

December 2010

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LA's Best Times



Our Head Honcho, Mr. Camacho

By Brianna and Evelin

Have you ever had a chance to sit down with our principal, Mr. Antonio Camacho? We wanted to find out more about Mr. Camacho to see what it's like to be principal of 135th Street Elementary.

LA's Best Times: Do you enjoy your life as a principal?

Mr. Camacho: It has been a really exciting job to have. Helping the school commu-

nity do the best we can.

LA's Best Times: Why did you become a principal?

Mr. Camacho: I really believe that I always had the ability to guide people to do the best job they could do.

LA's Best Times: What is your least favorite part of your job?

Mr. Camacho: When I have to discipline students or call

Continued on page 11



Principal Antonio Camacho

Which Should We Solve First? Water or Air Pollution?

By Raymond

LA's Best Times spoke to 40 students and asked them if they thought it was more important to resolve the problems with air pollution or water pollution.

It was a pretty close race. There were 18 students who thought that we should try to

solve air pollution problems first, and 22 who thought that we should solve water pollution problems first.

I voted for air pollution, since we need air constantly, but we could go a day or two without water. One of the ways we could help solve the

air pollution problem would be to make factories cleaner and to continue to make cars more energy efficient.

Both problems are serious, so it's hard to pick one over the other, so let's all do our best to keep our air and water clean! ❖

2010-11 News Staff



Abraham



Adrian



Ana



Aural



Brandon



Brianna



Damani



Darwin



Diana



Euginah



Evelin



Glenda



Hector



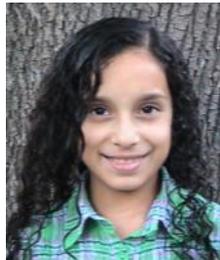
Janet



Jose



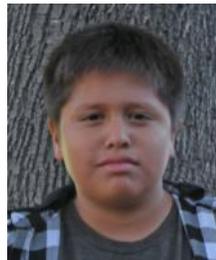
Katrina



Lizbeth



Maria



Mario



Michael



Nyah



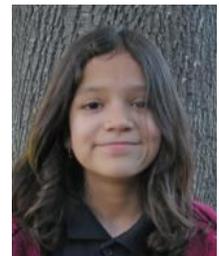
Oscar



Patricia



Raymond



Valeria

Letter from London

Helena, our guest editor from London, tells us about what school is like in England

My name is Helena, and I live in London. I go to school at Godolphin & Latymer, where I've just started at age 11.

I am writing to tell you about school in England because, apparently, it's very different from American schools. We don't use the terms junior high or high school, nor do we have your grade system; I am in Year 7 which my school calls the Upper Third.

History before America

Today we had History. I'm afraid to tell you there is not a lot about America in here, unless you count the two-year-

old newspaper cutting about Barack Obama in the A-level Politics room next door, and this is proved by the fact that in this lesson we studied the Battle of Hastings that took place in 1066. I have no idea whether you would have heard of this, but from what I gather, about a thousand years ago two powerful men had a big fight because they both wanted to be king of England, and eventually the one who wasn't English killed the one who was, either with an arrow in the eye or a sword in who-knows-where, and became king.

Fashionable Grey

In between lessons when you're walking the corridors,



you see a lot of girls (because this is a single-sex school) in uniform because that's just what the Headmistress thinks we should be wearing. The uniform here is a grey jumper and a grey skirt. Not exactly a fashion statement, but I don't really care.

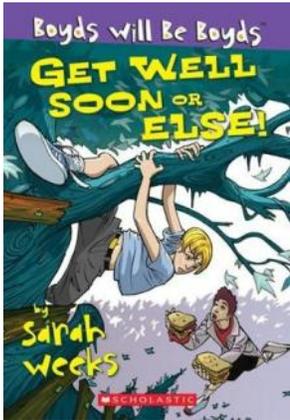
Latin Lessons

Next we had Latin. Latin is a fun subject. You learn a lot about the Romans as well, and even though it's a bit confusing sometimes (the word for 'barber' sounds like the word 'tonsils'). I think it's an easy language to learn.

'Valete,' or 'goodbye,' as the Romans said. ❖



Godolphin & Latymer



Get Well Soon or Else is a Fun Book to Read

By Glenda

The book called *Get Well Soon or Else* is a book you might enjoy. It was written by Sarah Weeks, who was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan. I really liked the story because it sounds like it could really have happened.

The book is about two best friends. One's name is Nat Boyd and the other's is Boyd Fink. The book is the second book in the *Boys will be Boys* series.

They are always together. In the book, Nat and Fink are really excited about going to

science camp, which is Nat's favorite subject in school. They are going to share bunks and going to climb a really high mountain. They couldn't wait to go, but then Fink gets sick and Nat didn't want to go without Fink.

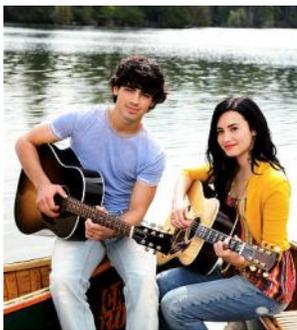
My favorite character is Jessie, who is Nat Boyd's arch-enemy. She is my favorite character because she tough and girly at the same time.

My favorite part of the book is when Jessie is nice to Nat and Fink in the middle of the story. Fink gets mad at

Nat, because he was friends with mad dog. Then the mad dog became Nat's bunk buddy.

I think that *Get Well Soon or Else* is a very good book. I like the way they describe the camp. I hate when Fink gets sick, because he turns green and it looks nasty and sounds nasty. But he gets better, and he and Nat promise each other that they will be friends forever no matter what.

I think both girl and boys, and their parents too, will love this book. I think this is one of the best books I have ever read. ❖



Camp Rock 2

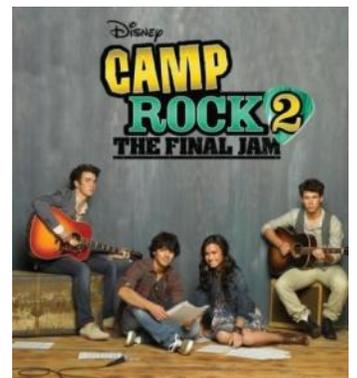
By Maria

Camp Rock 2 is the sequel to the popular Disney movie, *Camp Rock*. *Camp Rock 2* stars Demi Lovato, Joe Jonas, Nick Jonas, Kevin Jonas, Daniel Falters, Maria Canals-Barrera, Chloe Bridges, Matthew Finley, Meaghan Martin, and Alyson Stoner.

The main character is Mitchie, played by Demi Lovato. The story is about a neighboring camp,

Camp Star, that is competing with Camp Rock. Mitchie, Shane Grey (Joe Jonas) and the rest of Camp Rock challenge Camp Star to a competition.

I like the songs in *Camp Rock 2*, because the songs are fun. Some of them are Hip Hop and some are Rock. It also has cool singers that sing really well. Both boys and girls will like the movie (now on DVD) and the album. ❖



Coraline

By Lizbeth and Nyah

Coraline is a movie about a girl whom no one understands. Then she stumbles upon a little door behind a shelf in her living room.

At night, Coraline can open it with a key that she found hidden in the darkness of her house. She travels to a world like her own, except everyone has buttons for eyes. She loves everyone there, and it is all wonderful, until she finds out that it's all a trap!

This movie is directed by Tim Burton. This is a PG movie. It has parts that make some people jump. I thought it ended three times, but it really didn't.

The person who played as Coraline was Dakota Fanning.



She was born in 1994 on February 23rd in Conyers, Georgia. She currently is going to a public high school.

Dakota Fanning has also appeared in such movies as: *Man on Fire*, *War of the Worlds*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Hounddog*, *The Secret Life of Bees*, *The Twilight Saga*, and *The Runaways*.

I thought this movie was really a good film with a good lesson—if you have a good family, don't ditch them for cloth monsters. ❖



Shrek

By Aural

Watch out!!! A big, green ogre is coming to save a princess in a tower because of her curse. The movie *Shrek* was in theaters and is now on DVD; and I highly recommended it as a family movie.

The stars of the movie are funny. The voice of Shrek is Mike Myers, and Eddie Murphy is the voice of Donkey, and Cameron Diaz is Fiona.

The film *Shrek* is about the ogre named Shrek who lives in

a swamp. One day, a tiny, evil man named Lord Farquaad sends the fairytale creatures into his swamp. Shrek goes to Farquaad and makes a deal with him to bring Princess Fiona back to Farquaad so that he can keep the swamp to himself. On the way Shrek meets a donkey named Donkey who needed a friend. They go on a quest to bring Princess Fiona back, but she doesn't want Shrek to save her. Shrek takes her to Lord Farquaad, who wants to marry Fiona. You

have to watch the movie to find out what happens next!

In my opinion I think the movie is funny because of the fairytale creatures from the Mother Goose rhymes.

I highly recommend *Shrek* to people who like fairytales. The characters also make the movie *Shrek* funny. Families would laugh until they can't laugh anymore. I give the movie two thumbs way up!! ❖





AC/DC are Back in Black

By Brandon

My favorite band is AC/DC. It is an Australian band that plays rock and roll and has done so, since it was formed in 1973.

Their original lead singer and co-songwriter was Bon Scott, who died in 1980. Brian Johnson then took his place as lead singer, and afterwards, they released their best-selling album, *Back in Black*, which is my favorite album.

Besides Brian Johnson, the other members of the band are Malcolm Young, Phil Rudd, Angus Young, and Cliff Williams.

AC/DC is that they have good songs. I think kids who like fast music will like AC/DC. My favorite album is *Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap*. The band plays loud music, and sometimes they dance on stage when they perform.

Both boys and girls will like AC/DC's music. They play really good music and songs.

AC/DC has won a Grammy award and two ARIA music awards, and they are in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. They are the fifth best-selling band in US history and the ninth best-selling artist. ❖



Miley Cyrus—Not Just the Actress But the Person Too

By Diana

Miley Cyrus' song *RockStar*, is a song that I'd recommend. Miley Cyrus is a very talented singer that we all know from the Disney Channel TV show, *Hannah Montana*. She was born on November 23, 1992, in Nashville, Tennessee, and since she came into the public eye on *Hannah Montana*, she has been very popular.

I think she is a very talented singer. The instruments

that she plays include the guitar and piano. Those instruments are great to make magnificent songs and tones that get trapped in your head.

The song *RockStar* would be put in a variety of music categories: teen age music, country pop, dance pop, and pop rock. It is a great classic song to hear many times.

Miley Cyrus starred in movies such as *Hannah Montana*

the Movie, *The Last Song*, and *Bolt*. She has also published many music albums and performed many concerts.

Miley Cyrus is the best singer that I have ever listened to in my life. I also think that she is a good role model for girls around my age, because she works hard and tries to be positive and nice to everyone. Some people may underestimate her talent and skills, but I think Miley Cyrus is a great singer and actress. ❖

Game Consoles

By Mario

Video games and game systems have been around since 1967. They've been an escape from hard work and chores not just for kids, but for some adults too. Some people are like me who can't live without video games and game systems.



The first controller was *The Knob* and then came the *Paddle*. Then game the *Joy Stick* or *Joypad*, which was a big handle with 4 or 3 buttons. Now the game manufacturers have gone beyond controllers, and all you

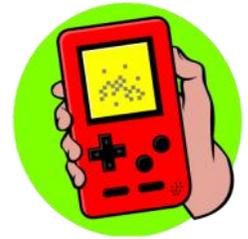


need to do is move your body. This is the newest technology, It's kind of like evolution.

Video games went from Tennis

for two to Rock Band and Guitar Hero. Graphics and the amount of power, to the ideas of the video games have change a lot over the years.

I think that video games basically take the place of imagination and fantasy for people who are addicted. But, that's only if people are addicted to it. Video games can be like a drug once you start you can't stop. I know because I speak from experience. ❖



Naruto Ultimate Ninja Storm 2

By Michael

The Naruto video games are some of the best video games on the market, because a lot of people like to play them. There are a lot of different Naruto games, and they can be played on a variety of platforms, including the Playstation 2 and 3, Wii, PSP, and Xbox 360.

The new *Naruto Ultimate Ninja Storm 2* is the best game

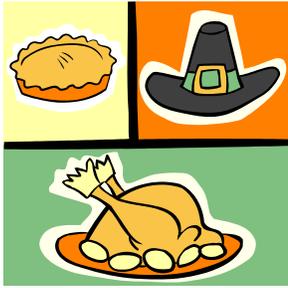
of the year, because there are a lot of new characters, and there are different missions that you can play. Also, you can unlock different characters, medals and money. The



medals are silver, gold, and bronze.

Both boys and girls can enjoy this game. *Naruto Ultimate Ninja Storm 2* was just released and is rated T for Teen, so you need to check with your parents to make sure it is okay for you to play. It sells for \$59.99 and can be purchased from GameStop, Target, and other stores. ❖





Which holiday is your favorite?

Thanksgiving

By Katrina

My favorite thing to do on Thanksgiving is to spend time with my family. Thanksgiving is all about giving thanks to the people that one loves.

On Thanksgiving I eat ham, stuffing, turkey, and salad but my favorite food is turkey and stuffing. I also ride my bike and play basketball with my cousins.

After we eat, we watch a movie, eat popcorn, and chocolate while we hide underneath the big blanket. ❖

Christmas

By Eugenah

Christmas is my favorite thing to do, because I get a lot of toys. I've gotten a Baby Alive, a Bratz doll, a scooter, and a bike.

For Christmas dinner, my family and I go visit my sister, her dog Coco, and Coco's

puppies. I brought my sister money and food for the dinner, so I was happy and proud. My sister was happy to be with her favorite sister—in other words, me.

On Christmas Eve, my mom cooks a roast, and then

on Christmas, I look forward to opening presents. However, many other people do not celebrate Christmas and celebrate other holidays, like Hanukkah or Kwanzaa. ❖

Toys

By Hector

Toys have been around for more than a hundred years. Archaeologists discovered the remains of pins and balls in a group. They think that ancient Egyptians used to play bowling. Ancient kings

and queens also used to play board games. People also found paintings of queens playing chess.

The famous game of Monopoly was a table cloth in the old

days but as time passed, it turned into a hard board game.

In Hawaii, juggling contests used to be juggling limes—some could juggle more than three limes! ❖

Landon Donovan

By Abraham

Landon Donovan was born in 1982. His skill in soccer was noticed at an early age, and he joined a soccer league when he was six years old. In his first league game, he scored seven goals.

In 1997, Donovan was accepted into the U.S. Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program, and in 1999 he went to the IMG Soccer Academy in

Bradenton, Florida, which is part of U.S. Soccer's training program. When he was at the Academy, he almost had his foot bitten off by an alligator.

When Donovan was 17, he signed a six-year contract for German club Bayer Leverkusen, but he came back to the U.S. when he was 19, on loan to the San Jose Earth-

quakes. Donovan helped the Earthquakes win the Major League Soccer (MLS) championships in 2001 and 2003.

Landon Donovan was released from his contract with Bayer Leverkusen and joined the Los Angeles Galaxy in 2005. On August 1, 2010, he scored the 100th goal of his MLS career! ❖



Lionel Messi

By Patricia

Lionel Messi started playing soccer when he was 11 years old and now at 23 is one of the best players in the world. Messi plays for FC Barcelona and for the Argen-

tina national team. He won an Olympic Gold Medal with the Argentina team in the 2008 and won the 2009 Balloon d'Or. Messi also was the 2009 FIFA World Player of the Year.

Messi got Spanish citizenship in 2005 and was able to join the Spanish Soccer league. ❖



Soccer Moves

By Adrian

Soccer is a good sport for exercise and to have fun. Soccer is fun, because you can show off your moves to the other team.

I like soccer because it is a great team sport. It is also fun, because when you are in free-

style, you can do some really impressive moves with the ball.

I like to do scissor kicks and dribble. Scissor kicks are where you quickly move your leg over the ball to fool the other team. You swing your leg in front of it and kick with

your back leg to the side. You do this so your team mate can run to get it, or you can dash for it.

It takes a lot of skill and practice to get good at this sport. ❖





The Thrill of Soccer

By David

Soccer is a sport in which teams compete with each other. Usually men play against each other or women play against each other in professional soccer games. But in youth soccer, there are some teams that have boys and girls, playing together for fun.

Soccer is popular all over the world. There are many teams from different countries all over the

world like from Mexico, the United States, Africa, and more.

Competitive soccer is usually played in stadiums, and,



Home Depot Center in Carson

even though it is really fun to watch the games on television, and I wish I could watch a live game in a stadium.

Espana (Spain) won the World Cup 2010 and they also received a trophy. I love watching the World Cup competitions, because everything is at stake. Whenever I watch those games, I get nervous and excited. Soccer is the best! ❖

Soccer Basics

By Jose

There are a lot of different soccer teams, and they are all different in a awesome way. They kick around a soccer ball, which incidentally comes in lots of sizes like 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.



There are finals to win trophies and in the World Club, a team can win a title for the country they play for.

Soccer is a good sport for exercise and to have fun. I think that soccer is a wonderful sport because it involves lots of movement and is a great team sport. It is so cool to see soccer played professionally instead of how I play it with my friends.

In soccer I wear shorts and a t-shirt. But professionally, they wear special jerseys and compressors (a tight pair of shorts worn under the real shorts to prevent pulling a muscle). Both professional and the minor players (and those like me who just play for fun) wear

shin guards and cleats. Shin guards protect you from hurting you shins, and cleats prevent you from slipping when it is raining—or when it's not! ❖



Shin Guards



Soccer Cleats

Principal Antonio Camacho

Continued from page 1

parents about the inappropriate behavior a student continues to have.

LA's Best Times: What is your most favorite part of your job?

Mr. Camacho: Seeing students be successful in their work.

LA's Best Times: Have you ever been a principal for a middle or high school? If you have, how is it different from being an elementary school principal?

Mr. Camacho: No, I've always have worked in an elementary school.

LA's Best Times: How do think you can improve our school?

Mr. Camacho: I believe our campus needs to continue to be safe and clean. I believe in improving the instruction delivered to our students is the key to our success. I believe that my job is to allow teachers do their job of delivering outstanding first instruction.

LA's Best Times: What do you see as the biggest challenge working with elementary school students?

Mr. Camacho: Having students believe in themselves. That students focus on their job listening, doing their work and taking responsibility for actions.

LA's Best

Times: How would you describe a successful principal?

Mr. Camacho: A successful principal believes that all students can learn and provides the access for all students to the core curriculum.

LA's Best Times: How long have you been a principal for elementary schools?

Mr. Camacho: I've been a principal for 10 years, it just seems like yesterday that I started here at 135th.

Thanks for the interview, Mr. Camacho! ❖



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Soccer Trivia

By Oscar

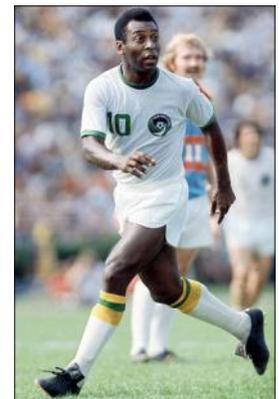
Soccer was a very famous sport. It was invented in the time 1800.

Many people like this game. World Cup games are held every four years. The team that wins the finals gets the World Cup trophy. The 2010 FIFA World Cup winner was Spain, and Netherlands

was the runner-up. Germany placed third and Uruguay was fourth.

There are a lot of famous soccer players. Pele was one of the very famous players. He was born in Brazil and is a national hero there. He made 1,281 goals in 1,363 games.

Soccer is a good sport to play. There are many different kinds of soccer teams, and many people play soccer. It is an active sport that is very fun to play. Someday I wish I could grow up to be a famous soccer player and know all of those cool soccer tricks. Soccer is one of my favorite sports! ❖



Pele playing for NY Cosmos in the 1970s

Solar System Word Search



ASTEROID
COMET
EARTH
JUPITER
MARS
MERCURY

METEOR
MOON
NEPTUNE
ORBIT
PLANET
PLUTO

SATURN
STAR
THE SUN
URANUS
VENUS

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

Note from PressFriends

By Luke Southwell, PressFriends



PressFriends is happy to be working with the kids at 135th Street Elementary School. We think you put together a great first issue of *LA's Best Times*.

For those of you who don't know us, PressFriends is a group of middle and high school students who work with elementary schools to help them start and run school newspapers. We currently work with two elementary schools in Lawndale, and two other LAUSD schools in San Pedro. Our motto is—making friends while making writing fun, and we had a great time working with your news reporters.

We want to thank your principal Mr. Camacho for letting us set up this program at 135th Street and also Ms. Ana Salcedo for letting us work with LA's Best. We really appreciate all the help we've received from Ms. Cathy Villegas, who is the staff advisor for *LA's Best Times*.

We really appreciate all of Mrs. Nikki Ueda's help in introducing the PressFriends program to 135th Street Elementary, and for helping out at all of our mentoring sessions. We also are especially glad to have her daughter Elena helping out with PressFriends too.

Everyone in the school is welcome to write for the newspaper, but check with Mrs. Salcedo for information on what is required before you start writing. We are looking for articles that you write on your own and not one that you wrote for a class assignment.

We'll see you in the new year. ❖

PressFriends is a project of Community Partners (www.communitypartners.org).

PressFriends is proud to sponsor the printing costs of this issue.

Remember to Recycle This Paper When You Are Done With It