



LOST AND FOUND

By: Ayvia DaSilva & Orianna Hernandez



Photo Credit: Orianna Hernandez

We all lose something at one point, and when we do, most of the time it ends up in the lost and found. We have some questions and student opinions on the lost and found and how people steal from it.

We will start with some questions we asked the students at GRAIS. We asked Mya Lawrence if she had ever lost something and had found it at the lost and found. She said, "Yes, I have lost something and have found in the lost and found." Next question we asked Izzy Hingston, "Do you think the lost and found should be moved, and if so were?" She replied "Yes, in the office, in front of the TV." She said this because everyone knows the lost and found is on the stage but the problem is that is it not monitored. At lunch, the recess and lunch monitors are there, but it's probably hard to keep track of the kids and the lost and found. Putting the lost and found in front of the office would let the staff monitor it more, and kids would see it while walking in, and maybe find their lost item.

Another question we asked is if there should be a limited amount of time on how long something should be on the lost and found. "No, because if someone gets sick or is out for more than the limited amount of time they would not get the item they lost back," replied Sofie De Coste. We asked Kira Foster if she had ever witnessed a theft from the lost and found. She answered with, "Yes, because I have seen someone steal from the lost and found before, this happened because it was not monitored," which is one of the questions we discussed earlier. Our final question we asked was "Do you think the lost and found should be monitored?" which a lot of the kids here have started it should be. Tyler Gray said, "Yes, I think it should be monitored because the kids steal stuff."

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In conclusion, we came away with several ideas to make the lost and found better. First, we could move it to the hallway in front of the office. Having it there might discourage stealing. Second, we could try our best to keep the lost and found organized. Finally, we can all do our part by not taking things that do not belong to us. Some items are very valuable or have special meaning so it is best not to take things that are not ours.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR new year's resolutions

By: Autumn Arnone



Photo Credit: Phoebe Quinn

Have you ever noticed how hard it is to keep new year's resolutions? Being unable to keep resolutions is a problem many people face. If you are one of these people, don't worry I've got you covered! If you have a goal such as "be more active," take it one step at a time, like walk the the dog or play an outdoor game with a sibling. Work towards your goal. If you are not motivated to finish your goal (like being more active) then ask a friend to join you. Most things are more fun when you have a friend around. Also, if you and your friend have the same goal, then that's a plus!

How to Keep Specific Resolutions:

Keeping your room clean: How can you stop yourself from making your room look like a tornado hit it? Well, you could hire someone to do it, or you could get to work! First, toss out the trash and donate things in good condition. Now whatever you decided to keep, make sure that it has its own spot, so that if you need it you know where it is. Once you are done vow to never make a mess again!

Learning to cook: Your parents will leap for joy once they learn you can cook pasta. Cooking isn't that hard kind. Before you start, make sure that you know where the fire extinguisher is. Then grab the

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ingredients. Feel free to create new and exciting foods that are actually edible! If you aren't feeling creative, The Cooking Channel has great ideas and how-to's. Treat your family to a delicious meal and be proud no matter how many times you failed at cracking an egg.

Unplugging: It's time to take out those ear buds and spend time with your family. If your phone(or other device) is your life then try to spend time away from it. Even if you think you can't live without it trust me, it won't kill you to put your device down. Once your eyes aren't glued to a screen, go outside, play a board game, do things that kids without phones do when they are bored. Eventually you will use your device less and less and connect to real people instead of virtual ones.

Remember to keep true to yourself, don't lose what makes you, you. You are perfect just the way you are. You can achieve as long as you believe!

Favorite SPORTS Teams

By: Ava Richmond



Artwork By: Nicholas Connolly

We surveyed thirty-five people to find the New England Sports team that is the most popular. The New England Patriots received the most with fourteen votes. With eight votes, the Boston Celtics are the second most loved. Second to last, we have the Boston Bruins with seven votes. Close behind, we have the Boston Red Sox with six votes finishing last.

Why did people choose these teams? Was it how good each team played or was it their favorite sport? That is what you have to figure out.

Faculty Profile: Kevin Stains

by: Delaney Bazydlo



Artwork By: Anthony Sergio

Have you ever wondered why our school is so clean? It is because, of Kevin! He cleans the halls, lunch room, classrooms, floors, and a lot more. Kevin the custodian has worked at GRAIS for 14 whole years, which means he started in 2003. He decided he wanted to be a custodian at the age of 40. Kevin cleans up all of the messes we make during the day. When he was a young boy he wanted to be a truck driver. Kevin stays at school longer than we do and he comes to school before us and leaves after us. The grossest thing Kevin ever cleaned was human waste in the hallway! If it was not for Kevin, our school would be extremely filthy. Kevin puts in a lot of hard work all year long. He makes our school look squeaky clean so, we would like to thank Kevin for all his hard work!

UP COMING EVENTS

Date	Event
Monday, January 8th	4th Grade Handball w/ Mr. Lestage
Wednesday, January 10th	5th Grade Handball w/ Mr. Lestage
Monday, January 15th	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (NO SCHOOL)
Wednesday, January 17th	5th Grade Handball w/ Mr. Lestage
Monday, January 22nd	4th Grade Handball w/ Mr. Lestage
Wednesday, January 24th	5th Grade Handball w/ Mr. Lestage

secret santa

By: Ava DiGiammo



Photo Credit: Madison Nunes

Christmas is almost here! Spreading Christmas cheer can be so much fun! One way to do this is by exchanging presents with your friends. Would you like to participate in Secret Santa? Well I would! It begins with a group of friends who agree to exchange gifts. Then, they choose a name [either out of a hat or a bag] of the person they'll be buying a gift for. This is kept a secret and is the most important part of Secret Santa. Trying not to tell your friends who you're exchanging gifts with will be challenging. Also, keep in mind there is a limit on how much money you spend on each present. Do not go over or under budget! This ensures that each person will get and receive a gift that will be comparable and fair to all. Lastly, it is a fun way to start Christmas and is a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit. After all, who doesn't like to get a present besides when Santa Claus comes to your home? I know I do! Christmas is a perfect time for participating in Secret Santa!



SQUISHIES?

By: Sarah Doherty



Photo Credit: Mia Furtado

“Squishies are so cool!,” says everyone these days. But why are squishies such a new trend? Where do they come from? What are they made of? Most importantly, *what in the world is a squishy?*

Squishies were invented in Japan and are made of a man-made material called polyurethane. It was their squishy feel that gave them their name. Polyurethane was actually invented by a German named Otto Bayer. It was first used as airplane coatings in World War II. Just think that the same material that is used today in cars, is used in squishies. It can also be used as a wood finish and preservative.

There are many different types of squishies such as the stress squishy, the slow rising, or the fast rising. Most people liked the slow rising squishy best because it usually helps people relax and is sometimes used as a form of meditation. On the other hand, the fast rising squishy is not everyone's favorite but is still really cool. Some squishies are even scented for relaxation purposes. As you can see, there are many types of squishies on the market.

Doesn't everyone love slow rising squishies? We asked ten fourth-graders during lunch if they liked them and those people said that they “love, love, love squishies.” We found that if you squish them really hard or even sit on them they get super flat and small. Isn't that so cool?

Have you ever wondered about the real quality of squishies? When you squeeze them do you see the outside crinkle a little? We did some research and the quality is not very good actually. The smaller the squishy the better quality it has! Prices of squishies range from \$1 for smaller sized squishies to \$20 for a larger sized squishy.

I wonder how long the squishy trend will last? Time will only tell how long these colorful and expensive toys will be all the craze!



Photo Credit: Hailey Botelho

Are KIDS TOO YOUNG TO DATE?

By: Aurora Corbett & Madison Gilbert



Photo Credit: Joslyn Mota

Do you think kids are too young to date? Or do you think they should date at this age? In 4th and 5th grade kids have started dating at the very young age of 9, 10, and 11! Most students start dating in 6th grade and even that seems young to us. In our opinion, we think it's too young to start dating until at least 7th grade, but we've asked some students who have dated and what their opinions are.

One student said, “It's not a bad thing to date. By starting at this age it can prepare kids for middle school.” Another said, “I don't think it should be something to be afraid of and it doesn't have to be anything serious like hugging.” Although this is true, other kids have other opinions such as, “Why would they date? 11 is a very young age to be dating, and it's not even considered dating if you just like each other.” We asked a boy about his opinion on kids our age being too young to date and he replied, “No, all they have to do to date is to like each other.” A teacher mentioned “No!” when we questioned her in a very declarative way!

What do you think? Are kids really too young to date? Whether you agree or not, or have any questions, feel free to chat with us as we will be selling the papers one of the days at lunch, so look out for us!



MUSICIAN OF THE MONTH: MR. DUFF

By: Cameron Poirier



Photo Credit: MyKaela Santos

I am Cameron Poirier from the GRAIS Rising Star. I interviewed Mr. Duff because he his a very popular specialist teacher and I wanted the readers to know more about him. During the interview these were the questions that were asked and answered:

What inspired you to become a music teacher?

“I was inspired to become a music teacher because my old music teacher Mr. Barakat was the coolest and when I found out being a music was a paying job I was awestruck,” said Mr. Duff.

How did you prepare?

“I prepared by going to college, working hard, and practicing with instruments. My favorite instrument is the guitar and the saxophone,” answered Mr. Duff.

If you weren’t a music teacher what would you be? Why?

“If I wasn’t a music teacher I would be a meteorologist because I love the weather and think thunder, lightning, and hurricanes are the coolest.” He also added that “if anyone ever wants to know the weather go down to the music room and ask,” said Mr. Duff!

What's your favorite part of being a music teacher?

“My favorite part of being a music teacher is that music is a talent and not everyone can do it. I also love to interact with all the different instruments,” says Mr. Duff!

Who is your favorite singer and instrument artists? Why?

My personal favorite band is Arch Enemy because it pumps me up like how Katy Perry songs might pump you up,” said Mr. Duff.

Thank you Mr. Duff for taking some of your time to do this interview!



PROBOSCIS monkey

By: Jaden Barth



Photo Credit: Jaden Barth

This monkey is called a Proboscis Monkey. It is called this because it means a monkey with a big nose! That doesn't only make them unique, but it is also used as a warning call. The Proboscis Monkey has many predators. Some examples are the Clouded Leopard, Serpent Eagle, Gharial Crocodiles and Pythons! The monkeys have webbed feet for swimming. They are endangered because many of the trees they live in were cut down. If you want learn more, search the web or check out the TV Show *Wild Kratts* episode “Ker Honk” and learn find out so much more about these amazing animals!

COMMON NAME: Proboscis Monkey

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Nasalis larvatus*

TYPE: Mammals

DIET: Omnivores

GROUP NAME: Harem, band

SIZE: 24 to 28 in

WEIGHT: Up to 50 lbs (males)

SIZE RELATIVE TO A 6-FT MAN:



Endangered

CURRENT POPULATION TREND: Decreasing



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THE GRAIS RISING Star - Letter From THE EDITOR

By: Mr. Lestage

Our second year of the *GRAIS Rising Star* is off and running! We fell behind on a few deadlines due to a very busy beginning of the school year, but we are finally ready to get our issues out and read by the students of GRAIS.

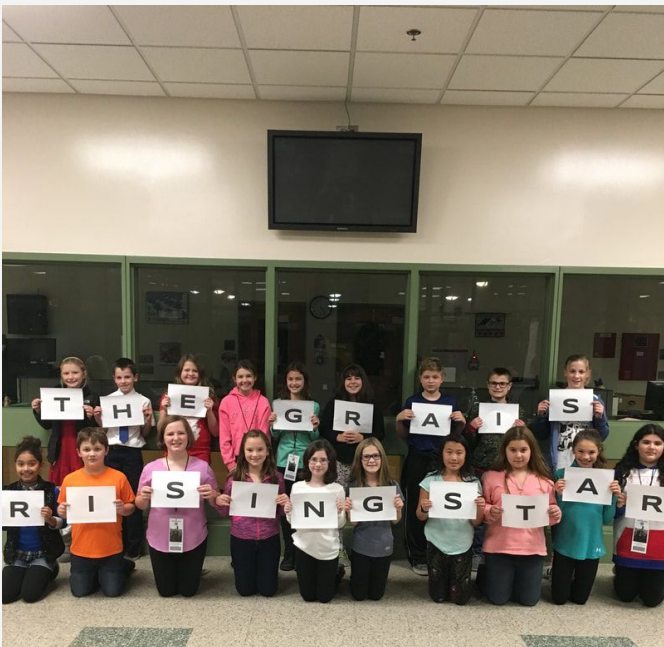
I have to first start off by saying thank you to this incredible group of students who have dedicated their time in and outside of school to be a part of a what has become a new tradition here at GRAIS. The *GRAIS Rising Star* was an idea that came to me right after the holidays last year and really took off at the end of last year. I was trying to think of a way to get students more excited to write and become more involved in our school community. We did exactly that! We published three issues in three months last year and sold over 800 copies! We have big goals set for ourselves this year and hope you enjoy it!

So why a newspaper? Well, let's face it - GRAIS has a very short transition. Students come from the elementary schools where they spend the first 4-5 years of their schooling, and are in and out of GRAIS in a flash of two years. I've always felt it can be difficult for the students to gain a sense of belonging and community in such a short time. The design of the school certainly doesn't help, as often times it feels like 4th and 5th grade are two separate schools. The newspaper aims to bring the building and grades together as a school-wide community. Our reporters will showcase ALL the great things that are going on in our school and bring us together with common interests, allowing classmates the ability to enjoy a paper "created by students, for students."

As you read the articles above, I hope you take the time to realize the dedication, drive, and hard work our team has put into this newspaper. They aim to be the voice of the school, but will need your help to make it as successful as possible. So when you see them around, say hello! Let them know what you thought of their article, both good and bad, questions you may have, or ideas for the future. We will only get better and achieve our goals with the help of the whole school.

MEET our Team

We are a group of twenty, dedicated students from 4th and 5th grade at GRAIS. Our positions range from journalists and photographers, to cartoonists, editors, page designers and collaborators. We meet monthly to brainstorm the happenings in and around our school and report out on topics we feel our readers will be most interested in.



The whole team.



5th grade team

Back Row (L-R): MyKaela S, Nichola C, Madison G, Phoebe Q, Autumn A, Anthony S
Front Row (L-R): Timothy M, Delaney B, Aurora C,, Orianna H, Ayvia D



4th grade team

Back Row (L-R): Mia F, Hailey B, Ava D, Madison B
Front Row (L-R): Cameron P, Sarah D, Ava R, Joslyn M

original artwork/comics/cartoons
(enlarged)



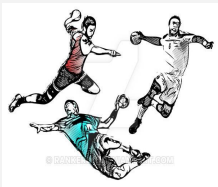
Artwork By: Anthony Sergio



Artwork By: Anthony Sergio

2018 GRAIS Handball Intramurals Program with Mr. Lestage – Fee: \$60

(Only 21 participants allowed in each grade)



Total Fee: \$60 (\$5 non-refundable registration fee + \$55 program fee = \$60)

Time: 2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. with Program Leader Mr. Lestage

Dismissal Location: Meeting in cafeteria at dismissal time

Pick up time and location: 3:30 outside GRAIS main entrance



MONDAYS - Grade 4 (boys and girls GRAIS students) – Limit of 21 students

Dates: Mondays – 01/08, 01/22, 01/29, 02/12, 02/26, 03/05, and 03/12 – **No handball on 2/5 (half day)**

WEDNESDAYS - Grade 5 (boys and girls GRAIS students) – Limit of 21 students

Dates: Wednesdays – 01/10, 01/17, 01/24, 01/31, 02/07, 02/14, and 02/28

(First 21 registration forms received along with payment for each grade will be able to participate in program).

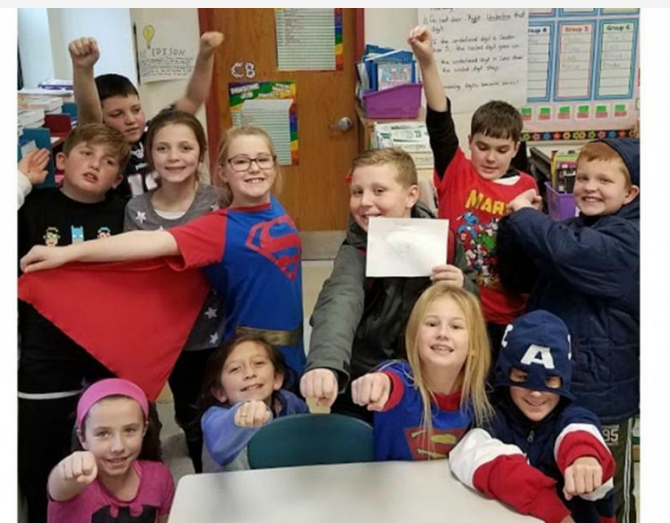
The Campus Programs Department will be sponsoring a GRAIS handball intramurals program under the direction of Mr. Lestage to introduce and develop fundamental handball skills. They will work on passing, catching, shooting, etc. and then they will play handball games. Most games have 7 on 7 (6 players and one goalie per team).

Any questions, call Diane Czapiga, Campus Programs Director, at (508) 923-2000, Ext. 1719 or e-mail: dczapiga@freelake.org.

Visit our website at www.freelake.org, click on Campus Programs Tab for upcoming programs

Online payment link: <https://unipaygold.unibank.com/Default.aspx?customerid=940> (under Comm Rec Campus Programs)

HOLIDAY PHOTOS



CHECK US OUT ONLINE!
- [HTTP://Graisingstar.weebly.com/](http://Graisingstar.weebly.com/) -
SEND TIPS/IDEAS TO: TLESTAGE@FREELAKE.ORG



THE GRAIS RISING STAR



"Created by students, for students."

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