



Match Jr.

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PHOTO BY ANA EASTER

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Drawing in art class, second grader Kian Frantz perfects his art skills. Frantz has a knack for drawing, which he has been doing since he was young. PHOTO PROVIDED BY NATHAN FRANTZ



How do Proud Python students get selected? Slither over to the Humor section to find out more. GRAPHIC BY JIAYI ZHU

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History of the Bizarre Bazaar

by **Athena Erbe**

With candy canes, snowmen, and holiday spirit the second and third graders at Pine View School maintain the decades-long tradition of the Bizarre Bazaar. Every year, before Winter Break, third graders and some second graders gather to sell their handmade crafts and show their business skills.

More than 25 years ago, Pine View third graders began participating in a program in Venice called the SMART shop. This shop allowed third graders across the county to make products, learn economics, and host a business of their own.

Even when the SMART shop closed, Pine View decided to keep the tradition on its campus during the holiday season. A veteran of hosting this program, previously third grade

teacher, Misty Tucak, continues this tradition with her second graders.

“I was asked if I wanted to continue since there were other third-grade teachers that didn’t want to do it. In second grade we do teach economics as well in social studies... So, I’ve continued to make snowmen ever since we started...” Tucak said.

In Tucak’s classroom, the students make products that are related to snowmen and call their shop “Tucak’s Treasures.” In some classes, the name changes every year as the students get to vote on a name for their shop.

Through Bizarre Bazaar students are not only taught how to make, market, and display products, but also learn how to budget, and make a profit. The profits that the students make go towards a charity of the classes’

choosing.

“It’s a hands-on way to teach chil-

Tucak said.

Students not only learn about product management through this project but also learn craft skills and communication skills.

“I thought it was good because we got to make stuff and then we sold it, and then we could also buy our own things that we made. So, it was fun,” sixth grader Aaniya Mittal said. “My favorite part was eating all the candy canes.”

Bizarre Bazaar blends learning, creativity, and fun into a tradition that students and teachers alike will never



dren, and they love it, and they have so much fun, and they never forget,”

forget.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY FREDA KMAK

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 24-26

Drama Club Presents
“Descendants the Musical”

Fri, Jan. 24: 7:00 pm
Sat, Jan. 25: 7:00 pm
Sun, Jan. 1:00 pm

Jan. 30-31

Hovercraft Project

Fifth graders will participate in this workshop during the school day

Feb. 7-8

Variety Show

Students of all grades will show off their talents in the auditorium.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 14

Valentine’s Day Post Office

Elementary students will deliver valentines simulating the mail process.

All morning

Feb. 20

Third Grade Showcase

Third grade students show off their talents!

Starts at 6:00 pm

Feb. 22

Jazz Under the Stars

Pine View Jazz Band will do a performance in the quad at night.

Starts at 7:00 pm

Upcoming Movies



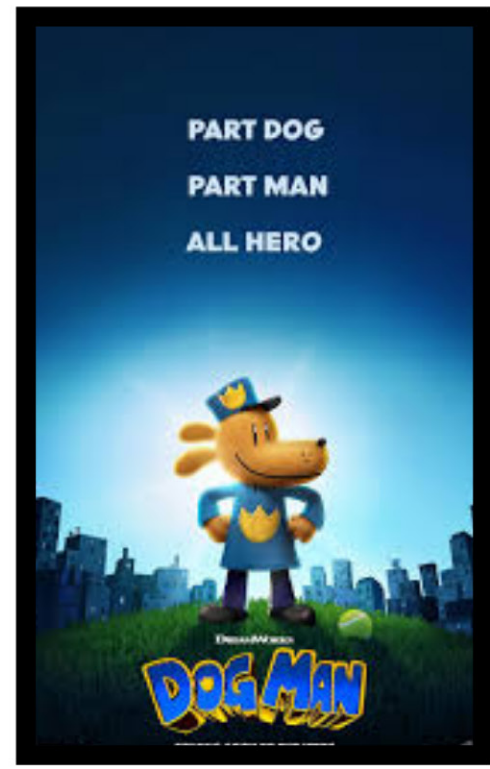
Sonic: The Hedgehog 3
Rated PG
Coming December 20, 2024



Mufasa: The Lion King
Rated PG
Coming December 20, 2024



Paddington In Peru
Rated PG
Coming February 14, 2025



Dog Man
Rated PG
Coming January 31, 2025

Little Singer, Big Voice

by Elena Herman

If it's opera, it's awesome! Third grader Stefaniia Biedakurova has been performing with the Sarasota Youth Opera for three years. She has acted in many operas, including "The Little Sweep," "The Secret World of Og," and most recently, "The Hobbit."

Biedakurova joined the Sarasota Youth Opera when she was six, braving long rehearsals and performing for crowds of hundreds. This is a lot to handle for anyone, especially someone so young. Understandably, Biedakurova took some time to get used to the work.

"When I was doing my first production, I really felt nervous, so sometimes I didn't sing. But now, because

of dress rehearsals...I just do what I remember, and I don't get that nervous," Biedakurova said.

Now, at nine years old, Biedakurova has become a confident performer. Not only is she a part of the prep chorus, which sings every song in the opera, but she has also met lots of people who share her interests and culture.

"There's honestly a lot of kids who speak Russian... there's a lot of friends that I've made," Biedakurova said.

It's no surprise that Biedakurova is so popular. Her friend Mila Summa describes Biedakurova as "Nice, hard-working, and trustworthy."

In November, Biedakurova and her friends performed in, "The Hobbit."

From Scribbles to Showpieces



Second grader Kian Frantz draws during his art class. Every Tuesday, four or five students gather at Frantz's house for an art class. PHOTO PROVIDED BY NATHAN FRANTZ

by Robyn Schoenberg

Every Tuesday night, tables are set up with easels in the home of second grader Kian Frantz as four or five young students begin their art class with exercises. Their teacher comes from St. Petersburg to teach them skills such as shading, lighting, perspective, etc.

Frantz has been interested in art since a very young age. He recalled his artistic journey starting when he was about a year old, "scribbling on a trash can with chalk."

"He was just very prolific, he always had a marker or crayon or colored pencils or pencil, and just, kind of, always was drawing," Frantz's dad, Nathan Frantz, said, "It was what he gravitated towards as an activity to keep himself busy, and it was pretty obvious from an early age."

Continuing from his early start, Frantz has showed persistence in improving his skills. He's gone from chalk on a trash can, to stick figures, and now to his more detailed pieces.

"When I was five, I was just teaching myself, and my dad was kind of good and he taught me," Frantz said, "My mom was really good, so she would give me tips, so I could do good."

Many of the classes they have tried

The opera follows a polite little man who goes on a quest to kill a dragon. In the show, Biedakurova played four characters: a hobbit, an elf, a spider, and a townspeople. The array of characters reminded Biedakurova of what she loves most about singing opera.

"When you sing the opera, you feel like the character you're being like. If you're a cheerful Rivendell elf, you feel cheerful," Biedakurova said.

In the future, Biedakurova plans on climbing the ranks of the Sarasota Opera into adulthood.

"I really want to get a main role... I'm not sure who I want to be in the future, but I think I want to be an actor," Biedakurova said.

before have been arts and crafts based, whereas Frantz' current classes are more focused on technique. This promotes his strong natural talent as well as his commitment to improving his skills.

"He would find a YouTube tutorial... and he would do it 15, 20, 25 times in a row," Nathan Frantz said, "So, I think he enjoyed that more technical learning aspect of the art class, in addition to actually creating the art."

While Frantz learns from these videos and classes, his art is also influenced by his emotions. He likes that "you can do whatever you want when you're doing that." Sometimes he'll draw scarier subjects such as zombies, spiders, and things of that nature.

"He would very often draw things that were on his mind, like if he had a



Third grader Stefaniia Biedakurova poses for a photo. Biedakurova does opera singing and has been doing so for three years. PHOTO BY ELENA HERMAN

Undoubtedly, Pine View will be cheering for Biedakurova as she aims even higher!

bad dream or something was concerning to him or scary to him," Nathan Frantz said, "almost like it was a meditative way for him to work through something."

Frantz also enjoys drawing portraits of people such as characters from TV shows and popular singers. He's even drawn his classmate, second grader Goldie Lenerz.

"It's the most amazing art in the world, it looks the best," Lenerz said, "He's going to be the next maker of the 'Mona Lisa'."



Playground activities



Third graders Austen Ellsworth and Mila Summa play four square. With all of the different ways to play, four square is enjoyed by many students on the playground.

Four Square



Third graders Ashlyn Thornton, Nora Chapman, and Hazel Hirshman pose on the spinner. Whether its spinning, or just sitting, this spinner is a popular spot on the playground.

Spinning

Crochet Play



Third graders Raven Davis and Tiffany Wu play with Madame Sugarplum III, a crocheted dinosaur they borrowed from a friend. Playing with toys is a perfect way to spark creativity and spend your time at recess.

Gymnastics



Above, a group of third graders gather for a fun variant of tag. Whether it be standart tag or a creative variant, tag is a fun way to spend recess. Just watch out for the shoe thief!

Tag



Third grader Elle Reuter hangs on a bar. Doing gymnastics on the bars and the dome is another exciting way to spend recess.

Cricket Master

by Jenna Hinck

The U.S. is well known for its popular sports such as basketball, football, and baseball. At Pine View, there are many students with different cultural backgrounds. Second grader Shiv Shukla plays Cricket, a very popular sport in India.

Cricket is a sport played between two teams consisting of 11 players. The goal of the game is very similar to that of base-

ball: try to get more runs than the opposing team. There are differences between the sports though, like the shape and size of the ball and bat, the way the

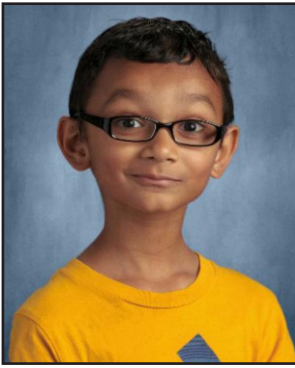


PHOTO PROVIDED BY SANGITA SHUKLA

ball is hit, and the number of players.

Shukla started when his grandpa gifted him a cricket set.

“He brought my brother a cricket set, so me and my brother started to play together with our friends,” Shukla said.

These cricket sets include a cricket bag, bat, batting gloves, helmet, and all the pads. Since Shukla’s brother plays cricket with him, when he gets a regular cricket set, he will be able to

use his brother’s training set. In India, Cricket is commonly played as a family. Shukla’s dad used to play with them almost everyday over the summer.

“We don’t play it that much anymore,” Shukla said, “we have lots of homework to do, so we don’t have time to play.”

Being a student athlete is a hard decision to make, especially attending Pine View. The rigorous schoolwork, even in second grade, is a lot for a child to balance with a sport.

“I mostly play over the summer because there is no school,” Shukla said. “I read a book before I go to sleep and I have to do Kumon.”

During the school year, Shukla only plays on the weekends in his community, when he doesn’t have as much homework.

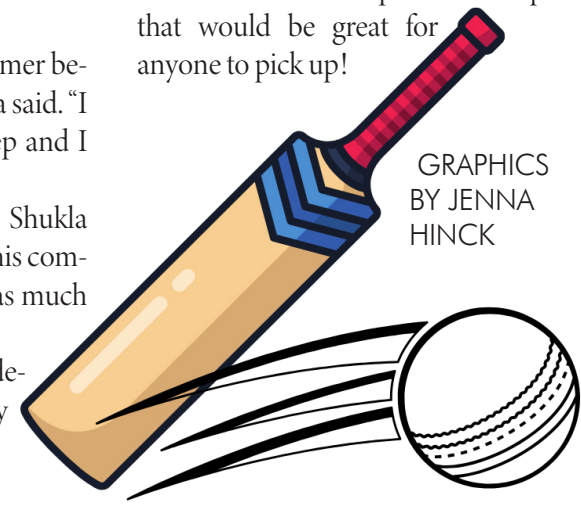
His teacher, Bo Lengyel described him as “always happy

and cheerful, and very kind to his classmates.”

Shukla recommends trying cricket, watching the matches on TV and practicing when you have time.

“If you practice more, You’ll probably enjoy it even more,” he said.

Cricket is a unique and fun sport that would be great for anyone to pick up!



GRAPHICS BY JENNA HINCK

Double the Trouble

by Ana Easter

The basketball bounces rhythmically on the concrete as second grader Oceana Manzano watches her opponent, waiting for the right moment. Suddenly, she lunges at the ball, bringing it to her in a quick steal. Weaving in and out around her opponents,

Oceana dribbles the ball down the court before passing it to her cousin,

second grader Nicolai Manzano. Nicolai catches the ball and prepares to take a shot.

Oceana and Nicolai play basketball together for Suncoast Basketball Club and have been doing so for

two years. Their entire family plays basketball, so they began at a very young age.

“His four cousins play as well, he grew up watching a lot of basketball games, so he fell in love with the sport at an early age,” Fabian Manzano, Nicolai’s father, said.

With their team, Oceana and Nicolai compete in basketball games on Saturdays, during which they work together, each playing crucial roles. Nicolai enjoys offense and focuses on shooting the ball, while Oceana excels at defense, preventing the other team from shooting.

“I like playing offense and it’s really good for me and my cousin because she’s the best at defense and I’m the

best at offense,” Nicolai said, “We’re the two best players on the team.”

The cousins practice weekly with their team at Arlington Park. During these practices, they work on different techniques, such as dribbling and shooting, as well as doing drills to prepare for games. Outside of their team practices, Nicolai and Oceana also practice at home, working on their individual skills.

“I try to practice every day that I have time with my brothers at home,” Oceana said.

Having a cousin on the team comes to great benefit for Nicolai and Oceana, motivating them to practice and work hard, while also making the sport more enjoyable.

“They help motivate each other.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY FABIAN MANZANO

They are always excited to play because they know that their best friend will be there,” Fabian Manzano said.

Nicolai and Oceana hope to continue playing basketball, with a goal of joining Pine View’s middle school basketball team.

“[Nicolai’s] father played on the eighth grade team in 1998 and his cousin Luca is currently on the team. That would be a huge honor,” Fabian Manzano said.



COLORFUL CHARACTERISTICS

Students in Marisa Freedman's second grade class created crayons introducing themselves and a fun fact to hang in her room.



The Python Secret Society

by Jiayi Zhu

December's Proud Python celebration was not long ago. Ever wonder how exactly these sssuper students were selected? Plus, if you wish to become a Proud Python, it may be helpful to understand how they are chosen. Here's a brief hissssstory:

Phi Python Pi, or Pine View's Secret Society of Pythons, dates back to Pine View's founding. They created Python Path and live in the blue awnings at school, representing Pine View's slithering mascots. Most importantly, though, these Pythons are responsible for the greatest award given to "sssspecial ssstudents": Proud Python.

The Pythons meet every month to discuss which students will be chosen.

They are constantly watching for students who go 212 degrees. The society is made up of four main Pythons: Dr. Cobra, Mr. Sssssprinkle, Hans Less, and me, Spy-thon.

Dr. Cobra doesn't always have much time to watch every student in between accompanying his owner, Dr. Covert, to important meetings and slithering in his office. Still, he is the principal member of the society. After all, he didn't become a doctor for nothing.

Mr. Sssssprinkle is next in line. He's very involved with and loved by the students, and he is always watching, even if you can't see him.

Hans Less is the silliest of the snakes. He was once a Proud Python himself before he joined Phi Python Pi. He doesn't always set the best example, though.

"Look, no hands!" said Hans Less while coiling down the flag poles one day. The top of the flag poles are the perfect place for Phi Python Pi mem-

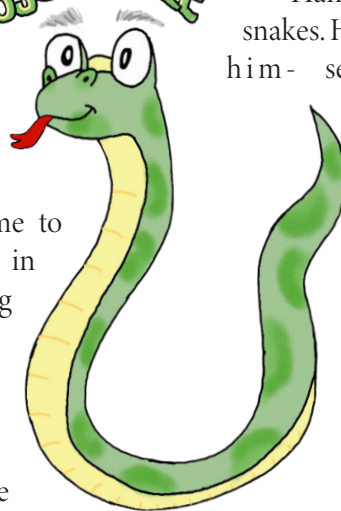
bers to watch students as they enter and leave school.

And me? I not only spy on potential Proud Python students, but I'm also constantly watching my fellow Phi Python Pi members. I make sure nothing too sneaky is rattling on campus. Just don't spy on me!

So, remember to be kind, be strong, and be well. If you want a chance at getting Proud Python, just don't throw any hissy fits — we'll be watching!

Ssssincerely,
Spy-thon

MR. SSSSPRINKLE



SPY-THON



GRAPHICS BY JIAYI ZHU

GRAPHIC BY TIMOTHY NESANELIS

One Letter Can Change Everything!

WISH LIST

dolls

play set

games



~~ROLLS~~



~~CLAY SET~~



~~NAMES~~

BE CAREFUL...

The Candy Cane Conflict

by Madelyn Bailey

On a snowy December day, two friendly gingerbread men found themselves in a feud over the award-winning candy cane created by the one and only master chef of Gingerbread Land: Garland Reindeer.

Naturally, when the two gingerbread men saw the treat they felt they had no option but to fight for it.

Rudy, who wears a large top hat, was the first to claim the cane. Dash, Rudy's best friend, soon followed.

"Let go of the candy cane, I waited hours for that!" Dash shouted.

Rudy refused, claiming that Dash was unworthy of ownership.

This led to an all-out verbal brawl between the two, with insults such as "snow-brain" and "ice-head" being

spewed.

After a couple minutes, a solution was given.

"There is only one way to decide who deserves the candy cane: we MUST have a sled race," Rudy said.

Confident in his racing abilities, Dash agreed.

Half an hour later, the pair made it to the course. Already filled with obstacles and judges, they begin the race.

Dash got off to an early lead, dodging stray icicles flawlessly. Suddenly, a reindeer bursts through the track, derailing Dash's sled.

Rudy takes this opportunity to speed ahead and claim the crown.

"Who's the snow-head now?!" Rudy said, taunting Dash.

"No fair! You clearly cheated. I de-

mand a rematch," Dash said.

A nearby snowman overheard and offered to judge an ice-skating competition, the gingerbread men agreed.

At the rink, Dash executes a series of perfect twists and jumps. Rudy, by contrast, fumbled, slipping over the ice.

With Dash's victory, the gingerbread men were forced to hold a tie-breaking snowball fight.

The fight was nothing short of vicious, the flying snowballs cascading through the air and destroying whatever friendliness once existed. That is, un-

til an onlooker, who goes by Dumpy, stopped the fighting.

"It's clear that this fight will not end with a victor. If you want the candy cane you must push your differences aside and reconcile," Dumpy said.

Hearing this, the gingerbread men decide to declare a truce, agreeing to share the candy cane.

As Rudy and Dash returned to the market, they gleefully discussed holiday plans and revelled in their candy cane excitement. Unfortunately for them, all the chatting stopped as they watched Dumpy, who had a sly smirk, eating the candy cane.



GRAPHIC BY MADELYN BAILEY

Snow One to Love

by Elena Herman



GRAPHIC BY ELENA HERMAN

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[a column]

Family: The Greatest Gift



Ava Lenerz,
Match Editor-in-Chief

The upcoming holiday season is always a time of fun spent with friends and family. I look forward to all my family's usual traditions. We'll eat latkes, play dreidel, light the menorah, and all the other fun Hanukkah customs.

But this time also comes with a moment of reflection: thinking about how fortunate I am to have such a loving family that I get to spend my holidays with.

Family is such an amazing thing; having people to spend life with is what makes

it worth living. That is why during this time of year we should remind our friends and family how important they are to us.

My brother recently went to college, so I don't see him as much anymore. Winter Break is one of the few times he will live at home again for an extended period of time. Having not just one, but two siblings is something I often take for granted, especially when they get on my nerves sometimes. But they are such an important part of my life, and the holidays emphasize just how lucky I am to have them.

So, if you can take anything away from this, don't take your family for granted. Having a group of people who love you and are there to spend the important moments of life with is worth more than any present.

We want to hear from you!

As a student-run newspaper, we'd love to receive any suggestions or comments you might have for us! To reach us you can write a letter and ask the office to give it to Mr. Chris Lenerz or email him on Outlook.

-The Match Staff