

Balboa Times



Fall 2010



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Staff Highlights

Mr. Fitz

By: Andrew Miech

Mr. Fitz teaches 7th grade world geography and U.S. history. In front of the class putting on a show to explain what Columbus did, or listening to his students present their pieces, Mr. Fitz keeps the class moving forward and educates many students. Mr. Fitz's favorite color is blue. He claims to have two dogs named Max and Lilly which are really Mr. Powers' dogs. Mr. Fitz runs many marathons. He tries to run the ironman every year. Last year he got 121st out of 2,200 contestants. Great job Mr. Fitz! As a kid, Mr. Fitz dreamed of being a CIA agent when he grew up. Mr. Fitz's favorite subject has always been history.



Mrs. E

By: Gabi Thoresen

Mrs. E is a P.E teacher here at Balboa. She originally taught at an elementary school but she came to Balboa to teach sports. Her favorite color is pink and her favorite food is Mexican food. She also likes strawberries. Mrs. E said that if she could have any type of super power she would pick teleportation, so she didn't have to drive her kids everywhere. Outside of school she likes to exercise and hang out with her two daughters. Mrs. E is a great teacher so if you see or have her make sure to say hello.



Mrs. Kennedy

By: Marie O'Brien

Mrs. Kennedy is a 7th grade science teacher here at Balboa. She recently got married and is now Mrs. Kennedy, instead of Ms. Cook. She said you can call her Ms. Cook or Mrs. Kennedy. If Mrs. Kennedy could be any animal she would be a shark because she loves to swim and she wouldn't have a lot of predators. Her favorite color is dark purple, also known as eggplant. Her favorite subject in middle school was health, and she hated history. One thing you might not know about Mrs. Kennedy is that she hates chocolate, Jello, ice cream, pudding, whipped cream, and custard, but she loves Twizzlers. Mrs. Kennedy is double jointed and a thrifty shopper. So remember, if you ever see Mrs. Kennedy, make sure to say hi.



Student Life

6th Grade Life

By: Lindsay Wolfe

Welcome all 6th graders to an exciting new year at Balboa! I'm sure things look big and scary right now, but it will feel like home in no time! With a fantastic staff of teachers all of you are in for an awesome, educational, and fun ride. You might not like the idea of being the youngest on campus but it comes with loads of perks, such as the 6th grade extravaganza, your own bathrooms, field day, and plenty more! You may be interested in some of the clubs at Balboa, such as the PB&J Club, the Drama Club, Followers 24/7, and other enjoyable activities to look into! In conclusion the entire yearbook staff and I wish every 6th grade student a clean, fun year full of success and happiness.

7th Grade Life

By: Kara Imig

Welcome back for another terrific year here at Balboa! Being in the middle is not as bad as it seems. You should try to set a good example for the new 6th graders. They will catch on and you will feel good that you helped the little guys and girls through the toughest part of the year.

It may seem weird because you are not used to the teachers that you have, but I am sure that they will help you throughout the year. Have a great year and try hard to get the grades you want!

Music Poll

By: Bailey Stevenson



Music Friday's are a fun way to celebrate and get into the mood for the upcoming weekend! Every Friday our awesome ASB students put up speakers, and play music that they think everyone will like. ASB goes through any CD's that are given to them to find the appropriate songs. They play all varieties of music so everyone can be happy with what is playing! So if you see them working the speakers be sure to thank them!

Do you love music Fridays but, hate the music that is playing? The yearbook staff ran a poll for your favorite artists and genres. The first 100 polls were counted. These are the artists from best to least: 1. Eminem 2. Katy Perry 3. Justin Beiber 4. Sublime 5. Usher 6. Taio Cruz 7. B.o.B. 8. Lady Gaga 9. Jason Derulo 10. Michael Jackson. Your choices will be presented to the ASB staff. You also polled for your favorite genres: 1. Rock 2. Hip Hop 3. Rap 4. Pop. Sorry if your favorites aren't on the list!

Back to School Glow Dance

By: Sarah Covault

On Friday September seven-teenth we had our annual glow dance. At the dance everyone had a good time. Some fun stuff included the black lights that made people who wore white glow, popcorn, slushies, and loud music. An interesting new addition to the dance was a confetti gun that Mr. Duenas shot over the crowd. As usual there was a mosh pit area where people danced and sang along to the music. If you are not the best dancer try the fork in the garbage disposal. To do this move place your hands at the side of your head and spin around like a fork in the garbage disposal. This dance was really fun, so if you missed this one be sure to catch the next one.



Sports

Wrestling

By: Ciera Georgi

Welcome back Balboa students! For those of you who are new here at BMS, we have a great wrestling team for boys and girls. This year we have about 10 returning wrestlers; there are 25 boys and no girls this season. So far Balboa has done pretty well against Frank, Fremont and many other schools. When students wrestle at matches there are no team scores because it's all about fun not winning! Practices are at Buena on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:15-5. All in all, here at Balboa there is a great wrestling team for everyone!



The Mile

By: Diego Kress

The five thousand two hundred eighty feet of terror drives students crazy because they just can't pass it. Fortunately, I have some tips to help you pass every time.

1. Keep a pace for your steps and your breathing, It also helps if you count the number of steps you take and make a pattern with some kind of rhythm that you can focus on, like taking a breath every two seconds.
2. Try to breathe slowly and relaxed, because over time you will become less tired and use less air to run.
3. Try to run with a buddy. It will help you keep your pace better and you can also have more fun talking with them. It keeps your mind off running, but don't talk too much as it can make it harder to breathe if you run really fast.

I hope these tips will help you in your next mile so just keep your pace and try your best. Good Luck.



Volleyball

By: Hailey Mace

Welcome back to Balboa! We have many sports, but I'm going to talk about volleyball. Volleyball is a sport for all girls to play. The coaches taught the girls how to play. They were taught how to hit, serve pass and sometimes set. Six people play at a time on your team. The way you score is the ball has to land on the floor on the opposite side of the net. They recently went to a tournament, and Team 1 got 2nd place in the Bronze Division. The A Team made it to the Gold Division! Good job Balboa Volleyball Team!



Academics

Yearbook

By: Keaton Dadigan

Yearbook is a very fun class. Many people think of yearbook as boring, but it is very action packed! It's really fun making a yearbook page. You get to take the pictures, type everything, and choose the background. The best part is seeing a page you made in the finished yearbook! If you want to be part of the Balboa DVD, you get to make your own clip for the video. There are also many other jobs like the website, the newspaper, and the newscast! The newscast is the recording that you hear every Monday morning, if your teacher plays it. When you're in Yearbook, you get to record a segment! All and all, Yearbook is a fun class.



Tobacco Bus

By: Mirella Puga

Here at Balboa Middle School, we are known for having the wonderful privilege to see the Tobacco Bus. For those who don't know what the Tobacco Bus is, it is a bus made especially for teen smoking prevention. The Tobacco Bus has many creative drawings all around its surface, and it has a very unique interior. The walls are covered with ads for tobacco, and you can walk through the mouth of a smoker. They play an informational video, and talk to you about the risks you take when start smoking. You will have a chance to see it in your Life Skills elective. So make sure you check it out, because you get an awesome sticker at the end.



Room 20 Program

By: Haley Barks and Lizzy Notfziger

The Room 20 Program has started off with a bang! It is no ordinary class. These G.A.T.E. 7th and 8th graders are pushing themselves to the top. With Ms. Pourroy leading the new 7th and 8th graders, they are sure to be successful.

Kara Imig, a returning 8th grader, commented on Room 20. "Though it may seem scary at first, I chose to come back because it is a great program."

Every day the students come with 3 kinds of presentations. A Quotation Reflection starts off the class when students explain meaningful quotes to their colleagues. Then, the students get to speak their mind on the world's daily events with Morning Businesses. To finish the presentations, the Room 20 kids recite memorized pieces that exemplify description and meaning from their favorite books. These are known as Sentence Artistries.

"It's a step up from seventh grade, but good friends make it easier." A new 8th grader in Room 20, Nikki Harasta stated.

To send the students off with words of wisdom, students present Closing Declarations.

Good luck and keep working hard Room 20 students!

Tips and Tricks to Make Your 8th Grade Year the Best

By: Rebecca Nunez

Tip #1- Stay Organized! Your 8th grade year will go by smoothly if you keep your locker and backpack clean. You could buy binder organizers, pencil pouches, and locker shelves to help you through the year.

Tip #2- Homework! As much as you might hate to do homework make sure to finish it before watching TV or going on the computer. As boring as it is, it's not fun to stay up till 12 finishing math.

Tip #3- Ask for help! If you don't understand a question on your assignment, ask someone. It's better to ask a teacher, a friend or a parent than to get a question wrong.

Tip #4- Be nice and make new friends! There are plenty of new 6th graders to get to know, and make sure to be nice to them! You just might meet some great people.

Tip #5- Lastly, just remember to enjoy your year here. It's your last one!

Student Highlights

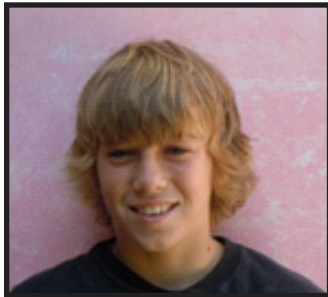
Madison Corello By: Daisy Myring

Madison Corsello has 3 siblings Dakota, Makayla, and Cambria. Paco and Bailey are Madison's two dogs. The singer of her choice is Justin Bieber. Her favorite color is red. During Madison's free time she does cheer. Her favorite teacher is Mrs. Chapin and her preferred school subject would have to be Math.



Grayson Rocha By: Maddie Zerg

Grayson Rocha is a new 6th grader here at Balboa. His favorite subject is math because he finds it quite easy. He likes the teacher Mrs. Smith, the color red and doesn't have any pets. Grayson listens to rap and likes the artist Eminem. Also, he has two brothers; Dalton and David, along with one sister Riley. Outside of school he plays baseball for the Bucks and enjoys spending time with his friends.



Ask Amy

Dear Amy,
How do I get rid of writer's block?
-Backed up Brain

Dear Amy,
I feel insecure in middle school. I want to have friends but I am really shy.
-Shy Guy

Dear, Shy Guy
I know how you feel. Just get out of your comfort zone. In class when you need a partner, ask someone! 9 out of 10 times they'll say yes. You can also join clubs... that's the point of them!

Dear Backed up Brain,
Try taking a 5 to 30 minute break and go for a walk, watch TV, or lie down and let the ideas form up in your head. Sometimes chewing gum or sticky candy (Starburst, Taffy, and Tootsie Roll) will work for jittery kids like me.

Dear Amy,
What is the most effective way of doing homework? All my stuff is always in a mess and I never get the job done.
-Disorganized Dude

Dear Disorganized Dude,
First, get all of your stuff organized. Throw out all old papers or things you don't need. Take homework assignments and put them in a separate folder. Make sure that your working place is clean and not loud. Try doing the easy problems first and then do the hard ones later, and reward yourself (play video games the rest of the day, go to a friend's house, etc.) once you're done. That way you will want to finish so you can get the reward.



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FUN AND GAMES!

By Laura Valine

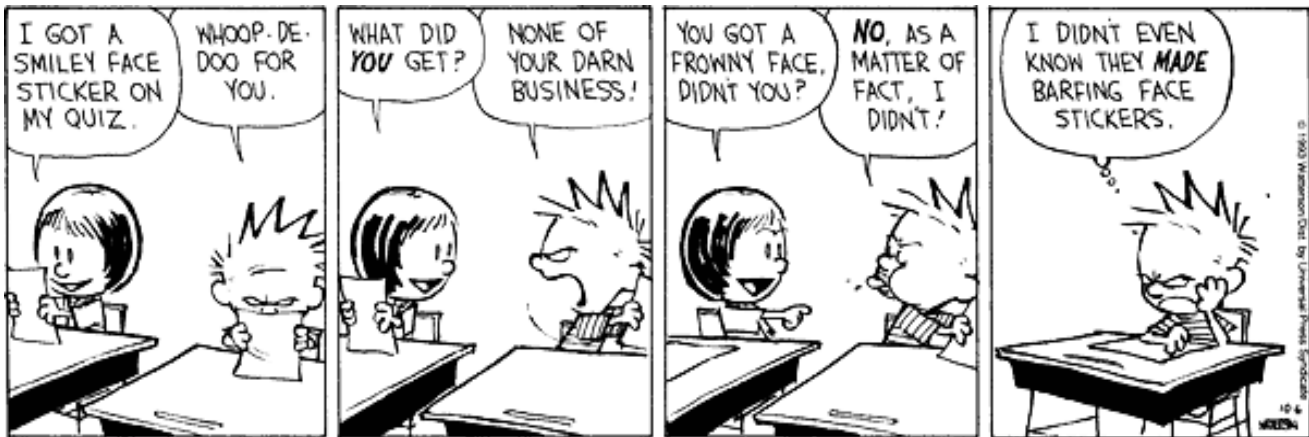
RIDDLES

T E Y R L A S K S E P C P S H
 F R I E N D S H I P Q T A D J
 C B P X Y U C M S E Y F V N N
 F A H C R E K C O L I C P A E
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ART
 BACKPACK
 BALBOA
 BAND
 EXPLORERS
 FRIENDSHIP
 HISTORY
 LOCKER
 MATH
 PENCIL
 RESPECT
 SCIENCE

You can crack me, tell me, and ask me. What am I?

Only one color but not one size; stuck at the bottom yet easily flies; present in the sun but not in the rain; doing no harm and feeling no pain. What am I?



RANDOM FACTS

A one ounce milk chocolate bar has 6 mg of caffeine.

An airplane mechanic invented Slinky while he was playing with engine parts and realized the possible secondary use for the springs.

A toaster uses almost half as much energy as a full-sized oven.

BRAINTEASERS

Take the letters **ERGRO**. Put three letters in front of it, and the same three letters behind to form a common English word.

What number gives the same result when it is added to 1.5 as when it is multiplied by 1.5?