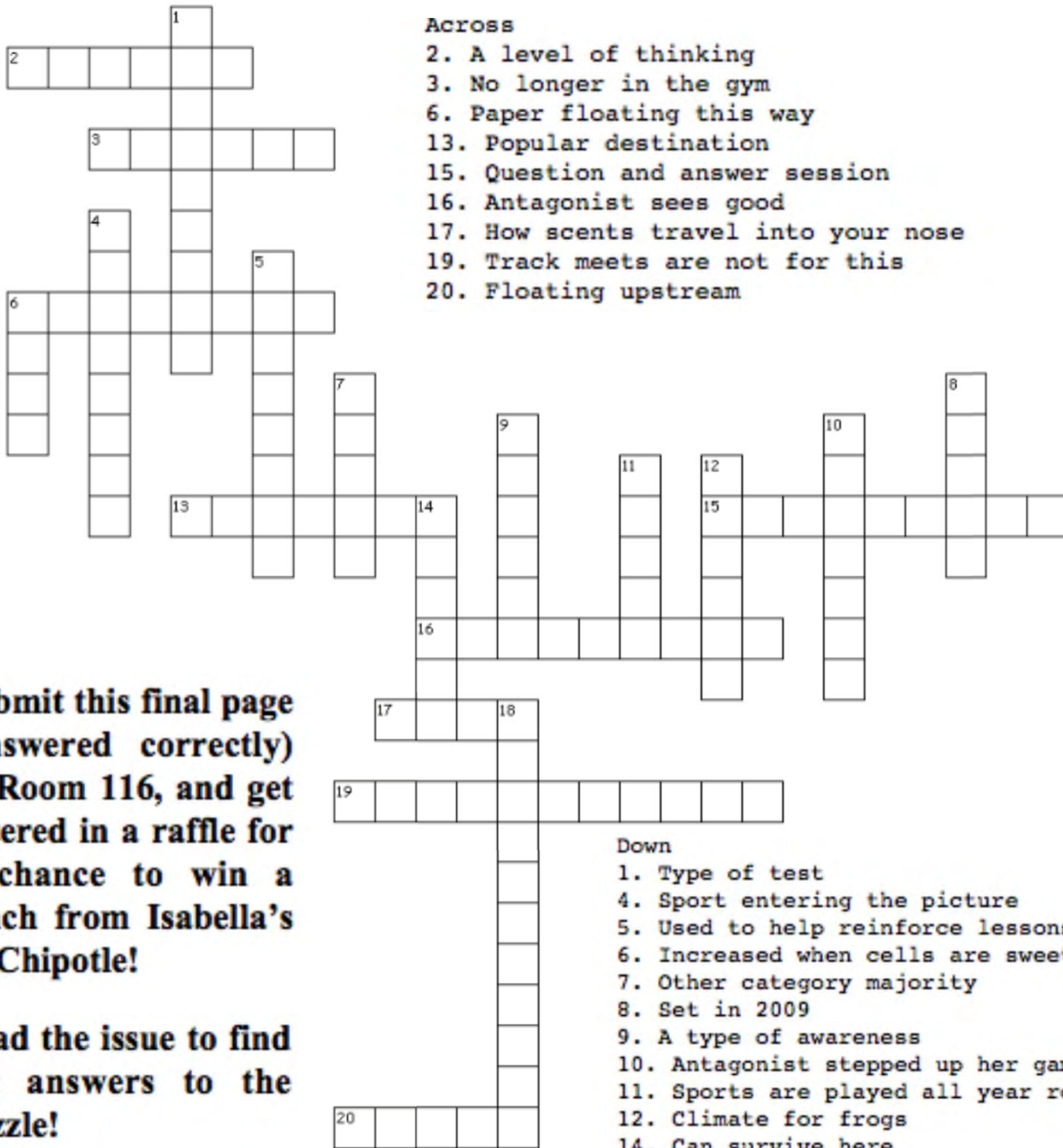
**From Barcelona, Spain Submitted by
Rhea Tejwani – 8th Grade Student**



**From Barcelona, Spain Submitted by
Phillip Gong – 8th Grade Student**

Crossword Puzzle

Edited By Claire Yoo



Submit this final page (answered correctly) to Room 116, and get entered in a raffle for a chance to win a lunch from Isabella's or Chipotle!

Read the issue to find the answers to the puzzle!

Credits

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