

# DRAGON PRESS



Mr. Marino, Principal

S. Forzaglia, J. Momoh, C. Ambrose Assistant Principals

# **Principal's Corner**

By Mariana Cristales and Jeremy Lin



Dragons, did you know Mr. Marino's birthday is coming up on April 1st? His birthday is on April Fool's Day! We asked him if he has ever played any tricks on his birthday, but he said his cousins would play tricks on him instead, but he said he loves having his birthday on such a fun holiday. He enjoys celebrating his birthday by having family over for dinner and cake, going out with friends, and just being home with his wife and kids. We asked Mr. Marino if he played any sports or instruments growing up. He said he didn't play any sports aside from playing outdoor games with friends on the block, but he was a singer in a band when he was a kid, and today he is back still doing what he loves by singing and playing bass in a band. You might find Mr. Marino's band at a restaurant performing! We then asked Mr. Marino what changes he has noticed from when he was a kid to kids today. He said the biggest change he notices is technology. They didn't have access to computers and had to use encyclopedias in the library to complete research projects. He also mentioned social media, and how you didn't hear from friends until the next day at school, and how people had more privacy. Lastly, we found out that Mr. Marino wanted to become a teacher because he was inspired by all of the teachers he worked with when he was a paraprofessional. Click here to watch Mr. Marino's interview!

#### **Health Corner**

By Mrs. Day

MARCH MADNESS

MARCH MADNESS								
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#### **Get Moving!**

It's easy to fit physical activities into your daily routine. Walk, bike or jog to see friends. Try to take a 10-minute activity break every hour while you read, do homework or watch TV. You can climb stairs instead of taking an escalator/ elevator, or you can do this fun March Madness Challenge each day.

Print out and do this with your family!

Have fun!

#### **Student Government**

By Josie Ren & Umar Kakana



Civic's Week was a success! We got to hang all of your amazing posters around the school and everyone was given the opportunity to vote for their favorites. We had so many awesome posters! Here are the creators of your favorite posters!
Emily in Pre K, and Karla in
Kindergarten did an amazing job! In first
grade the winners were Alison in 105
and Zane in 108. Class 202's Veronica
and Class 203's Ivan, Zilu from class
204, and Olivia from class 205 were the
second grade winners. In 3rd grade,
Nicole from class 301, Zachary, from
302, Angelina from 303, Grace from
304, and Adrian from 308 were some of
your 3rd grade favorites! In 4th grade the
winners were Olivia in 401, Linxi in 402,

Kaitlyn in 403, Kayla in 404, and Nicholas in 408. Our 5th grade contest winners were Rinka in 501, Tian Teng in 502, Jack in 503, Jack in 504, and Darren in 508. We hope everyone enjoyed Civic's Week as much as we did! Dragons, we have an update on

participatory budgeting! The winner of the budget vote was for recess equipment! Ms. Teel, and Ms. Silvestri are working with staff in the building to start buying new equipment. We also

have an update on our stop sign presentation, unfortunately the request was denied. We are still proud of how hard we worked and hope that it will be placed there in the future.

## **Student Spotlight**

By Dragon Press



Hey Dragons! This month we asked you, "What is your favorite thing about PS 120?"

Here's what you had to say!
"My favorite thing about this school is
the diversity" -Abby 501
Umar in 501 shared, "My favorite things

#### Ask Us!

By Umar Kakana



Hey Dragons, have you ever wondered what we do at Dragon Press? We have the answers to your questions! We create the school newspaper at PS 120 by getting all of the latest details of what is happening in our building. We meet during Friday morning meetings and discuss things that are happening in the upcoming month. We then get to pick roles, research our topics by asking questions, and then reporting it to you. We post at the end of each month to give a recap of what has been happening, and what you can look forward to. We get to host interviews with special people within our school and learn more about them. With the help of Mr. Balvin, we get to record these interviews. We are passionate about our writing here at Dragon Press!

## **Spring Activities**

By Estrella Lino



Spring is in the air! Are you struggling to come up with ideas on how to spend your spring break? We have the answers for you! As the weather gets warmer you can spend time outdoors by going to the park, flying kites, taking a hike, plating flowers, and reading in the warm sun. These activities can be done with friends and families of all ages. You can also ask someone at home to take you to the zoo, make a bonfire, or have a barbeque. You can also try a new hobby such as bike riding, roller skating, or fishing. How are you going to spend your vacation in the sun?

#### **Trending Now**

By Melody Ni



The Rat Dance is a popular dance trend where people try to follow along and keep up with the animated rat. It is a fast paced beat while trying to criss- cross your legs. Even though it is only two steps, it can be hard keeping up with the pace without getting confused. I would recommend trying this trend because it is a fun dance to do when you are feeling bored.

# **Book Fair Purchases: Teachers vs. Students**

By Khadija Salhi



What did you buy at the book fair? We asked some teachers and students what they bought to see if they were similar or different to each other. The results may surprise you! Ms. Marcinkowski bought a Cinnamon Roll poster for her classroom, Ms. Denigris bought Spiderman books for her son, and Ms. Teel bought Dogman books for her classroom library. Dakshitha in 502 bought a led pencil because she needed more. Richard also in 502 bought Survivor books to keep himself entertained. In 503 Estrella bought the toys they had. Omar in 501 bought led pencils and a book to share with his siblings. The bookfair had lots of great options! It was interesting to see how the teachers mostly purchased books, and things for their classrooms. And the students bought a variety of things they needed or enjoyed.

about PS 120 are the programs we have such as, Dragon Press, Student Council, and gym." Ana in class 403 agrees that the activities we have at PS 120 are her favorites too!

"My favorite things about PS 120 are making new friends and getting to have fun in gym class." -Jeremy 504 Christopher in class 403 says that his "favorite time of the day is recess."

Thanks for sharing all of your favorite things about PS 120!

#### Game On!

By Juliet Jimenez Henriqu



Go Dragons! Here are the latest updates on our sports teams! The basketball team won their first game against PS 130 with a close score of 15 to 14. Peicong in class 401 was the top scorer with 9 points. Othmane(504), Christian(402), and Lucas(404) also helped lead the team to victory! The cheerleaders did an amazing job at cheering them on!

They have their All-Star game coming up in April! The girls soccer team has played two games so far and is getting ready for their next one also coming up in April! They were also excited to have the cheerleaders cheer them on at their first game. The co-ed soccer team won their first game against PS 107 with the final score being 3-2. Angelo (404), Christopher (403) and Edison(504) helped lead the team to victory!

#### **Women's History Month**

By Umar Kakana



Women's History Month is used to celebrate the contributions women have made to society. Long ago, women didn't have the same rights as men. We use this month to remember women like Rosa Parks, Amelia Earheart, and Ashley Longshore who stood up for what they believed in to help make the world a better, more equal place.

# **Meet Ms. Yuqi**By Josie Ren and Kaitlyn-Gabriek Mangubat



Have you met Ms. Yuqi yet? She is our new school counselor and Girl's Empowerment leader. Ms. Yuqi's job is to teach and respond to students about their big feelings. We asked her what she loves about her job and she said, "I love to help make students go from stormy to sunshine and see the smiles on their faces." We then asked her what her most memorable moment as a counselor was. She shared that she had a student who struggles with social interactions, and one time in the hallway the student said, "I love you" to Ms. Yuqi. She said thought it was a really sweet moment. Outside of work, she enjoys trying new restaurants and foods from around the world. She also enjoys doing crafts such as crocheting. Lastly, we asked Ms. Yuqi, what inspired her to become a school counselor. She said that she always wanted to work in a school, but didn't want to be a teacher. She wanted to help the students who sometimes need extra support.

#### St. Patrick's Day

By Christina Lin



Dragons, did you celebrate St. Patrick's
Day this year? It is a holiday celebrated
on March 17th to celebrate a special
saint in Ireland. The holiday has
emerged over the years from a religious
observation to a celebration of Irish
culture and heritage. Many people wear
green clothing or accessories, which are
said to represent the lush landscape of
Ireland and make you invisible to
leprechauns, pinching anyone they could
see. Be sure to look out for a four-leaf
clover for good luck!

#### **Mission Statement**



Our mission is to inform, inspire, and connect the students and staff of P.S.120 through engaging and creative journalism. We

strive to create a platform where student voices are heard, diverse perspectives are celebrated, and school news, stories, and achievements are shared. By fostering a sense of community and encouraging curiosity, we aim to cultivate the skills of future writers, thinkers, and leaders in a fun and supportive environment.

#### **Dragon Press Members**

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