

PAW PRINTS



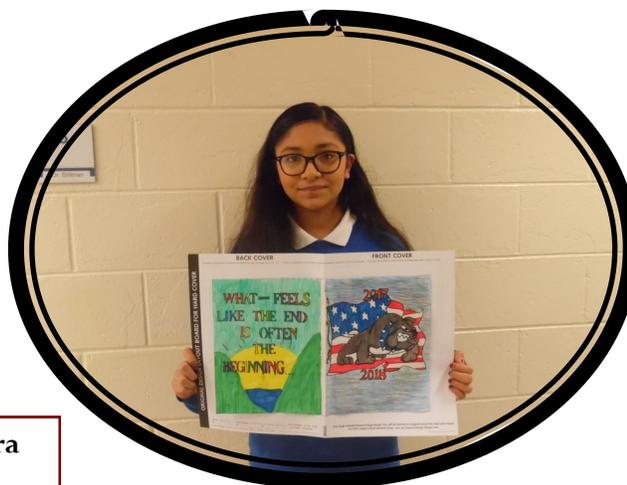
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Erik Spaulding; Chief Editor

CONGRATULATIONS TO YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST WINNER

BY: TIMOTHY HILL

The yearbook class sponsored a yearbook cover contest. There were many great entries and 332 Albritton students voted for the winning design. The winner of the contest will get a free yearbook and their art will be on the cover of the 2017-2018 Albritton Middle School yearbook.

Winner: Mia Alva Rivera



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WONDERFUL PIANISTS

BY: ERICA AGYEMANG

On January 11, 2018, there was a piano recital in Mrs. Bell's music class. Mrs. Bell said her class had been practicing and working very hard. In the class, there are fourteen students and each of the students played a piece of music individually. Some students played Christmas songs or songs that they chose from their piano book. Near the end of the recital, several students participated in duets. During the duets, one person played one part of the music, and the other student played the other part. Overall, this was a wonderful performance and each of these students did a great job.



Advice

PAY ATTENTION TO THIS!

BY: BREANNA CHAO

Q: How can I stay on task in school and while doing assignments?

A: There are many strategies to help you stay on task. Not only will they help now, but they will also be lifelong skills you will keep. Here are ten tips to help you:

-Participate in class- pay attention in class, ask questions, and sit in the front.

-Do extra research- if you're confused, go home—research some more

- Get a decent amount of sleep- go to sleep earlier than usual, make a new sleep schedule.

-Find new hobbies- finding new hobbies will help you relieve stress, to clear your mind.

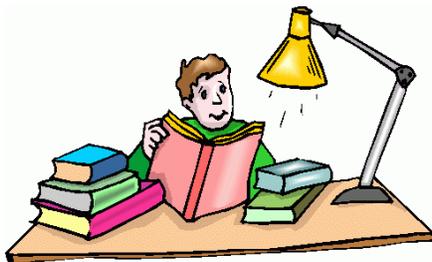
-Take Cornell notes- these notes especially are helpful, look over them before and after class.

-Find a motivation- treat yourself after class, set mini goals during class.

-Drink a lot of water- it's proven that if you don't drink enough water it can cause headaches and problems focusing, so stay hydrated!

-Remove distractions- although you want to sit with friends it's best if you don't, get rid of any other disruptions

-Practice focusing- it sounds weird but it works! A typical student time span at school is 10-15 minutes, so refocus every now and then.



PUT YOUR PAWS TOGETHER FOR OUR TEACHER SPOTLIGHTS!

BY: MADISON BRAGA AND HANNAH WORSTELL

Madison: Where did you go to college?

Mrs. Hardy: I went to St. Augustine's University and I currently attend Liberty University online.

Madison: What did you study in college?

Mrs. Hardy: I started out as a business major, but I changed my major to political science and English in hopes of applying to Emory's University Law School; however, I later decided to obtain a degree in education.

Madison: When did you find out about AVID?

Mrs. Hardy: I had never heard of AVID prior to teaching at Albritton.

Madison: Did you do any sports in high school?

Mrs. Hardy: I was a cheerleader in high school. I tried out for volleyball in high school and broke my left pinky during tryouts.

Madison: If you could pick any job of your choice what would it be?

Mrs. Hardy: I would be a juvenile defense attorney.

Madison: Why is AVID so important?

Mrs. Hardy: AVID is so important because it allows students an opportunity to analyze and explore college and career readiness steps and opportunities while in middle school.

Mrs. Hardy said the most important thing to do in life is to be yourself. There will sometimes be hurdles that you have to climb over. Let those times be motivators. One of Mrs. Hardy's favorite quotes is: "You're off to great places! Today is the day! Your mountain is waiting so...get on your way!" -Dr. Seuss



This spotlight is on Mrs. Bell. Mrs. Bell's career at AMS started in December 1995. Mrs. Bell is a mom, grandma, and has been a senior pianist at Arran Lake Baptist Church for 25 years. Mrs. Bell also participates in the choir at the same church. When she was younger, she wanted to be a music teacher since sixth grade. This is because of her teacher who asked her to play for the chorus. She always looked up to that sixth-grade teacher, Mrs. Filson. This is because she complimented Mrs. Bell and told her to reach for her goals. She was Mrs. Bell's biggest cheerleader. Mrs. Filson had always been positive, according to Mrs. Bell. When Mrs. Bell got older she went to West Chester University in Pennsylvania, and got a BS in Music Education. She later went on to UNC Pembroke and got her Masters in music. Mrs. Bell became a substitute music teacher in 1992 for two elementary schools before she became a teacher here. In her free time Mrs. Bell likes to play the piano, visit family, and create slideshows of her family with music and words. Mrs. Bell's favorite food is New York cheesecake, ham, and sweet potatoes. What she loves about her job is seeing a student grow to love music as much as she does.

What's Happening?

THE STRUGGLE OF ADOLESCENCE

BY: CLAIRE BENICK

In November, Mrs. Stapleton’s students wrote an argumentative essay about the struggle of adolescence involving Jean Elium’s statement. Elium states “The conflict between the need to belong to a group and the need to be seen as unique and individual is the dominant struggle of adolescence.” Mrs. Stapleton said she chose the topic of adolescence for the essay because she thought it was important for the students to relate to the struggle. Mrs. Stapleton thinks that it is important for students to learn how to write an essay to practice for high school, and because we communicate through speech. Mrs. Stapleton said that the eighth graders will have to write two more argumentative and one narrative essay. She is hoping that the eighth graders will improve and master their writing skills.

SIXTH GRADERS READ WONDER

BY: JACKSON MELTON

The book Wonder by RJ Palacio is being read by the sixth-grade team. Mrs. Troop said that her favorite part about reading the book is how the author incorporates teaching moments. The author does this by incorporating her life into the book. The book is about a child named August who has the disease called Treacher Collins Disorder. August has had twenty-nine surgeries prior to fifth grade and most of them were life-saving surgeries. He has been homeschooled and he is now going into middle school which starts in fifth grade at his school, Beecher Prep. Mrs. Troop choose this book because she fell in love with the story and she wants kids to care about others like August does in the book. The sixth grade students will be designing a three-way agamograph poster when they finish reading the book.



HAPPY YEAR OF THE DOG!

BY: SERENITY LUNNERMON

February is the most important month in the Chinese culture because of Chinese New Year. During this holiday many people around the world go to China to celebrate with family and reunite with distant relatives. On Chinese New Year’s Eve, many people set off fireworks and firecrackers hoping to send away any bad luck and bring forth good luck. The children often receive “luck” money as a gift. Activities such as beating drums, striking gongs, and dragon and lion dances are all part of the festivities. Chinese New Year comes from the day when Shun, one of ancient China’s mythological emperors, came to the throne 4000 years ago. He led his ministers to worship heaven and earth. From then on, that day was considered the first day of the first lunar month in the Chinese calendar. After China adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1911, Chinese New Year was renamed the Spring Festival, but is still referred to as Chinese New Year.



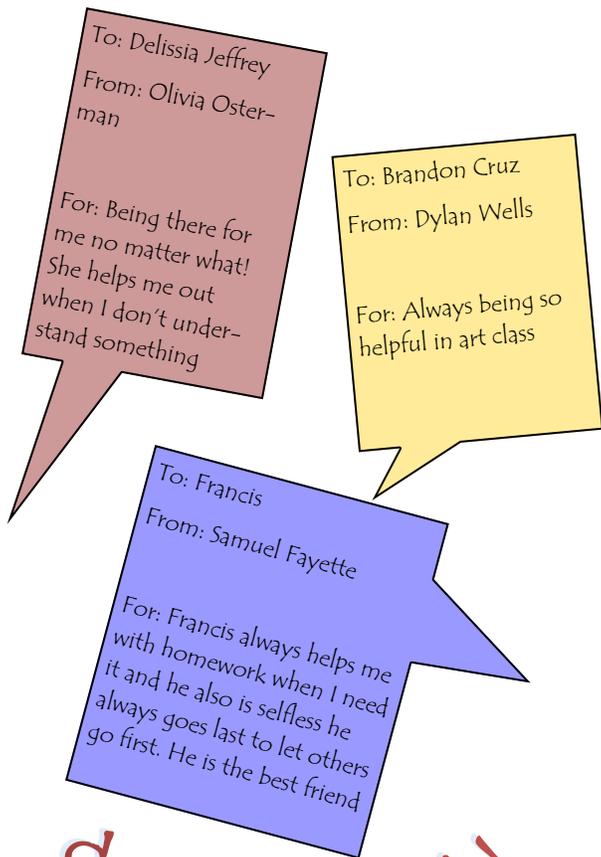
CHORUS STUDENTS SING IN THE SEASON

BY:

The Winter Chorus concert was a very exciting event. The students sang eight songs during the performance. They had been practicing for this performance for about six weeks and although it might seem easy to learn singing, Ms. Bell stated “It’s not easy to learn in a week.” She also stated that it

was one of her better concerts for a long time because the students worked well together. When asked what rating she would give from 1-10, she gave it an 8 because they invested their time into the performance and she believes they wanted to do their best. Ms. Bell stated that even though the perfor-

mance was good, there’s always room for improvement. For example, the students could improve more if they took her advice to heart and practiced while they sang during class. Overall, Ms. Bell is proud of her students and is looking forward to their next performance.



Shout Outs!

EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE GALAXY DESTINY 2 BY: ERIK SPAULDING

Destiny 2 has been revolutionary in the Destiny universe. You start off in the city, trying to hold off the Red Legion. You then meet Hawthorne, and do a couple of missions on Earth. I won't go into the rest of the story, so as to not spoil anything for anyone who hasn't yet bought Destiny 2. You go to the planets Titan, Nessus, and Io. You also go to the Almighty, a weapon designed by the Red Legion, meant to explode our sun. Even after you beat the game, there are still many things to do.

I rated this game 5 out of 5 bulldog paw prints. I rated this 5 out of 5 paw prints based on a few things. After I beat a game, I want to be able to do new things and get new gear. In Halo 5, if I find a rare item, I have to get rid of it at the end of the level. I also sometimes like to be in a hub and hang out with other players. In a hub, you can meet other players and team up for special missions. Destiny 2 provides all of this. If you find a rare item, you get to keep it. The only thing I wish Destiny 2 had was a split screen. However, part of what makes Destiny 2 so good is all of the detail. So maybe not having a split screen is for the best.

The first piece of downloadable content, the Curse of Osiris, introduced a new generation of ghosts, ships, weapons, and more. The next downloadable content piece will be released Spring, 2018.



EXPRESS OUR EMOTIONS THROUGH CLOTHES

BY: NEVAEH HILL

AMS has been wearing uniforms since 1999. In the student handbook it states "The first requirement of a quality education is to create a safe and disciplined learning environment." Before 1999, all students were allowed to wear normal clothes. This happened for several reasons such as those less fortunate wouldn't be embarrassed, gang activity, and abuse of the dress code policy. The assigned uniform colors are red, white, and blue to match the flag. This year there has been many new dress policies that are being enforced, such as Jean Fridays being taken away, sock colors being red, white, blue, or black and solid colored, and logos on headbands must be small and solid color matching the American flag. I believe that the school is more concerned about what we wear than how we learn. They are much stricter on clothing choices than our learning choices.

In my opinion, as a student that has been going to Albritton for two years, I believe that these enforced uniform rules have been being broken more often than everyone thinks. I believe these uniforms should be eliminated at AMS because these uniform policies are getting stricter and stricter. I believe this means it's making our parents/guardians pay around \$50-\$60 per uniform. I think they should eradicate the uniform policy and allow all students to make a choice of either normal clothes or uniforms. I strongly believe they should just have a dress policy rather than a uniform policy.

IT'S A WRAP!

BY: DANIELLE BAUS

In video production last semester, students worked on a five week project. The objective of the project was for students to have an opportunity to inform and entertain the students of AMS. The students were supposed to pick up skills such as interviewing, writing scripts, teamwork, technology skills, and leadership skills. The pre-production of the project was for students, working in a group, to choose a topic dealing with their theme. The theme was sports so the students interviewed coaches. The post-production of the project was for students to edit footage. They used the skills they learned to edit, move, and cut their footage to make a segment for BNN.



Paw Prints

SUPERB SCHOLARS



6th Grade Students of the Month

INTERVIEWS BY: OCTAVIOUS SMITH

What is your favorite food?

Aaliyah Spivey: My favorite food is pizza from anywhere.
Trevor Shirley: My favorite food is mussels.
Talon Alexander: My favorite food is chicken tetrazzini.
Jayda Ridenour: My favorite food is Panda Express.

What is your favorite animal?

Aaliyah Spivey: My favorite animals are dogs.
Trevor Shirley: My favorite animal is a giraffe.
Talon Alexander: My favorite animal is a ruby-throated hummingbird.
Jayda Ridenour: My favorite animal is a shark.

What is your dream college?

Aaliyah Spivey: Cornell University is my dream college.
Trevor Shirley: My favorite college is Stanford University.
Talon Alexander : My dream college is UNC Chapel Hill.
Jayda Ridenour: My favorite college is Duke.

Where were you born?

Aaliyah Spivey: I was born in New York but not in New York City.
Trevor Shirley: I was born in Louisiana.
Talon Alexander : I was born in North Carolina.
Jayda Ridenour: I was born in Texas.

What is your favorite number?

Aaliyah Spivey: My lucky number is 3.
Trevor Shirley: My favorite number is 17.
Talon Alexander: My favorite number is 3.
Jayda Ridenour: My favorite number is 7.

7th Grade Students of the Month

INTERVIEWS BY: MABLE WILLIAMS

What is your dream college? Why?

Kathryn Alonso- University of Texas; Interested in politics; wants to be a politician and become an ambassador
Tyler - Texas Tech; wants to be a chemical engineer/ minor engineer
Maiya Harris Gray- Wake Forest; wants to be a doctor
Henry Dwenger- Anywhere in New York; "It's a beautiful city and provides a lot of resources."

Where are you from?

Kathryn Alonso- San Antonio, Texas
Tyler - Texas
Maiya Harris Gray- Jacksonville, Mississippi
Henry Dwenger- Indiana, Cincinnati

What is your favorite food/restaurant? Or fast food place?

Kathryn Alonso- Empanadas
Tyler - Steak
Maiya Harris Gray- Chinese food
Henry Dwenger- Spaghetti

What is your favorite animal?

Kathryn Alonso- Lynx
Tyler - Dog
Maiya Harris Gray- Monkey
Henry Dwenger- Dog

What is your dream vacation?

Kathryn Alonso- Going to England
Tyler - Going to a beach in Mexico
Maiya Harris Gray- Going to Los Angeles
Henry Dwenger- Going to Florida

What is your favorite number?

Kathryn Alonso- 21
Tyler - 26
Maiya Harris Gray- 3
Henry Dwenger- 12



Awesome!

8th Grade Students of the Month

INTERVIEWS BY: LUCAS NEVILLE

Octavious Smith

1. Dream college: Yale
2. From: Florida
3. Favorite food: Chik-fil-a
4. Favorite animal: Orca/ Killer whale
5. Dream vacation: Bahamas
6. Lucky number: 25,1, 7

Aaliyah Pamplin

1. Dream College: UNC Berkeley
2. From: Texas
3. Favorite food: Burritos
4. Favorite animal: Rabbit
5. Dream vacation: Egypt
6. Lucky number: 13

Jackson Melton

1. Dream College: N/A
2. From: Texas
3. Favorite food: Coffee cake
4. Favorite animal: Bearded dragon
5. Dream vacation: Alaska
6. Lucky number: 7, 14

Mable Williams

1. Dream College: Duke University
2. From: Texas
3. Favorite food: McDonald's fries
4. Favorite Animal: Margay
5. Dream vacation: Madrid, Spain
6. Lucky number: 2



Jayda Ridenour



Aaliyah Spivey



Trevor Shirley



Talon Alexander



Henry Dwenger



Maiya Harris Gray



Kathryn Alonso



BULLDOG DREAM TEAM

Aaliyah Pamplin



Octavious Smith



Mable Williams



Jackson Melton

