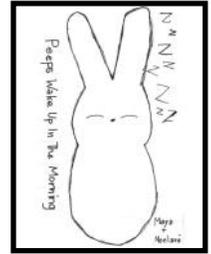


Dolphin Press

December 2016 - Issue #2



Khan, Simon, Nelson Win 6th Grade Science Fair

By Maya Strong

Faiyaz Khan, Keith Simon and Annika Nelson took the top spots in the sixth-grade Science Fair on November 18, 2016. Mr. Pfest directed the Science Fair, and the judges came from Oakton Community College.

Faiyaz Khan won 1st Place with his project, Microflightology. Last year, he won 2nd Place for the 5th-grade science fair. Over nine days, Faiyaz tested different foods to see if they would inhibit or help the growth of E. Coli and B Subtilis. The foods he used were onions, kimchee, sugar, yogurt and coconut oil. The bacteria were E. Coli and B Subtilis. He made an incubator out of the glass to control the temperature and then transferred the bacteria to the 18 agar plates using inoculating loops and added the food sources. After putting them in the incubator, he let them sit for nine days and then



counted the number of bacterial colonies on/ around the disks. As he hypothesized, Kimchee helped the growth of B Subtilis, which was as expected because it is a probiotic, but sugar also helped just as much with both the good and bad bacteria.

Keith Simon's project was entitled "Now You See Me, Now You Don't." Annika Nelson's project involved a magnetic linear accelerator.

Students Brave Cold in Local 5K

By Josh Lee and Noelani Siharath

The neighborhood of Lincolnwood hosted the 40th annual Turkey Trot in November, and more than 30 Decatur students participated!

The 5K/10K run fundraised money to give to the Niles Township Food Pantry. Starting in Proesel Park, the course did a loop around the neighborhood, finishing back at the park.

The Decatur Run Club, as its tradition, runs in the Turkey Trot every year, and this year was no different!

More than 30 Decatur students got up in the 35-degree weather to run in the race, from nine 6th graders to two 1st graders. Several teachers also ran, like Mr. Brennan, Mrs. Sharping and Magistra.

Before the race, the first 1,500 people were given a turkey headband. Afterwards, all finishers

(Continued on page 7)

Holiday Bazaar Big Success

By Shea Perkins

The Holiday Bazaar was a total success.

The Holiday Bazaar, organized by the Student Congress, raises money for Decatur by kids buying donated items. These items were donated by Decatur families.

The Holiday Bazaar was on December 6 through the eighth and the halls were going crazy with kids wanting to spend their money. The Student Congress raised roughly \$1,600. This money lets Decatur students go to different activities and supports the awards ceremony and Teacher Appreciation Week.

Inside This Issue

Ms. Rogowski Profile	Student Rep Profiles	Movie Reviews	Comics
Color and Holiday Surveys	Video Games	Phones in School?	

Meet 1st Grade Teacher Ms. Rogowski!

By Josh Lee and Sammy Shin

If you see a new 1st grade teacher in the halls, do not be alarmed! It is only Ms. Rogowski!

Ms. Rogowski is the new 1st grade teacher for Room 104. This is her first year teaching at any school, and of all the schools in Chicago, she chose Decatur. Why? "This is a special school, and I just wanted to teach here." she said when asked the question. She likes teaching because her family is full of teachers, and she wanted to be one too.

Outside of school, Ms. Rogowski likes to read books and eat; she is always trying out new restaurants, though she prefers Mexican food. In her early life, she grew up in St. Charles, a suburb outside of Chicago, went to Anderson Elementary School for elementary school, and got a master's degree at Roosevelt University. When she was in college, she performed in school plays and was in drama clubs.



Currently, her first grade class is learning subtraction, and just finished their All About Ocean Animals report, which went well. And, sadly, she does not play Pokemon Go, though she thinks it is cool.

So next time you see our new 1st grade teacher in the halls, be sure to say "Hi!" to our new teacher Ms. Rogowski!

School Choir Performs at Local Home

By Shea Perkins, Grace Grieme, Aubree Stephens, Yasmyn Sutherlin, and Shumei Gong

On December 9th, the Decatur choir went on a field trip to the Friedman Place, a local living community for the blind and visually impaired. We sang holiday songs like 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas' and 'Jingle Bells.' Everyone had a good time and at the end the choir members got big candy canes.

Have you ever thought about joining choir? If you have, here are some things to think about. You play signing games and you learn new songs in different cultures and languages. You get taught

solfege and rhythm. Also our conductor Mr. Wallenberg (pictured on the bottom left) is part comedian.

If you want to join choir, you have to be in third grade or up, and you have to miss recess, but it is so much fun that you won't mind. So if you come to choir, we hope to see you there!

Favorite Color Survey

By Max Silberg

I, Max Silberg, did a survey on what is the favorite color in my class:

Color	# Votes
RED	3
ORANGE	0
YELLOW	2
GREEN	0
BLUE	9
PURPLE	4
PINK	3
BLACK	2



Many 5th Graders Have Their Own Phones

By Violet Payne and Lily Meyer

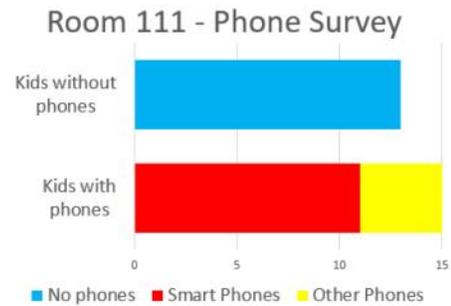
We recently took a poll in room 111 (5th grade) to see who has a phone. Here are our results: 15 kids have phones, and 11 out of those kids have smart phones. Of the 13 kids who do not have phones, nine want phones and four do not. Some kids were missing on the day of the survey.

We also asked why the kids who want phones, but don't have them, want one. Most said to play games and keep in contact with friends and family. Only three or four said only in case of an emergency or if they get lost which is one of the big reasons parents get their kids phones.

One kid who did not want a phone said she wanted a laptop instead. Another said that he could just use his brother's phone.

Parents might think it is a bit of a safety hazard during the winter when kids are walking around outside constantly looking down at their phones. It becomes easier to slip and fall on an ice patch.

The school allows kids to have phones in



their backpacks, but does not allow kids to use phones at school.

I myself really want my own phone to keep in contact with all my friends and family and to play games, but also so I can go out on bike rides around my neighborhood for a long time. I think that kids should only get a phone if they need it because they are always out and about so their parents don't have to worry as much about them.

A lot of parents do not want to give their child a phone because he or she would probably just play games on it. I think there is a more convincing argument to be made that kids, at least by 5th grade, should have a phone so they can have more freedom.

What do you think?

Commentary: Why Parents Should Get Their Kids Phones

By Michael McCaffrey

This message goes to all the Decatur parents of kids without phones. I, Michael McCaffrey, will give five excellent reasons why kids should get phones.

First, if your child is ever lost or separated from the child's family, the parents can just get a call from the children to find the child.

Second, if the child is on a couple-hour bus trip, the child has a little something to keep them entertained.

Third, if a phony (pun intended) person kidnaps the child, the police are just a call away.

Fourth, the world of chocolate is coming to an end because of global warming. Social media is a good way for people to speak their minds and stop

global warming to keep chocolate.

Fifth, if you ever want kids to stop nagging you to get them a phone, you should really get them one (kids, if you want your parents to get you a phone, nag them).

These are five very good reasons to get your kids a phone.

Commentary: A Rebuttal

By Michele Perkins (Shea Perkins's mother) and Tim McCaffrey (Michael McCaffrey's father)

To all kids of Decatur who want phones but don't have them:

1. Have a conversation.
2. Read a book.

Students Perform at Snowflake Serenade

By Shea Perkins

The students of Decatur have been preparing for the annual Snowflake Serenade, which was held on December 21 (see a performance photo on the right and rehearsal photos below).

Almost all of the classes sang Latin songs. The 4th and 5th graders both sang The Christmas Song, which is more commonly known as Chestnuts Roasting Over an Open Fire. The 4th, 5th, and 6th graders all sang Shalom Chaverim. The 3rd, 4th, and 5th, and 6th graders also used xylophones.

The Snowflake Serenade was awesome this year!



How Will Room 106 Students Celebrate the Winter Holidays?

By Anujin Namuunbayar and Kelly Suh

Holidays	How many in Room 106 celebrate the holiday
Chanukah, which celebrates the triumph of Jewish people over religious persecution	4 people
Asian New Year - By Moon Calendar, Asian new Year is a lot like New Year except for all of Asia.	5 people
Christmas, which is celebrated for the birth of Jesus Christ!	18 people
New Year, which is the start of a New Year! You get to make a fresh start.	14 people



4th graders: Mina Chung-Hawke, Jenna Cinco, Zane Finn, Sabine Garcia, Grace Grieme, Brady Leonard, Michael McCaffrey, Anujin Namuunbayar, Domi Norborg, Shea Perkins, Max Silberg, Aubree Stephens, Kelly Suh, Yasmyn Sutherlin

5th graders: Shumei Gong, Josh Lee, Lily Meyer, Violet Payne, Sammy Shin, Noelani Siharath, Maya Strong

Thanks to Ms. K, Mrs. J, Mrs. Sharping, Mrs. Regalado, and Mr. P for all your help!

Happy Holidays! See you in 2017!

Video Games—At School and Outdoors!

Will Minecraft Come to School?

By Sabine Garcia and Brady Leonard



Minecraft is a very popular game for kids to play. But the question that keeps popping up is, is it educational?

Some kids and teachers think it's educational, some do not. When asked if he thought Minecraft could be educational, Mr. Brennan said, "Of course! It's a chance to study ratios and proportions." On the other hand, Ms. Melnicoff said, "No, I don't see how this can be educational."

The game we know as Minecraft was made in 2011 by a programmer known as Notch.

In Minecraft you have 3 x 3 blocks. Knowing this allows the game to help you study ratios and proportions. Also, if you spawn in a flat world, it's great for rebuilding historical locations. I recommend you set the mode to creative or else you will have to gather all your building materials while building a shelter and surviving the night with monsters.

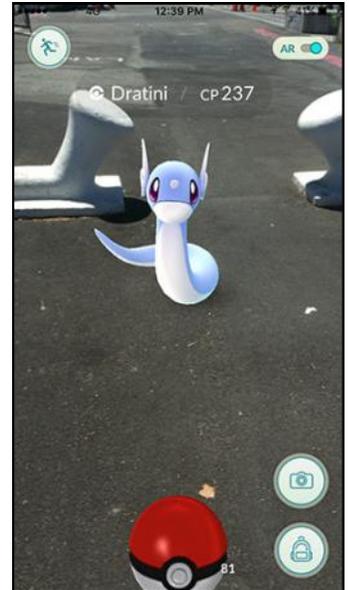
Below are some interesting facts about Minecraft and its developer.

- When Notch made the creeper he was trying to make a pig.
- You can name a villager through a Nether portal.
- There is an item that is called an enchanted golden apple but people know it as a "Notch Apple"
- The Minecraft sign you see when you spawn in is made entirely out of wool.

If we refer back to the quotes we can or cannot see the educational purposes of Minecraft. We can see some people do think it can be educational, and others do not. Now I'm wondering, do you think Minecraft has a chance to be educational?

Pokémon Go!

By Zane Finn and Domi Norborg



Pokémon Go is a monster-catching virtual-reality game that has recently become very popular.

Pokémon is a very popular franchise and the new mobile game was successful.

It is also very dangerous as well – people have fallen off cliffs and stumbled into traffic while playing!

TIPS AND TRICKS

At the start, you can choose Charmander, Bulbasaur, or Squirtle. If you walk away, they will disappear and then re-appear. Do this four or five times, and Pikachu will appear!

If you want to evolve your Pokémon, SAVE YOUR POKÉMON CANDIES.

Catch semi-rare Pokémon like Diglett and Cubone.

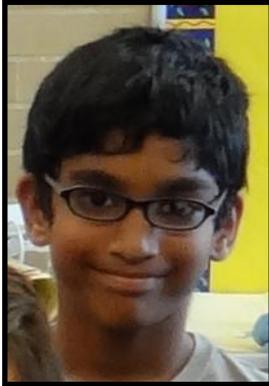
EVERYONE PLAYS IT, EVEN TEACHERS

Pokémon Go is family-friendly and some families play it together.

Even some teachers play it too! Mr. Pfest is an avid Pokémon Go player. He said he has caught 109 different types of Pokémon and his rarest Pokémon is Ditto. He plays Pokémon Go as a running tracker.

I think Pokémon Go could change video games forever!

Meet Your Student Congress Representatives



FAIYAZ KHAN

By Noelani Siharath

Q: Why did you want to be on Student Congress?

A: I wanted to join Student Congress to make a difference and help the school and even people outside of it.

Q: What will be your main priority as a Student Congress member?

A: What I will focus on is working as a team to get ideas into the Student Congress meetings for the good of the students and the school.

Q: Can you explain what happens during Student Congress meetings? We are basically a small community, taking turns, starting, ending and leading meetings, and sharing ideas in them. We as 6th graders have to take the minutes of the meeting, and we plan for future events. It's always interesting and fun.

Q: When people hear that name Faiyaz, what do you want them to think of you?

A: I want people to think of me as helpful, hard-working and maybe that I love laughing. I try to be helpful and listen to everyone before I voice an opinion.



ANNIKA NELSON

By Yasmyn Sutherlin

Annika Nelson, a 6th grader at Decatur Classical School, says she joined the Student Congress for two important reasons.

First, "I thought that it would be a good thing to experience, like working with Mrs. Jockl and Mr. Murray," she said. "It would be fun." Second, "I really like Decatur-- I think it's a great school, and I want to keep it that way," she explained.

Nelson has a brother in 4th grade, and a sister in 1st grade. Her favorite color is blue, and she enjoys music and art. She likes music so much that she also is a member of Decatur's school choir, which works with the Chicago Children's Choir program.

She also likes animals and is working hard on getting a dog. While that goal still is on her to-do list, Nelson says winning a spot on the Student Congress keeps her very busy.

"Overall, I would say running for SC was a great idea, and I am having a good time being part of Student Congress," she said. "I like working with other students and staff."



BRENNAN ROBBINS

By Mina Chung-Hawke

Brennan Robbins is one of the Student Congress reps from room 102, Miss Cole's room. He likes Student Congress because he thinks that it's not just talking, and they make it fun. He enjoyed the popcorn sales, and is looking forward to other events as well. He thought giving his Student Congress speech was fun. He tried to be funny on the funny parts.



GUS SILBERG

By Brady Leonard

Gus Silberg, a third grader in Ms. Thomas' class, was elected to the Student Congress this year. He likes Student Congress and wants to help the school by making it safer and a better place for learning.

Gus wants to find more ways of fundraising that can be more enjoyable, like a candy sale.

Gus ran for Student Congress because he was a member last year and really enjoyed it.

More than 30 Students Run in Local 5K Race



(Continued from page 1)

received a special 40th anniversary turkey medal.

There was also apple cider, pumpkin pie, and pizza supplied to the finishers. In addition to the many sponsors helping with the Turkey Trot, there was a post-race raffle, and anyone who gave a non-perishable food item or a cash donation to the Niles Township Food Pantry was entered in the post-race raffle. Overall, the Turkey Trot was a big success and everyone at Decatur should go run next year!



	Grade	Time
Zoe Barilla-Deuschle	6th	26:15
Cameron Steelberg	6th	26:51
Faiyaz Khan	6th	27:35
Amelie Sanchez	6th	28:11
Annika Nelson	6th	30:54
Harry Manning	6th	37:52
Owen Strong	6th	38:43
Ela Ilijic	6th	40:31
George Green	6th	42:34
Jacob Hansen	5th	23:24
Noelani Siharath	5th	24:53
Jeremy Paszek	5th	27:25
Josh Lee	5th	27:53
Evan Doubek	5th	31:59
Rohan Kato	5th	35:48
Violet Payne	5th	35:59
Maya Strong	5th	36:59
Lily Meyer	5th	37:00
Marinel Workman-Mandell	5th	42:25

	Grade	Time
Chloe Gallagher	4th	27:12
Michael McCaffrey	4th	31:09
Henry Wittenwyler	4th	32:12
Andre Nelson	4th	35:41
Zoe Fixzalkind	4th	36:14
Yanna Bakritztes	4th	36:16
Brady Leonard	4th	39:33
Max Silberg	4th	46:00
Gus Silberg	3rd	27:46
Malia Siharath	3rd	32:06
Dax Kato	3rd	37:17
Roy Beard	3rd	41:13
Emma Strong	3rd	43:17
Ananya Nanda	3rd	46:20
William McCaffrey	3rd	47:43
Ainsley Nelson	1st	35:49
Allison Lee	1st	40:56

Movie Reviews



“They’re currently in alien terrain surrounded by millions of the most vicious creatures on the planet; humans.”

- Newt Scamander

On Friday, November 18, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* was released to the public. In my opinion, it was just as good as the Harry Potter films. The actors and characters were amazing and loveable and the sets and CGI were wonderful and so detailed. I had the same feeling of magic that I had reading *The Sorcerer’s Stone* for the first time. It’s like everything J.K. Rowling touches starts to just ooze a wonderful sort of magic overtime!

Newt Scamander was so lovable and such a Hufflepuff! “It was open?” and he just goes “Just a smidge!”. Eddie Redmayne in my opinion is so perfect for the role. Tina Goldstein was so awesome and hard-working, and Queenie was so funny and sweet, Newt and Jacob left, and Tina is like, I need to find them! But Queenie just looks absolutely crestfallen, and she just goes, “Bu... but I made them hot coco!” Also, seeing Tina and Queenie using magic for ordinary things like drying clothes and making a meal was great, as we didn’t get to see too much of that in the burrow. Jacob was so funny and lovable, and the Urumpant chase was so hilarious!

And we finally get to see adult magic!! A.k.a let’s apparate every 5 seconds! Yeah, I could have done without all of it. The obscurus was so SPOOPY!! I had no idea that it was Credence right up until the moment he broke through all those walls, and he was so disgusted by Graves, and then “I don’t think I want to Mr. Graves,” and then BOOM! Big destructive cloud. And then in the subway, Newt shoots the swooping evil, and then WATCHAA, and then REV-ELIO, and then BANG!

Johnny Depp. I don’t know how I feel about Depp’s portrait of the greatest dark wizard at that time, but all in all a wonderful movie!

But in the end, something was said that confused all moviegoers. Grindelwald looks to Newt and says, “Will we die, just a little?” What does this mean?

ARRIVAL

By Maya Strong

Arrival came out on November 11, 2016. It is rated PG 13, so little kids who might read this, if you ask your mom or dad if you could watch this, they will most likely say no.

Arrival was a very enjoyable and cerebral science fiction film with good special effects. It is a study of what could happen if aliens suddenly arrive on our planet in a dozen different space ships and park 100 feet above the ground at various points around the world. Without any means to communicate with them, how might the process go?



In *Arrival*, each country visited sets up a team to try to understand these new visitors and why they are here. In the U.S., the main character, Louise Banks, is a world expert on language and she spends 90% of the movie learning their language.

She not only has to deal with the wary and rigid U.S. military, but also deal with trying to communicate with a bunch of aliens who are much like giant octopuses floating in water whose verbal language is indecipherable and whose written language is an incredibly complex set of symbols written in ink floating in the water.

One of the key points of the movie is that since language has such a strong influence on how we think, how could the person who truly learned an alien language change their way of thinking?

Another key point is that words often do not quite mean what you assume they mean. As an example, when the U.S. team first meets Louise as a possible interpreter, they decide to go on to the next candidate because she says the only way she can do the job is to meet the aliens face to face, and they do not want her in the spaceship. Before they leave, she tells them to ask the next possible

(Continued on page 9)



By Josh Lee

For almost 40 years, people have wondered: How did the rebels get their hands on the Death Star plans? They have made their own theories on how the rebels got the plans, and even made full stories on how they did it! But the answer to that question finally came out in the latest Star Wars film, *Rogue One*!

The new Star Wars movie recently went to movie theaters across America on the 16th, hit over \$300 million in ticket sales, and is very popular already. The 3½ movie in the Star Wars saga, *Rogue One* starred characters like rogue Jyn Erso, rebel fighter Cassian Andor, and humorous Imperial-turned-rebel droid K-2SO. The three rebels are given a task to find the whereabouts of an “ultimate weapon” that can destroy entire planets. (If you’ve watched *A New Hope*, you should know what I mean). They meet unlikely heroes along the way, like warrior monk Chirrut Imwe, and blaster-wielding Baze Malbus, and become part of something greater than themselves.

Rogue One is PG-13 rated, and I do not recommend it for children under 6, as it is a war movie. In my opinion, though it is a very well-crafted story, and the movie itself was very good.

More Reviews of *Rogue One*

Sammy Shin: Generally a cool movie. It was different from other movies because usually the good guys always win, but here it ends with hope and not a full victory. I liked the blind monk. 4.5 out of 5 stars.

Domi Norborg: I liked some of the new weapons—the shooting crossbow was great. The end battle scene was destructive. I liked the scene on Eadu—the fortress was cool-looking. K2 is my favorite character. 3.5 out of 5 stars.

Sabine Garcia: No connection to the other movies. Vader is still awesome. Voice is cool. It is appropriately rated PG-13. K2 is my favorite character because of his attitude. 3.5 out of 5 stars for including Vader.

Michael McCaffrey: I like the location of the beach battle scene for a vacation. The main villain Director Orson Krennic was creepy. It was hard to remember everyone’s name. Don’t let your moms watch it! They will freak out and think it’s inappropriate. It was a little gruesome. Baze Malbus was my favorite character. 3.5 out of 5 stars for the cameo at the end.

Brady Leonard: I liked the battle scenes but not as much as the *Force Awakens*. Darth Vader was cool and scary, but he was still my favorite character. 3.5 out of 5 stars.

Josh Lee: I liked the battle scenes and new locations in the movie. Also Darth Vader and his big castle on Mustafar was really cool. I especially liked the battle on Eadu. K-2SO was my favorite character because of his attitude and his jokes. This movie definitely beat the prequels and movie 7. 4.5 out of 5 stars.

Arrival Movie Review (continued)

(Continued from page 8)

translator how to translate and define the Sanskrit word for war. We find that her interpretation was that it simply meant “a desire for more cattle,” which was agreed was the better translation.

In the movie, every nation’s team are furiously trying to learn why the aliens are here. When they are finally able to ask the question in the alien’s own language, the answer shocks them. They may either be talking about a tool or a weapon.

To be on the safe side, the general leading the team in China chose to assume it meant weapon, in order to protect his people in a timely manner and prepares to go to war.

In the last scenes, when Louise finally understands the alien’s language, she comes to a shocking realization about how it has influenced how she perceives reality. With this new understanding, all the previous flashbacks and introduction suddenly make sense. The aliens’ reason for arriving make sense and once she makes the general realize that he may be wrong, the aliens suddenly leave knowing that they have achieved their goal, assured that their own future is no longer in peril.

I would definitely recommending everyone interested in the topic to see it, but if you have pre-teens attending, you may want to skip the previews before the film as our previews were all R rated and quite disturbing.

Book-ish by Mina Chung-Hawke and Grace Grieme

Book-ish

Find 4 hidden candy canes!



Snowflake Girl by Yasmyn Sutherlin

Snowflake girl

By: Yasmyn Sutherlin

