

Spartan Newsflash

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL / DECEMBER 2021 / VOLUME 02, EDITION 01

Student reporters featured in this edition:

Erika Anacleto	Mariah Martinez
Nate Barclay	Divya Ohneswere
Landin Butau	Dietrich Isabel Tix
Andres Butler	Johann Padaong
Isla Feldman	Kendra Williamson
Barthina Khalil	Noah Pierson
Ameera Lange	Jorie Staples
Marcos Lara	Jaxon Wanek
Leedia Xiong	Heidy Molina
Gracie Hernandez-Adams	

Staff Advisor: Jess Maloney
maloney@isd199.org



INCLUDED IN THIS EDITION:
How to act in the bathroom, an interview with Ms. Rose, comics, crafts, Kpop, movie recommendations, world series review, hockey facts, WEB, 7th grade sports poll, celebrity birthdays, starting horseback riding guide and more!



New School Year, New Volume, New Voices

Welcome to the second volume of the Inver Grove Heights Middle School Spartan Newsflash! This newspaper was created as a place for students to share the stories that are important to them. The goal of the Spartan Newsflash is to connect our community, allow for the diverse voices of our students to be heard freely, and showcase the (mostly) unedited talents of the Spartan Newsflash reporters.

A reminder: all content of this paper is created by students, and for that reason, this paper will never be perfect.

The Spartan Newsflash philosophy is that learning is a lifelong process, and we all can improve through mistakes and reflection. Our hope as future editions are released, is that you see the growth in our reporters.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about what our student reporters have to say. The Spartan Newsflash hopes you laugh, learn, and hear differently as a result of the words and pictures you read.

Jess Maloney, Staff Advisor
maloney@isd199.org

Change is Needed

by Ameera Lange

Grade 8

We all think of violence as the answer to solve a problem. If you take some time to think, and really slow yourself down, I want you to ask yourself something: Does violence benefit me in any way? Does violence help me get good grades? Does violence help me make new friends? I think we all refer to the saying "I am going to beat you up" just to prove a point or to prove yourself worthy of society or your friends, but prove yourself to who? Martin Luther King Jr. once said "In spite of temporary victories, violence never brings permanent peace." What do you think of when you read this statement? How does it make you feel?

As an eighth grader, I know I always see myself caught up in drama. I say to myself countless times "should I really be doing this?" "What is this going to tell people about my personality?" "What kind of person am I?" The more I gossip and start drama the more I lose trust from my friends and peers. So when it comes to gossiping, fighting and starting drama I want you to think what kind of change is needed? What kind of change can you make in your life to avoid being unkind?

If you are having trouble thinking about how you can change, think of what type of friends you are with, your actions in the hallways during passing time, how you treat yourself and your peers. Another thing I recommend is making amends with the people you have affected by thinking that being mean is the answer to a problem. I know that if I could go back in time I would change a lot of things in my life to make me a better person. So, I am telling you: please be kind to yourself and your friends because you never know when your world will turn upside down.

My Story

by Heidy Molina

Grade 7

Heidy came to IGHMS this school year from Mexico. She is learning to speak English. She was brave enough to join the school newspaper and worked hard to write her news article in English! We are so proud of your hard work Heidy!

My history!
Hello My name is haidy!
I Recently Moved to america
I went to Mexico when I
was 4 monts old I went
back to my 11 years I
Really like america a lot
I Love their Meals their
Parties their Places to visid
Y have 2 Sisters one is
Called Litzy and the other
Called Mariana like to
travel to different places
and I also Love studying
I study to be a singer I
Love MUSIC, Concerts etc...

I AM very good People and
I never ask for anything in
Return I like living with my
family My family for me is
the best thing that happened to
Me.. My parents rent my
uncles' house and we always
like to live with them..♥ in
a short time at my school
we will be a concert and I
love that idea because I like
to sing.. this has done everything
fortoday I hope you like it..♥
Attentively: haidy Molina♥

Mi Historia

por Heidy Molina

Grado 7

¡Hola! Mi nombre es Heidy. Recientemente me mudé a Estados Unidos. Fui a México cuando tenía 4 meses. Volví a mis 11 años. Me gusta mucho Estados Unidos. Me encantan sus comidas, sus fiestas, sus lugares para visitar. Tengo dos hermanas, una se llama Litzy y la otra se llama Mariana. Me gusta viajar a diferentes lugares y me encanta estudiar. Quiero estudiar para ser cantante. Me encanta la música, los conciertos, etc. Soy muy buena con la gente y nunca pido nada a cambio. Me gusta vivir con mi familia. Mi familia para mí es lo mejor que me ha pasado. Mis padres alquilan la casa de mis tíos y siempre nos gusta vivir con ellos. En poco tiempo habrá un concierto. Me encanta esa idea porque me gusta cantar.

When You Believe in Yourself, Anything is Possible

by Leedia Xiong

Grade 6

How would you feel if you were named the "first" to do something? Robert Ryland broke boundaries by being the first African American to be a professional tennis player. He must have felt proud of himself and all of his hard work. He did all of this because he believed in himself. I know I will feel proud of myself when I break boundaries by becoming the first doctor in my family. I know it will take a lot of hard work and time but when you believe in yourself, anything is possible.

During Ryland's time, African Americans weren't allowed to play in the USTA so he played in the ATA. His passion for tennis allowed him to continue to play and with his many accomplishments; he earned college scholarships. My passion in tennis began when I was 7 years old. I hope to continue to play and excel in tennis to help me earn a college scholarship where I can play tennis while studying to become a doctor.



His grandmother gave him support to help him follow his dreams. My family supports me and my dreams of becoming a doctor. My parents push me everyday to be a better tennis player. They teach me to play with honesty

and to play my very best. Their belief and support helps me to continue to believe in myself and my dreams.

He coached and inspired many great players. His passion for tennis was not just playing but also coaching. He's inspired me to be a great tennis player and to become a tennis coach in the future.

Ryland broke many boundaries because he was passionate about tennis, had the support he needed, and believed

in himself. His story has inspired many great players today. It has also inspired me to become a better tennis player and to continue to believe in my dreams of being a doctor. I hope one day my story will inspire others to follow their dreams. I will also break my boundaries like Ryland did.

Movies You Should Watch

by Graciela Hernandez-Adams

Grade 6

If you like 90's movies, these are the movies I suggest:

Mighty Ducks

Sandlot

Matilda

Space Jam (the old one)

Karate Kid 1, 2 & 3

Big

Beetlejuice

Gremlins

How to Act in the Bathroom

by Mariah Martinez

Grade 6



PIGGY BANK OUT OF A CUP!

Here's how to make a cup piggy bank:

First, you take an empty plastic cup and cut it in half.

Next, you put half inside the other a little bit, and glue it into place.

Then, cut a little whole in the top to make a spot that your money goes in.

Now decorate your piggy bank: add eyes, a nose, and paint to make it fun!!!!!!



An Interview with Ms. Rose

by Landin Butau Dietrich
Grade 6

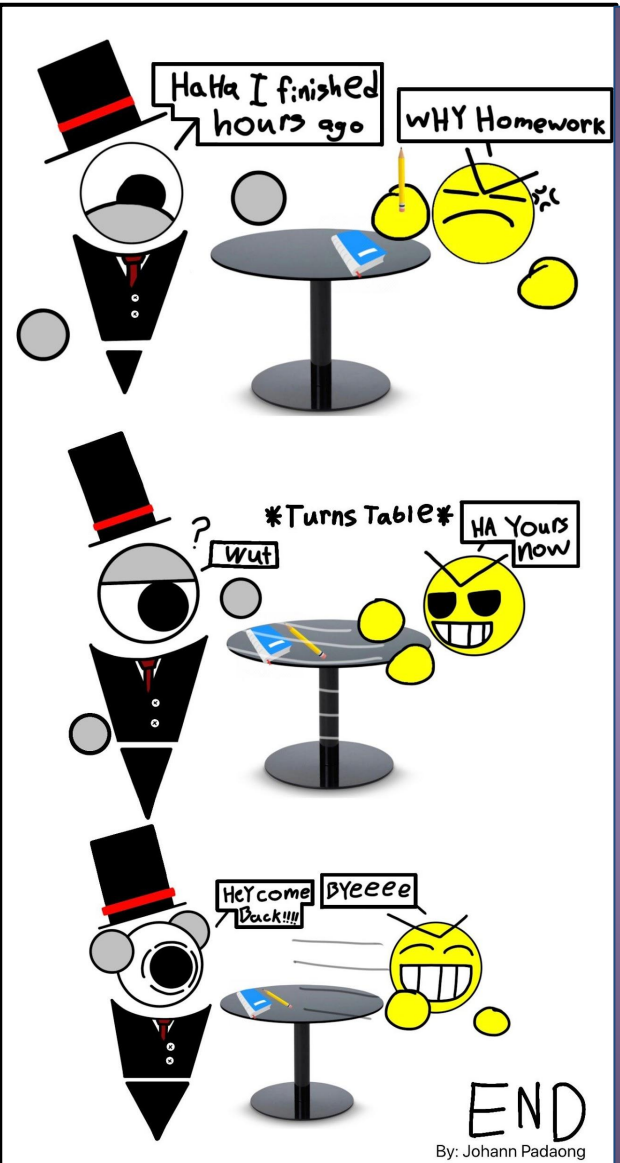
I got to interview Ms. Rose and it was such a fun thing to do! Just so you know, this is not her first interview.

She has been a teacher for six years, but this is her first year at IGHMS. Ms. Rose became a reading

teacher because she loves reading. She wants all of her students to like and have an interest in reading instead of them just knowing how to understand the book.



Back when Ms. Rose was our age, she wanted to be a veterinarian. One of her favorite books is *Pride and Prejudice* because the author makes the characters come to life. Ms. Rose also has a cat named Penny. Her favorite thing to teach in reading is called service learning. Service learning is when you make something to promote reading to younger students. Her favorite holiday is Thanksgiving because everything is upbeat and positive.



The Normal WEB Things

by Erika Anacleto & Barthina Khalil
Grade 8

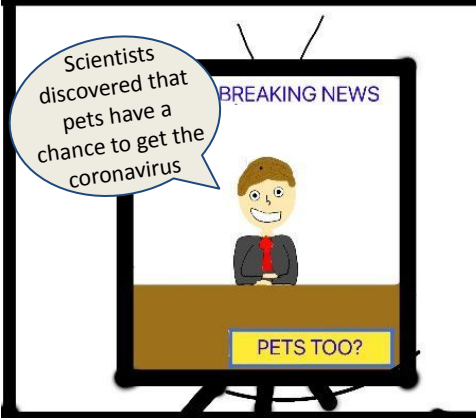
This year, the 8th grade WEB groups have been paying some visits to their assigned 6th grade advisory class. As a reminder, WEB stands for "Where Everybody Belongs." The 6th grade advisory classes have been engaging in activities that will teach them important life lessons to help them through their first year of middle school.

The students have been actively learning about how words can affect someone and it is hard to take those specific words back after being said. The activity that went along with this was the toothpaste activity. WEB leaders went into their 6th grader's classroom and asked for two volunteers to squeeze toothpaste out of the tube in one minute. The toothpaste that was squeezed out represented the negative words being said to others. For the next step, WEB leaders asked for two more volunteers. Those volunteers had to put the toothpaste back into the tube in one minute. The volunteers struggled to get the toothpaste back into the tube and the result was that they just made a big mess - that represented how when you say something, it's hard to take those words back.

We interviewed some 6th graders that gave us feedback about their experiences with the WEB leaders. One 6th grader said that they liked the toothpaste activity because it helped her be more social. Another 6th grader said that they enjoyed the WEB lesson that was connected to the activity. We really appreciate the feedback because it tells us what we can work on and what to do better for

Comic Bits

by Jaxon Wanek
Grade 6



the next lesson.

We became WEB leaders because we know how hard starting a new school with new people can be. That's why we want to help. We enjoy helping students overcome their challenges in whatever situation they

may encounter. We hope to see the 6th graders have an awesome year of middle school!



How Kpop Affected My Life

by Leedia Xiong

Grade 6

Kpop, short for Korean popular music, is a genre of music originating in South Korea as a part of South Korean culture.

How I got into it: I got into listening/watching kpop music by watching a South Korean horror show called "Sweet Home". This show has interested me into watching and listening to Korean music/ shows. I first started off listening to a really popular band called "BTS". Then I started to drift away from listening to "BTS" and started to listen to other bands like "Stray Kids, or ENHYPEN."

What groups/ bands I listen to: Stray Kids, ENHYPEN, PIHarmony, The Boyz, Ateez, Boy Story, SEVENTEEN, NCT, NCT Dream, NCT127, TXT, and many more.

How it changed me and my life: I literally listen to it every day and night! I'm on electronics most of the time. I have multiple biases, and loves. It has changed me by becoming more talkative, active, social, happy, having something to love, and maybe



becoming a little more lazy. I have too many songs stuck in my head. I want to learn Korean, go to Korea, eat/ buy

Korean food, and buy Korean clothes. Watching too much Kpop stuff, Youtube videos, Tik Toks, etc.

Book Organizer

Take an empty cereal box and cut the top to about halfway on a slant.

Then all you do next is decorate the box however you want. So then you can put your books in it.



Craft Corner

by Divya Ohneswere

Grade 6

2021 World Series: Houston Astros vs. Atlanta Braves

by Nate Barclay
Grade 7

After an exciting 2019 season, the Astros were exposed for cheating by their own former pitcher: Mike Fiers. After being on the World Series champs team, the Houston Astros in 2017, he let out the news that they had been cheating in 2017.

Four years later, the Astros made the World Series AGAIN, and everyone wanted the Braves to win it all. Of course, that's exactly what happened.

After a great series, the Braves came away with the title, with Ozzie Albies, and Freddie Freeman both having a great series.

Freeman batted .318 in the series while also posting a

fielding percentage of 1.000 through 44 total chances, and Albies posted an AVG of .238, but had an OBP of .360. Both players led the Braves to their first World Series title since 1995.

On the other hand, the Astros, in their 3rd World Series trip in just 5 years, had a rough time producing runs. Jose Altuve, often regarded as the Astros best player, batted just .222 in 27 at bats, a relatively low number for him, after batting .303 in his previous World Series in 2019 against the Nationals.

After being awarded the ALCS MVP Award, Yordan Alvarez completely fell apart in the World Series, putting up a weak .100 average in 20 at bats. With the Astros offense not showing up, the Braves pulled away and took the series in 6 games.

With another historic World Series in the books, the Braves won their fourth World Series title in franchise history, while the Astros will have to wish for better luck next time.

2021 was a season to remember, and baseball fans can't wait for April!

December

2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			Zoe Kravitz, Woody Allen, Bette Midler, Treat Williams, Emily Mortimer	Lucy Liu, Nelly Furtado, Britney Spears, Steven Bauer, Ray Walston	Amanda Seyfried, Julianne Moore, Jenna Dewan-Tatum, Jean-Luc Godard, Ozzy Osbourne, Daryl Hannah, Brendan Fraser, Holly Marie Combs, Anna Chumsky	Marisa Tomei, Jeff Bridges, Fred Armisen, Jay-Z, Tony Todd, Tyra Banks
5	6	7		9	10	11
Paula Patton, Little Richard, Margaret Cho, Nick Stahl, Frankie Muniz	Judd Apatow, Steven Wright, JoBeth Williams, Tom Hulce	Nicholas Hoult, Ellen Burstyn, Jeffrey Wright, C. Thomas Howell, Emily Browning, Jennifer Carpenter, Aaron Carter	Ian Somerhalder, John Waters, Kim Basinger, Teri Hatcher, Dominic Monaghan, Nicki Minaj, AnnaSophia Robb	Judi Dench, Kirk Douglas, Beau Bridges, John Malkovich, Felicity Huffman, Jesse Metcalfe	Kenneth Branagh, Emmanuelle Chriqui, Nia Peeples, Bobby, Raven-Symone	Hailee Steinfeld, Rita Moreno, Teri Garr, Mo'Nique, Mos Def, Rider Strong
12	13	14		16	17	18
Jennifer Connelly, Bob Barker, Tom Wilkinson, Bill Nighy, Regina Hall, May I'm Balk	Jamie Foxx, Dick Van Dyke, Christopher Plummer, Ted Nugent, Wendy Malick, Steve Buscemi, Taylor Swift	Vanessa Hudgens, Natasha McElhone, Patty Duke, Dee Wallace, Jackson Rathbone	Adam Brody, Tim Conway, Don Johnson, Julie Taymor, Stuart Townsend	Krysten Ritter, Steven Bochco, Shane Black, James Mangold, Benjamin Bratt, Miranda Otto, Theo James	Milla Jovian, Ernie Hudson, Eugene Levy, Bill Pullman, Peter Farrelly, Chuck Liddel, Giovanni Ribisi, Gregg Araki, Rian Johnson	Brad Pitt, Steven Spielberg, Katie Holmes, Ray Liotta, DMX, Rachel Griffiths, Keith Richards, Christina Aguilera
19	20	21		23	24	25
Jake Gyllenhaal, Alyssa Milano, Ciely Tyson, Jennifer Beals, Kristy Swanson, Marla Sokoloff	Jonah Hill, Joe Cornish, Todd Phillips	Samuel Sutherland, Kiefer Sutherland, Jane Fonda, Jackson Rathbone, Jane Kaczmarek, Ray Romano, Andy Dick, Julie Delpy	Ralph Fiennes, Hector Elizondo, Diane Sawyer, David S. Goyer, Vanessa Paradis, Jordin Sparks	Harry Shearer, Susan, Holly Madison	Stephanie Meyer, Lee Daniels, Ricky Martin, Ryan Seacrest	Sissy Spacek, Jimmy Buffett, CCH Pounder, Annie Lennox, Helena Christensen
26	27	28		30	31	1
Jared Leto, Kit Harington, Lars Ulrich, Chris Daughtry	Emilie de Ravin, John Amos, Gerard Depardieu, Theresa Randle, Wilson Cruz	Denzel Washington, Stan Lee, Seth Meyers, Naomi Rapace, Sienna Miller, Joe Manganiello, Maggie Smith	Alison Brie, Jude Law, Diego Luna, Mekhi Phifer, Danny McBride, Andy Wachowski, Mary Tyler Moore, Jon Voight, Ted Danson	Eliza Dushku, Tracey Ullman, Kristin Kreuk, Tyrese Gibson, LeBron James, Meredith Vieira, Matt Lauer	Anthony Hopkins, Val Kilmer, Ben Kingsley, Taylor Hackford, Tim Mathewson, Bebe Neuwirth, Gong Li, Nicholas Sparks	

December Celebrity Birthdays

by Isabel Tix
Grade 7

How to Start Riding Horses

by Kendra Williamson

Grade 7

Do you want to start riding horses? Do you know how to ride? Do I need to buy a horse? These are just some of the questions people may ask when they are just starting to ride horses. In this article I am going to answer these questions and many more that you may have.

I have been riding horses my whole life. I have had some up and down moments, but persistence is what got me through all these hard times. For starters, you don't need to get a horse to start riding. You just need to get a riding instructor to help you and a barn to go to. You may not know what a barn is: a barn is a building with dirt on the floor so it's soft for the horses when they get worked. There are structures inside the building that are called stalls. In the stalls there is sawdust on the bottom of the stalls so it's comfortable when the horses want to sleep.

There are barns everywhere in the US, you just have to explore the area to find one. Once you find one, you can schedule what days you will come out to your barn. In my opinion everyone should go out weekly, that way you can get better each time and reduce the chance for you to forget everything. Start by learning how to groom the horse (depending on the barn you go to). Then, learn how to get the horse tacked (again depending on the barn you go to). Your trainer will show you how to get on the horse - how you get on depends on what division you want to ride your horse in because it's a little different for each division.

Once you get your horse out of the stall and to the mounting block (which is a fancy name for step stool) your trainer will help you get on the proper way. Then, you'll learn how to start walking your horse. You'll go on to different gates and eventually over time

you will be ready to maybe start showing. When you start showing you will need to get a riding suit, which your trainer will help with. From there you will be able to improve your riding abilities and hopefully, when you're ready, you might win the national and world championship.



The Big Storm

by Jorie Staples

Grade 6

It was the second day at the cabin. Me and my cousins were in cabin five. We were playing a game when my dad yelled my name "Katy, come out here and look at this storm!" I ran outside in fear, something was wrong. Everybody ran out there with me. Once we got out there it got super windy. As we watched the wall cloud form bigger and bigger my dad yelled telling us to get into the rec room (the safe room).

Sophie and I were crying. My brother yelled "No way bro, I want to go out there." My dad yelled "No way! What if there's a tornado?" Me and Brogan started to cry even more and my mom said "Do you guys want to play a game of air hockey?" My brother yelled "Yeah, come on Katy!" I said "No." I was too scared to go over by the window. I heard that windows will probably break when there is a tornado. "I will." said my mom.

I was so tired so I sat down for a little bit. All I remember is my mom waking

me up in a chair. It had been five minutes, and when I looked outside it was still cloudy. My mom said that the storm had passed and it



was only sprinkling out. I got out of my chair and stretched.

I ran outside in fear that the whole cabin was going to be destroyed. When I went out there nothing was wrong. I ran over to the dock and saw my cousin swimming in the water and I freaked out and said "Why are you in the water?" He said "After the storm the water was super warm so I jumped." Then my brother yelled "I want to!" I ran over and quickly stopped him. "What if you get..." I couldn't finish my sentence - he ran right past me and then jumped right in after I told him not to. My face turned red when he said that I was a "chicken." I had my swimsuit on under my shirt, so I quickly took my shirt off. I ran onto the dock and told them to "move." I jumped off and cannonballed right in front of them. I splashed them and their jaws dropped in surprise. I swam up and smiled like I just accomplished something big. The water was super warm and I swam for 30 more minutes. We could see the storm across the lake.

Seventh Grades Favorite Sport

by Noah Pierson
Grade 7

I went around the 7th grade wing and asked some students what their favorite sport was.

Basketball:	23
Baseball:	19
Football:	17
Soccer:	12
Hockey:	4
Volleyball:	3
Tennis:	1

One student said: "My favorite sport is basketball because my brother plays it and I play it too. I also like basketball because I'm good at it."

Another student said: "My favorite sport is tennis because it is a team/solo sport, and it is a lifelong sport."

I noticed a lot of students didn't know much about sports - they usually told me it's their favorite sport because a family member plays it, or they've seen it on tv a lot.

For me my favorite sport is baseball. I like it because it involves a lot more strategy than most people think. I also like it because I have made a lot of friends over the season and it's a team sport. I love lots of sports but baseball is my number one.

Fun Facts About Hockey

by Isla Feldman
Grade 6

Wayne Gretzky is NHL's highest scorer. He played his last game for the New York Rangers.

Believe it or not, fans can actually fill in as goalies.

In the early hockey days frozen cow poop was used as pucks.

NHL means:
National
Hockey
League.

The state that is most known for hockey is Minnesota. MN has a nickname that is "the state of hockey" and their team is the Wild.

House of Mystery

by Marcos Lara
Grade 6

One day I was walking in the night and I heard a sound coming from the house that was abandoned for over 100 years. I thought about going in, but then I heard screaming coming from the basement. I thought "Wait! How do I know that it is coming from the basement?" I decided to go in tomorrow!

It was the morning and I was feeling nice. Before I went to the house I decided to research the house's history. I went to the library and went on one of the computers. I searched about the home and there was nothing about the history.

I called my best friend Mike, "Yo dude what's up? I need help with something weird and crazy."

Mike said "Ok... what is it man?"

I said, "So there is a haunted house and it's at 754 Robot street and I'm going in it. I was thinking if you can come with me?"

For a minute there was no answer, but then he thought about it and he said ok. "Fine, but we are going to get a lot of supplies for this."

I said "ok what day?" Mike said in four days.

Four days later... I was waiting for Mike at the waiting place. We agreed to meet in 2 minutes. "Mike you're here!"

"Sorry it took me a while to get here, you ready?"

"Yes, let's go!"

Ten minutes later we were at the haunted palace. Me and Mike walk in...

Comic Bits

by Andres Butler
Grade 6

