Student Council 2017
by: Samantha Lang and Hadiyah Johnson

This past November, we had an election to vote for our new student council here at PLE. Students in second to fifth grade had the opportunity to vote for student president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary.

We interviewed the president, Brooke Kouza, and asked her a few questions about her job. We asked Brooke, “Do you have any ideas for this school year?” Brooke said she was thinking about a bake sale, ice cream spirit days, and graduation.

Our second question for Brooke was, “Why did you choose to run for president?” She said, “I wanted to be president because when I was in kindergarten I saw the posters of the candidates posted in the school and thought it was cool.”

Our third question for Brooke was, “How will you contribute to this leadership position of being the president?” She said she thinks she is very well organized and she doesn’t hesitate to work hard.

We also interviewed the treasurer, Ivan Karana, and asked him the same questions! Ivan is thinking of getting new basketballs for recess. He wanted to be treasurer because he found out about this leadership position in second grade and it looked fun.

Ivan plans to create different spirit days, fundraisers, and wants to help out students in need.

Then, we interviewed the secretary, Elijah Ray. We asked him, “What ideas do you have for this school year?” Elijah said he is thinking of having a bake sale and a spirit day for each month. We asked him, “Why did you choose to be secretary at PLE?” He said because he is honest and confident.” We also asked him how he could contribute to this role?

He responded, “I will take down notes.” Elijah also wanted to say he loves his fans!

Finally, we interviewed the vice president, Cooper Crews. He wants to get another lighthouse like the one outside of the office to put in the school. He is interested in a traditional bake sale to raise money, and to put locks on classroom bathrooms for privacy.

Cooper ran for student council vice president because it was his dream since he was in kindergarten. Cooper contributes to this leadership role by thinking of fundraisers or school events like sports day, crazy hair day, and pajama day.

Brooke, Ivan, Elijah, and Cooper are doing a great job as leaders on student council.

St. Patrick’s Day
by: Landon Gordon

Saint Patrick’s Day is celebrated every year on March 17th. It is considered the day of the Festival of Patrick. It is a cultural and religious celebration and most people love to wear green on this day. Did you know that St. Patrick was not Irish? He was actually from Wales. The Shamrock is commonly seen during St. Patrick’s time. The three leaved plant was to explain the Holy Trinity (father, son, and holy spirit) to the Pagan Irish. The first St. Patrick’s Day parade took place in New York in the 1760’s. Wow, that sure was a long time ago!

Did you know that blue was actually the color most associated with St. Patrick? Green at this time was considered unlucky. St. Patrick’s blue was considered symbolic of Ireland for many centuries. It wasn’t until many years later that it switched to green. Did you know that in Chicago on St. Patrick’s Day they die the river green? Also, corned beef and cabbage are traditional foods eaten on this holiday. Sometimes my mom packs me corned beef in my lunch! It’s really good! The Shamrock, Pot of Gold and Leprechauns are also associated with this day. This special holiday is now celebrated all around the world which is really nice because everyone can be Irish and join in on the celebration. I’m very lucky because I’m almost 100% Irish!
Rihanna Vs. Beyoncé
by: Savanna Johnson and Sydney Crawford

Have you heard of the two very popular singers Rihanna and Beyoncé? People have been asking me, “Who do you like better?” I really don’t know. I love both of their singing, I love their style, and I love both personalities! So, I don’t know who I would choose. Here are some facts on Rihanna and Beyoncé to help you decide.

Beyoncé’s full name is Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter. She was born in Houston, Texas on September 4th, 1981. Her mom owns a beauty salon in Houston, Texas and is also a costume designer. Her dad sells medicine. Beyoncé’s sister Solange is also a singer. And, Beyoncé’s cousin Kelly Rowland is a singer as well! In September 2011 Beyoncé came out with three of her own fragrances; Heat, Heat Rush, and Beyoncé Pulse. The interesting thing is that Beyoncé is allergic to perfume. In 2014, Beyoncé won three big awards at the Grammy’s in 2015. On January 7th, 2012 Beyoncé had a baby and named it Blue Ivy. Now she is expecting a baby again!

Gabby Douglas
by: Yasmeen Reed

Gabby Douglas is a world famous gymnast. She became the first African-American to win an Olympic medal for All-Around (beam, floor, bars, and vault). Gabby’s real name is Gabrielle Douglas. She is twenty years old. She was born December 31, 1995 in Virginia. She is the youngest of four children. Did you know that Gabby was sixteen years old in the summer Olympics in London in 2012.

One interesting fact about Gabby is that her nickname is the Flying Squirrel because she flies so high in the air on her bar routine. Another fact is Gabby became very popular on the US women’s Olympic team. She won two medals. Want to know about her training? Six days a week Gabby trains from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. That’s eight hours each day in the gym!

Do you wonder what Gabby does when she is not practicing gymnastics? She likes to knit and read books. When you invite Gabby to your house, make sure you serve Mexican or Italian food. Gabby’s favorite color is yellow. Also, Gabby didn’t go to public school. She was home schooled. Maybe learning about Gabby Douglas will inspire you to be a gymnast.
Personality Profiles:
Mr. Stein
by: Amelia Vong and Hannah Dabesh

Mr. Stein is the new 4th grade teacher in fourth grade. If you want to know more about him this is the article to read. We asked him some questions and here they are:

Question # 1: Why did you come to PLE to teach?
Answer: I started teaching at PLE because it’s a great school and I wanted to teach in the community I live in.

Question # 2: What was your previous teaching experience?
Answer: I taught for six years at another school.

Question # 3: What college did you go to?
Answer: I went to Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Question # 4: What subject do you teach the best?
Answer: I think I teach social studies the best.

Question # 5: Do you have any children or pets?
Answer: Yes, I have a six month old son and two cats.

Question # 6: What is your favorite sports team?
Answer: My favorite sports team is Michigan State.

Question # 7: What grades have you taught?
Answer: I have taught third, fourth, and fifth grade.

Question # 8: What are some interesting facts about you?
Answer: I am a really good golfer.
The final question: What do you like to do when you are not teaching?
Answer: I like to golf and spend time with my family and friends.

Now you know more about our new teacher, Mr. Stein.

Mrs. Yono
by: Sydney Crawford and Hailey Dabesh

Have you heard of the hard working and talented Mrs. Yono? You have probably seen her in the halls, but maybe didn’t know who she was. Mrs. Yono is a helper here at Pleasant Lake Elementary. Three of her kids have gone to PLE; Brayden, Bradley, and Brooklyn (The 3 B’s). Mrs. Yono has worked here at PLE for six years. That’s a long time! She started in 2011. Her favorite way to relax is by helping others and reading books.

The reason she came to PLE was because she loves the teachers and loves the kids more!

Sorry Spartan fans, but Mrs. Yono is a Michigan fan (YAY! GO BLUE). Now for her hero! Mrs. Yono’s hero is her mom. Thanks for reading about such a great volunteer at our school - Mrs. Yono!

Mrs. Smith
by: Case Lang

Today I am going to tell you some facts about my second grade teacher, Mrs. Smith. She has two cats and one dog. Mrs. Smith’s first name is Angie. It is her 25th year of teaching! She lives with her husband Paul and her two daughters Emily (17 years old) and Katherine (14 years old). She loves to bike, read, swim, and vacation in the Upper Peninsula with her family.

Mrs. Smith has taught second grade and first grade before. Do you know what her favorite color is? It is teal blue because it reminds her of water. Also, did you know she loves every single student! She loves being with students every year and likes how each year is different. After school, Mrs. Smith’s favorite snack to eat is fruit and popcorn. She likes to walk her dog and run on her own time. What I like best about my teacher Mrs. Smith is that she is nice and accommodates my learning. And, she never yells! Hopefully, you’ll get to have her as a teacher.
Movie Review

The Secret Life of Pets
by: Jalia Marks and Maya Khalil

Have you seen the movie
Well, if not
then you will know about it from us.
The cast consists of Louis C.K. as Max, Eric Stonestreet as Duke, Kevin Hart as Snowball, Jenny Slate as Gidget, Ellie Kemper as Katie, and Hannibal Buress as Buddy. The main part of the movie is about Max and Duke running away from Snowball, Tattoo, and the rest of their gang. An interesting part of the movie is when Gidget forces Tiberius to help her find Max. Another good part is when Max and Duke become friends. This movie is entertaining because Max and Duke have many adventures.

Maned Wolf
by: Alissa Bloomfield

You probably know what a wolf is, but have you heard of a maned wolf? A maned wolf lives in grasslands. The height of the maned wolf is one meter and their weight is 45 to 50 pounds. The tip of their tail, chin, and throat can be white. It is covered with reddish brown hair. They have unusually long ears that can be seven inches long. Female maned wolves give birth to two to six pups. Both the mom and dad care for them until they are ten months old. Its diet is made up of fruit, guinea pigs, rabbits, rodents, lizards, frogs, birds, fish, and snails.

Another fact is that maned wolves reach adulthood when they are two years old. They stay with their mom until that age. There is a popular belief that a maned wolf’s right eye brings good luck. If you make a necklace out of its teeth it is supposed to keep dental problems at bay.

The maned wolf has a bad odor, so it is also called the skunk wolf. This animal is a combination of wolf, hyena, fox, and hunting dog. Sadly, these wolves are killed on roads. In conclusion, you probably won’t see a maned wolf because they don’t live in the United States. But, now you know it’s out in the wild somewhere.

Numbats
by: Alexa Karana

When you think of marsupials, you probably think of kangaroos and koalas, but have you ever heard of a numbat? Numbats are small marsupials that look a little like a squirrel. They live in western Australia in the forests. Numbats are different than most marsupials. They don’t eat plants. Instead, they eat termites. The numbat is the only member of the family Myrmecobidus.

It is a specialized termite eater. Numbats have a nice feature of black and white stripes on their rump. They have a long, hairy tail and a narrow snout. This helps it get its tongue into narrow spaces to eat the termites. Do you know that numbats have a tongue that is about 3 ½ to 4 inches and have about 50 teeth?
Chech! My name is Isabella Kozlowski and I would like to tell you about my home country, Poland. It is a beautiful country. My mom was born in Gdynia and my dad was born in Warsaw.

Did you know that Poland is the ninth largest country in Europe? The most popular sport in this country is soccer! The name Poland came from the tribe Polanie which means people living in open fields. In Poland it is a Christmas tradition to watch the movie Home Alone.

There are many famous people from Poland. Max Factor, the cosmetic company, was founded by a Pole, Maksymilian Faktorowicz. He was born on December 15, 1872. The No. 303 Polish Fighter Squadron was the highest scoring Royal Air Force squadron of the Battle of Brittan.

Also, the winner of the strongest man in the world five times is from Poland. His name is Mariusz Pudzianowski and he was born in Baila Rawska, Poland. He is 39 years old.

In conclusion, Poland is a great place to visit and to learn about.

The Diamond Minecart

by: Raymond Crawford

Does anyone know who Dan Middleton is? Well, Dan Middleton is a You Tube gaming professional who goes by the name of The Diamond Minecart. He is British and he has a lot of followers. Mr. Middleton has over 13.1 million subscribers and he makes about 2.15 million dollars a year. He had 8.7 billion views on You Tube in December 2016.

Dan Middleton recently changed his name from The Diamond Minecart Dan TDM to just Dan TDM because Dan TDM was a more popular name. I really like Dan TDM videos. If you want to watch one, search up Dan TDM.

Dan plays games such as Minecraft and Robox, but he also plays games that people request in the comments section of his site. He talks often in the videos and people like it. Dan has an account called More TDM which is mostly about his real life and he blogs on More TDM, too. His other account is the oldest one, called Pokemon Dan LV45. You can tell by the name that it is about Pokemon.

He released a graphic novel called Dan TDM: Traysaurus and the Enchanted Crystal on October 6th, 2016. Dan’s novel has characters from his You Tube channel including his skeleton dog Grim, the scientist Dr. Trayasaurus, and the evil lab boss Denton and his sidekick Fin.

Dan Middleton recently changed his name from The Diamond Minecart Dan TDM to just Dan TDM because Dan TDM was a more popular name. I really like Dan TDM videos. If you want to watch one, search up Dan TDM.

Wherever you go, your leadership should show.
U of M Football
by: Isaac Karana

What do you know about the University of Michigan's football team? U of M has an incredible team of athletes. One of U of M’s best players is Jabrill Peppers who is their running back and sometimes quarterback.

Michigan won eleven national championships and forty-two conference championships over the years. Their helmet with the famous wing was designed in 1938 by their coach, Herbert Crisler. The stadium seats about 110,000 fans and was built in 1927. The stadium stands tall in the city of Ann Arbor.

Facts About Famous Americans
by: Hannah Dabesh and Amelia Vong

**Lewis Latimer** - He was one of the top ten African American inventors. He invented the carbon filament light bulb.

**Benjamin O. Davis Junior** - He was the first African American Force General.

**Doris Miller** - a cook during World War II that became a hero during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

**Jackie Robinson** - He stopped segregation in baseball and was an excellent African American baseball player.

The S.A.I.L. Newspaper Staff

**Publisher:**
Mrs. April Homer

**Editors:**
Mrs. Amanda Gordon
Miss Emma Gaffney
Mrs. Amanda Yono

**Journalists:**
Aliisa Bloomfield
Sydney Crawford
Raymond Crawford
Hannah Dabesh
Hailey Dabesh
Gisella Dalou
Sam Glennon
Landon Gordon
Emmanuel Ita
Johnpaul Jarbou
Savanna Johnson
Hadiyah Johnson
Isabella Kozlowski
Isaac Karana
Alexa Karana
Ivan Karana
Maya Khalil
Brooke Kouza
Case Lang
Samantha Lang
Jalia Marks
Brady Maher
Brady Najor
Joseph Najor
Yasmeen Reed
Norell Shafou
Paris Taylor
Layla Taylor
Amelia Vong
Samariyah Williams
Bryce Wiggins
Bradley Yono
Brooklyn Yono