

Garfield Middle School News

In the Middle

Real Students, Real Stories, Real News

November 2023



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



Volume 6, Issue 1



Garfield Middle School Week of Respect October 2nd-6th, 2023



The week beginning with the first Monday in October of each year is designated as the Week of Respect in New Jersey. To recognize the importance of social and emotional learning and character education, school districts are required to observe the week by providing instruction focused on preventing harassment, intimidation and bullying. GMS recognizes the importance of developing and maintaining positive school climates, providing students with a safe and supportive school environment and encouraging academic success. Here is how we commemorated this important week with in October.



Chalk it up to Respect Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023



With the help of our wonderful Physical Education teachers, the students were asked to write messages about respect on sidewalks all throughout the building. All classes were encouraged to participate. Great job everyone!































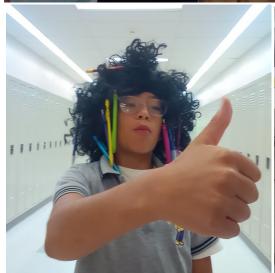
Thursday, October 5th, 2023







































The GMS Book Review: Back to School

"A Shadow in Moscow" by Aleksandra Veljanovska , Grade 7

"A Shadow in Moscow" by Katherine Reay is a book about two young women racing for their lives, time and authority in their country. This thrilling historical fiction novel engages in two different perspectives, Ingrid, a skilled spy, code name LUMEN, working against the corrupted Soviet Union government for more than 30 years and Anya, a new recruit, former Foreign Studies Initiative student, code name SCOUT, working in a research lab exposing Soviet Union plans.

The unique stories and backgrounds of Ingrid and Anya tie together when their timeline and location match up. They intertwine paths and realize they may be closer than they both presumed. A Shadow in Moscow first opens to Anya's perspective, she is a Foreign Studies Initiative student who is currently studying in Georgetown University, Washington DC, the year is 1980. Then we are introduced to Ingrid's perspective, she lives in Vienna, the year is 1944, World War II is currently taking place. As events develop, Ingrid loses her loving parents due to their works in the resistance, and she does everything in her power to continue spy on the Nazis to continue her parent's legacy. Despite her efforts, she loses everyone she loves in the final days of World War II. Before Anya leaves on her journey back to Moscow, she is offered a high-profile job to spy on the Soviet Union, turn against her own. When her best friend is murdered by a KGB officer, Anya begins to question what her nation stands for and resolves her loyalties when accepting the job to spy. Ingrid later marries a Soviet man and settles in his native home, Moscow (Russia) with him. However, she begins to raise suspicions he works as a KGB officer and is hiding it. These two stories tie together when Ingrid births a daughter, Anya. She takes her duty as a mother seriously and commits herself to making the world a safer place for her daughter. She uses her connections to discreetly join M16, a spy program against the Soviet Union. When a list of 25 agents working against the Soviets is leaked, the mother and daughter identities face each other. Who will sacrifice themselves? How will they escape?

This book describes so many emotions such as heartbreak, sentiment, dismay and acceptance. It went in depth about historical events and how it was for people experiencing living through them and their aftermath life. The unique challenges the characters had to face were nerve-wracking and anticipating. The close calls and missions were engaging to read. I recommend this book to readers seeking a distinctive novel with a touch of history in their

reading.





GMS Garage Sale Success! October 7th and 8th

Students and staff helped to organize our annual GMS garage sale that took place on the Garfield Town-Wide Garage Sale weekend. All funds collected went to GMs to help fund school events.















Thursday, December 7th.,2023

175 Lanza Avenue, **Garfield**

4:00pm-8:00pm

Free Admission

Come with Family & Friends and Get in the Holiday Spirit!

Come Do Your Holiday Shopping with Local Vendors & Crafters









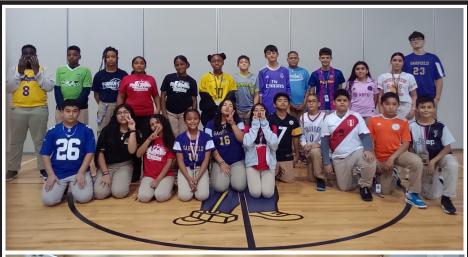


























Academic Math

Academic Science

Academic Social

Studies

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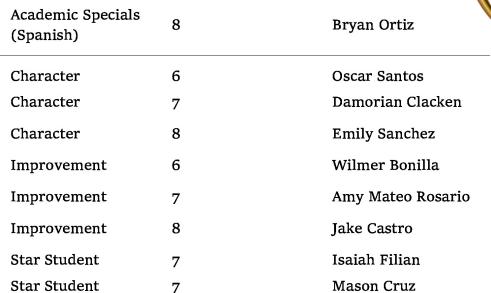
Morena Ulloa

Alexia Beltre

Koby Ray

Blanco













Principal Thoughts - From the desk of Mr. Rigoglioso

By Anailys Diaz, Angelise Gonzalez, Hanna Gorski & Azul Maurino, Grade 6

Welcome to Garfield Middle School, school year 2023-2024. The past year has brought its share of challenges and changes, and we are continuously inspired by the adaptability, and commitment of our students and their families. With that in mind, we are more determined than ever to make the 2023-2024 school year a time of growth, learning, and discovery.

This year, we are setting our sights on a variety of academic and extracurricular opportunities designed to help each of our students shine in their unique ways. Our talented teaching staff is eager to engage with you in the pursuit of knowledge and personal growth. We will work together to create a safe and nurturing environment where everyone feels valued, respected, and empowered to thrive.

As we step into the new school year, I encourage you to approach it with an open heart and a curious mind. Embrace the opportunities to make new friends, explore new subjects, and discover your passions. Remember that every challenge is an

opportunity for growth, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

Our school's success is built upon a strong partnership between students, parents, and our school community. Together, we can create an enriching and fulfilling experience for all. If you ever have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to our dedicated staff.

To our returning students, welcome back! Your experience and leadership are invaluable to our school community. To our new students, we are excited to welcome you into the Garfield Middle School family.

This year promises to be an incredible journey, and I am eager to see all the



amazing achievements, growth, and positive experiences that await us. Let's embrace this new school year with enthusiasm, determination, and a commitment to excellence.

With our program PBSIS (Positive Behavior Support in Schools) we are able to reward out wonderful students for living up to our motto, "We show who we A.R.E". which stands for showing Accountability, Respect and Empathy to all.

We also hope that our students enjoy using their earned rewards in the GMS School Store. Through hard work and dedication the PBSIS team has really put together a great place for you to use your well deserved rewards all year.

Welcome to our new staff. You will find that we are a family here at GMS and we hope you will always feel welcome and at home.

I wish you a fantastic and successful school year. Together, we will make it one to remember!

GMS School Store - Grand Opening By Avril Hernandez Figueroa & Samantha Montero, Grade 7



The Garfield Middle School School Store is open. This store was created to give students the opportunity to purchase prizes with the bitcoins that they have earned in the PBSIS program.

When students are found demonstrating and displaying positive behavior, they will earn bitcoins that they can use here at the school store.

There are many items that students can purchase with their bitcoins. Items range from snacks to pencils to jibbitz and more.

There are extended hours before and after school on certain days. Check it out and see how wonderful it is!











New Teacher Spotlight Welcome to GMS Science Teacher Ms. Bibb

By Lorena Rodriguez, Klaudia Rogala & Lissette Roman, Grade 7



Mrs. Bibb is one of our new Science teachers here at Garfield Middle School. She has been teaching for 5 years as a Middle School Science Teacher. She has taught 6th,7th and 8th grade in different schools.

Mrs. Bibb attended attended Rowan University and Montclair State University. In those colleges she earned degrees, Educational Bachelors, and Masters Educational Leadership degree.

We asked her what her very first job was and she told us that her first job was working at Dairy Queen when she was in High School.

Mrs. Bibb's greatest influence was her family because they always supported her and her decisions.

Her favorite Teacher was Mrs. Sommer in first grade because when Mrs. Bibb was having a bad day her teacher would play jump rope with her during recess, and it made Mrs. Bibb's day.

One of the special awards she had received was an American Sign language (ASL) competition that she won.

Some hobbies Mrs. Bibb does after school are to play ultimate Frisbee and sometimes play video games.

If Mrs. Bibb could do any job other than being a teacher, she would like to help train teachers to teach science in school.

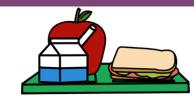
Some interesting facts that we discovered about Mrs. Bibb is that she was born in California, and she can say the alphabet backwards (instead of A-Z she can say it by Z-A).

Mrs. Bibb loves this school more than other schools because she said it was mostly how the students acted here. We are so glad you are here! Drop by Room 215 and say "Hi" and "Welcome" to Mrs. Bibb!

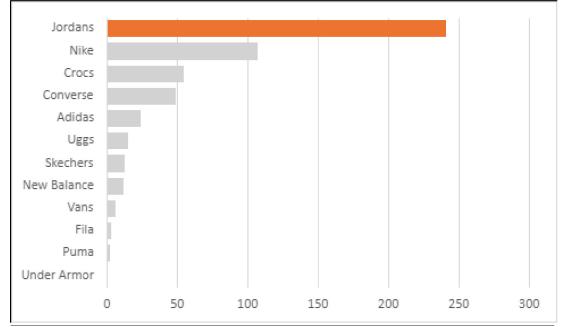


GMS Lunchtime Poll Marking Period One

"What is your favorite shoe Brand?"



Our lunchtime poll for this issue asked 528 students what their favorite shoe brand is. Jordans is the clear winner at 241 votes. See how your favorite brand did on the chart below.



Cpinion/Editorial - Daylight Savings Time Should we keep it, or Lose it? GMS Students debate the issue

Keep it! By Aleksandra Veljanovska

Yes, 100 % The United States Should Keep Daylight Savings Time. Daylight Savings Time comes with countless benefits including, promoting safety, evermore good for the economy, promoting productive, active lifestyles, it overall improves the quality of life.

Daylight Savings Time, a topic argued back and forth for what seems an immeasurable amount of time. Many believe that daylight savings time is useless or unethical. However, there is a LOT of valuable evidence of daylight savings and how it changes our lives for the better, without us even noticing it!

Those who believe daylight savings has no purpose believe that it drops productivity and is expensive. When infact, daylight savings has a purpose. The longer hours induce more it is lighter outside people tend to participate in more outdoor activities.DST is also a benefit for the economy since more people shop after work, increasing sales.

I strongly agree that we should too. maintain following DST time. Daylight Savings Time is an asset to our economy, people and safety and should remain in the

Get rid of it! By Emily Sudol

The United States should not keep daylight savings time. It causes health problems like increasing heart attacks and is expensive for companies like airports. Overall, if daylight saving time makes us feel worse like being sleep deprived and increases risks of health issues, we should stop it so we can benefit the health of people all around the United States.

Changing sleep patterns caused by daylight savings can lead to varying health problems. Studies show there is an increase of 10% of heart attack risks following the spring time change. Studies also show there is an increase of headaches after the fall time change. The risks of car accidents being fatal also rises by 5 to 6.5 percent. DST also causes people to be overly tired, causing workers for jobs to be sleepy and spend additional time on their devices. Not only this, but DST is expensive and time consuming. Even simply changing clocks costs about \$1.7 functioning, active lifestyle, since | billion dollars. People going on air crafts may be confused with the different time schedules without DST, and airports have spent \$147 million dollars fixing schedules. Overall, DST causes many issues and hardships to not only Americans, but companies

> To help increase the safety and health of Americans, DST should end and we wouldn't have to spend time changing clocks or worrying about constantly changing our schedules.

In the Middle



GMS Halloween Dance October 26th, 2023

Heritage Day at GMS - 10/20/23Students & Staff wear attire to represent their heritage











































GMS Wears Red Drug Prevention Week October 23-27, 2023

"Be Kind to Your Mind. Live Drug Free"

















ECLC comes to GMS for Halloween Performance October 27th, 2023



Blue Star Breakfast October 26, 2023

GMS kicks off a new year of Blue Star Club

Founded in 2009 by military spouses Blue Star Clubs empower military families to thrive by connecting them with their neighbors - to create strong communities of support. We are proud to host this club at GMS.











GMS Art Showcase



Page 10



Mrs. Gaboury's Art Classes Painting Murals











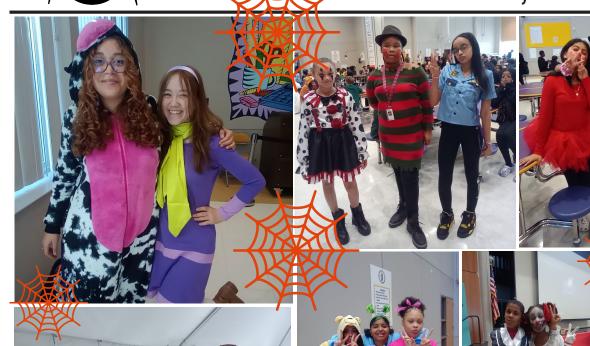




Emilia Buczek

Mason Martinez Henry Juarezdez

GMS gets creative - Halloween Costume Contest October 31, 2023























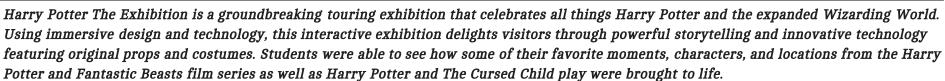


Trunk or Treat GMS Teachers vs. Pre-K Teachers Second Year Match up - The ECLC WINS AGAIN !! Photos by Maddex Ramirez, Grade 6





The Harry Potter Experience Field Trip October 5th, 2023









GMS Food Festival is Back! October 19th, 2023



The International Food Festival has returned to GMS! Here at GMS we recognize that food has a unique ability to transcend language barriers and bring people together. This festival was a testament to the power of cuisine in fostering cultural exchange. It was a celebration of diversity, unity, and a reminder that the world truly is a global village. The heart of the festival was, of course, the food. Each dish represented a different corner of the world, and visitors were invited to embark on a culinary journey. The festival's offerings were nothing short of remarkable, and every bite was a flavorful testament to the heritage and traditions of the student, staff and community's respective cultures.























The school newspaper is back !!

Look for our next issue with more articles
written by our outstanding students!

New Teacher Spotlight and more polls

GMS happenings and highlights

More book reviews
and of course, more GMS news!

