



The Science and Activism Behind the CGE Literacy Club

By A. P. Tomkins, C. B. Stricks, and C. E. Carreon



Plastic and litter fill ocean waters.

Literacy Club (previously known as Book Club) decided to tackle an issue that they never thought they could. In art class, a student (she wants to be referred to with female pronouns, but her name is being withheld for her personal privacy) began crying because the students were using so much glitter. She had recently learned that glitter was cause of whale deaths. She informed them of the horrible reality.

Violet Hudson of Mrs. Bass's fifth-grade class founded the club. "I started [Book Club] because it seemed like there were a lot of people who liked to read, especially in the fifth and sixth grade," she told *The Black & Gold*. The Club meets in the library or the computer lab at 12 P.M. on Fridays. They were originally known as Book Club. That is, until they learned about the terrible burdens that plastic is forcing upon us, and Hudson took action.

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Cheer for Boys Basketball!

By Nevaeh Romero, Aisha Dakhli, Greta Cherry

Who are we cheering for? Carlos Gilbert Elementary School Blackhawks! Did you go watch Carlos Gilbert play this season? We interviewed Jimmy Rodriguez, the A squad's coach, if he had advice for younger athletes. "Take school very seriously. That's the most important thing regarding what sport you're playing. It all comes down to your school, your homework, and doing well. Sports only last so long, your academics last forever." We asked him which was more important: winning or learning the fundamentals of the sport?

*Boys Basketball
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Slime Show

By Alyxandria Black and Kaileylyn Ruiz

Have you ever been to a slime festival? San Antonio, Texas hosts an event called The Slime Show. The Slime Show has a whole lot of great activities like the Slime Rodeo and the Slime Contests. The Slime Show includes competitions for homemade slime recipes. Here are some of the winners.



Crunchiest: The crunchiest slime was called "Blue Sugar-Bead Slime." It makes a crackling and snapping sound as you squeeze and stretch it.

Fluffiest: The fluffiest slime was Cloud Slime, which has an airy, fluffy texture.

Most Creative: The most creative slime was called "Lara Jean." It is thick and glossy.

Most Popular: The most popular slime was "Rachel's Backpack Slime," which has a super thick texture, and is colored bright turquoise.

Don't you wish you could go to a Slime Show? Maybe they will bring one to Santa Fe.

The Spelling Bee

By Astrid Winterstein

Part 1- The Spelling Bee

Did you know that there are five steps to the spelling bee? They are class, school, district, state, and nationals. Akansha Nanda, from Carlos Gilbert, won last year's school spelling bee and went all the way to nationals. She won second place in the district spelling bee this year.

Camila Carreon and Anirudh Nanda represented Carlos Gilbert at this years spelling bee in January. Two student can qualify for the state spelling bee and from that one will go on to nationals.



Part 2- The Nationals

The winner of the state bee goes on to the national bee. First, you must take a vocabulary test and a regular spelling test. Once you pass the third round, there is the spelling bee. The winner receives \$40,000 cash award and a Scripps National Spelling Bee trophy.

Cheer for Boys Basketball

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"The fundamentals because there are a lot of teams that want to win. And to the kids when they win the first time it's like the greatest thing in the world. But, it really doesn't serve a purpose the second time they win so I would rather they learn the fundamental skills so they have confidence when they get out on the court."

Dominic Cortez, a player on A squad said, "He is a great coach. Coach Rodriguez is hard on us but we learn from the pressure." Dominic said the team really encourages him and gives him confidence.

Carlos Gilbert's A squad has had a great season. This season they

were undefeated. They didn't lose a single game until the Championships.

Our school also has a cheer team and a mascot. Thanks to our cheer team which enthusiastically supported the basketball team.

Our mascot, the Blackhawk, symbolizes, illumination, creativity, rebirth, guardianship, strategy, protection, memory, fearlessness, determination, teamwork, opportunity, swiftness, wisdom and truth. We interviewed the mascot, Carlos, played by Nevaeh Romero. The mascot can't talk, so we asked the mascot's manager to help translate. Carlos the Blackhawk said, "I like to be at games to cheer for Carlos Gilbert, I hope athletes won't give up and keep going even if it's hard."

Governor Michelle Lujan

Grisham Announces an end to PARCC Testing

By Fritz Murray

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, on her third day in office, announced that the PARCC test would be dropped.

"I know that PARCC isn't working," she said. She felt it was forcing teachers to focus more on preparing for test taking, and not teaching the kids how to learn.

The test will be replaced by the Standards Based Assessment (SBA.) The testing time will be reduced considerably with PARCC testing taking an average of two weeks and the SBA taking an average of one week. Third through sixth grade students at Carlos Gilbert have been taking the new test the last couple weeks of April.

During the week of testing students should get to sleep early and eat a good breakfast. They should take their time on the tests and check all of their answers before they submit their tests.

Every Kid in a Park

By Theo Rankin

Every Kid in a Park is a program that lets 4th graders into all of the national parks in the United States of America for free. The program was created by the government to get fourth graders off screens and out into nature.

To get started, visit everykidinapark.gov, click on "get your pass," and then "play" under fourth graders. Once you've answered the questions, there will be a page to print.

Be sure to ask a parent to visit the parent section for rules.

When you arrive at the national park of your choice, hand the printout to the ranger at the gate. He/she will give you a card that lets you get into any other national park for free until September of the next school year.

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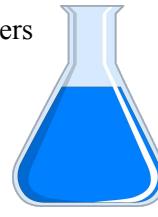
Our Annual Science Fair and What Happens Next

By Amaya Carreon

On January 7th, the fourth, fifth, and sixth graders participated in the Science Fair. The event took place in the Carlos Gilbert gymnasium.

In fourth grade, the first, second and third place winners were Evelyn Karmiol (1st), Ella McDonald (2nd), and Lauren Taylor (3rd). In fifth grade, the winners were Brady Lawrence (1st), Brandon Meyer (2nd), and Paige Tomkins (3rd). Lastly, in sixth grade the winners were Natalie Fagan (1st), Valin Wittenburg (2nd) and Fritz Murray (3rd).

The first and second place winners advanced to the next level of the competition, The City of Santa Fe Science Expo. The Expo took place on February 8th at the Santa Fe Community College. At the Expo, the students' projects were judged by local scientists. Good job to all the junior scientists who participated in our Science Fair this year!



DOGS: The Ups And Downs

By Skye Baca

If you like pets then this article is for you. I will focus on dogs, otherwise known as man's best friend. As you may know dogs are very loyal, comforting and kind animals. They come in all shapes and sizes. There are even hypoallergenic breeds.

Dogs are very intelligent and can be trained to do tricks, to herd animals, to search and rescue, to help law enforcement, and many other things.

Training a new dog is much harder than most people think. There are five basic commands that you should start with: sit, stay, down, come and leave it. Start training your dog or puppy at eight weeks old. Most people use treats as rewards to train dogs to follow commands.

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The Science and Activism Behind the CGE Literacy Club

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So far, Literacy Club has created a petition to replace plastic sporks with metal utensils in the cafeteria. (A petition is a request with signatures on it.) The petition received more than fifty signatures! The Literacy Club will present it to the principal and student council. The Literacy Club will present the petition along with suggestions for action to the principal and Student Council in May.

Here is an example of one of the editions of the petition:

The Literacy Club's Mission statement for this project is "We, the Literacy Club, seek to educate our peers, teachers, and the general public about the dire consequences of our plastic usage and dependency through literacy, conversation, and inquiry. We wish to reverse the alarming trend of oceanic pollution by encouraging our school to abandon its use of products such as glitter and plastic utensils."

PTK Enrichment Programs

By Amaya Carreon, Camila Carreon, Ebbie Primm and Noah Shandler

At Carlos Gilbert Elementary School every grade has an extracurricular activity. Cooking with Kids for sixth, Wise Fool for fifth, NDI for fourth, theatre for second and third, jazz dance and earth care for first, and yoga for kindergarten. Our PTK raises money through the Halloween Carnival to pay for these programs.

Second and Third Grade

This year at Carlos Gilbert, the second graders are doing theater with Wendy Chapin. Every Thursday, Ms. Wendy comes into the second-grade classes after lunch to spend an hour teaching each class theater skills.

"It has a great impact on the kids literary skills." Mrs. Biree said when asked what the outcome was. "They also learn to use their bodies to convey ideas."

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Every Kid in a Park

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Share your knowledge about this subject with all of your friends and family.

In New Mexico there is White Sands National Monument, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Aztec Ruins National Monument, Chaco Canyon National Monument, Bandelier National Monument, Chaco Culture National Historical Park, and Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument.

Enrichment Programs *continued from page 3*

Recently, the students performed *Horton Hears a Who* by Dr. Seuss and *Sneetches*.

Ms. Wendy begins with a contract, in which students promise to collaborate, concentrate and behave. In second grade, the students are asked to express their ideas with Ms. Wendy and create scripts. However, in third grade, the class works independently to create scripts. They participate in activities and play games such as “the game of concentration” where students are challenged to continue staring at a focus point while the teacher makes silly noises and funny faces, or “museum” where the students try to pose differently every time the teacher turns her back on the students.

Ms. Wendy exposes the students to wonderful play adaptations and enjoys seeing grinning students excited to learn something new.

Fourth Grade

Fourth-graders participate in NDI dance program along with many other fourth-graders from other public schools all around Santa Fe. I think that this is important because NDI teaches kids how dance is healthy for you, how to eat healthily, and that exercising can be fun. My classmates and I get to play games while learning a dance. We meet every Thursday morning in the gym to practice and learn dances with a dance coach named Melissa and a pianist named Kevin. Every year in mid-spring, NDI puts on a show at the dance barns for students to show what they have learned. This year, the show is called *Our Dancing Feet*.

Fifth grade

The PTK Enrichment program for fifth grade this year was Wise Fool. The first eight weeks of school, all the fifth-grade students were required to participate in Wise Fool. Wise Fool is a circus company that trains a variety of people, including students, to perform circus tricks.

Every Wednesday the Wise Fool company came and taught students an assortment of tricks including handstands, tumbling, stilt walking, juggling, plate spinning and more. A fifth grader remarked, ”I thought it was cool, especially the part where we got to do the human pyramids.”

At the end of the eight weeks, students put on a show comprised what they had learned.

After the show, one fifth grade student said, “I thought the overall Wise Fool experience was really fun and I appreciated the Wise Fool company teaching us all these tricks!”

Sixth Grade

The sixth grade PTK enrichment program is Cooking with Kids. We go to the Santa Fe School of Cooking, on Guadalupe Street.

The last time we cooked minestrone soup and breadsticks. I helped make the breadsticks. It wasn’t easy because we had to make the dough, then we had to knead it, and then we formed it into breadsticks and then we cooked the breadsticks. We cooked chapati, lentils and a fruit salad. I liked the food because it was good and I had never had Indian food before.

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Dogs: The Ups and Downs

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If you don't have experience training dogs, it's helpful to take puppy obedience classes at a place like PetSmart or Petco.

Carlos Gilbert fourth grader, Ebbie Primm, has a Jack Russell Terrier. She trained her dog by creating hand motions for different commands. She points down for sit. She holds her hand out for stay. Ebbie rewarded her dog with treats when the dog got it right.

Some of the benefits of owning a dog are that they encourage people to exercise more often, they keep you company, they will play with you. They love you unconditionally.

Owning a dog can also be a lot of work. You have to clean up after them, and take them out to exercise every day, rain or snow.

Sometimes they tear apart your home, they pee, poop and throw up on your carpet and furniture. They can jump on you, trip you, and they shed their fur everywhere! Puppies frequently eat your shoes, your toys and strew garbage from one end of the house to the other. If your dog gets sick or breaks a bone, vet bills can get very expensive.

New Teacher Profile: Ms. Vanessa: First Grade

By Ebbie Primm

Ms. Vanessa is one of the new teachers at Carlos Gilbert Elementary School this year. Before she came here to teach, Ms. Vanessa taught 6th grade at Nino Otero.

"I liked the location," she said when we asked why she wanted to teach here. "I was also impressed by all the good things I had heard from Carlos Gilbert families."

Ms. Vanessa said she was most surprised about our students. "The students are so smart and creative... like a puzzle."

Ms. Vanessa believes that school is a place for students to learn, and we (teachers) are only here to support them.

Easy and Awesome Recipes!!!

By Alex Bobolsky

I have researched some cool recipes for making breakfast, lunch, dinner, dessert and cool drinks like smoothies. I will focus on breakfast today. The first meal I will tell you how to make is Belgian waffles.

The ingredients include:

1 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups of all-purpose flour
3 teaspoons of baking powder
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of salt
2 large eggs which are separated with the egg whites in one bowl and the yolks in another
1 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups milk
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups oil (olive or canola oil)

Instructions:

1. In a large bowl mix together the flour, baking soda, and the salt.
2. Crack the eggs and separate the whites into one bowl and the yolks into another.
3. Add the milk and the oil into the bowl with the yolks.
4. Stir in the dry ingredients.
5. Beat the egg whites with a beater/mixer until hard lumps form.
6. Gently put the egg whites on the batter/mix you made.
7. Gently mix.
8. Pour batter into waffle skillet and cook for five minutes.



Jokes and Riddles

Compiled by Natalia Larson and Sylvia Rankin

What do you call a dinosaur that is sleeping?

A dino-snore

What is fast, loud and crunchy?

A rocket chip

Why did the teddy bear say no dessert?

Because she was stuffed

What do you get when you cross a vampire and a snowman?

Frostbite

Special Tribute to our beloved Nurse Donna

Our community suffered a deep loss with the death of our beloved nurse, Donna Shultz. Ms. Donna died on April 3, 2019 after being ill for several weeks. She will be sorely missed. We offer our deepest sympathy to Ms. Donna's family, friends, and colleagues.

Nothing Gold Can Stay Robert Frost

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.

Nothing gold can stay.



Gaga-Ball

By Theo Rankin & Noah Shandler

Carlos Gilbert Elementary School is getting a new piece of playground equipment next month called a gaga pit. There are gaga pits at a few schools in town and it is becoming very popular with elementary school kids.

Gaga-ball is a version of dodgeball played in a pit. The pit is shaped like an octagon or a hexagon, made out of wood about two feet high. Like dodgeball, the objective is to not get hit by the ball, but if you're hit below the waist you are out until a new round starts. Your job is to also try and hit the other players in the hip and under. Players cannot hold on to the ball. Sometimes, a second ball is introduced to make it even more exciting. Kids love this game!

The game of gaga-ball was created 43 years ago by a 17-year-old camp counselor at a Jewish camp in Israel. Ga means hit or touch in Hebrew, which is the language of Israel.

