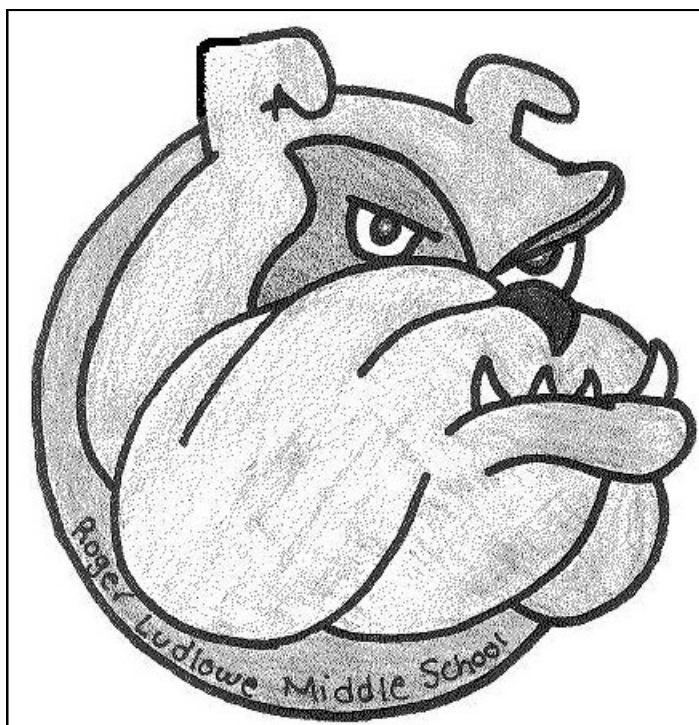


The Bulldog Bulletin



Page 1. Harper Gruzins Visits
RLMS

Page 6. The Social Studies Civiliza-
tion Project

Page 4. Quarterly Solar System ar-
ticle —The Moon

Page 7. RLMS Winter Concert

Page 5. "Big Ideas Math"

Page 8. Bulletin Staff

Harper Gruzins
by
Kayla Shemesh

Young singer-songwriter and actress, Harper Gruzins is from Coppell, Texas and recently visited Roger Ludlowe Middle School to talk to students about her experiences of bullying. Harper has been singing and performing for about as long as she's been talking. The amount of emotion that she reveals in her performances is amazing for someone who is only 13 years old!



In 2012, at the age of 11, Harper sang the National Anthem at a soccer game in front of 20,000 people. It wasn't her best performance due to the fact that she had difficulty hearing herself.

A blogger called it "The Worst National Anthem ever" and the video "went viral," getting more than one million views. Harper became the victim of an enormous amount of cyber bullying. This carried over into her friendships at

school. Harper stayed strong knowing music was her passion and refused to give up. Harper and her family formed a nonprofit organization called,

"I Have A V.O.I.C.E." Vision Of Inner Creativity and Expression.

One homeroom from each grade was surveyed after the performance and here is what RLMS students learned...

"I learned that there are four types of bullying – physical, verbal, self and cyber."

"You can get up from anything if you persevere and try again."

"Many celebrities were bullied as a kid and even now."

"Bullying hurts peoples feeling."

According to studetns these are th things that affected RLMS them the most both during and after the presenta-tion...

"Harper was able to get back on her feet and keep singing after being bullied this amazed me."

“How harsh people were to her after she sang the anthem.”

“The fact that instead of being bullied by one kid – she was cyber-bullied by the entire country.”

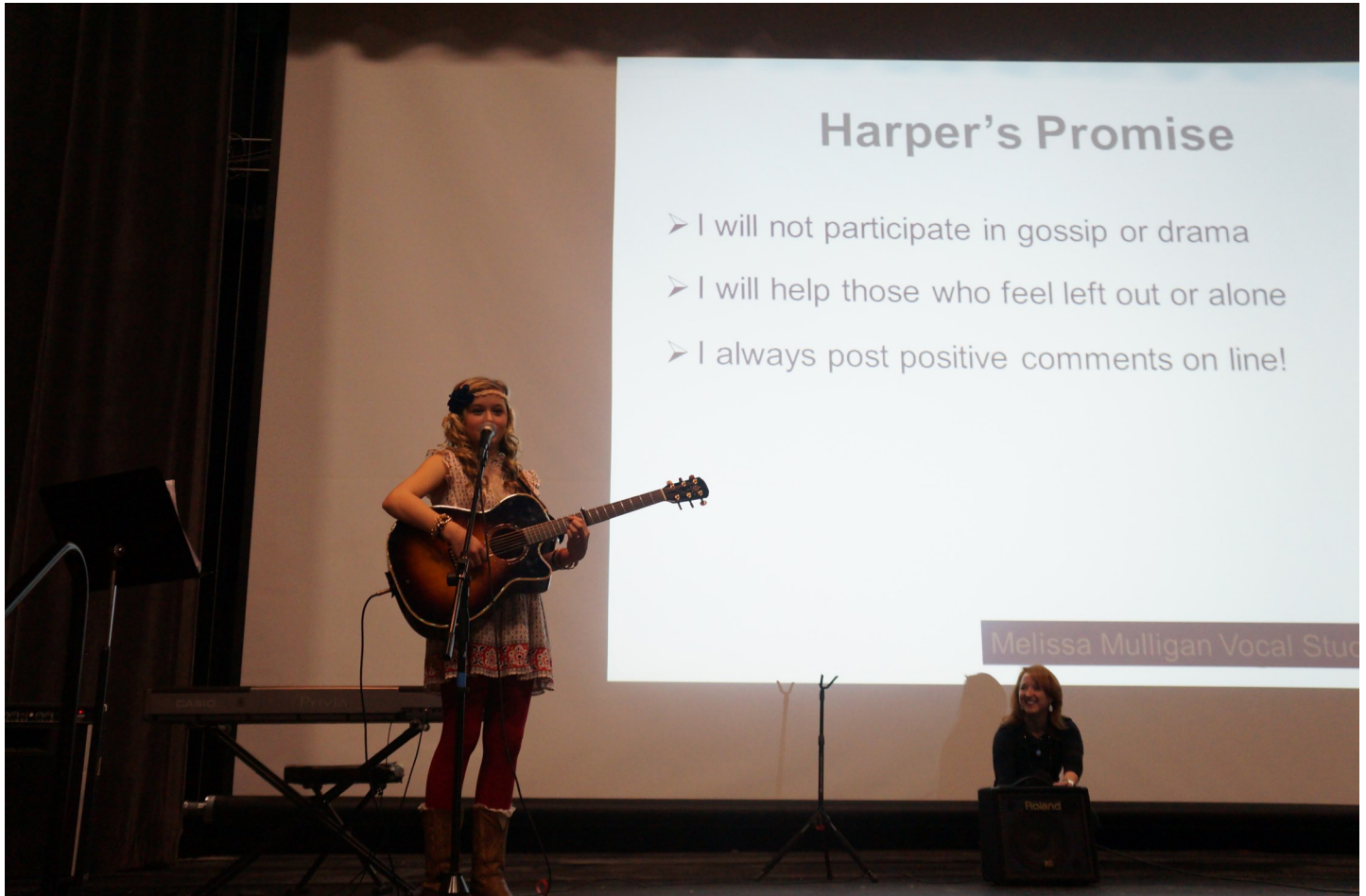
“No matter what people said about her she did not give up on her dreams.”

The following are the Shout Outs to Harper from RLMS Students...

“Harper you are an amazing person because you pushed through all of that bullying.”

“Harper you have inspired people to dream, to succeed and to prevent bullying.”

Below—Harper and Harper’s Promise. Harper reviews her promise to other people and then asks the students in the audience to make this pledge.



The Moon

By

Thomas Longo

(Each quarter Thomas submits an article detailing one detail of our solar system)

The moon is a dead world with no life. It has no atmosphere and has been hit by lots and lots of asteroids. One crater on the moon can hold a big city and its suburbs and there would still be room to spare.

The moon's diameter is about 2,159 miles. It is the 5th largest moon in the solar system. At night when you see the moon, it always seems to change its shape. That's because the moon orbits Earth every 29.5 days. It is always in a different position. It doesn't light up on its own though. It lights up by the sun. So if it's on the right side of the earth then that means about half of it is lit up.

There are 8 phases of the moon. It starts out as a new moon (which is when you can't see it at all). Then it becomes a waxing crescent (the word "waxing" means growing so if it's a waxing crescent it really means growing crescent, and it's also lit up on the right side if it's waxing). Then it comes to be a first quarter (it means that half of it is lit up). Next it is a waxing gibbous (that is sort of like an oval shaped moon). Then it is a full moon (when the entire moon is lit up,

or it's a circle). Then it becomes a waning gibbous (the word "waning" is the opposite of waxing and the left side of the moon is lit up so if it's a waning gibbous it is really a shrinking gibbous.

Next it is a Third (sometimes called last) quarter (it is the when the left half of the moon is lit up). Finally it is a waning crescent (when a crescent is lit up on the left side of the moon). Then it repeats those phases over and over again. It will never stop.

The lit side of the moon can reach up to 250 degrees Fahrenheit! The dark side however, can drop down to -250 degrees Fahrenheit.

A day in history about the moon that we will never forget is the day the first astronauts stepped foot on the moon. There were 3 astronauts and everyone remembers their names. Neil Armstrong set foot first and said "That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind." Another astronaut was Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin who walked on the moon with Armstrong. There was another astronaut named Michael Collins who didn't step foot on the moon but circled Earth.

Some Amazing Facts About Our Moon:
of water) on it called "Maria."

- The moon has some oceans (though these are not filled with water).
- An eclipse of the moon is called a lunar eclipse.
- During a lunar eclipse, the moon is red. That is because the sun bends light on the moon, creating a reddish-orange color. This phenomenon is called "refraction."
- Lunar eclipses are safe to look at, and it is usually dark during a lunar eclipse. They always happen during full moons.

Ideas Math textbook. The green one is meant for the sixth graders, the red for seventh, and blue for eighth. The Algebra 1 students have a form of the Common Core curriculum, but in a different format. An online textbook, tutorials, and even a fun little game called "My Dear Aunt Sally" which is a great way to set your new learning in stone.

So be sure to use your textbook to its fullest potential, because it really is what some people call a "Treasure among Treasures." So get learnin', Ludlowe!

RLMS Introduces Big Ideas Math

By

Nick Fech

I've heard from many different sources, that Big Ideas Math is a very big change for RLMS. Ron Larson and Laurie Boswell, the authors, have devised a plan to speed up the learning process. In fact, I've received input from one of our own RLMS math teachers, Mrs. Corbiere. She said how the Algebra 1 students are being introduced to an Algebra 2 mindset, as the Pre-Algebra kids are with Algebra 1. Dr. Boice, the Director of Secondary Ed for the Fairfield Public Schools, stated how it was an overall statewide decision, and the Common Core is an initiative for middle school students to greater understand math.

Here are the basics: Each grade level, except for Algebra 1, has some form of a Big

The Social Studies Civilization

Project

By

Zoë DeMassa

6th grade students at RLMS have a new Social Studies project: Make Your Own Civilization! 6th graders in Mrs. Maloney's class get the chance to name, create, and present their very own Civilization. Students may present it in a power point, a 3-D model, a diorama, an essay, an advertisement, or a poster.

Students have to include a name for this civilization, the five main criteria of civilization, which are a stable food supply, a system of government, social levels, specialization of labor, and culture. They also get to invent along these lines in the project.

Students can make their own language and even your own currency. They can add as many things as they wish to the project as long as they have the main things included.

For a stable food supply students can add some of the food your civilization eats, but they have to make it practical. For example: if one were to place their civilization on an island, then they would need to make the food with that, such as sea food.

For a system of government students could make a government any way they want. They can make it as anything that exists, such as a monarchy, which is you have a King or Queen, or a presidential government where you have a president. They can also have a dictatorship and they can even have a badly run government if they like. Students can even invent their own type of government that does not currently exist in the world today.

For the specialization of labor students can make up jobs special for their island and regular jobs too. They can have farmers, seamstresses, police, anything they want.

For social levels students can make their own ladder of society. Who is on the top rung? Who is on the bottom? You decide.

Will there be a farming class? A wealthy one? How about an army? The class can choose anything they want.

In culture students can make a wide variety of things. They can make their own religion, language, art, clothing, make up myths about their civilization, reasons why things are the way they are there, students may even invent sacred items!

Culture is the criterion that lets our imagination run wild. This project is allowing students to view our world and our role in that world in a new light. It allows the students explore civilizations and to add their own human twist to how that culture will succeed and find its way in this world.

Winter Concert

By

Bailey Schumacher

Recently RLMS had a special event that students were very excited about, the winter concert! U.A. teachers that helped practice for our performance were Mrs. Lafond, Mr. Fumasoli, and Mr. Kroqi. In band, Mr. Fumasoli had them practice four songs. The first is called Stealth One; the second is called Jing-a-Ling Bells, third is Regal March, and fourth is Jolly Old Sleigh Ride.

For chorus, Mrs. Lafond had her students practice the songs, Sleigh Ride, then Falling Slowly, Winterlight, and the Frosty Hand Jive. Last, but certainly not least, Mr. Kroqi had the orchestra practice some songs as well. The songs are called, Renaissance Canzola, Skaters Waltz, and the Twilight Express.

The students in these programs worked very hard to top this off to make their teachers and parents proud. The instruments in band that played in the concert are the flutes, clarinets, saxophones, trumpets, trombones, French horn, brass, and drums. The instruments in the orchestra concert are the violins, violas, cellos, and bass. For chorus, students used their voice as an instrument.

The concert was held on December 12, 2013. It started at 7:00 that night, and ended at 8:30. It was a fabulous concert, I tell you! There was a moon on the wall, created by a spotlight.

During Winterlight, there were snowflakes on the walls and kids held candles. (Don't worry, they were fake ones) The soloists, Chloe and Ben, had wonderful voices while singing. I'd like to congratulate them for making the solos, and for singing beautifully at the concert. After the concert, refreshments and cookies were being sold as parents congratulated their

kids and told them how proud they were of them. Even though the concert has come and go, there will still be many wonderful memories from it.

The RLMS Bulldog Bulletin Staff and contributing authors are:

Nick Fech 8th

Zoë DeMassa 6th

Sarah Grinalds 8th

Thomas Longo 8th

Bailey Schumacher 6th

Kayla Shemesh 8th

Club Coordinator: Daniel Boocks RLMS
Technology Ed.

We are always looking for new staff and new contributors. If you would like to cover a topic for the school paper please see Mr. Boocks at any time during the school day!