

2022-2023
June Issue

RGS Reviewer

Spring Concert

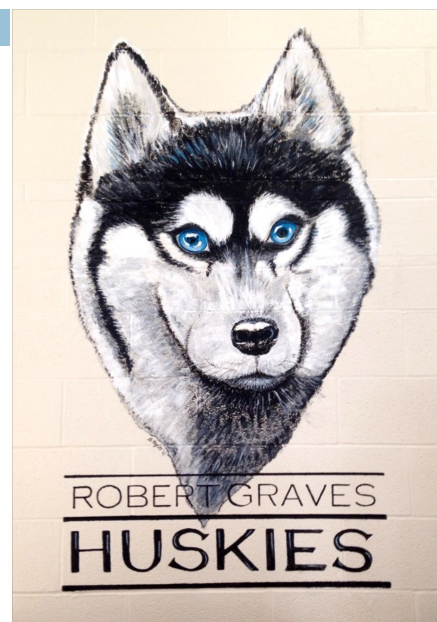
Written by Sari'Yanah Knox

From choir to orchestra to band, lots of 4th graders worked hard to bring this year's spring concert together. But before we get into the concert itself, let's talk to some of the brains behind this operation. Miss Salerno, Mrs. Murphy, and Miss Gee. First, I talked with Miss Salerno. I found out the theme for the concert, *Under the Sea*, was picked because Miss Gee, Mrs. Murphy and Miss Salerno happened to pick music that went with the ocean vibe. I also found out that Miss Fisher *did* help with the decorations and had some 4th graders color them in. Some "behind the scenes" information about the spring concert that Miss Salerno was willing to share was that it took work, dedication, and some patience to make the concert, well, sound like a concert. Both students and adults alike worked very hard on this concert.

After talking with Miss Salerno, I talked with Mrs. Murphy. I found out she picked the music by previewing it on a website to see if it was appropriate for the kids. I also found out that Mrs. Murphy only re-used one song. The other two songs her students performed were new, *Baby Shark* and another one that I can't remember. They were completely new.

Now that we finished talking to the brains behind the concert, let's talk about the concert itself. The concert went in an order: choir, orchestra, then band. The choir consisted of four songs: *Under the Sea*, *Peace Like a River*, *Green*, and *Octopuses Garden* (listed in order). Soloists singing for the song *Green* were Myla Lettieri, Abigail Fitzpatrick, Madelynn Tryon, and Alivia Mima. For *Peace Like a River*, the soloists were Sari'Yanah Knox (me), Olive Dolata, Vivian Dyshuk, and Darrenae Sheley-Coq. Then orchestra played 3 songs: *Sal-amander Samba*, *Open String March*, and *Baby Shark* (listed in order). There was one violin soloist, Blaise Negron. Lastly, band played three songs too! The songs were *Band First Concert*, *Rebound*, and *Shark Attack* (listed in order). They had no soloists, but there were 2 drummers, Kaegen Armstrong and Anneli Kochon. So many people worked so hard in the concert.

If you see any of the people mentioned, please congratulate them!



Poet's Den

Haiku Poem by Blaise Negron

The Birds Are Back

Birds are migrating

Geese, ducks and robins come back

The birds are squawking



COMIC RELIEF

By Spencer Shy

What did the pig say on
the beach?

(For the answer, look on page 3)

Taken from "Summer According to Humphry" by Betty G. Birney

Retirees !

Mrs. Gallagher

Written by Darrenae Sheley-Coq

I interviewed my kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Gallagher. She is retiring this year. She is the best teacher! She worked for 30 years. She worked 13 years at George Washington Elementary and the rest here at Graves. There are so many things she loves about teaching. She loves seeing children smile when a "lightbulb goes off" (they learn a new skill). Mrs. Gallagher always wanted to teach. She loves children and feels satisfied when teaching them to read. She has so many great memories. She loves the spring when they hatch eggs and study life cycles. She also enjoys watching all the students grow and graduate from Robert Graves. When she retires, she would like to travel and spend time with her family. She will miss seeing all of her students each day. She wants us to always remember that school is #1 and Robert Graves is the BEST!

Thank you, Mrs. Gallagher!



Mrs. Sellers

Written by Nora Rider & Gavin Struble

Mrs. Sellers is a second grade teacher at Robert Graves Elementary School. She is retiring this year. Mrs. Sellers has worked here for 10 years. She also worked at JFK Elementary and Anna Devine Elementary. She has worked for a total of 34 years. She likes working with kids and helping them to love learning. Mrs. Sellers said, "I have always wanted to be a teacher since I was a little girl." She has taught kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, but her favorite is 2nd grade.

Her first job was a sales clerk in Macys. She prefers the end of the year kickball game over the softball game that they used to play.

When Mrs. Sellers retires, she will travel and volunteer at Robert Graves. When she was asked what her favorite memory is, she said every memory is special. She was also asked if she has a message to everyone. Her message is to always work hard, believe in yourself and to never give up when something is hard. She will miss each and every one of her students!

Thank you for everything you have done for us Mrs. Sellers!



Retiree Tree

Written by Annalise Luhrs

Have you ever wondered how we got the retiree tree? The original "Retiree Tree" was planted in honor of our 2020 retirees, but it had died last year. Mrs. Armstrong talked to some of the other 2020 retirees and they decided that they still wanted the school to have a tree. She went shopping at Adams and got a tree called *Baby Blue Spruce*. The tree is about 2 years old. Mrs. Armstrong likes evergreens like the spruces. They're hearty trees. They can take just about anything from the environment and still thrive she said. They're a lot like teachers. Next time you look at the tree, think of all the amazing teachers we have had at Robert Graves Elementary.



The Principal's Corner



Dear Robert Graves Community:

This year has been an exceptional year with students and staff working hard and accomplishing so much. With hard work comes celebration, and we have had lots of fun. With our 4th grade going to a baseball game to our schoolwide BBQ, all our classes have a great deal to celebrate. I am so proud of the Robert Graves Community as we consistently pull together to make our school such a great place. I hope everyone has a great summer and you relax some and have some fun!

Dear Robert Graves,

Miss Spoth and I would like to thank all of the Robert Graves community for their support and encouragement for our first year as staff editors of the RGS Reviewer. Special thanks to the 4th grade teachers for their patience and cooperation. Thank you to Dr. Parese for his support. To Mrs. Yonnetti and Mrs. VanAken for all of their help. We also want to thank our 4th grade students for working hard to put this all together. Their excitement motivated us and made the challenges worthwhile. **You did an amazing job 4th grade!!**

Sincerely,
Miss Spoth and Ms. Petruski

Retirees Return to Read!

Written by Olive Dolata

The reading tutorial is a wonderful program. Ms. Coppey runs the program. She shared a little about it. When asked what the reading tutorial was about, she shared that, "The tutors come in and work one on one with the students to help them with reading." There are 16 volunteers. Most of the volunteers are retired teachers and teaching assistants. Some of the tutors are Ms. Brown, Mrs. Nageli, Mrs. Mendock, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Gualtieri, and Mr. and Mrs. Gill.. Did you have any of these teachers? She mostly sees students in kindergarten and first grade and some second grade. The program runs Monday through Thursday from 9:30 to 11:00. When asked if she will do this next year, her very excited answer was, "DEFINITELY!"
Thank you, Ms. Coppey and all of the volunteers!



Joke Answer: "I'm bacon!"

4th Grade Poll

By Myla Lettieri

My favorite memory of Robert Graves is...



Mrs. Dippel's Class

Annalise Luhrs: Being at Robert Graves field day.

Anneli Kochon: Going to the Maritime Museum.

Antonio DeRise: The first day of 4th grade seeing my new teacher.

Avelina Barberio: Once in 4th grade, I did a huge cough that sounded like a dog.

Emma Naccarato: Making new friends.

Gavin Kozack: My new teacher, because she was funny and I liked talking to Mrs. Dippel about baseball.

Gavin Struble: When Gavin K. tried to take Mrs. Dippel's baby Yoda.

Jocelyn Caballero: That I have very nice teachers.

Karah Richter: Being in the newspaper is cool.

Kole Wenzel: When we had field day in 3rd grade.

Miles Williams: My teachers and my friends.

Myla Lettieri: Being with my friends and my amazing teachers.

Natalie Jaret: Hanging out with my friends.

Norah Rider: In second grade when we did the animal project.

Owen Roosa: Being in Ms. Polacco, Ms. Dittus, and Mrs. Torelli's class last year and having Mrs. Hughes as my TA this year.

Peter Williams: Hanging out with my best friends.

Richard Walter: Gym because we get to play fun games.

Ruby Santiago: The first day of kindergarten and I was really shy, but I got so many friends.

Sari'Yanah Knox: The kindergarten bell ringing. After I rang the bell, I was walking to find my parents when they called out, "Over here!" I was embarrassed, so I played it off saying I was walking to my friends.

Sophia Heady: When my class went to the planetarium in third grade.

Theresa Rogers: Being in Mrs. Dippel's class. I loved gym and library. I loved my friends.

Mr. Hoffay's Class

Abigail Fitzpatrick: Meeting Ripley Campbell. She is my best friend.

Adrianna Knox: When I went to a college and looked at space stuff and facts.

AJ Lawther: Playing army at Fun Friday.

Ayllah Peck: When I made all my friends.

Emiliano Olivieri: Field Day.

Emma Simon: When I was in 3rd grade, I was watching the kickball game. The teachers won of course. I had popcorn. It's our turn.

Henry Antonio: When I got an ice cream for perfect attendance.

Hunter Jambor: Spending time with Mr. Hoffay and playing kickball with him.

Jane Copenhaver: Field day and meeting my teachers and friends.

Leo Santos: The last day of 3rd grade.

Lyla Soto: The time when Coach Piazza and Mr. Hoffay kicked the ball and Coach caught it in mid-air.

Marcas Sigal: Field Day.

Maysen Winchell: When we had ice cream sundaes in 3rd grade.

Michael Canu: Going to the Maritime Museum.

Olivia Mary Williams Polacco: Meeting Viv, making friends, and meeting Mr. Hoffay.

Orlando Pacheco: Spending time with Mrs. Norris.

Rachel Wells: Having an end-of-the-year kickball game in third grade with the other third grade classes.

Ripley Campbell: Meeting new friends. A new crush this year was not the best, but not the worst. I will always remember it and the new people it brought with it.

Trinity Plonski: When the kickball game happened last year.

Vivienne Dyshuk: Spending time with my friends and my teachers.

Willett Ellison: The last day of school of 3rd grade.

Mr. Kay's Class

Addisyn Elliott-Ware: When Leianah was filling her water bottle and spilled it on me.

Alyvia Mima: My friends, my old teachers, Mr. Kay, Mrs. Dippel, and Mr. Hoffay. I love my school and everybody in it.

Arianna Marie Rios-Simmons: Going to the Maritime Museum and the trolley was my most favorite ride.

August Eschler: When we went to the Maritime Museum because there were so many cool activities we did. I went on a trolley and a boat. We also went inside the Maritime Museum and learned about a replica of Henry Hudson's boat. We also learned about bricks.

Blaise Negron: My first catch in kickball.

Darrenae Sheley-Coq: Going to gym and being in the same class with my friends.

Dylan Haberski: In kindergarten when I met my best friend, Henry Antonio.

Gabriella Bono: The first day of school. It was always so scary but exciting to see my new teacher every year.

Heni Patel: The teacher that taught me math and more and my friends.

Henry Heissenbittel: The last day of school in second grade we had a water fight.

John Kuriplach Jr.: 4th grade because we learned, had fun, and made new friends.

Justin Lane: My first day in Robert Graves. It felt amazing to see other people every day. We did fun activities and played games.

Kaegan Armstrong: In Mrs. Sellers' class when we partied with popcorn and watched a movie and it was on a Friday, so it made it way better.

Layla Lane: Freedom Friday! I love Friday! Freedom! Oh, and the swings!

Leianah Burr: In Mrs. Provenzano's class, we did an art thing and she helped draw the thing. I had a rough time drawing and she comforted me.

Madelynn Tryon: In third grade, the teachers came up with an idea for the third grade teachers up against the third grade students.

Megan Grace Rearick: In 3rd grade during kickball. It was so windy. My classmate kicked it. It was spinning up in the air and then it fell down. It was pretty cool.

Olive Dolata: When I made my first friend at Robert Graves, Sari'Yanah.

Spencer Shy: When I was in 1st grade. In the morning, we could play with blocks and the work was easier.

Valencia Zeno: When I was in Mrs. Beesmer's class, she took us to a planetarium. It was super fun!

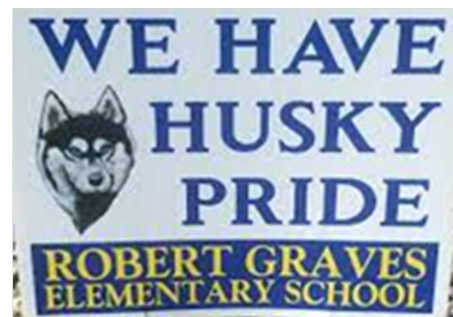
Mr. Warner's Class

Armani Snyder: Having free time, recess, and snack.

Ryan Mowris: The Nutty Science assembly and having free time.

Umar Richardson: When I acted out a story in Mrs. Dippel's class.

William Kieser: All of the recipes we did in the past on Fun Fridays.



Garden Time

Written by Avelina Barberio

Do you want to learn more about the school garden? Gardener Mara helps our students learn about plants and gardening. She always loved gardening with her family. She has a lot of knowledge about gardening.

She is trying **intercropping** this year.

Intercropping is planting two or more crops in the same place. Plants are grouped together to help all of them grow better. Indigenous people did this and it was called “The 3 Sisters”. Ms. Spoth gave the pumpkin plants from an experiment in the library to be planted and used as one of the “sisters”. They are growing well. Usually, pumpkin plants don’t like to be transplanted.



Over the summer, Gardener Mara will be at the garden and parents can come, too. Some of the plants growing in the garden are arugula, turnips, peas, spinach, radishes, kale, strawberries, herbs, purple potatoes, asparagus, and tomatoes. Some have already sprouted. Some pests seen in the garden are cabbage worms and rabbits. The rabbits ate the peas sadly. I hope the other plants grow!

Do you have a garden? What do you like to plant?



SUMMER BUCKET LIST

Written by

Addisyn Elliott-Ware & Layla Lane

Here are some fun things to try this summer. See how many you can do!

- Play outside
- Go on a shopping spree
- Play board games
- Play with your pet
- Read a new type of book
- Play with friends
- Take a bubble bath
- Visit the library
- Do math for fun
- Play with your toys
- Do the “Summer Reading Challenge”
- Do a summer craft
- Sit outside and watch the birds
- Write in a journal or diary
- Try new foods
- Take a nap
- Do a painting or drawing
- Go on a picnic
- See a movie
- Do a science experiment
- Go swimming

HAVE FUN !



Fun Food Fridays

Written by

Armani Snyder
Ryan Mowris
Umar Richardson
William Kieser

Every Friday in Mr. Warner's class in room 23, we made recipes. We made delicious recipes like cake in a cup, French onion dip, rainbow cup, pizza, and banana snowmen. Mr. Warner wanted us to try new foods, learn how to cook, and follow the directions. We liked cooking even if we didn't like some of the recipes. **Thank you, Mr. Warner!**



What is P.B.I.S.?

Written by Alyvia Mima

P.B.I.S. stands for **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports**. I interviewed Mrs. Barros, our School Psychologist to ask her about it.

When asked what it was, Mrs. Barros said, "P.B.I.S. is a system that promotes a positive and predictable learning environment where students feel safe and comfortable. At Robert Graves, we have been doing P.B.I.S. for many years, at least for the 15 years since Dr. Parese has been principal. Currently, there are three faculty members who run it and those people are Mrs. Barros, Mrs. Binney and Ms. Petruski."

She said, "There are many things we do each school year that involve P.B.I.S. At the beginning of this school year, we gathered at different stations such as the hallway, playground, cafeteria, and the bathroom, to go over the rules and expectations. There are also social emotional learning lessons delivered to classes by the school psychologist, the school social worker, and one of the Registered Behavior Technicians. We also do a "check-in check-out" program for some students called *Husky Connections*. Our husky paws are also a part of P.B.I.S. as are the monthly character traits and our 4th grade student ambassadors." I am one of them!

"We try to involve the community as well, so we did events this year including Cereal Box Dominoes, SPCA Pet Drive, and First Responders Day", added Mrs. Barros.



SPORTS FIELD

Soccer!

Written by Karah Richter

England is usually credited for inventing the modern version of the sport. It began in 1863. It is estimated that there are 250 million players in over 200 countries. It is considered the world's most popular sport. The U.S. men's team has never won a World Cup. The women's team has won four World Cup titles in 1991, 1999, 2015, and 2019.

I am excited to play soccer. I couldn't wait to play after watching "Alex & Co.". I never played soccer when I was little, but I'm going to try out for the team in middle school. I'm practicing at home and trying not to kick the ball in the road.



Lacrosse

Written by Henry Antonio

Lacrosse is a very fun sport. I'm a lacrosse player in Kingston along with two other 4th grade students here at Graves, Kaegan Armstrong and Dylan Haberski. We are the Kingston Tigers! During one of our last tournaments, we won two games and lost one. The final scores of the games we won were 6-5 and 5-2. What I like best about this sport is that you can play how we want (ex. we can go all over the field), and we can also make friends at the same time. I have played lacrosse for three years, and in my opinion, it's the best sport to play. I interviewed my coach, Pat Garraghan and asked him a few questions about how he became a coach. He played lacrosse in high school and quickly fell in love with the sport. He played two main positions, defense and long stick. He has been coaching since 2001 and he said the best part is watching

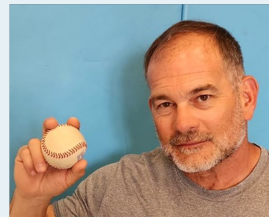


his team improve everyday. He likes to tell each new lacrosse player to have patience, listen to their coach, and have fun with it.

Baseball From Little to Major League

Written by Gavin Kozack

Poughkeepsie Lightning was a great team this year. We went 7-0 against 5 teams this year. I was the star catcher! On May 5, 2023, there was one out at the bottom of the 7th inning and a runner on first. I threw it to the shortstop and he got the runner out. Then on May 12, 2023, the game was tied at 11-11 and bases were loaded at the bottom of the 5th inning. In a 0-2 count, I hit a double to walk it off (win the game). We played one game in the post-season and we lost 8-7.



This year in Major League Baseball (MLB), there is new baseball technology, some of the best new players, and players are stealing more bases than ever before! A lot of players became free agents

and players are getting better. The Rays and the Twins are two teams having big winning streaks this season. In MLB, there are 30 teams with 40 players each.

I hope to be one of those players someday. Do you wish to be in the Major Leagues?

Staff vs. 4th Grade Volleyball Challenge

Written by Emma Naccarato & Madelyn Tryon

Every year, Coach Morris has a volleyball game for the 4th graders versus staff. Coach Morris has been organizing the game for about 10 years. That's a long time! The staff has won every year. The students have never won. Coach Morris' favorite memory was seeing the kids get so happy to play every year. He wants the students to win this year. We are competing for ice cream sandwiches.

UPDATE: On May 26th, the staff won, but the 4th graders will make a comeback someday!

FISHING SAFETY

Written by Richard Walter

One of my favorite things is to go fishing! I don't get to go as much as I like. My brothers taught me some great fishing tips that I'd like to share with you.

- ◆ Never go fishing alone.
- ◆ Wear a life jacket at all times.
- ◆ When you are around water be careful of quicksand. If you are stuck, try to bend backwards and float. Call for help.
- ◆ Wear gloves.
- ◆ When fishing, be careful of catfish. They can pull hard and take your string and hook. The skin and spines contain a toxin that can sting you.
- ◆ If fishing from a boat, stay away from the edge so you don't get pulled in.
- ◆ Treat fish with respect! If you are going to throw them back in the water, be gentle with them.
- ◆ Wear a hat and sunglasses. Avoid fishing in the middle of the day, if possible, to avoid the strongest sun. Wear sunscreen at all times.
- ◆ Avoid deep water.
- ◆ Use barbless hooks. The barb on the hook can be dangerous.
- ◆ Don't go fishing while standing in the water. The hook could come back and stick you in the leg.

Have fun and be safe!



Kickball Game

Written by

Dylan Haberski & John Kuriplach Jr.

On June 21st, the 4th graders and staff will compete in the 5th annual kickball game. Coach Morris was asked some questions about the competition.



Q: Have the teachers vs. students game always been kickball?

A: No, back when I first started at Robert Graves Elementary, we used to play softball.

Q: Why did you decide back in the day to switch from softball to kickball?

A: We switched over to kickball because more of the students knew how to play.

Q: Do you think you will ever switch the game to another sport?

A: No, I think both the teachers and 4th grade students like kickball the best.

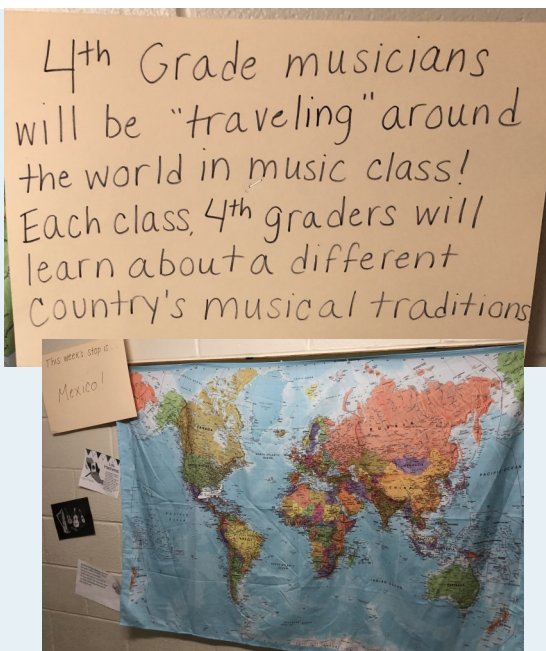
Q: How many times in the past have the teachers won against the students in kickball?

A: The teachers are undefeated for the last 10 years (softball & kickball).

Q: Who do you think is going to win this year's kickball game?

A: I think the teachers are going to win, but I always cheer for the students (the underdogs)!

Husky Highlights



Star Lab

Written by AJ Lawther

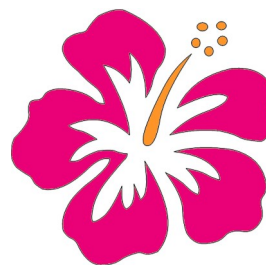
Our school had a mini planetarium called Star Lab. It was 6.5 feet tall. The organizing teachers were Mr. Hoffay, Mr. Kay, and Mr. Circe. The Star Lab took up 1/3 of the cafeteria for about two weeks. It was so cool! Inside it looked like a dark cave until the projector came on. It started by talking about the solar system and the constellations at night. Mr. Hoffay said that planets could be seen on different nights. Then Mr. Circe showed us some landscapes and talked about climate change making things happen to the Earth. Finally, the students got up and Mr. Kay and Mr. Hoffay held the door and we left. I hope everyone got to see it, because it was amazing!



4th Grade Luau

Written by Abigail Fitzpatrick

My experience at the fourth-grade luau felt like a tropical paradise. Let me tell you about it. First, when I got there people had to sign in so they would know the perfect number for when they ordered the pizza. When I walked into the luau, there were beautiful Hawaiian decorations all over the place and people were wearing floral dresses and shirts. Everyone got a lei to wear. About an hour later, the cheese pizza arrived and it was really good. There was also fruit salad to eat and fruit punch that looked like tropical drinks. The music was fun to dance to and very loud. It was so loud, I had to scream to talk to my friends! We all had fun dancing the limbo and the cha-cha and the shuffle. I recommend all third graders go to the dance next year. My experience there was exotic and fun!



Field Day

Written by Henry Heissenbittel

On June 13th, Robert Graves will have their annual field day. There will be 6 stations: volleyball, whiffleball, "capture the flag" for older kids, tag games for the younger students, and an obstacle course. We are also having blacktop activities and partner sports. Prizes will be handed out to whoever hits the whiffleball the farthest and prizes for the blacktop games. If it rains on June 13th, field day will be on June 15th. Coach Piazza and parent volunteers are helping Coach Morris. Coach Morris has been doing field day for 10 years. All of the elementary schools have field day. Coach Morris has come up with good activities this year. I think field day is going to be awesome!

End of the Year Wordsearch

Words By A.J. DeRise



Find the word in the puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

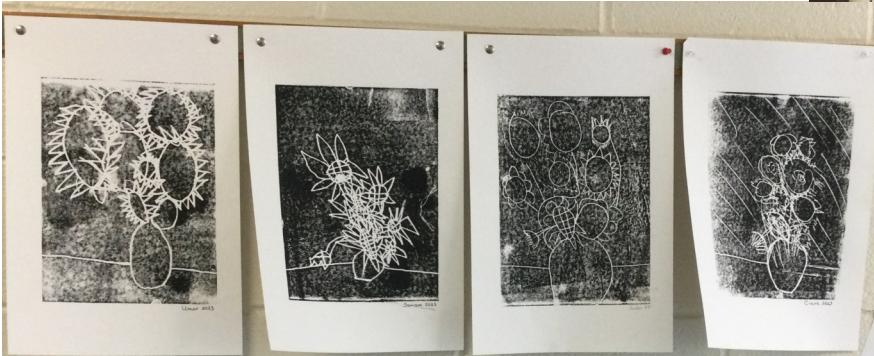
G	C	Z	C	B	L	S	G	E	B	Q	Y	X	K	G	C	F	J	S	O
G	N	C	G	S	H	H	B	D	Y	N	N	D	N	R	A	A	A	V	M
T	I	I	S	U	N	G	L	A	S	S	E	S	I	Q	M	M	L	Y	I
Z	A	G	M	M	R	A	W	N	C	M	B	U	R	E	P	I	E	Y	D
O	D	O	I	M	L	H	H	O	G	Q	J	C	D	S	I	L	O	S	D
N	J	H	L	Y	I	C	E	M	S	W	O	P	L	P	N	Y	I	N	L
S	U	O	R	F	A	W	E	E	B	O	Z	L	O	F	G	E	C	E	E
A	U	F	T	E	N	T	S	L	L	E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

beach
camping
family
free
games
Ice pops
Middle school
picnic
School break
sun

beachball
Cool down
Fifth grade
friends
hot
kite
Moving up
pool
shell

boat
Cool drink
float
fun
Ice cream
lemonade
ocean
sandcastle
summer

watermelon
sunscreen
tent
swimming
vacation
swimsuit
warm
sunglasses
sunburn



Summer Art Gallery

