



# Postcards From the Pandemic

*We asked students to write us short dispatches or draw graphic illustrations on what life in quarantine felt like.*

**IT HAS BEEN** hard during quarantine. It has been a different feeling that I have never felt before without all my friends around and my class. Staying at home all the time now means that I have had much time on my hands, so I have been focusing more on things that I have not had a chance to do while doing school. Some of the weirdest parts of staying home is for starters, when I go out a few times a week everyone is wearing masks! And there is a giant line around all stores! Some hard things for me during quarantine are not being able to see my friends and not being able to go to school and see my classmates. Something interesting about quarantine is that everyone sees it differently. Like some people really like having their parents teach them at home and some kids think the total opposite! The thing that really bothers me about staying at home are: 1. Not doing fun activities that are not inside my house! 2. Not knowing when we will be able to go back to school or see our friends 3. Not being able to go to sleepaway camp!

MADDI WHITE (4-509)

**WE'VE BEEN IN** quarantine for more than two months. One thing that I'm not happy about is that I don't get

to see my friends. It makes me feel sad. But I get to FaceTime them and we play video games together. One thing I did with my friends on FaceTime was we watched an old basketball game.

Also, I was disappointed because I was part of a basketball team before quarantine and two games away from playing for a championship when it was canceled.

On a good thought, during quarantine you do get to be close to your family.

BOBBY ESTRADA (4-521)

**WHEN MY DAD HAD** Coronavirus, life couldn't be harder! We weren't allowed to touch each other, or touch anything that the other had touched. My dad always had a mask on, and there was a barrier between my parents when they slept. My dad's friend had gone to the measure of finding hotels that allowed essential workers with Covid to live/sleep there. (He's a doctor.) It was kind of difficult for my dad to tell his friend that he was using a homemade barrier as protection. Besides the terrifying thoughts and things that happened when my dad had COVID-19, the worst thing was that we couldn't go hug or play with each other. My dad barely got any sunlight during this time!

But at least I have great teachers. Mr. Maniaci and Mr. Gerloff are very funny, always making dad jokes and playing

CONTINUED ON P3

## Teachers in Quarantine!

BY VIVIAN VACHERESSE (4-521) AND KENZIE OWENS (4-521)

Have you ever wondered what our teachers are doing in quarantine? We interviewed four P.S. 29 teachers, Ms. Nancy Henry, Ms. Leah Brunski, Ms. Jodie Porcelli, and Ms. Rachel Cohen, and asked them a couple of the same questions. They all had different (but still similar!) answers.

**What has been the hardest thing about being in quarantine?**

Ms. Nancy explained that not hugging people and not hanging out with her students in the classroom was hardest for her.

Ms. Rachel said she missed her students very much. That was the hardest part for her.

Ms. Jodie said that not seeing friends and students has been the hardest because she misses everyone so much.

And Ms. Leah (whose cute, two-and-a-half year-old son Zev joined our interview) said that it is hard for her to balance school life with family life.

It seems like all these teachers really miss their students.

**What have you been doing to entertain yourself during quarantine?**

Ms. Nancy said she enjoys listening to rap music, Zoom-ing with her friends, taking her dogs for walks, and doing workouts.

Ms. Rachel has been baking and reading a lot. Two books she has been enjoying are The Cactus and Harry Potter.

Ms. Jodie said her 19-month-old son Nick keeps her very entertained. She chases him around the yard and when it rains, they play inside.

Ms. Leah has been listening to a podcast about Michael Jordan for

CONTINUED ON P2



Francis Eghammer in front of his Stockholm school.

## From Brooklyn to Sweden

BY CLYDE DEFOREST BRITTELLE (4-509)

*Very soon after school was closed due to the Coronavirus my classmate in 4-509, Francis Eghammer, returned to Sweden. I became interested in what it was like in Sweden when my teacher said that Francis was going to school. That's kind of a miracle for kids in the U.S. who are doing remote learning. I emailed Francis questions and I wanted to share his answers. It's great to be able to hear from a member of the P.S. 29 community who is living in a different country and having a different experience.*

**Where are you in Sweden? How do you feel being back home?**

I'm in the central part of Stockholm, the capital of Sweden. Even though I liked Brooklyn a lot it feels good being home.

**I heard from Ms. Son that you are back at school. Are you at the same school you were before you came to the U.S.? What do you have to wear to school? Are you happy to be back in school or do you wish that you were in Brooklyn doing online schooling?**

I am in the same school and in the same class I was in before moving to the U.S. It's a really small school with only 90 students. I can wear whatever I want to when I go to school, just like at P.S. 29.

**Do you have to social distance when you walk around your city?**

We have social distancing in Sweden too, but its more open here than in the U.S. We don't need to wear a face mask when we go outside. But if you're 70 years or

older you're asked to stay home.

**Are you fine with the restrictions? Do they change your daily life?**

We don't have as many restrictions as in New York but it's sad that I can't visit my grandparents. We can't travel around as much as we like either, but it's okay staying in Stockholm.

**Can you eat at restaurants?**

All restaurants are still open here and almost all the shops too. I have soccer practice after school and I can also play with my friends.

**Do you miss anything about Brooklyn? When were you planning on returning to Sweden? Did it make you sad how quickly you had to leave or were you happy to be home during a scary time?**

I miss all my friends in school and all the skyscrapers. We don't have that many tall buildings in Sweden. The decision to move back to Sweden came a little quick and I'm sad that I couldn't say goodbye to my class before leaving.

**Do you tell your friends what Brooklyn was like with the pandemic?**

I have told my friends how empty Manhattan was and how empty the airport was when we left. It almost felt like in a movie. We took the only flight that day from Newark.

**Do you feel scared in Sweden? Could you maybe tell me a specific moment?**

I don't feel scared here, but I wasn't scared in Brooklyn either.



# All About Rezoning

BY LEO ROIPHE (5-527)

If one person who knew nothing about rezoning then decided to learn more and began reading different news articles, they could end up confused and with more questions than they started with. So in this article, I'll try to explain the school rezoning in District 15 in a way that makes sense. (If it's possible.)

Before I explain school rezoning, I need to explain general rezoning. The city plans to rezone North Brooklyn. The Zoning and Land Use Map, or ZoLa, separates the area into three main districts: Residential, Manufacturing, and Commercial. One example of what this does is that, say, you wanted to build a house in a manufacturing district. You wouldn't be able to, as only manufacturing buildings are allowed in that specific area. The same goes for any other area that ZoLa applies to.

Now, to get into School Rezoning. The School Rezoning changes different borders and lines for different public schools. If someone lives inside the borders of one school, they can apply to that school. These lines are meant to stop overcrowding and favor integration. P.S. 29 is one of the most sought after and desired schools; under rezoning, its lines would change to encourage integration. Studies from Chalkbeat.

org show that enrollment in our school is made of roughly 74% white children. But the question is, will the rezoning of District 15 help make our community more diverse?

There are currently three plans that were originally scheduled to be voted on this spring. With the chaos caused by the COVID crisis, this decision has been pushed off but it will eventually have to be decided. One plan is to have no zones, and have families have a lottery number, much like our public middle school process, and the others propose different zones.

P.S.29 Principal Rebecca Fagin says, "I think the real big challenge there (the lottery option) is that it kind of takes away from the community feeling. I think some people would think it was unfair that they moved hoping to attend a neighborhood school and that they have to travel to take their child to school in the morning. I can understand that challenge, but at the same time in order to achieve true integration and really put diversity in all of these six schools, I think you probably have to do something as dramatic as that."

The DOE (Department of Education) proposes the idea to stop the overcrowding of many schools, and bring more integrated balance to the schools. One of the plans would make it so there

were fewer seats at P.S. 29, but Dr. Fagin is not sure if that plan would really solve the problem of further integrating our school.

She says, "I have mixed feelings because it really just ends up making our zones smaller and the biggest impact is that our school would have fewer children attending. I don't know if that necessarily solves any problem. We'd still have larger class sizes, we'd just have fewer sections of those classes. So I don't know if that's going to help us with class size. I don't really believe it's going to have a very big impact on diversity for us."

The community members of District 15 started a "participatory action research project" (PAR) to help find what effects the rezoning plans might have, with the goal of good and integrated education for their children. Now, with this year's school closings and uncertainty about whether remote learning will continue in the Fall, everything is up in the air.

The only people that will be affected by any of these new plans, even if they do go through, will be new families with children going into kindergarten in fall of 2021 who don't have older siblings attending a particular public school. Any child currently enrolled will be able to stay through fifth grade.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue is unprecedented, like so much else that has transpired since COVID-19 sent students home to shelter-in-place. We were close to finishing our second print issue of the year when NYC schools were closed. The fourth and fifth graders of Newspaper Club had put together a stellar collection of reports, articles and interviews documenting life at P.S. 29. Sadly, much of that reported on events and projects that were wrecked by Corona. We were also planning a literary supplement and had started gathering poetry, fiction, reviews and essays.

At first, we hoped we'd be able to reconvene and with some tweaks publish the as we'd planned. As weeks turned into months, we realized we needed to do something different and decided to embark on a remotely assembled hybrid issue. We knew it would be hard to coordinate, and it was. But we're grateful to parents and student reporters who refused to let quarantine hinder their work. The result is this one-time only digital edition of *The 29 Post*. It consists of articles written early in 2020, creative work for our literary project and reporting from quarantine designed to give a sense of the scope and meaning of the time we've lived through. We hope it helps students remember what's so special about P.S. 29.

This is also the final issue for a longtime team of parent volunteers. It's been our pleasure and privilege to work with extraordinary parents, teachers, administrators and, of course, students. Newspaper Club forever!

# Quarantined But Still Baking!

BY PENNY FRANKLIN (5-506)

To keep occupied during quarantine, I've been baking. I have baked chocolate chip cookies, lemon cupcakes, banana bread, blueberry muffins, Irish potato bread, Hamantaschen, and challah. Baking is really helpful because it is really hard to keep occupied and be away from the world, so I bake to have something to do — and to have a little treat.

When we baked the chocolate chip cookies, we made a bunch of them and delivered them to friends close to our house. We also went to Manhattan to give them to my mom's friends.

Before that, we found a way to give some treats to the healthcare workers through a friend. We decided to make the healthcare workers the lemon cupcakes.

We made four batches and delivered them to a friend who gave them to her husband who is a nurse, who took the cookies to the hospital (we kept one batch for ourselves). We also got some pictures back of the doctors with our cupcakes.

My family's favorite cookies are the mini lemon pound cupcakes. Here is the recipe.



From left: Penny making her mini lemon pound cakes, medical staff enjoying the cakes!



## MINI LEMON POUND CAKES

Prep: 25 min. Total: 2 hr. Servings: 60 cupcakes  
Enjoy these citrus-flavored mini pound cakes sprinkled with sugar – a perfect baked dessert. (Recipe from Betty Crocker Kitchens)

### INGREDIENTS:

- ¾ cup butter or margarine, softened
- 4 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 ½ cups granulated sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour

- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons grated lemon peel
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- ¼ cup powdered sugar

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Place mini paper baking cups in each of 60 mini muffin cups; spray paper cups with cooking spray.
2. In a large bowl, beat butter and cream cheese with an electric mixer on medium speed 2 minutes or until light and fluffy. Gradually add

granulated sugar, beating until blended. Beat on medium speed for 5 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating just until blended after each addition. On low speed, beat in flour and salt until smooth. Beat in lemon peel and juice. Divide batter evenly among muffin cups.

3. Bake for 15 to 17 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool 10 minutes; remove from pans to cooling racks. Cool completely. Sprinkle cakes with powdered sugar before serving.

CONTINUED FROM P1

## Teachers in Quarantine

entertainment.

**When quarantine is over, what are you going to do first?**

Ms. Nancy said she will go outside and take a deep breath.

Ms. Rachel replied, "I am going to give lots of people hugs and then go to my friend's house."

Ms. Leah explained she will go outside and go get take out food in the city.

Ms. Jodie said, "I hope we can go to the beach soon!" She also wants to go to Colorado to see her niece and sister. "I

hope we can fly again soon!" she said.

**On a scale from one to 10, how badly do you want to get out of quarantine?"**

Ms. Nancy said she would give it an eight.

Ms. Rachel said, "48!"

Ms. Leah said "11!"

Ms. Jodie replied, "10! I wish for everyone's sake we can get back to normal sooner rather than later!"

We miss all our friends and teachers and hope to see them very soon!





# Postcards From the Pandemic

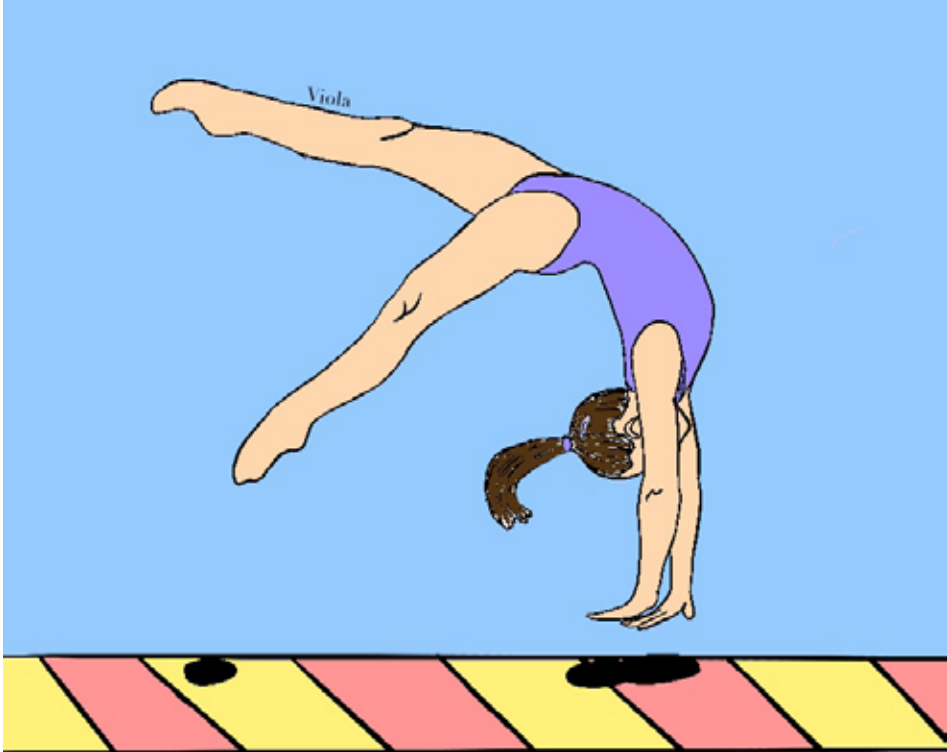
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the awful song Friday (by Rebecca Black). Whatever they teach us, they add a joke to it, or some fun fact that is actually interesting. Even though my dad doesn't have Covid anymore, all of the funny things that my teachers do always make me feel better than I did the previous day.  
MOBY SOOHOO SCHWARTZ (5-500)

**THIS HAS BEEN** a really difficult time. I'm feeling a mix of emotions because I am annoyed that we are stuck in the house, worried that this could get worse, and very disappointed that we didn't get to do the play or graduation. The most surprising thing that happened while we were in quarantine was in the early evening of 5/12. We're in Woodstock, New York, so we share the mountains with bears. That night, my sister Milena mistook a bear for a dog. She had thought that it was Mungo, our neighbor's dog and thought that the bear's leg was Mungo's tail. So Milena went outside and almost ran up to the bear and hugged it. That was when she ran back inside and started crying. After seeing a human, the bear strolled down the lawn away from the house. We managed to get a picture of it, though. Usually, we see smaller bears and cubs, but this time we saw a full-grown adult — and a big one at that! But the best thing is that we have "quaranteamed" with our neighbors up the hill (Mungo's owners). We get to do things with them every weekend, which is a nice break from just our family.  
RAPHAEL COHEN (5-506)

**BEING STUCK** in quarantine has me feeling multiple emotions right now. There are some upsides, and some downsides. The downsides are that I can't see any of my friends. I miss them all and I'm upset about the fact that all of us are going to different middle schools so even when the coronavirus dies down, we still can't see each other as often. The upsides are that now that I'm stuck and bored at home, I push myself to try and learn new things. For example, when I was still going to school, I only enjoyed two sports and wasn't looking to learn how to play new ones, but now that I'm at home, I was watching a show and it got me to tell myself, "Hey, this sport looks fun! Let me try it!" Now for the past two months I've been going outside and practicing how to play volleyball. Yes, I'm not that good at it yet, but I've made quite a lot

BY VIOLA FONTAINE (4-524)



of progress even though I'm teaching myself. I miss you all and hope to see you again soon!  
TEGAN WAXMAN (5-527)

**FOR THE PAST** few weeks in quarantine I have been really trying to be relaxed and not let all my thoughts sink into my brain. I have been trying to feel calm and I think that if we all stay home long enough this could maybe go away. In the meantime, make the best of home!  
CECE SCHOENBERG (4-509)

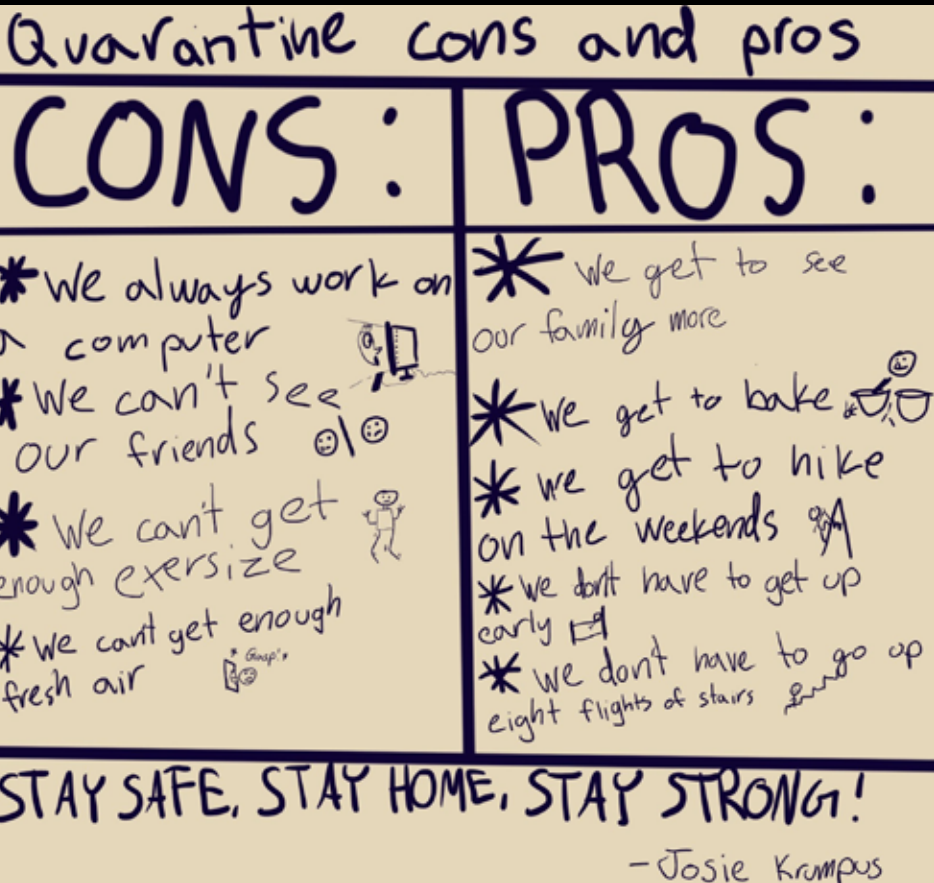
**QUARANTINE IS** so weird. Of course I miss all of the memories that I would have been having for fifth grade and all the friends that I can't see in person. But one thing that I have enjoyed is spending more time with my family, we are also spending quarantine with my grandparents and cousins so that is fun. One thing that I've benefited from in quarantine is less controlled screen time — I get to stay up late with friends. I also like having more time to not have schoolwork because I get to do other things like hang out with my cousins. One thing I'm excited about is I'm getting a chocolate lab puppy really soon.  
ELLA KLINGENSMITH (5-506)

**QUARANTINING IS** an absolute drag. I now realize how much I love seeing actual people! I've been trying to keep busy with school work and am helping the FDNY with fire safety

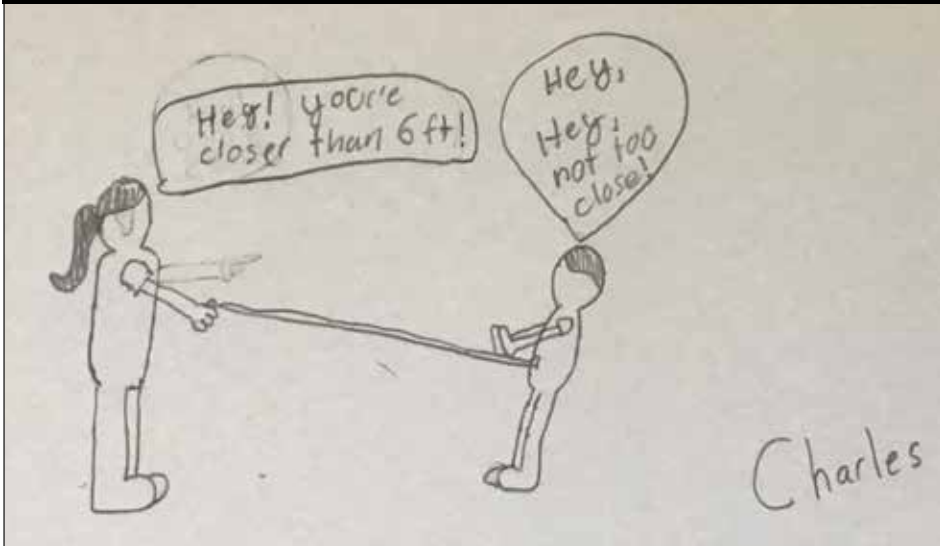
friends, had my favorite breakfast, and even had a socially distant visit from my best friend! I also played a drawing game via Zoom and did an Escape Room challenge with my family inside. All in all I thought having a birthday where I got to spend more time with my family was really awesome.  
CHLOE ELEANOR ROBERTS (4-509)

**I FEEL VERY** depressed about the coronavirus. The reason I feel depressed is because I can't see my friends and play games with them. Some of my antidepressants are playing video games or taking baths. I also feel less active because I am not able to go outside as much as I used to — I used to play basketball for at least two hours each day. I miss that because it not only helped me physically and socially, but also mentally. But I do feel sort of happy because my mom got me a new iPhone 11 (which I have been wanting ever since it came out). With the phone I can communicate with my friends. I also am feeling stressed because I have school at home and there are so many things that can distract me from my school work like my new iPhone. I am also worried about my favorite NBA basketball team (the Brooklyn Nets) having 4 people with the coronavirus including superstar Kevin Durant. Even though the Nets haven't announced all 4 people, I know that my favorite player (Spencer Dinwiddie) doesn't have the virus. I know this will all end one day and I am really looking forward to that day.  
JONAH ZINOMAN (5-500)

CONS AND PROS BY JOSIE KRUMPUS (4-507)



SOCIAL DISTANCING BY CHARLES JAFFE (5-504)



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# What’s Your Personal Style?

BY TEGAN WAXMAN (5-527), JULIANE JANSSEN (5-506), ROSE HERPER (5-527), AND CATE GOLDSCHMID (5-527)

If you are not sure what style you are, but you are interested in “being” a style, take this quiz.

**What kind of music do you listen to?** (None of these are totally exclusive, you can like other music along with these.)

- a. Gothic rock
- b. Sad, moody music (i.e. Billie Eilish, Twenty One Pilots)
- c. Bubbly mainstream pop songs
- d. Girly pop songs
- e. Fast punk and hip-hop

**What is one of your favorite color combos?**

- a. Primarily black, with white/dark color details
- b. Black and dark colors
- c. Whites, pinks, and peachy colors
- d. Rainbow colors, and an assortment of grays or whites
- e. Blacks, grays, and earth tones

Now answer the boxes below, and right. Then calculate which letter you picked the most.

**If you got mostly A, you’re Goth!** (*Rose’s pick*)

Goth is a style that consists of mostly dark colors, namely black. But Goth is about the love of anything most people would find creepy, then just wearing all black. It goes with a style of rock music that originated in the 1970s from post-punk. Goth is a music-based subculture, and music is still very important. It is short for Gothic. Some styles of Goth are more industrial like Cybergoth, or more ornate. Big hair is a Traditional Goth look, but you can really do anything.

**Which outfit would you wear?**



**Which shoes would you wear?**



mean it in a positive or negative way, and which version they are referencing.

**If you got mostly C, you’re a Soft Girl!** (*Cate’s Pick*)

Soft girls are popular on social media. Soft girls have more of a cutesy feminine look, and are normally tender, sweet, vulnerable people. This fashion was popular in 2018. Soft girls sometimes post their pictures on Tumblr, and have a presence on TikTok. It’s not really a music-based subculture. They often use pastel colors and white, and sometimes dye their hair to match.

Soft girls tend to wear: Light colors, often pink and yellows; floral or heart patterns; oversized sweaters and plaid skirts; cute necklaces; Items of clothing with cherries and peaches; hair clips; headbands; heavy light pink blush.

**If you got mostly D’s, you’re VSCO!**

VSCO is one of the many popular fashion styles and trends. The term VSCO was originally used to project surprise or embarrassment and is originally from RuPaul’s drag race, but now people have pushed that aside and call themselves that. Many 5th and 4th graders claim that “VSCO girls have died out,” despite the style being quite popular at the beginning of the year.

A VSCO girl’s catch phrases are “Sksksk,” (which stands for laughter) and “and I oop-!”

VSCO girls often wear the following: big t-shirts and sweatshirts; scrunchies (in their hair and on their wrists); Vans; Crocs and Birkenstocks (sometimes);

Puka shell necklaces or chokers; own Hydroflask water bottles and use metal straws.

**If you mostly got E, you’re a Skater Girl/Boy!**

Skater fashion is casual, care-free, and rebellious. It’s been around for a while, but it’s having a revival. It’s really popular in fifth grade, middle school, and high school. Skaters tend to wear oversized, baggy clothes. Skaters often wear the following:

Vans (an essential); Thrasher T-shirts; graphic T-shirts; Dickies work pants; baggy Levi’s; A skateboard.

There are so many different types of Goth — the following is not a style guide, but more of a

basic introduction to the Goth subculture. I encourage you to do further research if you are interested in the Gothic subculture.

**Goth style often consists of:**

Lacy, ornate black clothing or black leather, or even a steampunk outfit, Peter Pan-collared black dresses, black leather, black chokers, creepers or black boots, brimmed black hats, skulls, lacy tights, black lipstick,

dark eyeliner, black/dyed hair

**If you got mostly B, you’re Emo!** (*Tegan’s Pick*)

**The e-girl look** was created as a counter to the mainstream aesthetic and standards of beauty. They are tuned into video games, as well as in internet slang on Discord and YouTube.

The basic look of the e-girl can be broken down with this starter pack, a group of typical items these teens are frequently found with or associated with: dyed hair: hair is dyed 50-50 between two colors. Sometimes, in pigtails. Heavy black eyeliner: Dark,



thick, winged eyeliner, and sometimes also applied right below each eye to make tiny shapes or icons. Pink Blush: On nose and cheeks, and maybe some intense highlighter.

Jewelry: Septum or another facial piercing, and an O-ring collar or chain necklace.

Part anime-, part Goth-inspired clothing: Long layered shirts (perhaps a band t-shirt over a striped long sleeve) or a crop top, belt-loop chains, and A-line skirts or high-waisted cargo pants.

Sad, moody music: Think Billie Eilish, or Twenty One Pilots.

**E-Boys** are typically characterized by their emo-influenced fashion sense as well as their online presence. A stereotypical e-boy can be found on Instagram or TikTok wearing skater clothes, nail polish, and a single dangle earring, with his hair parted down the middle.

It’s not always clear what someone is referring to when they use the term e-boy. Context clues can be helpful in determining whether they



**Which accessory would you want?**



**Which hair style is your favorite?**



## Your Favorite Styles, Shoes and Accessories

BY TEGAN WAXMAN (5-527), JULIANE JANSSEN (5-506), ROSE HERPER (5-527), AND CATE GOLDSCHMID (5-527)

Everyone is different. Everyone has a different personality, a different voice, and a different style. So of course you know what you wear. But have you ever wondered what the rest of P.S. 29 wears?

**Top Clothing and Accessories**

**Big Hoodies:** These are usually oversized sweaters (the type without zippers).

**Ripped Jeans:** Jeans with big rips.

Quite self explanatory.

**Crop Top:** Shorter shirts, sometimes showing your belly button.

**Hoop earrings:** Large circular earrings.

**Baggy pants:** Baggy, low-crotch pants.

**Top Four Most Popular Shoes**

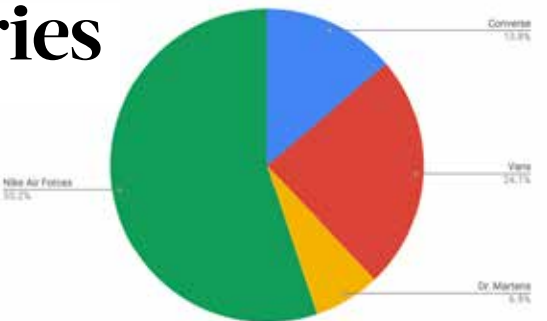
We asked fifth graders at P.S. 29 what they think the most popular shoes are. These were the top responses:

# 4: Dr. Martens. Dr. Martens are boots. They are also commonly known as “Doc Martens” or “Docs.”

# 3: Converse. Converse is an American shoe company that designs, distributes, and licenses sneakers, skating shoes, lifestyle brand footwear, apparel, and accessories.

# 2: Vans. Vans is an American manufacturer of skateboarding shoes. It’s owned by VF Corporation. The company also sponsors surf, snowboarding, BMX, and motocross teams.

# 1: Nike Air Force 1. In 1982, Nike called for designers to make a shoe that



embodied the popularity of basketball and the Nike Tailwind, which had been released four years prior. Bruce Kilgore was the primary designer for the Air Force 1.



# Green Team: Past, Present, and Future

BY ZACHARY MULLENS (4-524)

Most of you know P.S. 29 has a Green Team run by the lower grade science teacher, Ms. Tina Reres. This year, before school was closed, she added a lot more kids with some helpers including P.S. 29’s upper grade science teacher, Ms. Tiso and some other green team parent volunteers.

The Green Team started in 2012. Before that, there was a third grade teacher named Ms. Pritchard who had her students come to all the classes and taught them how to recycle trash and why it’s important to do so.

In 2012, P.S. 29 administrators decided to start a Green Team. Ms. Reres wanted students to help recycle in the classrooms and reduce waste at our school.

“I have always taught students about the issues our environment is facing,



animals being endangered and the relationship we share with them. I wanted our students to come together to try and find solutions for some of those issues and educate others about what we can do every day to make a change,” says the K-2 science teacher and creator of the Green Team.

“Since we founded the club, it has been very popular and we have done a beach clean-up, helped Borough Hall begin recycling in their building, gone

to City Hall to protest against the use of Styrofoam, made capless bottles, and so much more.” Ms. Reres says.

We’ve also learned about recycling at a recycling plant.

“I think it was a big step up for the Green Team because that was the first time that we ever cleaned up a busy public surface. After the end of the beach cleanup, there was half as much garbage on the beach,” Clyde says of the Coney Island beach clean up (his favorite moment on Green Team.)

Also SIMS recycling center was a great learning experience as the 2020 green team learned more about recycling.

“I got to see how they sort the recyclables and the machines that help them do it. I even saw a room where these big bulldozers picked big piles of recyclables up and then dumped them on to a ramp where they would then go into the sorting room,” says fourth grade

team member Clyde.

Ms. Reres added more kids this year to give more people the chance to help the environment. The Green Team is working on projects to teach more people about the environment, bad things we do, and ways to save it.

Hopefully you’ll learn something and help the environment soon.

In the future the Green Team may have more or fewer students depending on how school is set up this fall. Ms. Reres and ms. Tiso have also been exploring ways for the Green Team to come together virtually since in-person meetings are impossible for the moment.

“I would like to have more classroom teachers help me and Ms Tiso. I would also like to see Green Team monitors in every classroom Pre-K through 5.” Ms. Reres says.

I hope you’ve learned about the past, present, and future of the green team!

## What Does the Mood Meter Do?

BY ALEA O'BRIEN (4-521)

Have you ever heard of the mood meter? The Mood Meter is a tool that helps people measure their feelings. The mood meter was created by the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. Sometimes people don’t use their words to show their feelings. That’s where the Mood Meter comes in:, the Mood Meter is there to help people transfer their feelings into words. But is the Mood Meter a successful idea?

Many people work with their feelings in different ways. For example, Sara Thorne and Dan Turret, who teaches 3-400, put Post-it notes with the kids’ names on them on the Mood Meter. Dan says, “It’s nice that kids know that there’s lots of different ways to feel and understand that feelings are complicated.”

Sara and Dan agree that the Mood Meter is a successful tool idea, but some kids have a different view. Halle, Evelyn and Ooona all have different thoughts. They think people don’t always want to share their feelings, because feelings can be kind of personal. Dan thinks that “it’s nice that kids know that there’s lots of different ways to feel and understand that feelings are complicated.”

Ms. Rachel Certner, who teaches second grade, has smaller kids so she made a meter by herself by putting a happy face, an okay face, and a sad face on the meter and they put Post-its on the meter. Ms. Certner’s meter had the same purpose as the Mood Meter, except it was easier for younger kids to understand its purpose. She believes it’s important to be able to pinpoint your feelings. So even though she does not have a Mood Meter she still teaches kids about their feelings. like the Mood Meter would do.

Ms. Elisabeth, who teaches fifth grade, believes the Mood Meter helps kids of all ages get a bigger vocabulary to describe their emotions, and like the other teachers she believes that it is important to discuss and share your feelings.

Overall, people have many different feelings about the Mood Meter, and it works slightly differently depending on the classroom. We’ll see if it’s brought back next year.



## A Fond Farewell to our Beloved Ms. Nobles

This oddest ever of all school years ended on a bittersweet note at P.S. 29 when beloved PE teacher Ms. Kathy Nobles announced her retirement in June after 20 years.

As she wrote in her farewell note, "It's always been my goal to create a diverse PE program that kids will find challenging but also fun." Boy, did she deliver!

Ms. Nobles was, by far, one of the most popular subjects for Newspaper Club kids looking to write about their school experience. The first issue of the *29 Post* this year featured a profile of Ms. Nobles, “one of the most respected teachers in the school,” with an emphasis on her youthful athletic experiences. It was the latest of countless *29 Post* articles, photos and interviews inspired by Kathy and the many school projects that wouldn’t exist without her.

Every spring, the paper traditionally publishes a two-page photo spread featuring the Kick Butts Field Day activities. This wouldn’t exist without Ms. Nobles. Every year numerous students want to write about the beloved Streb program enjoyed



Ms. Nobles is retiring!

by third graders. This wouldn’t exist without Ms Nobles. Generations of spirited young girls have been taught the value of competition, the critical importance of hard work and the

necessity of staying classy in Ms. Nobles’ sorely missed girls’ sports class after school. Many more students learned the importance of staying in shape at one of Ms. Nobles’ wildly popular Move-It in the Mornings, which took place at 7:45am.

Principal Rebecca Fagin summed up Ms. Nobles’ singular importance: “In many ways Kathy is the embodiment of all that is wonderful at P.S. 29 — our collective creativity and spirit as a community, the joy and focus on wellness, including Move-It in the Mornings, Move to Improve, Streb and Kick Butts Day. These traditions have made up the fabric of our school and were all seeds planted by Ms. Nobles. If Kathy’s hands were in the project, it was guaranteed to be BIG and something that families and students would rally behind. It hurts to think about how much we will miss her, but we also recognize that she leaves behind a legacy of events and traditions and a mindset about working hard despite the odds that will forever be part of who we are at 29.”

We remain forever in your debt, Ms. Nobles. We’ll never forget you.

## A Chat With Mrs. Crowley

BY MAYA MCMAHON (4-524)

Have you ever wondered where a teacher was raised, or how they came to be living in New York City? Well Mrs. Crowley is from a town called Ardara in County Donegal, Ireland.

I asked Mrs. Crowley about her home country. “I love my town,” she said. “It is the size of two blocks and everyone knows everybody, people were always so kind and helpful to each other.”

I was wondering who had first inspired Mrs. Crowley to be a teacher. “No particular person,” she explained. “I always loved school, and from a young age I dreamed about being a teacher. When I was little I played school with my siblings and I was always the teacher!”

Since Mrs. Crowley has worked at P.S. 29 for so long, it made me wonder what college she went to. “I went to Saint Francis college,” she said. “I babysat during the day and went to school at night.”

After that, she went to graduate school at the College of Staten Island.

“It took me two more years of night school. I taught kindergarten at P.S. 29 during the day and then went to school during the night.”

And she was doing all this while she had a one year old baby at home and was pregnant!

Since Mrs. Crowley is so passionate about teaching, I asked her if her parents had wanted her to become a teacher.

“Not at first,” she said. “They were victims of their time. At that time in my little town, most girls left school to go work in the factory. My parents didn’t understand why I would not do that, as my four sisters went to the factory and were happy there.”

Mrs. Crowley was very brave to go her own way, when so many others did what was expected of them.

Since Mrs. Crowley’s parents didn’t want her to become a teacher, I wondered if they were proud of her once she became a teacher. “Sadly, my mum passed away before I graduated, but I know she was proud and very happy for me.”

Since Mrs. Crowley had other siblings, too. “There’s ten of us,” she explained. “I have four sisters and five brothers, all living in Ireland, except one brother who lives on Long Island.”

Can you imagine having that many siblings? It must have been really hard to grow up with that many siblings.

Ireland is really far away — I wanted to know if Mrs. Crowley came all by herself, or with a family member or friend.

She said, “I came with a friend that I met in the factory.” I think that it must have been very hard not to come with a family member.

I asked Mrs. Crowley if she was scared to come to America when she was only 21 years old. “Yes, very!” she said.

“In fact, I was so scared and homesick for the first few months that I almost moved back home. If not for my friend, I would not have stayed. I’m so glad she forced me to stay!”

Mrs. Crowley is really thankful for her friend: without her, she might not be in America right now.



# Columbus in the Classroom

**EDITORIAL**  
BY CLYDE DEFOREST BRITTELLE (4-509)

Everybody knows who Christopher Columbus was. He was an amazing guy, the person who discovered America. Well, sorry to burst your bubble but none of that is true. If you thought Columbus was the first European to set foot in the New World you're misinformed. Leif Erikson, who was a Viking, landed in America 500 years before Columbus. More importantly, neither of them really "discovered" the continent. The first people to live here were the Indigenous people of America. So if anybody should be honored, it's them.

As a journalist and future historian (and current fourth grader), it was only a matter of time before I became curious about how fourth grade teachers at PS 29 taught their students about Columbus. I wondered which teachers were going to reveal the truth about Christopher Columbus. I know that the truth is he was a horrible man who was responsible for mass genocide within the Taino tribe and population. I learned that Columbus was "the man who discovered America" when I was too young to know the complete truth of what happened and of what he did. We even have a holiday to honor him! I couldn't wait to discuss this with some of PS 29's fourth grade teachers.

I interviewed three of the 4th grade teachers. Ms. Son (4-509), Ms. Nancy (4-521) and Ms. Leah(4-509). They all said the same thing: what Columbus did was bad. I feel good that they were all in



Columbus' statue in Manhattan

agreement. After I interviewed them, I started to think about how their teachers had taught them about Columbus because I wanted to know if they formed their opinions based on what their teachers taught them or if they got their opinions somewhere else along the way. I think it's nice that these teachers not only tell their students their interpretation of the truth but let their students develop their own opinions by encouraging them to look through lots of other resources.

For other kids at PS 29 who want to learn more about Columbus, I personally know of two great books that teach about Columbus. One is A Young People's History of the United States by Howard Zinn and the other is The USA: Horrible Histories by Terry Derry. I learned that Columbus wrote this in the ship's log

about Native Americans from Howard Zinn's A Young People's History of the United States:

"They...brought us parrots and balls of cotton and spears and many other things, which they exchanged for the glass beads and hawk's bells. They willingly traded everything they owned....They were well built, with fine good bodies and handsome features....They do not bear arms, and do not know them, for I showed them a sword, they took it by the edge and cut themselves out of ignorance. They had no iron. Their spears are made out of cane....They would make good servants....With fifty men we could subjugate [overpower] them and make them do whatever we want."

I feel horrible thinking that our leaders believe that we should have a holiday to honor a man who, when he saw a population that he could easily overcome, immediately thought about what he can make them do for him.

In recent protests, statues of Christopher Columbus have been beheaded, and they are a source of anger in cities across the country.

Today Indigenous Peoples Day is celebrated in 8 states and 130 cities across 34 states. It is celebrated in New York City but not an official holiday. As more kids learn what Columbus actually did and more teachers teach the truth, I believe that there will be an Indigenous Peoples Day in all 50 states because more people will advocate for the truth. This would mean indigenous tribes and people across the country would finally be honored in the way they deserve.

## What Is The United Nations?



BY ELIJAH ABRY (5-500)  
AND JONAH ZINOMAN (5-500)

Did you know that there is an organization called the United Nations (UN)? It is like a global police. It is made up of several bodies, but the two main ones are the General Assembly and the Security Council. Its headquarters is the United Nations Building in New York, NY, USA, but there are offices in the Netherlands, Austria, Kenya and Switzerland.

### What Is the Security Council?

The United Nations Security Council consists of five Permanent Security Council members: the United States of America, Russian Federation, 5th French Republic, People's Republic of China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The other, non-permanent nations are The Federal Republic of Germany, The Kingdom of Belgium, The Dominican Republic, Republic of Estonia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Republic of Indonesia, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, The Republic of South Africa, The Republic of Tunisia and the Republic of Niger.

### What Is the General Assembly?

The United Nations General Assembly consists of all 193 nations in the world. It had its first meeting on January 10, 1946 in London, and is responsible for all UN Peacekeeping Missions and is mainly responsible for the UN Budget.

### What Is the UN Secretariat?

The Secretariat is one of six main branches of the United Nations, and is kind of like its executive branch. The current Secretary General of the UN is António Guterres of Portugal, who is the ninth Secretary General.

### What Is the International Court of Justice?

The International Court of Justice in the Hague, Netherlands is responsible for making court decisions by the UN. It is led by Abdulqawi Yusuf as President and Xue Hanqin as Vice President.

### What Wars Have the UN Stopped?

Throughout its history (1945 - present), the UN has stopped wars from continuing and has stopped wars from happening. An example of this is during the Cold War (1948-1991): the UN prevented a full-scale war between the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). This war would have been World War III, and it might have been the nuclear war everyone feared. The UN can deploy peacekeepers to stop wars.

### History of the United Nations

In 1939, the earliest concrete plan for the UN was drawn up and in 1942, twenty-six nations signed the Declaration of the United Nations. After the end of WWII, the UN started a whole new role as the world police. It also took on an even more difficult position: stopping WWII during the Cold War. When the Cold War ended in 1991, the UN started to have a bigger role in the world and it still does today.

## Viola Battles the COVID Robots Pt. 1

BY VIOLA HANNIGAN (3-425)

(Sung to the tune of "Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots Pt 1" by The Flaming Lips.)

*I hate this stupid virus  
I wish I could go to school again  
I want to have a play date  
But I can't 'cause of this virus*

*Cause we know that it's demanding  
When we're home on our own  
But she knows we can do this  
Oh Viola, I know you told us  
And we won't let this virus defeat us  
Oh Viola, I know you told us  
And we wont let this virus defeat us*



BAR

VEKSLERS

FOOD

P.S. 29

7PM CHEER BY ZACHARY MULLENS (4-524)	
Woo	Laughing
Ding ding	Ding ding
The dog	The cowbell
Rushes	An occasional
To the	essential
Window	worker
In excitement	Coming down
The window	The street
opens	The 7:00 cheer
Clapping	so very
Cheering	bittersweet



# Is TikTok Good or Bad for You?

BY CECE SCHOENBERG (4-509)

TikTok is a video platform that lets you see all kinds of funny and cute music videos. It sounds like a great app but is it really a good app for kids to be on?

This past winter there were rumors that TikTok was shutting down. But that was just a rumor. TikTok posted on their Twitter that they are not shutting down.

The U.S. military has announced that soldiers are not allowed to have TikTok accounts on their phones. The reason is that a Chinese company runs TikTok and if a U.S. soldier posts on TikTok anything about being in the military China could figure out what the U.S. is going to do... In October the U.S. announced that any U.S. soldier that had TikTok must delete it at once and it became a law!

Also, if you are an active user of TikTok and you use TikTok a lot,



TikTok is able to track where you live and who you are. Also on Tick Tok, you can report things that you think are not appropriate to be on TikTok but when you do report the owner of TikTok sees what you report and can they look at your account and see who you are. This is a little creepy and a lot of people don't want their privacy invaded.

TikTok only allows users who are 13 and up but there are third graders in our school who use TikTok. The company probably does not know this because some people fake their age.

Another downside of TikTok is that you can choose whether you want your

account to be private which means that you can choose whether only friends see your videos or you can have a public account where everyone can see your videos. Unfortunately, when everyone can see your videos you can get judged by them.

Reviews of the app from P.S. 29 students are mixed. Cate said, "I got it this year but I only use it once a month because I like some social media better than TikTok." Another user, Jiya said, "So TikTok is kinda fun but some dances are a little weird and the songs are a little weird too."

TikTok is not all bad. People are very creative and lots of people are entertained by TikTok. And if you look at it, you can see a lot of sweet moments with families and friends.

Overall TikTok has good and bad sides and you just have to be careful what you do on the app!

# Discovering Cobble Hill's Best Burgers

BY LOUIE FOXWELL (5-527)  
AND ELAN LANDESBURG (5-500)

Burgers are really good! There are so many different types of Burger you can eat in Cobble Hill, all of them pretty close to P.S. 29. If you really like burgers, then then this is the right article for you to read.

**Bareburger** is a small chain but the nearest Bareburger restaurant is located at 149 Court St, Brooklyn, NY 1201. It has a whole other menu that's just for vegans on the other side of the page. And it has a kid's menu, where the burgers are pretty small – just right for kids. The kid's menu has games to amuse your children. There is a build-your-own burger menu too.

**Henry Public** is located at 329 Henry St, Brooklyn, NY 11201. It serves hamburgers, cheeseburgers, Berkshire bacon hamburgers, and bacon cheeseburgers.

**Mooburger** is located at 240 Court St, Brooklyn, NY 11201. It serves burgers and vegan burgers. It also has a kid's menu.

**Two8two Bar & Burger** is located at 282 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11201. It serves a variety of burgers and even the kid's meal burgers are a decent size. The adult size burgers are huge!

**BurgerIm** (recently opened!) is located at 187 Court Street , Brooklyn, NY 11201. It serves mini burgers and normal burgers. In the menu, it says that you can buy a set of two mini burgers or three mini burgers. Instead of normal french fries, the fries are like potato chips. And you can buy a set of a lot of mini burgers in the box, which is called the family box.



**Shake Shack** is located at 409 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. "Shake shack is good," said fifth grader Sander Maris. Shake Shack has its own type of burger called, "The Shack Burger." Shake Shack is an American fast casual restaurant chain based in New York City. It started out as a hot dog cart inside Madison Square Park in 2001, and its popularity grew.

**Bar Tabac** is located at 128 Smith St, Brooklyn New York 11201. It has a bar in the entrance and in the back is a restaurant. It serves burgers that are just the right size and the fries match the size too!

## ASK ANYTHING

BY SOPHIA HEISEL (4-507)

**Dear Wonderful Advice Giver,**  
I am having friendship problems. My best friend (since forever) is starting to hang out with two girls and whenever they are talking and I try to join them, my "best friend" just yells "Stop!" without even looking at me!  
What should I do?

– BFF (Best Frenemy Forever)

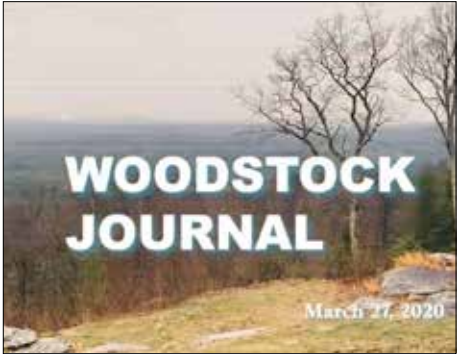
**Dear BFF,**  
  
Friendships can be tricky. If the girls who are bothering you are in your class, here's what I suggest: Tell a teacher how you feel. If you did that already, try scheduling an individual playdate with your friend and tell her how you are feeling in that private setting.  
Ms. Cara, our school psychologist, says that you should tell your BFF that you are OK with her making new friends but to please not be mean to you. If all that doesn't work, then Peer Mediation might be able to help. And, keep in mind that it is completely fine to branch out and make new friends. I hope this helps.

– W.A.G.

**Dear Wonderful Advice Giver,**  
  
Hi! Me and my friends are getting into fights every day and it's really annoying! We have tried to solve it but sometimes it gets worse. When we do solve it, another issue comes up. What should I do?

– Annoyed Friend

**Dear Annoyed Friend,**  
  
First of all, it's totally OK to get into fights. But if your fights are happening every day, try to take some space from each other.  
If that doesn't work, try telling your friend how you feel (when you guys aren't in a fight, of course). I know it might be hard, but if they don't listen, write a letter and put it in a place where they'll find it.  
Hope this helps,  
  
– W.A.G.



Screen shots from Miles Baldwin's YouTube channel

# Miles's Covid Chronicles

Newspaper Club member Miles Baldwin (4-521) has been busy reporting on the COVID pandemic in a series of videos he personally wrote and produced and posted on his YouTube channel.  
The 29 Post is more than a newspaper. These are three of our favorites:

Quarantining in the Catskills (with his sister Sienna)  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gl\\_u0IL3-7o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gl_u0IL3-7o)  
Experiencing Nature During Covid  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BU9UIYZZgSA>  
Games to Get You Through Quarantine  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4-50mU2Ey8&t=1s>

# A Brief Conversation With Chef Wendy

BY JOSIE KRUMPUS (4-507)

As we all know, P.S. 29 is lucky to have really good food options in our cafeteria. The cafeteria uses a combination of food that comes from The Department of Education and food that comes from the school's own garden, when it is in season.  
Every day, if you're getting school lunch, you'll see Chef Wendy passing out lunches to students. Here's a little bit more about Chef Wendy.

**What got you into cooking?**  
I needed a job. I used to work for an attorney for 15 years, straight out of college without my degree, so when he died, so did my career.  
I didn't want to go back to college to start over because by this time I had my daughter, Amanda.  
  
**How did you come to work at P.S. 29?**  
My neighbor recommended I try to get an office job at the school, but this was

the only position hiring at the time.  
  
**What is the most challenging part of your job?**  
Not getting hurt in the kitchen.  
  
**How do you like it here at P.S. 29?**  
I love my school kids! They each have a strange personality, but it's nice watching them grow to be independent.  
  
**What do you like to cook at home?**  
Mainly spaghetti with shrimp.



EXCERPT

# Lygar

BY ROSE HERPER (5-527)

### Chapter 1

The woman petted Lygar, his flexible body moving underneath. “I don’t need them. No one needs anyone, cat. We don’t need them, no we don’t,” Reanne said, putting her hand back down on the mangy-looking lykoi. “It’s just you and me, cat. We don’t need anyone.”

The cat jumped away into the soft grass, chasing a butterfly. Sure lady. Lygar thought. Keep telling yourself that. He could barely remember anything about the world beyond the forest, or even more than about a mile away from the cabin. Reanne bought him when he was still a kitten, right before she left to go away.

Lygar certainly thought she was crazy and paranoid, but she was his only friend. That is kind of depressing. The cat sighed. Maybe she is right about no one anywhere caring about anyone. “Lygar, you are starting to get too far away!” Reanne called.

I’m not alone. I have Reanne. He circled, chasing his tail. Maybe Reanne’s message is correct. I don’t need anyone.

Lygar started to pull himself up a tree. Reanne came running over. “Get down from there! You’ll get stuck.” She coaxed the unhappy cat off the tree. “I’m going to go inside now. Don’t get into any trouble.”

Sitting uneasily, Lygar licked his brown fur. She doesn’t let me do anything. He scowled at his surroundings. I hate it here. The cat looked up, surprised at himself. He had never really admitted that before.

He got up and ran around in circles until he was dizzy. Then he ran around the other way. He felt restless. The little lykoi wanted to go somewhere, do something. Instead, he sat back down. Why don’t I just leave? He sighed. He knew the answer to this question, the one he had been asking himself for years.

He would feel guilty. Maybe right away, maybe in a year, but he would feel bad for leaving Reanne. She had taken care of him. Reanne may be crazy and paranoid and annoying, but she loves me. And Reanne took care of me.

But did she? He wondered. Did she take care of me? This question had been bugging the scrawny little cat for hours. I don’t think Reanne did take care of me. He stretched his little paws out on the grass. She gave me food and shelter. But I’ve always felt bad here. Always. I can’t do anything, I can’t talk to anyone. He slouched, allowing his fur to clump together on his shoulders. I hate it here.

The little cat got up and straightened himself out. I know I’m not a person. I know I can’t be treated like one. But I want to be cared about like one. Lygar’s tail swished away as he walked into the dark forest.

### Chapter 2

Lygar had walked for a very long time when he realized what he had done. I just ran away. I have no plan, I’m crap at catching birds, and I don’t know this forest.

He started going faster as he got hungrier, like he expected to see food at the next turn. Eventually the scrawny cat didn’t know what he was trying to find. He was just trying to find.

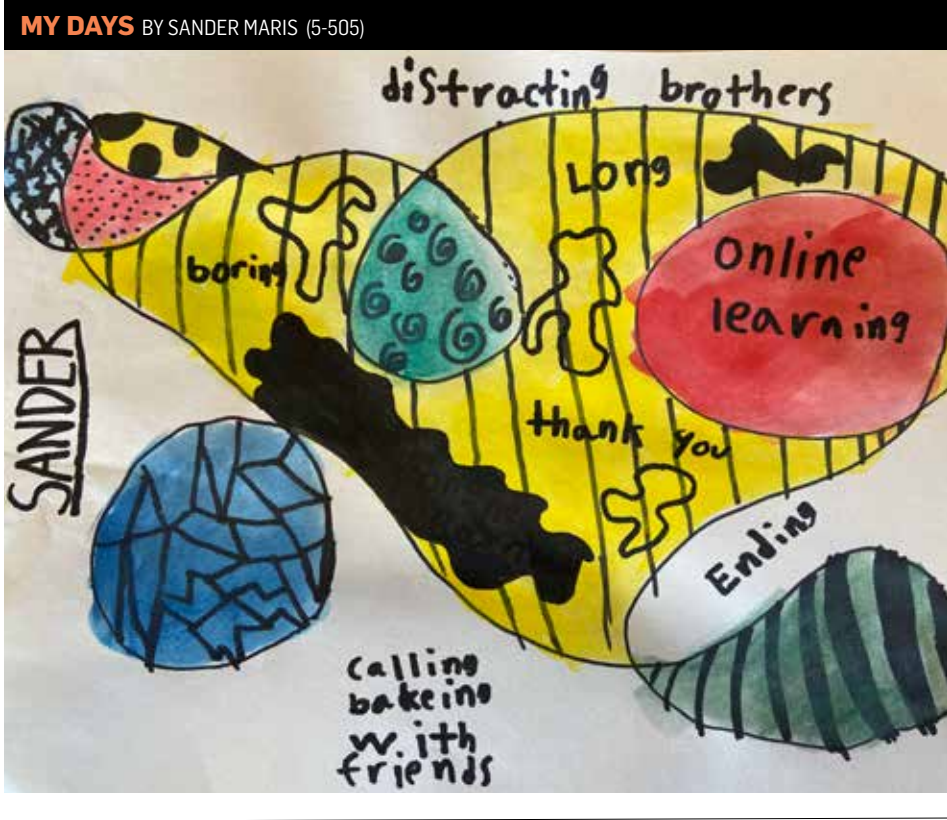
The cat stopped walking. He was hungry and tired and... Is it anger? Anger at myself for leaving? Anger at Reanne? I think it’s just a little bit of regret. I may not have been happy there, but I was safe.

Just then, the cat smelled smoke. The thought of people, and more so, food sent the little wolf-like creature flying. Out of the forest, he saw ruined buildings, decaying fields, and trash everywhere.

What happened here? Lygar wondered, stepping through rubble. Where is everyone?

He started making his way to one of the small camps dotted around the landscape.

There was a girl sitting at the closest one, her head down. Who are you? Lygar thought as he approached her. She perked up, looking at the scrawny feline who had made his way in. “I’m Cora.



Who are you?”

You can’t understand me.

“What?” Cora asked. “If I can’t understand you then how am I talking to you?!” Half of her hair was black, the other half dyed lavender. “We are having a conversation. Therefore, I understand you.”

No you don’t. Lygar insisted. People can’t understand cats. The only reasonable explanation is that one of us is hallucinating.

“If I’m the one who’s hallucinating, how can I answer your questions?”

Maybe they are part of the hallucination.

“I don’t have time to talk to stupid cats.” The girl sighed and walked away. “I have food to gather.”

That’s why I came here too. Can I have some food? The little cat looked almost pathetic in his attempt to beg.

“Did you not hear me? I need to GATHER it. If you’ll help, then fine. I’ll share.” Cora turned to face Lygar. “But just so you know. This city has died, money isn’t real, there is no hope for humanity, and you can’t just ask starving

people for FOOD.”

Lygar trotted behind her, his little legs struggling to keep up. Why is there no hope for humanity? Cora sighed again, her dark hair swinging. She stayed silent for a few minutes, then started to explain.

“A few years ago, most people were poor. Now, I’m not saying all, but many of the important people in charge didn’t know much about the people, or our system for trade, or just like...” She stopped and turned towards the cat. “Anything! They didn’t really know how much money all of our trade was really worth, how much money our city really had. They printed more money than was needed.”

Lygar looked at her. How would that possibly cause all of this?

“Well, hyper-inflation is really bad, so that would have caused some problems, but they didn’t even really work to fix them. Instead of hauling over our currency system, they just shut themselves off in a separate little town.” Cora laughed, though she didn’t sound amused. “They’re probably dead by now, trust me, strange little cat.”

# Something is Nearly Always Better Than Nothing

EXCERPT

BY JUNIPER K. POFF (4-524)

On a rainy summer night, Einar Maquet walked down the street dragging himself and his battered backpack to the house. Einar was a tall, sturdy 10-year-old, with neat brown hair and baggy, too-big pants held up by a large leather belt. As he slouched along, Einar grumbled about the bad quality of his fussy backpack with its broken strap.

Once inside of his house, he let go of his negative feelings. He threw his backpack on the floor and ran to his mom and dad. They were at the table eating dinner. “M-mom, D-dad,” he panted, “Can we get a cat n-now? P-please?”

His mom sighed. “Honey, we’ve discussed this before. This house is too small. I don’t think you’re ready for such a big pet yet anyway.” Einar looked down at his feet.

“B-but...” He couldn’t find anything reasonable to object to. Suddenly it dawned on him. “C-couldn’t it live outside?”

And then there was silence. “I don’t know,” His father said finally. “Me and your mom will have to think about it.”

The next morning, a lovable school-free Saturday, Einar decided to take a stroll in the park to meet up with his friend Nelch at the goldfish pond.

As he walked up the hill, he thought about possible cat breeds. He reckoned that a Tabby wouldn’t be too bad. Then again, he could get a Persian. It would probably be too much work, though.

As he got closer, he could see the distinct outline of Nelch sitting on a bench. Sitting on a bench! Nelch never just sat and stared at his shoes, he usually waved and jumped. Einar walked up to the pond and sat beside him.

“Nelch, it’s me, Einar.” He whispered. Nelch sniffled. “What’s wrong?” Einar asked softly.

“I-It-It’s Thomas.” Nelch sobbed. “H-He g-got hit by a c-car.” Einar felt a wave of grief strike him. Thomas was Nelch’s beloved cat. Einar started to sniffle. He remembered when Thomas had caught a mouse for him on Christmas. And when they played with cat toys in the living room.

The trees swept this way and that in the wind, as if shaking their heads. It seemed like they had the same mood as Nelch. Sad and angry. “It’s okay,” Einar whispered to Nelch. “It’s okay.”

There was a ring from his pocket. His phone! He quickly took it out.

“Honey, it’s getting late,” said his mother’s voice from the other end. “You should come home.” “Okay!” He responded. “Nelch, I’m sorry but I have to leave.”

As Einar walked down the hill, his heart felt heavy and somber inside.

“I-I guess t-the o-outside cat t-thing would’nt w-work th-then.” He sniffled to himself. “Guess I’m not ready. I’m not ready yet.” That is what Einar Maquet thought as he walked off into the fog, facing the hidden purple sunset in a world full of grief. Grief and pain.

Sad thoughts swam around Einar’s head like little fish. Thomas had been the only thing that filled the cavity of not having a pet. And now where was he? Gone! The only comforting furball in his entire life was dead! Now Einar was all alone, with nothing to hug and stroke, and no animal friends. He threw his sock at the wall. Nothing! He had nothing except his parents! He kicked his hard bed frame.

Creaak!

Einar’s ears perked up as the door to his room opened.

“Honey?” said his mother’s voice. “Are you in there?” Einar quickly swung around to face her.

Einar took a deep breath and told his mother what the problem was. “W-Well, Ne-Nelch’s c-cat got r-run o-over by a c-car.” His mom looked shocked. “Honey, I have somethin’ to tell you.” Einar stared at his mom.

“We, um ... We’re moving.”

The lights in the small house at Number 8, Newmer Drive were bright and shielded Einar’s shocked mind from thoughts of Thomas.

Moving! They were moving! Away from all his friends and all the stray cats, and away from his school and his favorite teachers, Leah and Stephanie! He wouldn’t be able to live without Nelch, and Newmer Drive had always been his home. Nothing would be able to replace it.

Except maybe a cat.

That was the argument Einar gave his parents when they came into his room and made a big show of sighing and saying

it was all for the best.

Later that night, Einar and his parents made the short trip to Mark’s Pet Shelter.

“Whaddaya want?” The guy at the desk said in a gruff voice as they came in.

“C-Can we see the k-kittens?” Einar stuttered, feeling all the courage drain out of him. He didn’t like talking to this dude who looked like he would beat up anyone who got in his way.

“Sure, kid,” the guy said. He led them into a back room and showed them a wall of cages. “Which one?” He growled. Einar studied the cages.

“C-Can I see that one?” Einar said, gesturing to a black cat. The guy nodded as he unlocked the cage. He handed Einar the kitten. It purred as he scratched it behind its soft, velvety ears.

“What’s its name?” He asked. “Huh? Oh, her? Her name is Nemesis.” The guy responded.

Einar smiled. He walked over to his parents with the kitten still in his arms. “Nemesis is my choice.”

It was midnight. A lone wolf howled as an owl glided over the treetops. The owl stopped at a dark window. It looked inside. A little boy was trying to sleep in a big bed. A small shape was pressed into the boy’s chest.

The owl squinted. As it looked closer, it realized that the small shape was a cat, the large bird’s natural predator. The owl let out a long, piercing screech and flew off.

As its screech echoed in the hills, the boy drifted off to sleep.



WALL OF FAME



P.S. 29's front fence carries a tribute to the graduating fifth graders of 2020 who missed out on the chance for an in-person graduation.

The Coolest Animated Films of 2020

BY ADRIAN WEBER (5-504)  
AND JAXON BEKE (5-505)

You may LOVE animated movies but you must get bored watching the same films over and over, and over, but luckily there are some great new animated movies still to come in 2020.

1: Scoob!

Scoob is a 3D movie of the original 2D Scooby-Doo. It is a mystery movie. To add to the enjoyment, the animators decided to make it funny at the same time. It was released on May 15, which was very exciting.

2: Sonic the Hedgehog

Sonic the Hedgehog is a new movie about a beloved video game character. In the movie he comes to our world, but then people want to steal his powers so then he

tries to stop them by using his powers. It was released on February 14.

3: Minions: The Rise of Gru

Minions: The Rise of Gru is a new movie with Gru and the minions! It is about him as a kid so we learn his backstory and also about the world's worst villains at the time. It is coming out on July 2.

4: Trolls World Tour

Trolls World Tour is another movie with the adorable Trolls. Some people love them. Some people hate them. It came out on April 10.

5: Onward

Onward is a movie about two teenage elves that are also brothers and they go on a quest and discover some things about their dad. It's funny and touching. It came out on March 6.



POETRY

Where Ideas Go

BY LEO ROIPHE (5-527)

I do wonder quite a lot  
Where the lost ideas go.  
Is there a ghostly garbage can?  
Or do they just retire?  
Every  
Single  
Word  
Erased  
Just purely by desire.  
Or might they stay and slumber  
Like a bear in winter-time?  
Would their sadness be palpable?  
A damsel-in-distress?  
Or would they linger around  
Hoping to turn your decision  
Upside-down?  
Or do they give up,  
Just give up,  
And sag like a decrepit old prune?  
Well,  
I wish to have an interview  
With an idea down the drain  
And my first-class  
Question:  
"Is everything all the same?"

MY QUARANTINE BIRTHDAY BY CHLOE ROBERTS (4-509)



AMAZING ASTROLOGY

BY JUNIPER POFF, WILLA FEARINS  
AND VERA SEGAL (4-524)

Astrology is a form of belief that is shaped around the claim of knowing divine information about human and terrestrial affairs. In a way it is divination. There are twelve astrological signs: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, and Pisces. Below, we forecast your year ahead!

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)

This year use your natural energy and enthusiasm to achieve your goals.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

In 2020 be prepared to take matters into your own hands. Try to avoid any potential risks, but don't be afraid to stand up for yourself either.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Avoid the temptation to talk yourself into doing things that you don't want to do. If you don't like something, tell the people around you.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

This year you should focus a little more on your inner life and be calmer than last year.

Leo (July 23 - Aug 22)

Work hard, play hard; that's your motto for this year, but it might be good to slow down and think before you do anything wild.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)

Structure this year in a way that gives you more ease and calmness than previous years. If you have a goal that you've put off until now, this year is the time to do it.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct22)

This year try to explore more than you ever have before. Go on the most daring adventures you can manage (without getting hurt).

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Harness the power of positive thinking this year. Be very calm as well (it might benefit you).

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

This year your actions will affect both you and the people around you. Be careful what you do.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You will find that small actions will impact you strongly this year. Think big, act small.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

This year you will find that living neatly and calmly will benefit you. Make a yearly goal.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)

If something feels "off" to you in the new year, don't be afraid to speak up. You might make a difference.



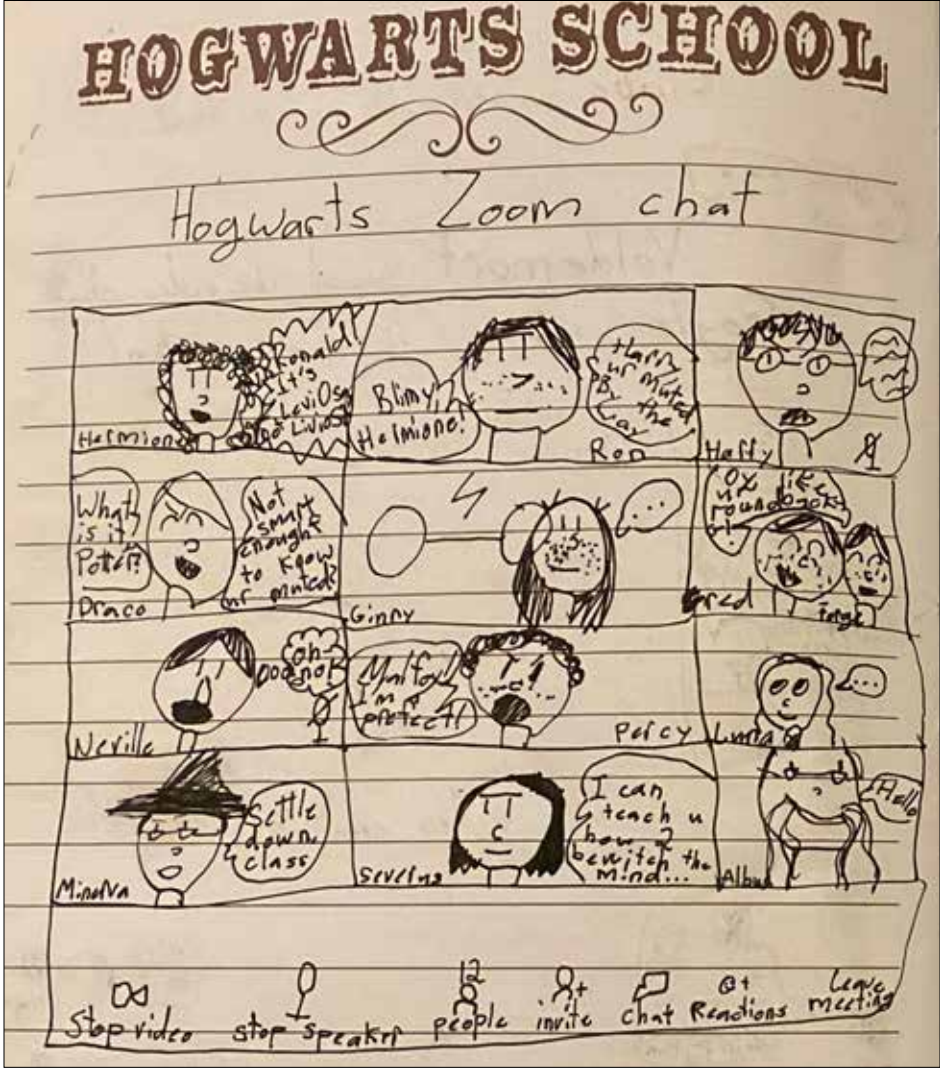


GOODBYE CLASS OF 2020!



We'll miss you. Just by being yourselves you help make P.S. 29 an extraordinary place. Be yourselves, think deeply, question authority, engage with kindness, and come back and visit.

HOGWARTS ZOOM CHAT BY SOPHIA HEISEL (4-509)



A VIRTUAL GRADUATION



In the absence of an in-person graduation ceremony, Principal Dr. Rebecca Fagin presided over a digital alternative, live on social media in which graduating fifth graders' faces were digitized onto a dancing figure in a cap and gown. There were video messages and there was what has come to be a famous part of graduations at P.S. 29: a montage of kids and school administration dancing together joyously.

P.S. 29 NEWSPAPER CLUB, 2019-2020

5-500

Elijah Abry  
Oliver Bonner  
Georgia Daly  
Elan Landsberg  
Beckett Longfield  
Nanette Schoenberg  
Moby SooHoo  
Schwartz  
Audrey Willscher  
Jonah Zinoman

5-504

Noelle Barone  
Aoife Geraghty  
Charles Jaffe  
Ava Sonowski  
Christian Trani

5-505

Tini Allam  
Viola Fontaine  
Enzo Gilchrist  
Ella Klingensmith  
Eleanor Maric  
Sander Maris  
Eva Meyers  
Maggie Park  
Max Schwartz  
Wyatt Simons  
Beckett Unterberg

5-506

Libi Arnon  
Frankie Barber  
Jaxon Beke  
Raphael Cohen  
Penny Franklin  
Vivian Honaker  
Juliane Janssen  
Emma Latinelli

5-527

Alida Bennett

Louie Foxwell  
Cate Goldschmid  
Rose Herper  
Flora Jakobson  
Miro Kubica  
Virginia Levine  
Leo Roiphe  
Tomek Smith  
Eve van den Brulle  
Tegan Waxman  
Adrian Weber  
Dylan Zweben

4-507

Ela de Clercq  
Elliot Flaccus  
Emma Goldschmid  
Sophia Heisel  
Uma Johnson  
Josie Krumpus  
Sophie Mohindra  
Gabrielle Shea  
Miles Vanderpool  
Everett Whidden

4-508

Miles Holstein-Rosen  
Lucia Pineda  
Jiya Singh  
Dillon Unterberg

4-509

Clyde Brittelle  
Sebastian Chamorro  
Sam Iadevaia  
Chloe Roberts  
Cece Schoenberg  
Ella Swetoff  
Maddi White

4-521

Miles Baldwin  
Maya Biron  
Bobby Estrada

James Griffin  
Maeve Landers  
Henry Lettre  
Lola Lombana  
Molly Luxton  
Alea D. O'Brien  
Mackenie Owens  
Plum Sheerar  
Dylan Springer  
Vivian Vacherersse

4-524

Oskar Allen-Parr  
Xaviera Carranza  
Isabella Crane  
Willa Fearins  
Charlie Keating  
Eva Lenton  
Emery Lux  
Nathaniel McKenna  
Maya McMahon  
Zachary Mullens  
Juniper Poff  
Vera Segal  
Willa Solfrian  
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Advertising Director

Lizzie Hand

More Than Just a Newspaper!  
The 29 Post also produces podcasts. The first two podcasts of 2020 are devoted to reporting about cultural differences and candy! Both impact student life at P.S. 29 and both are subjects about which children and adults alike have many interesting thoughts. Visit [ps29brooklyn.org](https://ps29brooklyn.org) to listen to 29 Post podcasts.

