

Paw Prints

MARCH 2019



Harrington
Middle School

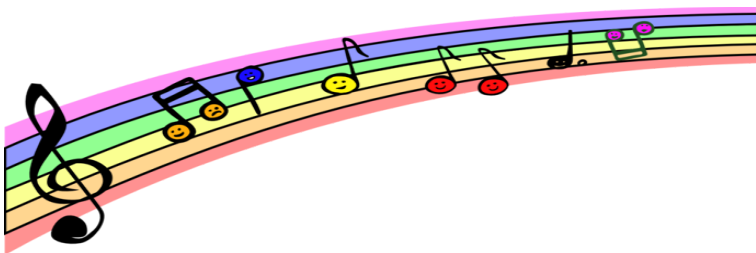


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Teen Arts Festival

By Nadia B.

Select groups and students from Harrington will be participating in the Teen Arts Festival at Rowan College at Burlington County on March 13th during the school day. Students from Mrs. Teall's choir, Mr. Palmucci's band classes, and Mr. Beyer's IPublish class have been selected to perform for a panel of judges. These students will get the chance to show off their talents and the opportunity to see other talented students from local schools. This year Harrington will have nearly 100 students attending the festival. That's a lot of talented kids!!



A-Listers March Madness

Voting is now live for this year's HMS March Book Madness! This "March Madness" like bracket has books from a variety of genres competing against each other in 3 rounds of competition. A-Listers chose 16 books to compete for Harrington's book of the year. The bracket and a link to a Google Form to vote.

Voting is open until March 20th so try to read at least one of the books in the bracket within the next few weeks. You may have already read some of the titles.

Please help us promote READING AND VOTING!
Which book will take the title of Book of the Year!

Some of titles up for Book of the Year:

<i>Pretend She's Here</i>	<i>Nemesis</i>
<i>Scythe</i>	<i>The Land of Stories</i>
<i>The Sun is Also a Star</i>	<i>The Giver</i>
<i>Turtles all the Way Down</i>	<i>Ghost</i>



St. Patrick's Day Facts

By Kyla and Sera

- We should be wearing blue. Saint Patrick's color to represent him was a light blue, but the color green became associated since it represented the Irish independence.
- The first St. Patrick's Day celebration in the United States was held in Boston (1737)
- 1962 marked the first time Chicago dyed their river green for St Patrick's Day.
- The real St. Patrick wasn't Irish. He was born in Britain around A.D. 390 to an aristocratic Christian family.
- There are 34.7 million U.S. residents with Irish ancestry. This number is more than seven times the population of Ireland itself.
- Your odds of finding a four-leaf clover are about 1 in 10,000.
- St. Patrick was kidnapped at the age of 16 and brought to Ireland.
- It's estimated that the average worldwide bar tab on St. Patrick's Day runs up to about \$245 million annually.
- It is commonly misspelled as "St. Patty's Day," when the real spelling is "Saint Paddy's Day."

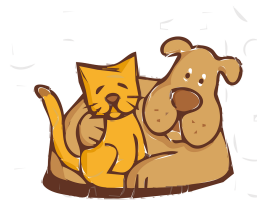
April Fool's Day Pranks

By Emily F.

April Fool's Day will be here before you know it, so here are some fun, harmless pranks you can pull on your friends and family.

1. Get paper and make cut outs that look like bugs. Then, tape them inside a lamp so when it's turned on someone will think there are bugs inside their lamp.
2. Paint soap with clear nail polish.
3. Draw a spider with marker on a toilet paper roll.
4. Print out the word push on a door that should be pulled.
5. Ask to borrow someones phone and change their contact names.
6. Borrow a friends phone and make strange shortcuts.
7. Surround someones car with a circle of shopping carts.
8. Glue eggs into a cartoon.
9. Put M&M's, Reese's Pieces, and Skittles in a bowl together.
10. Get any ball shaped candy and replace it with brussel sprouts.
11. Put green food dye on food so it looks moldy.
12. Cover remote censor with tape.
13. Put paper that looks like part of a dollar somewhere and then when they pull it out they will see that the rest of it isn't a dollar bill.
14. Tell someone you bought them an iPad and then give them an eye pad.
15. And of course, the classic replacing Oreo cream with toothpaste.

Pet Poison Prevention Month



By Ilana S.

Our pets are precious to us. We love them and protect them to the best of our abilities. That's why it is important we take special care to keep poison from our pets during Pet Poison Awareness Month.

To keep your pet from danger, you need to make sure that all pet toxins are kept away from your furry friends. This list of toxins below is packed, but when in doubt, always call your vet to make sure that what is in your pet's reach is safe.

Dog Poisons

Chocolate
Cold and allergy medications
Most toothpastes and chewing gum
Vitamins and minerals
Mouse and rat poison

Cat Poisons

Household cleaners
Lilies
Cold and flu medications
Glow sticks
Mouse and rat poison

Bird Poison

Chocolate
Apple seeds
Alcohol
Salt
Caffeine
Onion
Mushroom
Avocado

Reptile Poison

Kale
Spinach
Broccoli
Romaine lettuce
Spiders
Ticks

Who is Punxsutawney Phil?



Thousands of people gathered this year on Groundhog's Day at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, PA, to watch a groundhog deliver his famous forecast. Will Spring come early or will we have to wait? This year when Punxsutawney Phil popped out, he did not see his shadow meaning that an early spring is in our future. Don't get too excited because he's usually wrong.

This Groundhog Day tradition stretches back more than a century. But even though Phil has been in the weather-prediction business for more than 130 years, he doesn't have a very good track record. Now obviously it is no easy task for Phil to try to predict the weather for such a large country with so many climates, but you would think that by now he might be a pro.

In the past decade, Phil has predicted a longer winter seven times and an early spring three times. He was only right about 40% of the time, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This proves that the groundhog shows "no predictive skill."

So, why do we trust this overgrown rodent? According to CNN meteorologist, Judson Jones, "People like to have something to blame for the weather, and the groundhog is the perfect thing to blame. It's better than blaming your meteorologist."

Answer Key for March Word Find:

Clover, leprechaun, trickster, ginger, patron, saint, Ireland, potatoes, North Atlantic, Ulster Scots, Europe, Dublin, feast, holiday, March, abducted, Slemish Mountain, County Antrim, Christian

Sophie's Poetry Corner

By Sophie S.

In Like a Lamb

The weather grows warmer once again
Leaves grow anew like they have before
In this perfect spring-beginning month
There is so much to adore.

Everyone now feels gleeful
There is so much now to do
Having such a wonderful month
Feels like a dream come true.

Not everyone is so very happy
Though everyone can try
So we need to make sure
That others are as happy as they can.

While we may feel like this time
Is as great as it can possibly be
There may be some hidden unhappiness
From others that we cannot see.

So we can do all that we can
To make sure that we do to not
Make anyone unnecessarily unhappy
And doing so will make us happier.

If we do all of this the reward will be great
Everything will seem better and everyone
Will be so happy and you can know
That you helped make this happen.

Springtime

Warm breezes blow gently
Through the trees and branches
And brush up against nature.

Young animals crawl slowly
Out of their homes and
Into the world beyond.

The sun heats up the air
Burning if you are out
For too long of a time.

Sometimes the sun
Disappears behind
A white fluffy cloud.

Or rain pours out
Of the sky and
Onto everything in sight.

This time of year
Is one that many people
Long for and wait for.

So now we can rejoice
That this time is
Here once again.

Kylie's Kooking Korner

By Kyle T.

- 4 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
- 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 pound powdered sugar (4 cups)
- 7 ounces flaked, sweetened coconut (2 2/3 cups), preferably angel flake
- 1 1/2 tablespoons ground cinnamon

Place the cream cheese, butter, vanilla, and salt in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. (Alternatively, use an electric hand mixer and large bowl.) Beat on medium speed until fluffy and smooth, about 3 minutes.

Return the mixer to low speed and gradually add the powdered sugar. When all the powdered sugar is incorporated, increase the speed to medium and beat until smooth, about 1 minute. Stop the mixer and scrape down the sides again. Add the coconut and beat on low speed until incorporated.

Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil or parchment paper if desired for easy cleanup. Scoop the coconut mixture out by level tablespoons onto the baking sheet, spacing them close together but not touching. Repeat until all the mixture is used up. Refrigerate for 30 minutes for the mixture to set.

Place the cinnamon in a small bowl. Using your hands, roll 1 of the pieces into a slightly oblong potato shape. Roll in the cinnamon to completely coat, then place back on the baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining pieces.

Saint Patrick's Day

By Emily Flores

Saint Patrick's Day is not in May
It's not a big deal of a holiday
Some people don't care
They act like it's not even there
People just put on green
They don't even know what this day means
We know about things like leprechauns
But this holiday seems all wrong
Valentine's Day at least keeps the letters and love
But if St. Patrick was alive this holiday he would be sick
of
On March 17th everyone wears green
It's the most common color to be seen
No one cares what the day represents
No cares about the stories contents
Everyone still celebrates
And that's pretty great

St. Patrick's Word Scramble

By Zara R.

RLVOCE	_____
ACLNUERPEH	_____
TITCESKRR	_____
RGGENI	_____
NOTPAR	_____
NSAIT	_____
AIRDENL	_____
TTOSAOEP	_____
HROTN TCAINTLA	_____
USRETL TSOSC	_____
ERUEOP	_____
INBUDL	_____
TASFE	_____
DHLAIOY	_____
CMRHA	_____
EDCAUDBT	_____
SESILMH IUONNAMT	_____
CTYUON ATRIM	_____
CIIRSTAHN	_____

Why to Clean This Spring

By Zara R.

The thought of this time year immediately reminds me of *The Wind in the Willows*, a book about animals simply enjoying the little pleasures in life. In the beginning, The Mole is exhausted after a day full of cleaning, letting the warmth and vivid colors the season brings along influence a chance at a refreshing clean slate. Kenneth Grahame writes this activity with a negative connotation, that the season's cleaning was more tiresome than any regular organizing and washing. But whoever came up with the idea of letting a new season of pleasant sun and crisp breezes become an ideal time to organize and clean the spaces you live in was a genius. Instead of dreading spring cleaning, take it as an opportunity.

If you feel scatterbrained and stressed, look at the area around you. Are things thrown about? Is your handwriting scribbles, and your notes hardly legible? First off, make sure that your spaces are clean. Use bins, containers, and furniture that can be used as storage as well as pieces that add to an interior. But to go another step further, make sure that your storage materials are organized. Instead of throwing papers, clothes, or whatever items in the containers, keep piles stacked and compact to allow for a greater amount of space to utilize with your things. Throwing out things that you don't need or that don't have much sentimental value will decrease clutter. Getting used to seeing an object everyday doesn't mean it has emotional value. Having a clean space will make you feel less closed in and trapped in a messy environment. This will de-stress your mind.

Just because you organize your room doesn't mean that the cleaning is over. Get into all of the nooks and crannies. Desk drawers, dresser drawers, and shelves. Getting into school is important as well. Especially since it is the hub for most of the stress we accumulate, keeping things like your locker and computer bags in order can make school life that much easier. Throwing out old papers and having a folder dedicated to papers you might need later is essential. This makes it easier to have the physical folder to last longer with less weight. Simple things can save you from having a tough time in class. We have binders full of work and clearing out the unnecessary doodles will give for a neat look.

Instead of dreading the term "spring cleaning", welcome a fresh start with open arms. Take it as an opportunity to be grateful for instead of a term to be irritated.

