



THE EDISON REPORTER

DECEMBER 2022

Happy Holidays from The Edison Reporter!

The Winter Solstice

By Abigael Gilles

The Winter Solstice happens twice every year, once in each hemisphere! The Winter Solstice happens every year on December 21 or 22 in the Northern Hemisphere & on June 20 or 21 in the Southern Hemisphere. The Winter Solstice is also called the longest night & shortest day of the year. The Winter Solstice is when the axis of the Earth stops & rotates in the opposite direction. During the Winter Solstice people usually go to festivals, make edible trees for animals, make winter solstice lanterns & many more! The Winter Solstice marks the first day of winter (On the Northern Hemisphere) & on the Southern Hemisphere it's the first day of summer. Some religions that celebrate the solstice are Pagans, and Buddhists. It is celebrated all around the world. There are many cool things about the Winter Solstice. How will you celebrate?

Astrology

By Anya Hughes



Welcome back to the second edition of the Edison Reporter and the Extraterrestrial Astrologist! To anyone interested in astrology and horoscopes, Today we will be covering the two horoscope signs: Sagittarius and Capricorn! Sagittarius and Capricorn are two different types of constellations. A constellation is a particular sequence, pattern, or stars that come together to form an image. There are thousands and thousands of constellations in the night sky, but these are just two of the most recognizable constellations. Sagittarius consists of thirty-two stars in the night sky. The brightest star in the Sagittarius constellation is called Kaus Australis. The star lies approximately one hundred-forty-four light-years away. The Sagittarius constellation portrays a centaur, a half-horse, the half-human animal, which aims a bow. This sign represents the Greek God Zeus, the God of the sky and thunder. He is also known as the King of the Gods. The Capricorn constellation consists of five stars; the brightest one is named Deneb Algedi, which is thirty-nine light years away! The Capricorn constellation is a half goat, half fish, representing the Greek God, Pan. To escape the monster, Typhon, Pan dived into a river to attempt to turn into a fish, but only half of him did. These are a few cool facts to know about your horoscope signs, have a Happy Birthday!

THE EDISON REPORTER

We Are All Created Equal... Is That The Truth?

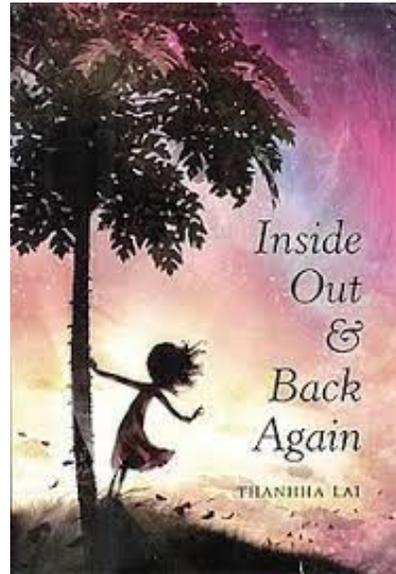
By Malia Fitts Key

We always hear people tell us that we are all created equal, but that doesn't mean we all have to be the same. In 2022, we have made huge steps. Now is when we take our stance and have a voice that reaches out to others in the dark. Whether it's pronouns, race, sexuality, or even just different opinions and beliefs, we are all unique. Why be the same as everyone else when we can be DIFFERENT! "Be normal?" We don't have to let that rule us. We shouldn't hide who we are. Express yourself, dress up, speak out, present yourself in different ways. Tell people about yourself! NEVER stop being you!



Edison Knights Book Club

By Isabela SalinasCavagnaro



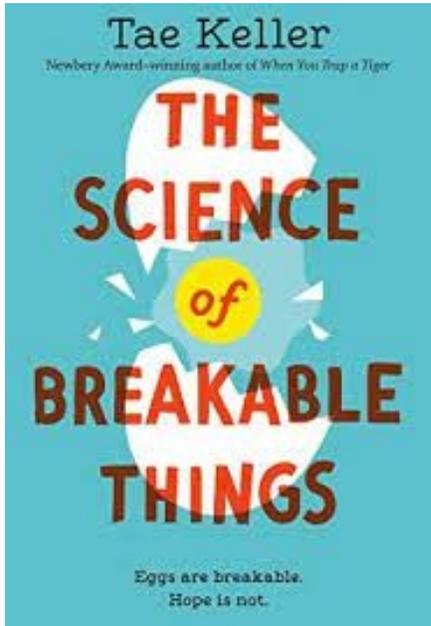
"Inside Out and Back Again" By Thanhha Lai

The story is about a young girl named Ha who has lived in Saigon for as long as she could remember. She knew the joy in its traditions, the thrill of its markets, and the warmth of all her friends close by. But suddenly, the Vietnam War reached her home. Ha's family is forced to leave the only place she ever knew and board a ship toward their only hope. Once in America, Ha discovers many things in her new home of Alabama, the bitterness of strangers, bland food, and the strength of her own family.

This book is recommended for middle schoolers ages 11 and up. It's written in a free verse form and is a quick read. The book is beautifully written and emotional. In this book, the author Thanhha Lai expresses what it's like to be an immigrant, trying to fit in, in a new country. It has won the National Book award and the Newberry Medal.

THE EDISON REPORTER

Book Club Continued...



“The Science of Breakable Things” by Tae Keller

This story is about a 7th grader, Natalie. She attempts to “grow a miracle” and win the egg drop contest to buy her an extremely rare Cobalt Blue Orchid. Her mother has been suffering from depression and it's affecting Natalie greatly. So when she hears about the prize money given to the winner of the egg-drop contest she jumps at the chance to cheer her mother up, with her favorite flower. But in the end, will Natalie win the contest and save her mother from her grief?

This book is recommended for kids around the ages of 8-12. It is a good read for students who love science, miracles, and the power of hope. Tae Keller, the author, has written an amazing story about friendship and family. She has also won many awards for her other book, “When You Trap A Tiger”.

Have a book that you think other students would want to read? Write a book review for our next edition of The Edison Reporter!

THE EDISON REPORTER

What's Happening at Edison Middle School?

What is Badminton?

By Lee Jarvis

You may be playing Badminton in your gym class and wonder what even is this sport? Badminton is a game played with rackets in which a shuttlecock is played back and forth across a net! A shuttlecock is a cork with feathers attached to them to form a cone shape that is struck by rackets! The game Badminton starts with a toss where opposing sides will choose heads or tails! Whoever wins has an option to pick the side of the court, or have an option to serve or receive first! When you serve, it's an underarm swing, you pull your racket in an upwards direction to the shuttlecock! To be a correct serve you drop the shuttlecock and time it perfectly (just enough to hit). The goal of the game is to hit a shuttlecock across the net to land on your opponent's side without them having to return it using their own racket! You can only score on a serve and usually professional players play for 3 rounds of 21 points. If tied at 20 you play until a team takes a two point lead! Last thing you need to know is, HAVE FUN!!



THE EDISON REPORTER



Shrek Jr.- Edison's Spring Musical!

By Katherine Shiflett

Shrek the Musical Jr. It's funny, inspiring, and it's Edison Middle School's 2022-2023 school play! Part romance and part twisted fairy tale, Shrek the Musical Jr. is a hilarious, inspirational musical about accepting who you are and "Letting your Freak Flag fly." Shrek the Musical Jr. is slightly different from Shrek the Musical because it was edited for Middle School students. The plot is the same, but the run time of the show (how long it lasts) is cut down to 1 hour, and there are some minor cuts and changes to the songs and the script. Shrek the Musical Jr. is also different from the DreamWorks movie, Shrek. Of course, Shrek the Musical is, well, a musical. Songs such as Freak Flag, Story of My Life, and I Know It's Today help spice up the story and characters with singing and dancing.

The story is about an Ogre named Shrek, who lives in a swamp near the kingdom of Duloc. One day, he finds his swamp invaded by misfit fairytale creatures, such as the Gingerbread Man, the 3 Little Pigs, Puss in Boots, and more. He finds out that they have been banished by Lord Farquaad, a very short man with big ambitions. Shrek is angry that the fairytale creatures settled in his swamp, so, accompanied with a talking donkey, he sets off to find Lord Farquaad to have the fairytale creatures removed. Once they get to Duloc, Lord Farquaad makes a deal: If Shrek rescues the feisty princess Fiona, he will have his swamp back. Shrek makes it to the castle, evades the dragon guarding it (with the help of Donkey), and finds Fiona. Shrek tries to win Fiona's love and defeat Lord Farquaad, but a fairytale wouldn't be complete without a few twists and turns along the way.

THE EDISON REPORTER

Shrek Jr. Continued...

If you haven't seen Shrek or you are performing it in May, I highly recommend that you watch (or re-watch) the movie version of Shrek. If you are performing in Shrek, make sure to pick up your script at room 103-A and listen to some of the songs. We are all super excited to help put on Shrek, whether by making sets, managing the stage, or acting in the show!

Additional information: The shows will be held on Friday, May 5, at 8:30pm, as well as Saturday, May 6 at 2:00pm. Rehearsal and stage manager information will be released shortly, so make sure to look out for any messages in the Drama Club classroom or your school email.

Edison Knight Tips: How to Keep Your Locker Organized

By Kayla Dedy and Ashley Montiel

During this school year you might find yourself very unorganized. Here are some steps to keep your locker organized.

Small Lockers:

1. Inside a small locker there are a total of 4 hooks. Make sure to use them! For the back hooks, put your backpack there, left or right, any is fine. Putting your backpack there will leave space for books.
2. Stick a magnetic dry-erase board in your locker for any reminders or for important dates

3. You have 2 (maybe 3) options for your books. You can stack your books like a tower (big to small), lean it on the wall of the locker, or leave books in backpack (not recommended)

Tall Lockers:

1. Inside a tall locker there are 2 hooks to use. When lining up your books put them in a order you will remember which book is which so you can quickly get your books and not be late for class.
2. Always hang your jackets on a hook!! Don't throw it in.

I hope these tips help you and your locker during the school year. Remember, good better best, never let it rest, until your good is better, and your



THE EDISON REPORTER

Interview With Our Very Own, Mr. Azzato

By Skarla Ghislain

Mr. Azzato is a PE teacher on the Red Team, but did you know he also participates in Tough Mudders? We asked Mr. Azzato about his experience.

What is a Tough Mudder?

The Tough Mudder is an obstacle course of 15k (or 9.3 miles) with 30 different obstacles through the course.

What made you want to do Tough Mudders, and when did you do it?

This was my first Tough Mudder completed. I have always wanted to try it, and decided to give it a go earlier this school year. I completed the Mudder September 10th in the Poconos, PA.

What type of activities do Tough Mudders do?

There are many obstacles along the 9+ mile course. Many obstacles are in/over water or mud.

What is the maximum and Minimum age to do Tough Mudders?

There are different events you can choose from. They actually have a kids mudder that is for age ranges from 5-12 years of age. After that they have 5k, 10k, and 15k (classic mudder).

Beyond that they have the Infinity Challenge and Toughest Mudder which are even more challenging.

Did you have teammates to work together with or was it solo?

I completed this mudder with my brother and nephew. Many of the obstacles require teamwork, therefore, if you are not running with someone there are always people willing to give a helping hand along the course.

Is there a specific type of clothing you must wear at the Mud Races?

The clothing that you should wear is anything that you are willing to throw out afterwards....lol (but it is true!) You do not want to wear anything too heavy since you are in and out of mud and water....and then running again.

Can you give us some tips on how to prepare for a Tough Mudder Race?

First, you have to prepare yourself to be able to have the cardiovascular endurance to run 9+ miles. Therefore, cardio training is a must to prepare. Many of the obstacles require upper body strength/endurance and core strength/endurance. Therefore, training in these areas are also a must to be successful along the course.

THE EDISON REPORTER

Interview Continued...

Did you enjoy being a Tough Mudder?

I did enjoy running the Tough Mudder. Although I was sore for a week or so after, I felt a great accomplishment that I completed it. I am looking forward to running another one next year.

Way To Go, Mr.
Azzato! Edison
Knights are
proud!



THE EDISON REPORTER



What Happened This World Cup?

By Lucas Brown

Argentina won the World Cup for the first time since 1986 -- 36 years ago! But it wasn't much of a surprise with the squad they had, led by Lionel Messi, who many consider the GOAT (greatest of all time).

It wasn't easy making the final though because they almost went down in the group stages after an embarrassing loss to Saudi Arabia. They also had to go to penalties in the quarter finals against Netherlands.

Then in the final they had to face the last World Cup champions, France. The game was considered to be the best World Cup final of all time. In the 79th minute Argentina were 2-0 up but in the next minute and a half France scored 2 goals to equalize. Then in extra time Messi scored a goal to make it 3-2. With just 5 minutes left to play Mbappe scored AGAIN! But luckily Argentina won on penalties.

That wasn't all Messi won this World Cup. He also won the Golden Ball, the trophy for the best player of the tournament. Kylian Mbappe, who was France's best player this year, won the Golden Boot, the trophy for the player who scored the most goals. (He scored 8). At 23, Mbappe also became the youngest player to ever score 3 goals in a World Cup final. Enzo Fernandez from Argentina won the FIFA Young Player Award which is for the best player under 21. That's not all for Argentina because their goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez won the Golden Glove, the award for the best goalkeeper.

There were a lot of important things at this World Cup. The one outside of players' performances was that Stephanie Frappart was the first female ref at a men's World Cup. Morocco came 4th, the best ever result for an African nation, even knocking out Portugal with Cristiano Ronaldo who were massive favorites.

Whatever records were broken, the most memorable moment was Messi winning his first World Cup. He was always a top mention in the greatest of all time debate but now that he has won the World Cup trophy and has lifted most of all the other competitions he has competed in he just has to be considered the GOAT.

THE EDISON REPORTER

How to Test the Best? Volume 2

By Moss Valcourt

Tests. They're everywhere. Standardized, essay, multiple choice. No matter what subject or format they are, they are still at least somewhat stressful. After winter break, a new wave of tests will come for quarter three. Here are some more tips to help you test the best!

#1.) Studying: As stated in the first volume, studying can be a lifesaver! Studying isn't all about buckling down and consuming knowledge in one way. It could be fun too! Here are some ways to spice up your studying!

- **Blooket:** Blookets, Kahoots, Quizlets, and other platforms are fantastic platforms for studying! Depending on the subject, there might be a premade game. You can make one if you're not satisfied with the questions on a premade one. One of the best parts? You can play with friends! The host can see what questions were difficult, and you can practice indefinitely!
- **Study with friends:** In person, Zoom, Google Meets, whatever! If you and your friends have the same teacher and want to study together, go ahead! This'll benefit both of you in the long run and you'll learn the same material.
- **Take Breaks:** If you have to study something, study for 25-35 increments then move on to the next thing. Take 10 to 15-minute breaks to replenish energy, then keep going! Studies show that 1-4 hours are good for short time blocks, but if you need to study for a longer time, spilt the blocks up

#2.) Keep track of your assignments: If you have previous lessons from the same topic, it would be best to study with those. Assort the assignments that you need to study with first. Then copy the strategy as best you can. Keep practicing them until you get them right. I would suggest Khan Academy if you need an explanation for the strategy. If needed, make flashcards then write or audibly answer the questions until all the cards are correct. On to the final tip!

#3.) Homework: Yes, I know homework is the blight of every student's existence. But homework exists to make sure you understand what the lesson is about. If you can, get another copy of the previous homework assigned for that topic. Check the answers you got correct and incorrect. Study how you got the mistakes. Then, use the correct strategy. If you get it wrong, that's ok (mistakes are a part of learning)! Go back in your steps to find what you got incorrect, then redo them until you get them correct and understand your mistake.

That's all for now! Thanks for taking the time to read this portion of the Edison Reporter. Stay cool! :]



THE EDISON REPORTER

Winter Break Activities

By Tessa Brinkerhoff

I know that some of the Edison students, like me, probably don't have much to do over the "winter break". Well, don't fret. I'm going to give you some fun things to try during the break. The first thing you can do is bake or cook something for your family as a surprise. Or you could cook/bake something that has to do with your religion, culture, or a holiday you celebrate. The second thing you could do is go to a food drive to help people in need. It's good to help people, especially in the winter when it's cold. Another thing you can do is decorate your room with holiday decorations. If you're someone like me, who loves decorating, and getting into the holiday spirit, there's nothing more fun than getting your decor on. Another fun thing to do is make a holiday music album. You can try out different types of music for different holidays and send the album to some of your friends so you can share some of the fun and joy. Or, you could do one of my personal favorites, curl up in a warm blanket on the couch, and watch a winter movie. Or you can watch a Christmas, Hanukkah, or Kwanzaa movie, or any other movie that relates to your religion or beliefs. Or simply some good old binge-worthy tv series. Anyway, I hope this was helpful in finding fun things to do over "winter break". And hope all of you have fun!



THE EDISON REPORTER

Accidental Life Changing Inventions

By Lily Rubinson

There are tons of life changing inventions people use daily or at least often. When they think about these inventions most likely they aren't going to think it was accidental. Potato chips, post-it notes, and matches are common household inventions that would be on a list of important inventions. While they would be on that list, they'd also be on the list of accidental inventions.

How potato chips were invented, were by legend, is one day a customer complained that their french fries were too thick and soft so he sent the order back. The waiter for this customer was named George Speck but later professionally adopted the last name Crum. Crum decided to thinly slice the fries and fry them until golden brown. The customer loved it. If it wasn't for that customer complaining about their order we would never have the delicious snack that is potato chips.

Post-it notes were invented by someone named Spencer Silver and Art Fry. Silver, who was a scientist at 3M's headquarters. In 1968, he decided to try working on a strong adhesive, instead of a strong adhesive he discovered a light and easily removable material. Silver felt like he invented this unique and useful invention, but he couldn't figure out what to do with it. For five years he tried deciding what to do with this invention. At the same time, Fry was frustrated because his scrap paper bookmarks fell out of hymnal. As he was thinking of ways to make the bookmarks, Silver's adhesive came to mind as a way to make the pieces of paper slightly sticky but not permanent. Fry noticed that they'd work better as notes, which caused the product to be solidified. After some mixed success in market tests in several cities, 3M almost decided to stop selling post-it notes completely. For the final effort, marketers decided to give free samples to customers in Boise, Idaho, About 90% of the people who tried it said they'd actually buy the product. Post-it notes ended up debuting in 1980 and have been a success ever since.

Matches which are a common household object, were invented in 1826, by a guy named John Walker who was a chemist. Walker accidentally discovered that a stick coated in chemicals will burst into flames when scraped across his hearth at his house. Until the first half of the 1800's the process of creating the fire was slow and laborious. He sold the first match under the name "Friction Light" in April 1827. He started off using cardboard but then used wooden splints that were cut by hand. He was advised to get a patent but never did, so Samuel Jones copied his idea but under a different name. There have been several other people who have modified matches throughout the years.

All in all, some accidents can make great things happen, if these mistakes never happened we wouldn't have the life changing inventions that followed.

Special Thanks to Our Writers: Abigael Gilles, Anya Hughes, Malia Fitts Key, Isabela SalinasCavagnaro, Lee Jarvis, Katherine Shiflett, Kayla Dedy, Ashley Montiel, Skarla Ghislain, Lucas Brown, Moss Valcourt, and Lily Rubinson, Tessa Brinkerhoff