



FIRST PRESS NEWSPAPER

Produced by FPDS 6th Grade Journalism Class * Issue 1 * Fall 2023

Walk like an Egyptian

By Harrison Smith, Grayson Merchant,
and Hank May

Walk like an Egyptian is a day at school where you dress up like an Egyptian or Egyptian character. On this day you dress up, parade around the school, compete in several competitions, and do several Egyptian tasks. The sixth grade at FPDS participates in the festivities. It happened on the twenty ninth of September. Dr. Dawson, the sixth grade Bible history teacher who leads Walk like an Egyptian, has been doing it for 2 years. “The most fun part is watching everybody do the competitions,” Dr. Dawson said. “The sixth grade gets to participate in Walk like an Egyptian day because they don’t have a play so it is a fun day for them. Also, they study ancient Egypt for history.”

“My favorite task was making pyramids out of toothpicks and marshmallows while watching “The Prince of Egypt,” said James Ritchie, sixth grader. He said he would definitely do it again any day. The sixth graders love Walk like an Egyptian and it will continue for many more years.





**Q&A with our Crusaders Mascot,
4th grader Evie Dukes**

by Blythe Barton, Virginia Mehrle, and Addie Gray

What inspired you to be the first mascot?

Answer: My grandfather. He saw me dancing.

Who made the uniforms?

Answer: I don't know

Do you come to away games?

Answer: No, I do not.

Do you like your job?

Answer: Yes I do. Because I get to go to pep rallies and get to help a lot.

Do you know the cheer dance?

Answer: Sort of, some of it.

Are you good friends with the cheerleaders?

Answer: Yes, I am.

Do you get nervous when you are at pep rallies and games?

Answer: Yes, sometimes I am because I feel a teacher will get mad at me, I don't know why.

Do you like hanging out with the littles on the field during the games?

Answer: Yes, I would like to, but this year I can't. Last year I did.

What are you going to do when you leave the school?

Answer: Give it to another kid. It's most likely going to be a second or third grader. It'll be sad for me since I love being at the school and being mascot.

How long have you been dreaming of being a mascot?

Answer: 2 minutes. I have looked at other mascots and wanted to do what they do.

Also -

Being mascot is cool because I get to run around and scream and high five people, and I should probably wash my hands after pep rallies.

Our New Office, a Q and A with Susan Graves

by Blythe Barton and Virginia Mehrle

Photo by 6th graders!

Is it more convenient to have the office on this side of the school?

Answer: Yes, it is so convenient now that the Belhaven door is open.

How different is the office?

Answer: The staff is not in the office at the same time,
and the office is spread out.

Do a lot of people come in late?

Answer: Yes, they do, but now that the Belhaven door is open, maybe there won't be so many.

What is your favorite thing in the office that is new?

Answer: Having a break room

How long did it take them to make it?

Answer: It took from the last day of school till the end of summer.

Do you have a separate office?

Answer: Yes, everyone does.

What are the estimated announcements you make in a day?

Answer: 5-10

What are your main responsibilities?

Answer: Answering the phone, sending messages to people,
and doing school files

If you could do something different would you do it instead?

Answer: No, I love my job.



**Q and A with Sam Edwards, FPDS
Football Coach**

By Davison Tyra, Harrison Smith, Hank
May, Grayson Merchant,
and Walker McAnally

Are you enjoying coaching? Yes
Are you excited about the final game?

Absolutely.

How long have you been coaching? I've
been coaching for 2 years.

What is your favorite run? The Reverse
play.

Favorite drill? Oklahoma

Where were you before you came here? I
am from Nashville Tennessee.

**Where have you been working besides
fpds?** I worked for the army for 4 years
after college and worked for a
construction company in Jackson.

**Have you ever played football for 5th to
12th grade?** Yes. It is my first year as a
head coach.

How long are you gonna coach for? As
long as Mr. Smith will let me.

Will he miss the 6th grade? Yes.

Coach Edwards likes to run and workout,
fish, hangout with people, hunt, and watch
sports.

He went to Auburn for college, been
married for 3 years, and has a wife.

He goes to church here.

The word he says the most at football is
“Little things matter.”



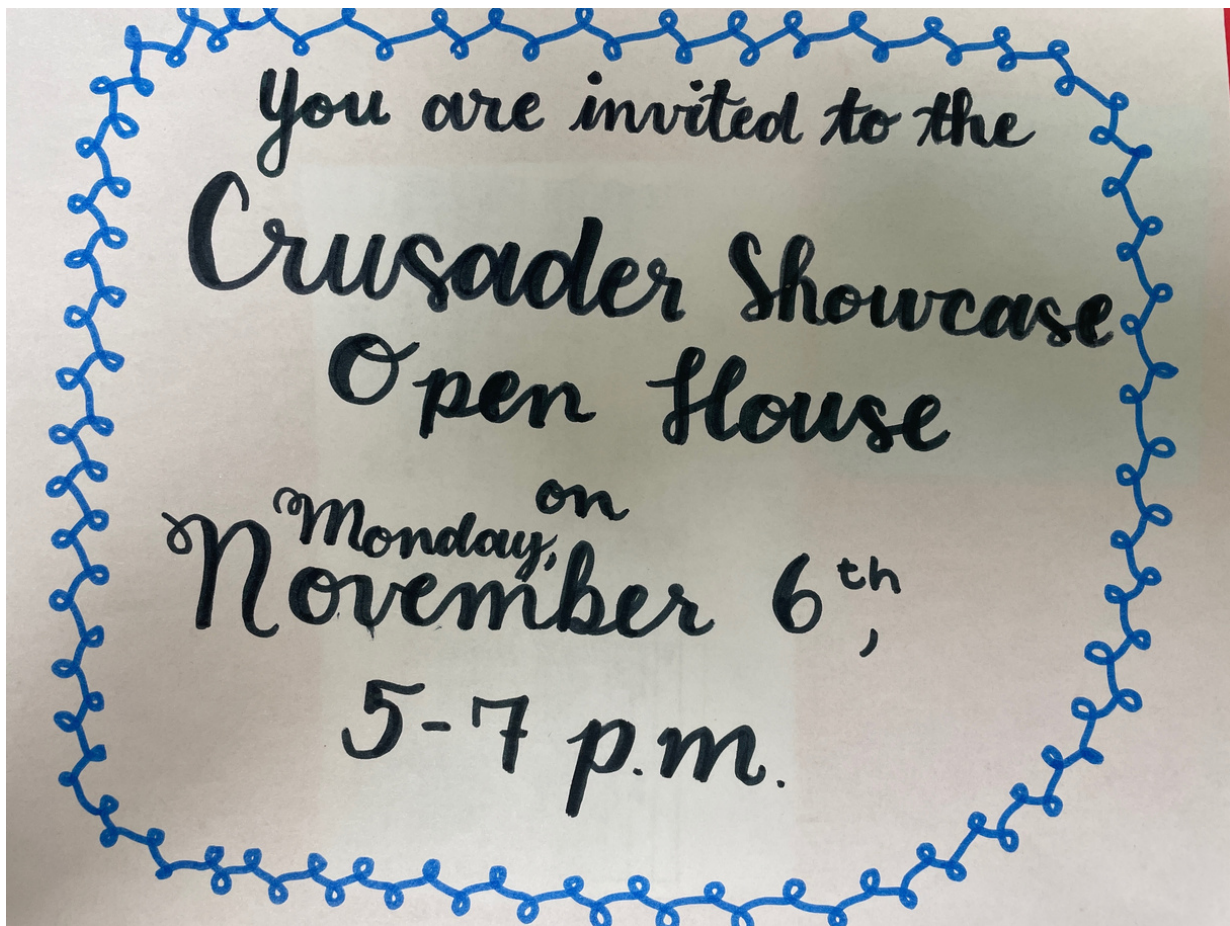
COMICS

by Charlotte Dukes and Virginia Mehrle



SPECIAL INVITATION

by Caroline Lowry



Our New Early Childhood Program

By Caroline Lowry, Eloise Ketchum, Emory Calvert, and McRee Raggio
Photos by 6th graders!

We interviewed Dea Bowling, the new director of the early childhood program. One thing we asked her is how her day is laid out. "I get here between seven fifteen and seven thirty like all the other staff, and I try to greet everybody as they are getting here. Babies come between seven fifteen and eight." says Bowling. After the morning is over, she brings down the hot lunch for them to eat. "I just navigate whatever comes my way, whether it's a crying baby or applications for next year." We also asked her how she interacts with the babies. She tries to visit every class every day whether it's outside or in their classrooms. One final question asked was how Christ is applied to their young lives. She says, "Believe it or not, just like in y'all's class, they have a Bible study every morning." They read a Bible story, sing, and pray just like us in our classes. That was all we had for her, and we left knowing the babies are in good hands.



School's favorite foods:

- 1st grade's favorite food is breakfast for lunch
- 2nd grade's favorite food is breakfast for lunch
- 3rd grade's favorite food is pizza and breakfast for lunch tied
- 4th grade's favorite food is fried chicken
- 5th grade's favorite food is pizza
- 6th grade's favorite food is fried chicken

The three most popular foods in the school are drum roll please.....in third place is fried ravioli. Tied for second is fried chicken and pizza. First place is breakfast for lunch.
Thank you to all who participated in this survey!

Nick Newman and Hudson Herring



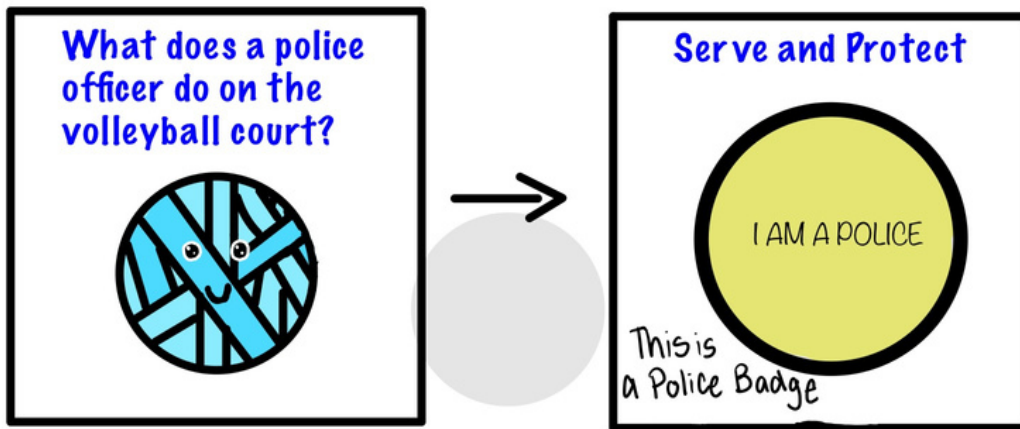
FPDS Volleyball

By Katie Suggs and Eloise Ketchum

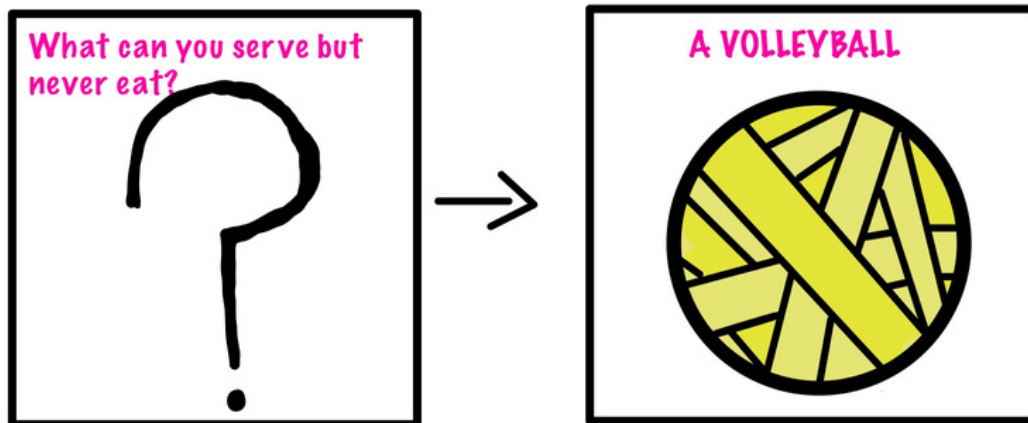
This year at FPDS, the fifth graders enjoyed Intramural Volleyball. and our sixth graders enjoyed competitive volleyball. In our fifth grade team there was one team who was undefeated, but there were two teams. They had it only in the first nine weeks and they played about four games. Their coach was Coach Moss. The reason they had fifth grade intramurals was so they could learn about the rules and get some practice in because next year they could be on the sixth grade team. As for our sixth graders, they had two teams, and they only lost one game. They played Christ Covenant, St. Anthony, and St. Andrews. Their coach was also Coach Moss. They practice in our gym here at FPDS, and the game took place in the St. Andrews gyms. "I really loved playing volleyball in my sixth grade year," said Katie Suggs, a sixth grader on the team.



VOLLEYBALL JOKE



VOLLEYBALL JOKE



By: Emory Calvert

Recipe from the FPDS Office

BEST FALL TREAT: Toffee Apple Dip

- 1 8 ounce cream cheese, softened
- 1 8 ounce package toffee bits
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup packed light brown sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup regular sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Mix ingredients together and serve with slices of Granny Smith or HoneyCrisp (My Fav).



Recipe from Christine Selman, 6th grade teacher

Homemade Taco Seasoning

- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground paprika
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon garlic powder
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon onion powder
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon dried oregano



Mix chili powder, cumin, salt, pepper, paprika, garlic powder, onion powder, red pepper flakes, and oregano together in a small bowl until combined. Store in an airtight container.

**Look for our next issue of First Press in December
with news from more 6th grade students!**