

THE WHITMAN GAZETTE

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91st Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

By: Spencer Cade

The 91st annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade was held in New York City from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M on Thanksgiving morning. It was 2 and a half miles long. There were 17 giant character balloons featured. One balloon was the Grinch and his dog Max. It was as tall as a 3 story building! The biggest balloon in the history of the parade was Santa's biggest "little" helper, The Elf on the Shelf. It was as long as 8 bicycles and it needed 90 handlers. There were 26 floats and one of them was a Peanuts float with Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus, and Snoopy. There was a Christmas tree float with 125 Macy's workers on it. They sang a song called "Together at Christmas." All 125 workers stood in rows that went higher and higher around the Christmas Tree. One float featured the cast of Broadway's SpongeBob Square Pants Musical. They performed the "Bikini Bottom Day" song. There was singing, dancing, and the person who played SpongeBob, Ethan Slater, was in the parade. The crowd clapped and cheered at the end of the performance. Finally, there was Santa Claus. He came on a special float with fake snow, elf balloons, reindeer pulling his sleigh, and his bag of toys.



Photos: (top) FilmMagic/Getty Images;

Guess That Teacher

By: Kylie Depka

Which teacher at Whitman...

1. Has dark hair and teaches 5th grade
2. Works alongside another teacher in her classroom
3. Used to sing in a classic rock band & still loves to sing
4. Used to teach 3rd grade and has previously work at Bells Elementary School
5. Has a son

(find the answer on page 3...)

Joke

By: Hunter Smallets

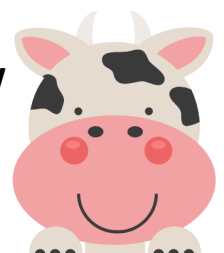
Knock, Knock...

Who's there?

The interrupting cow

The interrupting

MOOOOOO!



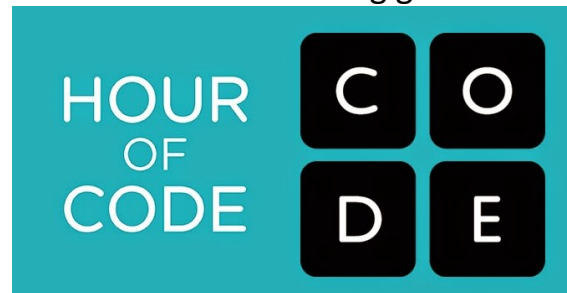
Whitman's PJs for CHOP

Whitman Wildcats! We are holding our annual Pajama Fundraiser for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) today 12/8/17. Our goal is to raise as much money as possible to donate to CHOP from our Whitman community. The top fundraising class in each grade level will earn an extra PE class/dance party with Mr. Clark during the last week of school before the holiday break! Please remember to hand in your donations to your classroom teacher! Thanks for your support & let's help fund more "care, cures, and hope" for the children at the Children's Hospital. For more information or to donate online please visit our school page: <https://chop.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donordrive.personalCampaign&participantID=58926>

Hour of Code

By: Ashley Strate

Hour of Code is happening very soon at Whitman! Not only does Whitman participate, but so do many other schools across the WORLD! Hour of Code will be going on during the week of December 4-December 10. Even though Hour of Code activities mostly happen in the Computer Lab, you can do Hour of Code games at home too, using websites like www.code.org. There are many cool games that you would be sure to enjoy! For example, some of the games include themes like Angry Birds, Frozen, Minecraft, and Star Wars. I hope you enjoy playing all those cool and fun coding games!



Student Spotlight

By: Raymond Hoffman

What activity do you do after school?

I do karate.

What belt color are you in karate?

I'm a green belt

What other sports do you play?

I play soccer and football.

Can you jump from high places without getting scared (at least 10 feet high)?

Yes



Connor Rebstock

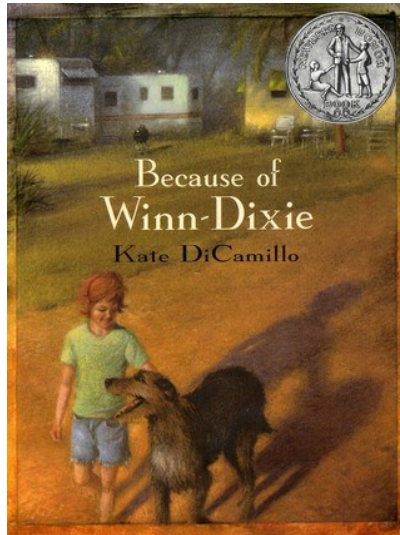
4th Grade, Mrs. Haines

WHAT WE'RE READING...

Because of Winn-Dixie

Book Review by Skylar Bouillon

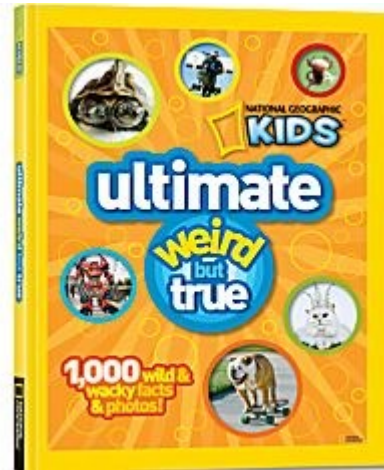
In the beginning of the book **Because of Winn-Dixie**, there is a little girl named India Opal. People called her Opal. She is new to the town and she just moved. Her mother left her when she was very, very young. She always feels nervous ever since she moved to this town. One day, she goes to a grocery store to get groceries and discovered they were having a problem because of a dog inside the store. She brings him home and decides to call him Winn-Dixie. Then, she brings him to many places. She then starts to meet new friends and gets a job. At the end, she has a huge barbeque at one of her new friends' houses. There is a thunderstorm and nobody can find Winn-Dixie. Make sure to read this book to find out what happens! I give this book 5 stars out of 5 stars if I had to rate it because this is absolutely amazing. Thank you for reading!



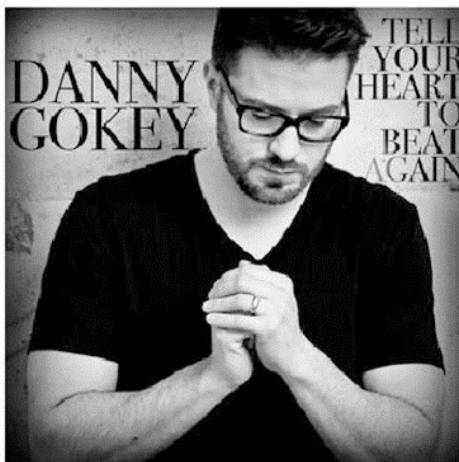
National Geographic Weird But True Facts

Book review by Amberly Kasper

The **National Geographic Weird But True Facts** book has funny and true facts. Did you know that an astronaut's suit weighs 2,800 pounds without an astronaut in it? Also, popsicles were invented by an 11 year old, a crocodile cannot stick its tongue out, and almonds are a member of the peach family. Facts like these are interesting and fun to learn. I think some are cool. There is a whole series of "Weird but True" books—make sure to check them out!



WHAT WE'RE LISTENING TO...



"Tell your Heart to Beat Again" - Danny Gokey

Album: *Hope in Front of Me*

Released: 2014

Review by Briar Lando

This song is a country song that was inspired by a person that had open heart surgery. The lyrics stand out to me because I feel bad for all the people that have something that has hurts them. Listening to this song makes me feel like I am a better person and that I can help people that are in danger or need help. I think everyone would like this song if they believe in this song's message that you are more than what others think of you. If I were to rate this song it would be 10,000 stars. Make sure you go listen to it!

WHAT WE'RE WATCHING...

MOVIES

The Emoji Movie

By: Skylar Bouillon

I feel like the Emoji Movie is a really good movie especially for kids in lower grades. It is about two emojis a multi-emotioned emoji and the high five emoji. The problem in the movie was that the multi-emotioned emoji wanted to become a regular emoji. When the multi-emotioned emoji tries to become a regular emoji, the other emojis threaten to delete him. The multi-emotioned emoji has to go into other apps to hide from those who are trying to delete him. He meets new friends along the way and they try to help him out! I really enjoyed this movie and I hope the rest of you do as well.



TELEVISION

The Flash, Season 4 (The CW)

By: Aaron Glennan



So far, season four of the Flash is pretty interesting. If you've never seen The Flash before, it's about a person named Barry Allen (played by Grant Gustin), who gets superfast speed after getting struck by lightning. He uses his super-speed to fight crime. The first episode in the season was about how things have been for the rest of the characters with Barry Allen gone over the past few months, which happened at the end of season 3. Eventually, in the middle of the episode Barry comes back and goes crazy. At the end, he gets in the right sense of mind just in time to save his soon to be wife, Iris West, from a new villain. The only thing I didn't like about this episode was when Barry went crazy. Besides that, I'd rate this a five out of five stars. I really recommend this show to others! If you haven't watched it yet, you should.

Kindness Corner

By: Ava Cornwell

Dear Reader,
Try doing all of these ideas and try to be that person that make someone smile! If you manage to do all of these your final score should be 20 points. I hope you like it!

- Invite someone to sit with you {2 times a day}
- Make people smile { 5 times a day}
- Help someone pick up their things that have dropped {3 times a day}
- High five someone {8 times a day }
- Hug a Teacher, Friend, or the Principal {2 times a day}

NBA Update

By: Nick Scheer

On November 18th 2017, the Golden State Warriors and the Philadelphia 76ers met at the Wells Fargo Center on the Sixers home court. The first half was a tough one for the Warriors. The Sixers were playing really well and Robert Covington, Joel Embiid, and Ben Simmons were on fire shooting the basketball. On the Warriors sideline, Stephen Curry was off to a slow start, not shooting the ball as well as he normally dose. The Sixers were winning by 18 points at the end of the first half. During the second half, Clay Thomson and Stephen Curry, the "Splash Brothers", came back and tied the basketball game 89 to 89. It was a close game. The Sixers kept on fouling the Warriors, which allowed Stephen Curry to keep on shooting foul shots. The final score was 124 to 116 Warriors. It was a good game and the Warriors left the court as winners.

Photo: NBC Sports



Remembering Roy Halladay

By: Hunter Smallets

Roy Halladay, a pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, died on November 7, 2017. During his baseball career, he threw two "no-hitters", which means he pitched a game where nobody got a hit off him. Roy has died in a plane crash, one that he was actually flying himself. Roy left behind his wife, Brandy, and his sons, Braden and Ryan. I will never forget that he was one of the best pitchers on the Phillies.



WTPR Shootout Showdown

By: Leah Baehr



This year, there was a fascinating match between two outstanding soccer teams, the Blue Revolutions and the Green Slime. The two teams went head-to-head in a championship game representing Washington Township. That being said, the teams were both out in the freezing cold fighting for the golden medal, and the second-place team received silver medals. I myself participated in this event, and I was on the Blue Revolution team, and let me tell you that it was not easy. The teams finished the game 3-3. That meant they had to go a quarter overtime, so they both hustled through a 10-minute quarter of overtime. They were still tied neck-and-neck 3-3. Everyone was on the edge of their seats waiting to see who would win! The second overtime quarter was unbelievable because... they were still tied! Then, that meant they had to go overtime to determine the champions. It was either the Blue Revolutions, or the Green Slime. The shootout was very intense, many kids kicked for their team. The winners of the 2017 Washington township shootout championship were... The Green Slime! The two teams did very well and I have never played in such a tiring game in my life!

Save our Water

By: Ava Cornwell

Do you know how important it is to conserve water? Well it is actually way more important than you would realize. The demand for water is growing meanwhile the world is losing some of our fresh water resources because people are wasting water! Only fresh water can be used to drink and for most of our household activities like taking a shower and washing our hands. Did you know that we only have a little bit of fresh water on the Earth? Well a LOT of that fresh water is trapped frozen in glaciers and polar ice caps. So, next time you use water try not to waste it and remember you could be saving it. Here are some examples of ways to help conserve our water.

- 1. Check to see if your toilet is leaking!** To see if you have a leaky toilet, try adding food coloring to the water tank on the back of the toilet. If the food coloring disappears and you can see it in the toilet bowl, then you have a leaky toilet. This can waste up to 80,000 gallons of water per year! Do not wait to check, make sure you don't have a problem with your toilet!
- 2. Take more showers and less baths!** When you go to get washed in the shower or tub, rethink taking a bath. Did you know you can waste up to 25 gallons of water while taking a bath, but taking a 5-minute shower only uses 10 gallons of water!
- 3. Try this car wash!** Next time you go to wash your parents car do not use a hose! That could waste up to 60 gallons of water per minute if you leave your hose turned on when not in use. If you use a bucket of water and soap with a sponge instead, you only use about 5 gallons of water. Also, you should go to a Recycled Water Car Wash where they use recycled water. This helps save so much water to share and have.

Try using all these ideas. Be one of those people that are always helping out. Save Fresh Water.



Quotes

Research by Sanaa Mehta

**"IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT IT,
YOU CAN'T SHOW IT.
IF YOU GOT IT, YOU CAN'T HIDE IT."**

-Zora Neale Hurston

(American novelist, short story writer, folklorist, & anthropologist)

**"KNOWLEDGE IS POWER
KNOWLEDGE IS SAFETY
KNOWLEDGE IS HAPPINESS"**

-Thomas Jefferson

(Third president of US and author of Declaration of Independence, 1817)

**"DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT
DARKNESS,
ONLY LIGHT CAN DO THAT.
HATE CANNOT DRIVE OUT HATE,
ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT."**

-Martin Luther King Jr.

(fought for Civil Rights in a non-violent way, Strength to Love, 1963)

**"THE ONLY THING WE HAVE TO
FEAR IS FEAR ITSELF."**

-Franklin D. Roosevelt

(Thirty-second president of U.S.)

Source: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Inaugural Address, March 4, 1933, as published in Samuel Rosenman, ed., *The Public Papers of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Volume Two: The Year of Crisis, 1933* (New York: Random House, 1938), 11-16.

Candy Bar Bingo

By: Ava Cornwell



Candy Bar Bingo was held on 10/27/17 at Whitman School. The night started with kids and adults walking in to the building talking and laughing wearing their unique costumes on for celebrating Halloween. Then, everyone slowly went to their seats and got their markers and bingo cards. Minutes later, Mr. Anderson welcomed everyone to bingo. He said what kind of pattern to play and called the first number and letter. One of the first winners was the Coogan Family and they won a large bag of Haribo's gummy bears with a Dairy Queen gift card! Another winner was actually a friend of mine, Sanaa M., and she won a 12 pack of Kit Kats. Many other winners won amazing prizes too. Make sure to come to the next Candy Bar Bingo. Just remember to bring a candy bar and you are in for a treat. You would get to see many amazing costumes and many teachers like Mr. Bowman. I would recommend this, so go next year. Hope to see you there next year!



Fit Tip

By: Hunter Smallets

To get stronger you should work out about 60 minutes a day. This is probably what the Rock did. If you don't know him, his real name is Dwayne Johnson.

Tornados

By: Abby Greco

Did you know that there were 1,509 tornados that took place this year, and the year is not over yet. Tornados are extreme weather that mostly take place in the Midwest, which is known as Tornado Alley, but they can happen anywhere.



Tornados are violent and dangerous funnel clouds that look like an elephants trunk, that come to the ground. Tornados form from thunderstorms. They need warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico and cool air from Canada. When these two types of air meet, they create the perfect atmosphere to make a tornado. Tornados are also called "cyclops" and "twisters". There is even a movie about tornados called Twister. I love it!

Most tornados speeds are below 100 miles per hour, but some can go as fast as 300 miles per hour! A race car can't even go that fast! Tornados are graded on an F scale, F-0 is the weakest and an F-5 tornado is the strongest. An F-5 tornado can lift a house off of its foundation.

Tornados mostly happen in the northern states in the summertime. If we were to ever get a tornado and you were outside, you should go inside immediately to seek shelter. You should go to the lowest level in your house like a basement. If you don't have a basement, go to a room with no windows. I hope we never get a tornado here!

Whitman Celebrates our Veterans

By: Skylar Bouillon

The Veterans Day 2017 celebration at Whitman Elementary School was amazing this year. When we went into the all-purpose room, the room was packed with all sorts of veterans from all of the different branches of the military. First, Mr. Anderson read a little message saying thank you to all of the veterans. Then, everyone brought tears to the veterans eyes by singing them songs and saying poems. The veteran who came into our classroom was super nice and was able to answer everyone's questions. He told us that he has been to so many different places and that he has had to learn so many foreign languages. I really loved how our day went and over all I think that we had a great Veterans Day Program for 2017.

The photos below were provided by Mrs. Trost. (Pictured: some of our student speakers, the veterans entering the All-Purpose Room, and students waving their flags)



TRRFCC Ticket Winners- October 2017

Interviewed by: Kylie Depka

Each student was asked "How did you feel when you found out that you were the TRRFCC Ticket Winner?" here are the answers from our October winners...

1st Grade - **Nadia Gamm** (Mrs. Tosti)

It was the first time she has ever done it and it felt like a special time to her. She was so happy.

2nd Grade - **Justin Monaco** (Miss Campbell)

He was so happy and excited, but at the same time confused that his name was getting called.

3rd Grade - **Emily Stackhouse** (Mrs. McGoldrick)

She was happy excited and so grateful.

4th Grade - **Nevaeh Smith-Fleetwood** (Mrs. Cooper)

She was so happy excited and surprised at the same time.

5th Grade - **Savannah Rivera** (Mr. Swing)

She felt so happy and like it was the best day ever.



Here are the November TRRFCC Ticket winners:

- 1st – Jada Dochterman (Tosti)
- 2nd – Christian Games (Kirkpatrick)
- 3rd – Amanda Eggers (McGoldrick)
- 4th Carter Heil (Haines)
- 5th – Katherine Telleria (Swing)

Thanksgiving Facts

By: Sebastian Major

Now that Thanksgiving is here, it's time to gobble down some turkey. Lucky us, we have turkey! Did you know that turkey wasn't even served during the first Thanksgiving? Forks were not invented at the time, so people needed to use only spoons and knives to eat their food! In 2010, the AAA (*American Automobile Association*) estimated that 42.2 million Americans traveled 50 miles or more on Thanksgiving day. Other Thanksgiving experts report that about 235 million turkeys are eaten on Thanksgiving. Poor turkeys! According to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, 859 million pounds of cranberries were produced in 2016! The states that grow the most cranberries are Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington. Those are a few good facts about our tasty Thanksgiving holiday! *Gobble Gobble*

Words of the Week

By: Skylar Bouillon

Word #1: **Guisard** (noun)

Definition: A person who wears a mask

Synonym: mummer, masker

The **guisards** all marched in the parade.

Word #2: **Independent** (adjective)

Definition: Free from outside control

Synonym: self-ruling, free

She learned to be more **independent** and walked home by herself.

Photograph provided by Miss Gregory

Kindergarten Thanksgiving Feast

By: Briar Lando

The day before Thanksgiving, all the kindergarten classes celebrated on the floor in the kindergarten hallway. Every kindergarten student ate popcorn disguised as turkey legs. They also ate apple sauce, cornbread, and ginger snaps. The kindergarten classes made hats that were Native Americans and the Pilgrims. In conclusion, the day before Thanksgiving, every kindergarten class will be stuffed after all this food like a turkey.



Artwork by
Nick Scheer

