



The Paw Print

Vol. 6 No. 1

Winter 2018

PBIS at St. Bernadette School

By: Bridget Grazel and Lizzy Hennessy



Recently, our school started a new program called PBIS. PBIS stands for "Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support." The program was designed by a core committee first, then later approved by staff and teachers. We interviewed some of the creators to get the inside scoop on the program.

In the past, each class has used their own system for enforcing positive behavior in the classroom. This year, the teachers and staff thought that it was a better idea to create a

schoolwide program that helps teachers and students from all different classes work together. Though this seems like an easy idea, it was difficult for teachers to create a consistent set of rules that could be effective for both kindergarten students, and older students like those on the 3rd floor. After creating these rules, they were labeled "The Three Be's of Bernies." You can find these rules on posters hung up around the school. When we asked teachers their favorite part, they told us that they like how the system creates visible growth among the students' behavior.

These behaviors also help out teachers in the schoolyard, and the lunchroom.

One teacher added that she liked the PBIS system, because it focused on the positive, rather than negative consequences.

Staff also incorporated ways of making the system more enjoyable, the most prominent being the golden ticket system. This rewards the students who have been showing good behavior, or done a good deed, with a golden ticket. The tickets are then entered into a raffle for fun prizes, like N.U.T. passes and movies! Overall, the PBIS system generates valuable rules for the school, while helping students to improve behavior and follow them, throughout the entire school.

A Dedication to Mr. Gavin

By: Megan Sheridan

Mr. Gavin was an inspiration to all. He was definitely the strongest person I knew. He dedicated so much time and energy to the success of our school, and I don't think we could ever thank him enough. He

was particularly committed to the CYO program of St. Bernadette. As President of the CYO board for so many years, he continued the tradition of St. Bernadette sports programs and spent endless hours making

sure these programs ran smoothly. He was especially fond of baseball and coached our team for several years. His upbeat personality always put others in a good mood. He was an amazing father and mentor. Mr. Gavin put others before himself. He was selfless and caring of others.

Even through his illness, he made sure the Bernie's community was the best it could be. We will feel his presence for years to come in all the places he impacted. These include Saint Bernadette Church, Saint Bernadette School, and Dermond Field.



DID YOU KNOW...

December is the twelfth and final month of the calendar. Many cultures celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and other festivals of light during this month.



World Series 2018

By: Catherine McDonald



The 2018 Major League Baseball

World Series Championship was an exciting five games, with over forty runs scored throughout. The Boston Red Sox faced the Los Angeles Dodgers in the fall classic. Both teams came into the Series with all-star pitching and excellent defense. The Dodgers were faced with quite the challenge against the Division Champion, 108

game winning Red Sox.

Game one was an exciting start, with both teams hitting well. The Red Sox scored 8 runs by the end of the night leading the Dodgers one game to zero. The second game was action-packed as well, the Red Sox winning once more. Game three was the longest game in World Series History, lasting 7 hours and 20 minutes! It was a true nail-biter, both teams tied 2-2 until the Dodgers hit a homerun in the 18th inning. The following evening,

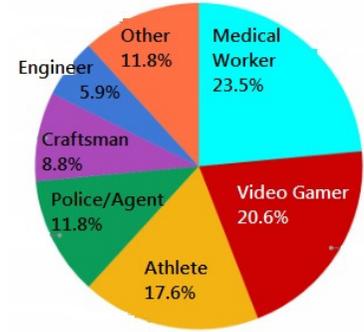
Boston won 9-6, taking a three to one game lead.

The Red Sox only needed one more game to win, and through a complete team effort achieved just that. The Red Sox hit it out of the park, literally, with four home runs. They are now World Series Champions! From MVP Steve Pearce's hitting, to the outstanding pitching of David Price, the whole Red Sox team made an impact on the victory. Congratulations to the 2018 Boston Red Sox, and I can't wait until next season!

What do you want to be when you grow up?

By: Bridget Grael

We surveyed the seventh and eighth graders about their dream jobs. Here are the results!



Get to Know Ms. Kolson!

By: Catherine McDonald

We are very excited to welcome Miss Kolson to our St. Bernadette School Community! Miss Kolson is our 8th grade Homeroom Teacher, as well as the Social Studies and ELA Teacher for both 8th and 7th grades. Her enthusiasm is contagious to all the students she teaches. In this interview, Miss Kolson answers some questions through which we learn about her background and personal interests.

Q: What inspired you to become a teacher?

A: I wanted to be able to help kids find their voice and be inspired to find their calling, before they go into the world.

Q: Tell us about your background before you came to St. Bernadette.

A: I am from East Brunswick, NJ. I attended the University of Maryland and studied Government and Politics as well as Criminology and Criminal Justice. I went to Villanova for law school, then became a Criminal Defense lawyer. I was defending people at first court in Lower Merion, then became an Assistant Public Defender in Reading. My experience as an attorney taught me that I wanted to be doing something to help the people I was defending before they needed to be defended. I decided to teach and got my English Language Arts Master's Degree at Villanova.

When I became a teacher, I taught at Haverford Middle School before Bernies.

Q: What was your favorite subject when you were younger?

A: I have always been interested in Political Science and Civics. I wanted to be an author in 2nd Grade and a lawyer in 4th. Over the years, I have become both of those things.

Q: What activities did you participate in when you were in 7th and 8th grades?

A: I was a dancer, and danced all different styles. I played the violin, was the President of the Poetry Club, and participated in a National Civics Club which traveled to D.C. to compete.

Q: What is your favorite thing about St. Bernadette?

A: I love the sense of community that lifts everyone up. It is very inspiring to both the students and myself.



Miss Kolson, 8th Grade Homeroom Teacher at St. Bernadette School

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time?

A: I love to walk, read and listen to music, especially on my record player. I also write. I have started a couple novels, and completed several books of poetry.

Bonus Facts:

Favorite Food: Italian! Loves pasta. **Favorite Beverage:** Thai Iced Tea. **Favorite Music Groups/Artists:** Neil Young, Bob Dylan, and many more. **Favorite Songs:** "Birds of Paradise" - Pretenders, "Winter" - Rolling Stones **Favorite Books:** Painted Bird - Jerzy Kosinski, Flowers In The Attic - V.C Andrews **Favorite Vacation Destination:** Berlin, Germany. **Favorite Sport and Team:** Football: The Eagles **Favorite Hobby:** Dancing! **Favorite Holiday:** Christmas!

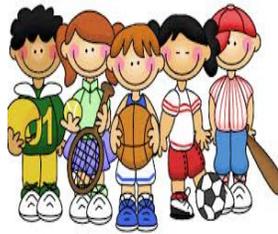
SBS Sports

By: Lizzy Hennessy

Fall sports are coming to an end, while winter sports are on their way! Everyone is sad that Field Hockey, Soccer, Football, and Cross Country have finished, but all teams had great seasons. The annual Turkey Bowl just ended and it was a success even though Bernies didn't win. It was an amazing day to enjoy friends, family, and of course, turkey. The Bernies soccer team also just played in the

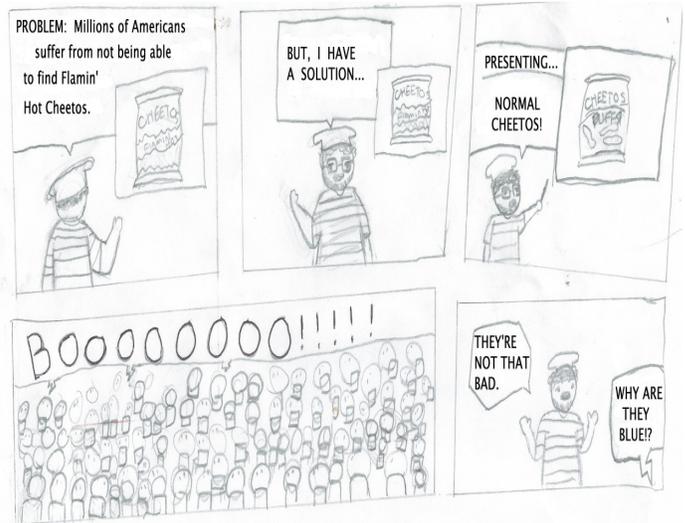
Turkey Cup. Sadly, they lost but it was still a thrilling game.

Basketball is just starting and I can already tell that it is going to be a great season!



Sports are an awesome way to unite the Bernies community!

Comic Time By: Conor Gomez and Ben Russell



Refugee by Alan Gratz Book Review

By: Bridget Grazel

Three different children from different countries living in three different decades all share in one mission, to escape the violence there. Each one enters a riveting journey as they put their life on the line and give up everything to survive another day.

Josef is a Jewish boy living in Germany in the 1930s. When the lives of Josef and his family are threatened and they are set to enter a concentration camp, they can't sit around any longer waiting for something to change. The family leaves all they have to board a boat heading for the Americas, where they hope to start a new life away from the Nazis.

Isabel is a young Cuban girl living amongst riots and waves of violence tearing apart her country in the year 1994. As the danger escalates and her father's freedom is put in jeopardy, they formulate a plan. Shortly after, Isabel, her family, and a few others climb aboard a raft and start the long journey to the coast of Florida, in the United States.

The last story follows the trek of Mahmoud in 2015. He is an innocent boy just trying to blend in with others as his country, Syria, is being destroyed by disagreements turning to chaos and violence. In the midst of this, his family sets out on an

extremely risky escape to Europe.

While reading this book, I was constantly intrigued by the different storylines, which the author managed to perfectly integrate with one another. While keeping the readers entertained with twists, and turns, Gratz also manages to educate them on the dire circumstances many people in other countries have faced. He even helps to paint a picture in your mind of things like the Holocaust, and the current Syrian crisis that have both affected millions of real people

living within them.

The three children are portrayed as beautiful role models for any reader, as they go to great lengths helping their families and friends survive just one more day at a time. They even do this while keeping up a positive attitude toward their younger siblings in an attempt to ease their fear, and suffering. I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a story of heroism, emotion, and excitement that will provide them with a jaw dropping experience they can't put down.



Pearl Harbor

By: Nicolas Sheen

Pearl Harbor is a U.S. naval base near Honolulu, Hawaii, that was the scene of a surprise attack by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941. Just before 8 a.m. on that Sunday morning, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes descended on the base, where they managed to destroy or damage nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight battleships, and over 300 airplanes. More than 2,400 Americans died in the attack, including civilians, and another 1,000 people were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan.



"Yesterday, December 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy!"

Holiday Hustle

By: Sydney Nihill

```

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

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| ANGEL | JESUS | SKATING |
| CANDYCANS | JINGLEBELLS | SNOW |
| COCOA | LIGHTS | SNOWMAN |
| COOKIES | NOEL | STOCKINGS |
| ELVES | ORNAMENTS | TREE |
| GINGERBREAD | SANTA | |

In Memory of John Lennon – Happy Christmas

By: Ben Russell and Nicolas Sheen



The 7th and 8th grades were asked to listen and read the lyrics to the song pictured above. After this, everyone wrote their reaction to this song in any form they chose. As members of the Newspaper Club, we voted on whose response we found the most inspiring. This was

done anonymously to make it fair to all students. We chose Grace Farrell's piece: "I have heard this song before but haven't really listened to the words. It kind of opens your eyes in a way. It tells us that it's Christmas time. We should be happy and hearing from loved ones. It also tells us that we can end war if we want to and that's true. Even if it's just a fight with your brother or sister, if we could all just love each other and create world peace we would all be so much happier. You never know if it could be the last time with a person so

never go to sleep when you're in a fight with someone and always say I love you when you leave. This song also reminds us what life is

all about. It asks what have you done? So, what have you done to end conflicts and build world peace?"

The Paw Print

The Paw Print is St. Bernadette School's student newspaper. The ideas expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors and staff of The Paw Print.

Staff:

- Conor Gomez
- Bridget Grazel
- Elizabeth Hennessy
- Catherine McDonald
- Sydney Nihill
- Benjamin Russell
- Nicolas Sheen
- Megan Sheridan

Moderators:

- Mrs. Marybeth Geller
- Ms. Kelly Kolson