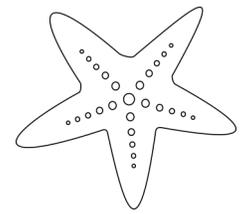


Junior Sea Star Tide



Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools



The PTA Walk-A-Thon By: Riley and Ashton

Do you remember the time we held the PTA Walk-A-Thon? The Walk-A-Thon idea was from parents of the PTA over three years ago as a fundraiser. We started the Walk-A-Thon at Stonehouse about three years ago. This year we raised over \$6,000! That's a lot of money!!! If you were wondering why we do not do the Walk-A-Thon twice a year, it's because the PTA does NOT want to take time away from the

learning environment. We raised money to support our teachers and different school activities. The PTA decided the bus loop was the best place for the event. The Walk-A-Thon was organized by the PTA staff over summer, since it's one of the first major events. The other organizations that helped were the Toano fire station and the police department. Most of all thank you to the PTA for running this event!!!!



**December 8,
2017**

Meet the Press

Gavin

Lacey

Jasmine

Riley

Ashton

Habiba

Laura

Evelyn

Cheyenne

Tanna

Sarah

Sara

Sophia

Caityln

Kennedi

Kendall

Sponsors

Diane King-Lee

Amy Hicks

The New Teacher, Ms. Shrum

By Kendall and Gavin

Ms. Shrum is an awesome third grade teacher! She loves to have fun in class. Her favorite things are the Pittsburgh Steelers and the beach. Before she came to Stonehouse, she taught at Petsworth Elementary School in Gloucester, Virginia. Third grade is the only grade Ms. Shrum has ever taught and she thinks it's the best grade.

She went to Christopher Newport University for college. Go Captains! (The captains are the mascot of Christopher Newport University.) The reason she came to Stonehouse was because she was looking to teach at a school that supports staff, students, and family.



First Grade, Two New Teachers!

By Laura and Sarah



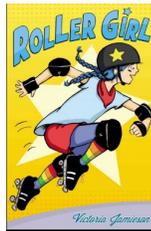
Did you know that there are two new teachers in first grade? Mrs. Holland loved school when she was a kid and never wanted to miss it. She wanted all kids to become great readers and writers. She decided to be a teacher when she was 25 years old. She has three daughters now and one of them struggled in school. That inspired her to become a teacher. Now she has been teaching for 16 years. Her favorite thing about Stonehouse is all of the

school's nice teachers, her kids, and their parents. The second new teacher is Mrs. Melton. She has to teach the kids new words always. She wanted to be a teacher at 16 years old. It's hard to be a new teacher because you have to get to know the other teachers and different places in the school. Her mom was a teacher. Mrs. Melton loved helping her. Also she loved her own kindergarten teacher. We loved both of the new first grade teachers and are so happy they are with us at Stonehouse!



ONCE UPON A TIME....
By Sara , Habiba , and Mrs. Hicks

Author, Victoria Jamison, visited Stonehouse Elementary School on October 20, 2017. Victoria is the author of *Roller Girl*, a book about friendship. This is one student's feelings about the visit. 5th grader, Jack , said, "I want to be an author when I grow up and Victoria Jamison has inspired me more!" We were so lucky to have a published author come to our school.



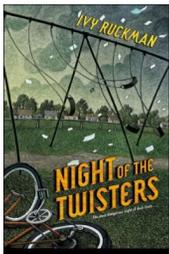
In October, there was a SCA election at Stonehouse Elementary School. Students winning offices were...

- President: Lily**
- Vice President: Lindsay**
- Treasurer: Allison**
- Secretary: Sarah**
- Historian: Mariana**

Here are some questions we asked your SCA officers...

Q: How does it feel to be in the SCA?

A: The president, Lily, said, "It feels good, but the people I ran against would also do a great job. I am happy to win and will be with my SCA every step of the way!"



Ahh! Dan was running from a tornado! The fourth grade teachers read the fourth graders a book called *Night of the Twisters*. The story is about a boy named Dan Hatch who survived a tornado in Grand Island, Nebraska. The fourth grade teachers read *Night of the Twisters* since they were studying weath-

Mrs. Hill

By Kennedy and Jasmine

Mrs. Hill started as a third grade teacher. She misses teaching third grade because she misses her friends. However, she is adjusting well to second grade. The second grade teachers helped her transition to the grade. It was not a very hard transition because second graders are only one year younger, and she knows what they need to learn to be ready for third grade. Every 6-7 years she likes to change what she does, so this is the reason she moved to second grade. In 1985, she taught at Norge for three years, then Clara Byrd Baker for 13 years, then she went to Stonehouse, where she has been for 16 years.

Q and A with the SCA

By Evelyn , Sophia , and Cheyenne

Q: What are you planning for the future?

A: The vice president, Lindsay, said, "In the future, I would like to add a couple of spirit days to the Sea Star Calendar, like Bad Hair day or Jersey Day. I would also like our school to become more involved with our community."

Q: Why did you decide to run for office?

A: Alison , the treasurer, said, "I decided to run because I would like to help our SCA family and I thought it would be fun!"

Q: Are you excited to be in the SCA?

A: Sarah said, "Yes. I am excited for different fun things that we have planned further in the school year."

A: Mariana said, "I am looking forward to being in SCA because I know we will do super fun activities!"

***Night of the Twisters*—Book Review**
By Gavin and Kendall

er in science. It was such a surprising story, it blew all of the fourth graders away! It was a super surprising book because Dan, his brother Ryan, his mom, and his stepdad were caught in a car inside a tornado! You can find *Night of the Twisters* at your local bookstore or library. Everyone loved the story, so we hope you will too!

The Lunch Ladies' New Food

By: Ashton and Riley



Have you been curious why the cafeteria has been experimenting with new food? We had lots of interesting questions. We asked the manager, Renee Staton, where she was getting all the new food ideas. She replied, "Chef Mary and I came up with the ideas." If you were wondering what the future food is ...it's spinach lasagna roll up, Thai barbecue flat bread, and more. Did you know they get their food ideas at the Richmond restaurant where Mrs. Renee started working 11 years ago? It takes 2 1/2 - 3 hours to cook for the whole school. Mrs. Renee became a chef because she loves to cook. Most of all Mrs. Renee is enjoying her job!!!!

Picture Day

By Sophia , Cheyenne , and Evelyn

Say cheese! Thursday, October 26th was picture day. I interviewed one of the photographers. I asked him what inspired him to take pictures and asked if he really liked to take pictures. He said, "I just really like taking pictures and taking the best ones I can, inspires me." We asked him several more questions and one of the main things he said was that he became interested in photography at his friend's house. While I was asking him these interesting questions the lights were beaming. The kids were lining up with papers that had their names and a numbers on them. Picture Day is always very exciting!

Ms. Julio and Ms. Balint - 5th Grade Mysteries

By: Tanna and Lacey

With two new fifth grade teachers we knew nothing about, it felt kind of like a mystery waiting to be solved. That is why we decided to interview both Ms. Balint and Ms. Julio. If you have a good teacher whom you to look up to or you like to communicate with others, then you are similar to Ms. Balint and Ms. Julio. They think our school is a magnificent place. It is simple for why they chose to work at Stonehouse: a job was open! You can thank our WJCC school website for our two new teachers. Ms. Julio has taught second and fifth grade at Wake Country, NC. On the other hand, Ms. Balint taught in Ralsburg and at Disney English in China. If you want to be a teacher, would you pick reading and writing like Ms. Julio or math and science like Ms. Balint? Now that you know about both teachers, the mystery that just got solved!

What Instrument?

By: Caitlyn and Nina



Have you ever thought about what instrument you'd like to play? Well, do you prefer band or strings? Here's your behind the scenes look at our band and strings teachers. First here's a look at Mr. Garris, our band teacher. He first started playing the piano. He went through 30 years of college at ODU, William and Mary, and UVA. He started teaching orchestra but then started teaching band because he realized that was where his heart was. His favorite instrument is the trombone. He started teaching music in Portsmouth when he was twenty one. Why? Because he loves music!

Now on to Mrs. Hines. She also started off playing the piano as well. She was taught by Anshel Brusolov her college professor, and Adolfo Odnoposoff, her private teacher. She has always taught orchestra. Her favorite instrument is the cello. She started teaching in Houston, Texas, when she was twenty- three. She has been teaching for forty years. So there's your behind the scenes look at band and orchestra at Stonehouse!

Veterans Day Performance

By: Sara and Habiba

What an exciting year for the fourth graders! In September the boys and girls started to practice for the Veterans Day Program. In October the fourth graders started to learn the songs. You might ask this very common question, "How did the teachers pick out the speakers?" or "How do teachers pick out the outfits for the performance?" I have the answer for both of these questions. Ms. Jessie's shared, "We pick students who have military family members or show leadership qualities." Now for the costumes, it turns out that 16 years ago a parent made all of the costumes. The teachers don't exactly sing and dance in the performance, but they are not forgotten! Without the teachers we know we would not have these beautiful performances.



Have you met Mrs. Lally? If not, let me tell you. Mrs. Lally started guidance 3 years ago at Bruton High School, and now she is at Stonehouse Elementary. Before guidance she worked as a preschool teacher, a waitress, and a retail salesperson at the Ceramic Frog. She started doing guidance because she loves working with children and helping children manage their feelings and sort through their problems. Even when children are misbehaving she tries not to get angry by remembering why they are misbehaving, and focusing on their goal for their

Kindergarteners Off to a Great Start

By: Tanna and Lacey

Do you remember being in kindergarten? Well if you do then you should relate to Madeline, Teagan, Sam, and Kate about their experience in kindergarten. Madeline and Teagan like being in the new school but think it's easy and hard at the same time. Sam and Madeline love spiders and have been learning all about them. If you love spiders you



China

By Laura and Sarah

Did you know that the *Monkey King* is very popular show in China? The people of China like to watch *Transformers*, Disney and a movie called the *Monkey King*! Ms. Balint and Mr. Green both lived in China. They reported that they went to Great Wall of China, Mutiny, Temples, Suzhou, Phoenix, and Disney Land in China. They also visited Tiananmen Square, Shanghai Tower, and Hong Kong. Ms. Balint probably travelled by subway, train and maybe a taxi. Kids there are very similar. The kids there really like learning. I am sure they would like to learn about the U.S. A. Did you know how many hours it takes to get to China? 18 hours! That's almost a day! Maybe you can visit China one day!

The New Guidance Counselor

By Kennedi and Jasmine

behavior.

Here are some fun facts about Mrs. Lally. Mrs. Lally went to Rappahannock Community College. She has 3 children: 2 daughters, and 1 son. Their names are Daniel, Hadley, and Rory. She also loves talking to people about their goals, and helping them realize they are capable of amazing things with hard work and the right attitude. If you haven't met Mrs. Lally yet, she's nice and kind. I hope you get to meet her someday.

might love to go to their classroom for a day so you can learn all about them. Meanwhile, Sam liked the pumpkin patch and likes having lots of friends and Kate's favorite center is computer, and she likes colorful unicorns. Kindergarten is a lot more fun than you would think.

Blue Ribbon Celebration

By Lacey and Jasmine



Everyone's been talking about our school's Blue Ribbon award. Our school was nominated as a high achieving school and we mailed an application, and the Department of Education chose us! On Wednesday, November 29, 2017 at 8:50AM, we attended the celebration in our media center for being the Blue Ribbon school. Our principal and vice principal, teachers, school board members, two fourth grade classes, and SCA members joined the party. You may be wondering why two fourth grade classes were lucky enough to join the celebration. They sang three songs including Yankee Doodle, America the Beautiful, and Grand Old Flag from the Veteran's Day Program. Mrs. Wright directed them. There was a photographer there taking pictures and many interesting conversations. There was food including bagels, fruit, and juices. At the end, Mrs. White gave a speech thanking the people for coming. She added that SCA members would give our visitors a tour of the school. We should all be proud that our school got such an amazing award!

Mix Up, Fix Up - Word Scrambles

By Sarah Neff and Kendall Swaney

1. eas tars _____
2. acheters _____
3. lbeu bbonir _____
4. Streohuse _____
5. hicdlenr _____
6. secser _____
7. etach _____
8. rgdea _____

Answers: 1. sea star 2. teachers 3. blue ribbon 4. Stonehouse
5. children 6. recess 7. teach 8. grade