



WE ARE SPARTANS

— ACHIEVEMENT RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EMPATHY —

IMMS Messenger June 2018 Volume XIII Issue XXXX Indian Mound Middle School McFarland, WI

Spelling success

IMMS Staff

Spencer Phillips, a sixth-grader at IMMS, competed at the Scripps National Spelling Bee at the end of May in National Harbor, Maryland. He won the school bee and took 13th at the regional competition. Spencer was selected to attend the national bee through the RSVBee program, an online entry test.

Students in Spencer's homeroom created a poster to wish him well. The poster expanded into a bulletin board to cheer on Spencer. Students added words he spelled from his competitions and throughout the national bee.

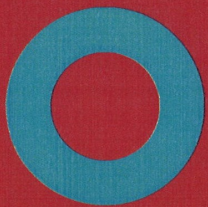
Spencer advanced through the spoken rounds of the national bee. He missed the cutoff on the written spelling and vocabulary test to advance to the final 41 competitors. He is among the top 321 spellers in the nation.



Cell Phones and Their Place in School

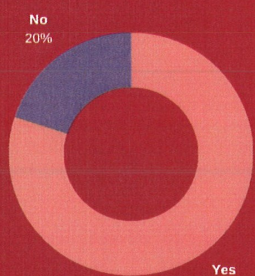


Do People own a Cell Phone ?



Yes
100%

Should Cell Phones be in Class?



Yes
80%

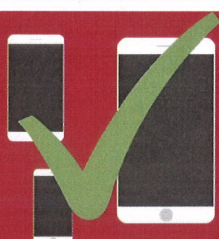
No
20%

This Data was Collected by Core 3/4 ELA Class Meyer



People are Looking at Phones in School Negatively.

There are many reasons for why phones should not be in school. 20% thought the same thing in my class, but when you think about it, not having access to technology and the internet isn't the best way for teaching. Sure you could get iPads and such to help out the problem but that is just more and more money spent.



CELL PHONES SHOULD BE ALLOWED IN SCHOOL!

Cell phones will always be apart of this world. That's why by getting the most use out of them and being able to have access to resources could be a HUGE advantage for people around the globe!



Gym expands

The steel girder truss for the IMMS gym expansion was set in place in the first half of May. Workers communicated via radio with the 90-ton crane operator. Ironworkers continue to prepare the truss for integration with the existing roof structure. Masonry work on the gym expansion also was completed in May. Below: Outside new classrooms, rough grading was finalized.

Photos by Findorff



Spartan Spotlight: Sam loves music

By Teagan Mallegni

IMMS 6th Grade

IMMS seventh-grader Sam Stapelmann enjoys music so much she has a special schedule so she can participate in both orchestra and chorus. Here's what she had to say about playing the violin.

Q: How long have you been playing?

A: Five years.

Q: Why did you start?

A: A friend recommended it, and we played it together.

Q: How often do you play?

A: I practice every night for at least 20 minutes.

Q: Will you continue to play?

A: Yes, throughout my life for fun.



Submitted photo

Sam Stapelmann, an IMMS seventh-grader, poses with her violin outside her home.

Poetry

Girl Behind the Mask

No one knows me,
 I mean yeah you know me,
 But you don't really know the real me,
 I get to school and put on the mask that hides me,
 I leave school and the mask is still on,
 I get home mad I finally feel free to take the mask off,
 Because then and only then do I feel safe,
 Safe enough to let others inside,
 To know the real me,
 "Who hides behind a mask?"
 Well I do, that's who.

~Anonymous, IMMS 8th Grade

Untitled

I am more than just a distraction. I'm creating traction,
 because what I stay sticks.
 It doesn't slip away.
 You say I'm on edge, but that's cause I'm a step ahead.
 You strategically built your game plan.
 Sorry I'm a girl, I apparently don't understand.
 Sorry I play like a girl.
 Sorry I act like a girl.
I'm sorry I am who I am.
 We're not going to pretend inequality isn't a big deal.
 People pretend exuberance is a type of cancer, stand up,
 and being
 a
 feminist.
 Mostly likely, we are all humanist: a person who believes
 in the philosophy of humanism. Between genders there
 seems like a schism.
 Did ya know women experience depression at roughly
 twice the rate of man, according to mentalhealthamerica.net?
 I'm not saying it's just women, but utopian
 body image is expected.
 We are contrasting,
 we are
 diverse, we are more than the color of the purse on our
 back. By the way, whatcha looking at?

~Avery Weaver, IMMS 7th Grade

Train Tracks

Train tracks and train lines distract me,
 They criss-cross and they're overlapping.
 Switching directions and moving around,
 Going side to side or up and down.
 Train tracks and train lines are blinking
 Red lights attempting to stop me.
 Rocks shoot up when the trains pass,
 They sprinkle the earth and kick up the grass.
 Train tracks and train lines are rusting,
 Fading away but still running.
 You see them holding up their worth,
 Slowly sinking into the dirt.
 Train tracks and train lines distract me,
 Seeming to go on so easily.
 They never seem to want to stop,
 They'll keep on going until the trains drop.

~Emily Schoeller, IMMS 7th Grade

Animal Cruelty

Why should animal cruelty stop?

- Dale who wrote "Animals Deserve Protection from Abuse," says that 71% of domestic violent people also abused animals.
- From PETA "10 Reasons Not to Attend an Animal Circus", says that elephants are beat with bull hooks to force tricks.
- People are "forcing rats and mice to inhale toxic fumes," says PETA, "The Truth about Animals Used for Experimentation."
- If you abuse animals, you are more likely to become violent to humans.
- Circus animal tricks are unnatural.
- There are better ways to test without animals.

What is animal cruelty?

- Leaving animals in extreme temps. too long.
- Depriving animals from food and water.
- Hurting animals in any way.
- Taking animals away from natural habitats.

How can we stop animal cruelty?

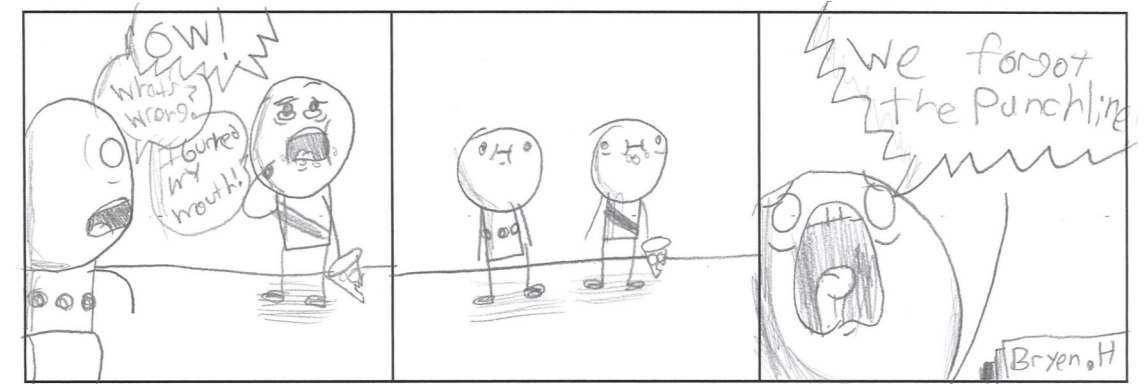
- By products NOT tested on animals.
- Do NOT go to circuses.
- Treat animals kindly.

Tell this to your friends and family.
 #StopAnimalCruelty

by ella lodewyk



Jeff and Bob #1 Gullibleness



Pizza Punchline



snow man -step



Movie opinions

Students in Ms. Meyer's 7th Grade ELA classes created infographics as an activism option on their arguments. This one is by Ella Lodewyk. Page 1 shows part of Caden Boehnen's graphic, and the one on page 3 is by Tyra Haugen.

IMMS Messenger contributors include: Bryen Hoops, Teagan Mallegni, Emily Schoeller and Avery Weaver. To participate, contact Adviser Ms. Ndlovu at NdlovuT@mcsfd.org.

No school uniforms

By Erik Olson
IMMS 7th Grade

Imagine having to go to school or your job without being able to express yourself and not have people see who you really are. A lot of kids have that reality at school. Is that fair? Is it fair that kids are forced to wear the same uniform as everyone else? Lots of people say that school uniforms help prevent bullying as well as save money, but they mainly just limit kids creativity. Kids should not have to wear uniforms at school because they don't let kids express themselves, kids won't grow up to be as strong individuals as they could be, and kids are forced to wear gender specific clothes.

First, kids should not have to wear uniforms at school because they don't let kids express themselves. Nancy E. Bailey, PhD, education author and activist wrote in her 2013 book *Misguided Education Reform: Debating the Impact on Students*, "Teens should be able to develop self-expression and their personal identity." Also, Rob O'Donnell, President of the Irish Second-Level Students' Union states, "Every day, girls see their male classmates come to school in trousers... Some girls really, really hate – absolutely hate – to wear skirts. It is a dated system. In any other walk of life, we wouldn't dream of telling girls that they have to wear a skirt. So why is it acceptable to inflict it on them at school?" This proves that kids shouldn't have to wear uniforms at school because ... nobody will see who they really are. They also can't even wear the school uniform that they want to wear. This is bad because if nobody can see who anybody is, then everybody will just assume who everyone is, which shouldn't happen. This also connects to another reason, which is that kids won't grow up to be as strong individuals as they could be.

Because uniforms limit expression, students do not get to make decisions and do not learn to strengthen their individual voice, which is an even more compelling reason why kids should not have to wear uniforms at school. Alfie

Kohn, education activist and author was arguing about kids wearing uniforms at school and states, "If we want students to grow into critical thinkers and ethical people, then we have to aim higher than mere conformity. Children, after all, learn how to make good decisions by making decisions, not by following directions." Also, The American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada states, "Allowing students to choose their clothing is an empowering message from the schools that a student is a maturing person who is entitled to the most basic self-determination." This proves that kids should not have to wear uniforms at school because if kids don't learn how to make good decisions, then they can't handle situations as well when they grow up. Kids will also feel like they are mature as well as feel more trustworthy. This leads into another reason that kids should not have to wear uniforms at school, which is limiting gender choices.

Next, kids should not have to wear uniforms at school because kids are forced to wear gender specific clothes. Linne Hoofnagle, former staff writer for Tiger Hi-Line, the newspaper, states, "There are limited choices for males and limited choices for females. Though females can wear uniform pants, men are not allowed to wear uniform jumpers. Conflict would arise if a male attempted to wear the specified 'female' attire. This poses problems to LGBT progress in school environments." Also, Will Galloway, Chairman of the South Carolina Teenage Republicans states, "If one or two students wear a uniform for the other gender, administration will handle it. The student in question will change, be disciplined, and return to class in the uniform made for their gender." This proves that kids should not have to wear uniforms at school because it limits kids who want to be part of the LGBT community and schools should be encouraging kids to be who they want to be, not forcing them to be male or female. Most people who support school uniforms don't realize that kids are forced to

wear gender specific uniforms.

Finally, a lot of people argue that kids should wear school uniforms for multiple reasons. One person who supports school uniforms is Chloe Spencer, a high school student at Neale-Wade Academy in Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom, and she states, "A uniform means students don't have to worry about peer pressure when it comes to their clothes. When everyone is dressed the same, worrying about what you look like isn't so important." But, then kids will judge their classmates based on how they fit into the uniform as well as how their hair and face looks. Also, Bill Clinton, 42nd President of the United States argues uniforms will stop students killing each other over designer jackets. This can be stopped without forcing kids to wear school uniforms because kids know that they are wearing expensive clothes, so it's their fault for wearing it to school, where a lot of kids know what it's worth. Other people also argue that some schools don't have gender specific uniforms, but that can be even worse because some kids will most likely want to wear other clothes. These problems cannot be fixed by school uniforms because they will influence kids to follow the rules and not be creative.

Kids all over the world have to go to school almost every day while wearing uniforms that limit them to who they can be, but the question is why? Uniforms are bad for kids in so many ways from not letting them express themselves to not letting them grow up to be as strong of individuals. Some may say that uniforms help prevent bullying and cost less, but then it's about how the kids look in the uniforms and they don't get to wear what they want. Children can learn so much and be much stronger individuals if they can choose their own clothes. Schools should set boundaries and have a dress code so that kids wear appropriate clothes that they still like. In the end, it shouldn't be completely up to schools to choose what kids wear, it should be up to the kids themselves.

Speak the graphic novel offers quicker read

By Ava Nale
IMMS 7th Grade

The main difference between *Speak* the novel and its graphic novel form, which was recently published, is how much shorter and to the point the graphic novel gets.

Originally, the novel by Laurie Halse Anderson was printed in 1999. It is a first-person, problem narrative about high school freshman Melinda Sordino. Wikipedia offers this summary: "After accidentally busting an end-of-summer party due to an unnamed incident, Melinda is ostracized by her peers because she will not say why she called the police. Unable to verbalize what happened, Melinda nearly stops

speaking altogether, expressing her voice through the art she produces for Mr. Freeman's class. This expression slowly helps Melinda acknowledge what happened, face her problems, and recreate her identity." The novel jumps around, not following a chronological order.

To be completely honest, the *Speak* book dragged on quite a bit and seems as if some pages are just there to add to the page count, not to the story itself. Although, the graphic novel has around a hundred pages more than the original book. Needless to say, I finished the graphic novel in 2 days, whereas I finished the other book in 5 days. The graphic novel also doesn't include words like he said, she said, so that's the main things that missing from the original book.

Letter to parents: Teens may benefit from videogames

Dear parent or guardian,

It is to my concern that many of you feel that video games are bad for children whether it be because you have been directed down the wrong path or it could be personal but now with more research it has come to my attention that video games are actually really beneficial for children and you may want to consider the following benefits for children.

Teens get upset and that is normal, but when teens are feeling troubled or even just have a bad day, they often take out their anger out on other teens or family which is not something teens should do. Something teens can do instead is channel their negativity into video games according to the article "Video Games Are Good for Children, No Matter What Trump Says". The mental benefits of video games are actually very great! According to the same source, it improves "enhancing education and learning recall", "improving our memory, attention and ability to multitask", "providing ways for children to build confidence and boost self-esteem" and even "teaching valuable career skills from resource management to leading teams". There are so many mental benefits to playing

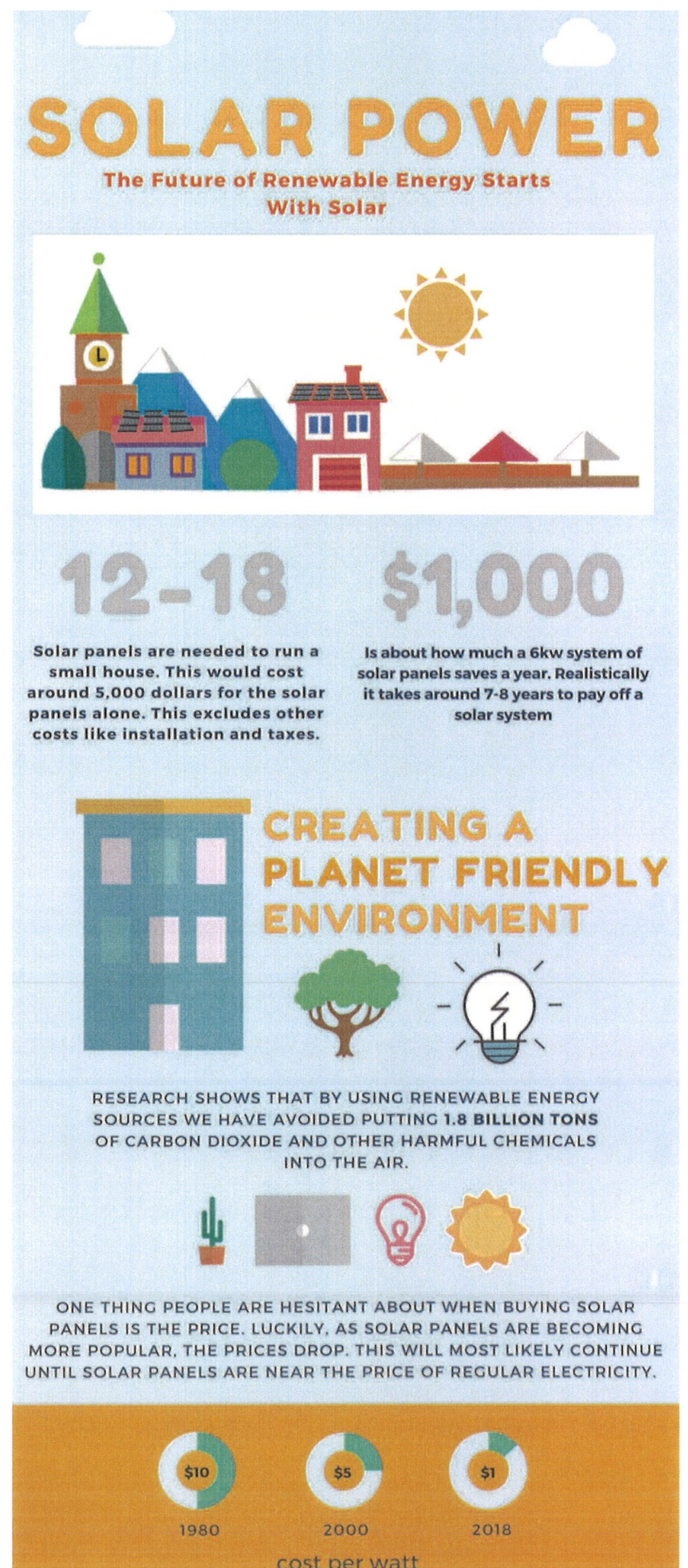
videogames.

Yes there are mental benefits, but playing to many video games makes you lazy and fat right? Well that's not exactly true. In the article "12 Surprising Health Benefits of Playing Video Games" it is said that playing video games can help people with dyslexia. This is because of the amount of focusing the player is put under while playing videos so this thus helps with dyslexia. From the same article it talks about how video games can improve sight. Now it's a weird idea but since we now have wireless controllers, we don't have to sight right next to your television anymore. Actually it is more harmful for your vision to be on your phone because the screen is closer than a TV. You also because of improved graphics have to pay more attention to fine details which helps with vision.

I hope that the following information was able to give you some insight on how video games can actually benefit children and that you should allow your child to play video games during leisure time.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email

Alex Fite
IMMS 7th Grade





**Spring arrives,
finally**

Winners in the IMMS Messenger Spring Photo Contest were:

Crab Apple Wonder, at left, by Charlotte Prosser, an IMMS seventh-grader. The photo was taken May 7 at her home.

Largest number of entries was by Donnie Johnson, an IMMS seventh-grader. His photos include the irises and the three flower photos below them.

Vicky Colle, IMMS Family Living Instructor, also shared her spring pictures, below.

