

THE PAW PRINT

Inside this issue:

Hurricane Hits Cranford	P. 1
Holiday Reports	P. 2
School News	P. 3
Interviews	P. 4
Holiday Crossword	P. 5

Hurricane Irene

By: Tom Gilmartin and David Bartley



Thousands of families on the East Coast were hit with one of the most powerful hurricanes - Hurricane Irene. Hurricane Irene struck on August 24, 2011 at approximately 5:50 a.m. This dreadful event caused thousands of families to evacuate their homes. Irene started in the Bahamas as a category 3 monster. It ended as a tropical storm in Maine. The Carolinas were hit the hardest with thousands of people having to evacuate their homes. Twenty houses were sent into the soggy, wet ground. Sadly, about eight people were killed in Hurricane Irene. Wind speeds started at 115 mph, making it a category 3 storm. Hurricane Irene continued to lose power, with winds dropping to 74 mph, making it a category 1 tropical storm. Also, early estimates put the costs of storm damages as high as \$10 billion. Finally, after the hurricane had ceased, many people were forced to throw out everything in their basements due to flooding. Overall, Hurricane Irene was a terrible tragedy.



LAS Opens Doors to BPS

By Matt Burke and Samantha Romito

As a result of the damage caused by Hurricane Irene to Brookside Place School, Brookside students needed to be relocated. Livingston Avenue School was very generous and opened our doors to BPS teachers and students. We are glad to have the teachers here, and are excited to have made so many new friends. We met with the BPS teachers and here is what they had to say about the two schools joining together:

Q: Do you like it here at LAS?

Mrs. Starkey: Yes, very much. LAS really welcomed us all and opened its doors to us.

Q: Do your students think LAS students are helpful?

Mrs. Ventura: Yes, everyone is very nice and helpful

Q: How do the teachers and students feel about being away from their school?

Mrs. Brockman: All the students like it here, but they miss their home.

Mrs. Starkey: Everybody has made us feel like we are at home. LAS is like a twin to BPS.

Q: Do you think you will be back at BPS by the end of the year?

Mrs. Ventura: We are expecting to be back by January or February.

To all Brookside Place School faculty and students, we know you are anxious to get back to your school, but you are always welcome here at LAS. It has been a pleasure having you!

Special points of interest:

-LAS students participated in a Holiday Sing-Along!

-The annual blood drive was a huge success!

-“Night of the Stars” will take place on February 3rd!

'Tis the Season

By: Emma Baumann and Meghan Quinn

What better way to start the holiday season than LAS's own holiday boutique. It is good for all holidays like Christmas, Hanukah, and Kwanzaa. The holiday boutique offered items like picture frames, candle holders, sewing kits, and even dog treats! No matter what holiday people are celebrating, or who they needed presents for, the holiday boutique had something for everyone. We hope all of your holidays are filled with family, friends, and happiness. Happy holidays!



Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF!!!

By Michael Scheurer and John Scheurer

UNICEF is an organization that donates money to underprivileged areas where they are in need of medicine, food, and clean water. Mrs. Murphy got the idea to support UNICEF when students are trick-or-treating, when she was talking with a friend ten years ago. About 10,000 kids have been helped since then. This year, Mrs. Murphy's students presented the idea of UNICEF during the Kindness Assembly. They shared interesting facts about UNICEF, and the difference that we can make in people's lives all over the world. They then distributed UNICEF boxes to all of the classrooms. Mrs. Murphy's class, who were in charge of finding the total amount of money that we had raised during our trick-or-treating, determined that we collected over \$500! Our donations definitely saved many lives. We should all be very proud!



How Much Snow does it take to Cancel Halloween?

By Maggie Shaw and Erin Miklencic



In the month of October, we experienced a major snowstorm. Trees fell down, streets were closed, and there were many power outages. There was so much snow that many people had to evacuate their homes. At L.A.S., we had to close school on Halloween due to many local citizens' homes being in states of extreme devastation. The schools had to close for two days including Halloween. The weather was horrible on Halloween, so not only did kids miss out on Halloween festivities in school, but some didn't even get to trick-or-treat! The roads were just way too dangerous with fallen branches and power lines down. This snowstorm in October really surprised everyone, and affected Cranford immensely.



The Café

By: Ian Baumann

If you are looking for a relaxing place to eat lunch look no further than the "café". The boy and the girls alternate days. Some good reasons about the café are that you can talk with your friends in a quiet environment. The café is strictly for fifth graders. Some kids enjoy the café because most of their friends go and because only 30 kids can attend, so it is much quieter. Some might describe the gym as loud and crazy, but the café is much quieter. If you are a fifth grader in need of a good lunch, visit the café!

LAS Donates Blood

By: Daniel Serna and Victoria Dalli



The LAS Blood Drive took place on November 2 and it was a huge success. At LAS, twenty-four pints of blood were donated by forty-two people. There are a few reasons why people donate blood. One reason people donate blood is because they have a family member in need. Another reason people donate blood is because they want to help someone in need.

Mrs. Damm organized the blood drive here at LAS. She has been a nurse for over twenty years, so we are in good hands! There were so many student volunteers that some had to be turned away. Fifth graders volunteered for this blood drive but Ms. Damm will be going back and forth through all of the grades. If you would like to volunteer don't worry, because the next blood drive will take place around March 8!

4th Grade Cake

By: Nellie Clark

Recently, the fourth grade made the state of New Jersey out of cake! Everyone had a great time making it! Each fourth grade had a big party and even learned a song about New Jersey. Everyone received a separate county to research. After the research was done, we found in candies and supplies that represented special landmarks in each county. Next, we made the cake and brought in the supplies to school. Last, everyone decorated their cake and had a party. Though, this party wasn't all fun and games. The fourth grade worked extremely hard learning about our beloved state, New Jersey.



How to Catch Kindness with Ms. Normann

By: Sophia Montague and Erin Esposito

The Kindness Assembly took place on October 20 this year. The assembly taught students different ways to be kind. Ms. Normann is in charge of the kindness committee here at LAS. We asked Ms. Normann questions about the kindness assembly and ways to be kind. Ms. Norman did not have a hard time setting up because she received help from the kindness committee and other teachers. She thought the videos from third graders were original and fantastic. She wanted students to learn how to be better community helpers at LAS. Ms. Normann said that her favorite part was everyone in the room together. The kindness assembly was a big success. How will you be kind today?



An Exclusive Interview with Mrs. Seeley

By: Abby Ahern and Claire Williams

We interviewed Mrs. Seeley and it was a lot of fun! Mrs. Seeley enjoys being principal, and she especially enjoys observing teachers while they teach their lessons and watching students learn in the classroom.

Mrs. Seeley was very active as a child. In middle school and high school, she played softball and was a cheerleader. While Mrs. Seeley was also in college, she was a quarter back for the intramural football team. She played volleyball as well. Mrs. Seeley was very athletic!

Today, her hobbies are skiing, bike riding, and reading with her two children. She loves being a principal, but one bad thing about being principal is that she can't be a teacher, or spend the entire day in the classrooms with the children. Mrs. Seeley loves her job because she can frequently spend time with kids and teachers. Mrs. Seeley was a very interesting principal to interview!



Extra Help with Ms. Snyder

By: Carolyn Kealey and Molly O'Shea

There is a brand new teacher at LAS! Her name is Ms. Snyder. Not only does Ms. Snyder teach math and language arts throughout the day, but she also helps students during lunch and recess too! We have interviewed Ms. Snyder about the extra help sessions she holds, and asked her many questions. Some of our questions were about how she likes LAS, if she likes tutoring at LAS, and much more! Our favorite question was: *Do you think you are successfully helping the students?* Ms. Snyder responded, "I think I am significantly helping the students who come to extra help!"

Ms. Snyder helps her students in many ways. She helps students study their math facts, master their spelling words, practice their handwriting, and complete homework assignments that may have been very challenging the night before. This is not Ms. Snyder's first time tutoring - she is a pro! She tutored at Calaford School before Livingston Avenue School.

Newspaper Club



Newspaper Club meets in Room 10. This is the first newspaper we have written so far! If you join Newspaper Club next year, it is so fun! First, you make a "sloppy copy." Next, the editors check it. Last, you get to use the computer to type it. We love Newspaper Club!

LAS Newspaper Editors for Volume 6, Issue 1:

Julia Lachenauer

Abigail Dwyer



Holiday Crossword

By: Abigail Chang

C	R	A	N	F	O	R	D	Y
R	H	O	B	F	K	E	X	F
A	O	R	R	G	E	F	Z	C
N	L	O	I	F	G	N	O	H
D	I	T	P	S	S	P	O	R
D	D	E	I	U	T	N	P	I
P	A	A	O	C	U	M	Q	T
I	Y	C	V	N	D	N	A	F
C	G	H	O	R	E	E	X	S
E	N	E	Q	U	D	I	F	H
V	O	R	L	L	T	T	O	A

CHRISTMAS WINTER HOLIDAY
CRANFORD ICE TEACHER
STUDENT

A Note from the Newspaper Club Advisors..

We hope you enjoyed the first edition of Livingston Avenue School's newspaper! The students worked very carefully to produce this issue, and their hard work really shows! For all readers, we will be releasing at least two more issue before the end of the school year. Be sure to look for them in the new year! Happy Holidays!

*Miss Johnson and
Miss Straus :-)*

Please Help to Keep Students Safe

- Students should arrive to school between 8:25-8:30 AM. Students are unsupervised until the doors open at 8:30 AM. Ball playing and games should be reserved for after school only.
- Drop off and pick up in safe areas. Please pull up along the curb and never in the faculty lot. Please encourage children to cross the street at the crosswalk. Guidelines that you enforce in your presence are more likely to be followed as your child becomes more independent.
- Please keep your pets off of school property during arrival and dismissal times for the safety and comfort of all of our students.