

The TIGER TIMES

Sherman Elementary School News

Vol. 2

January 2018



Project-Based Learning at Sherman Elementary

PBL Night by Lucie Meers

PBL Night was December 13, 2017 and it was all very exciting! Kindergartners programmed bee-bots. First graders explored the rain garden. Third graders showed off instruments they had made. Fourth graders tested out blades they had created for a windmill. And fifth graders demonstrated what they had learned about human rights. Second graders had showed their sound machines the previous week. PBL stands for Project-Based Learning. Students do three PBL projects each year at Sherman Elementary. They are hands-on science experiments.

Kindergarten by Lucie Meers

The Kindergarten rooms were heating up. Bee-bots followed commands and students taught visitors how to code them. They got a sheet of paper to draw arrows in the way they wanted the bee-bot to move.

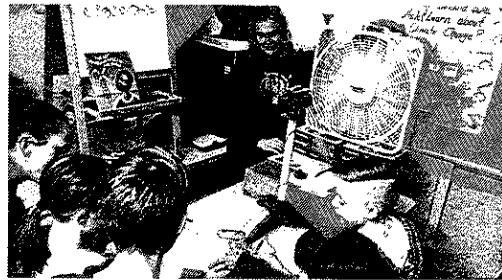
In the middle of the bee-bot, there was a large "GO" button. Around the "GO" button there were four buttons: up, right, left, and down. In the rear, an X button cleared the last code given. This PBL showed every student should get a chance to code, as young as Kindergarten age.



First Grade by Benjamin Bartoy

First graders worked on the Sherman rain garden to help filter rain water from the roofs before it drains into the Puget Sound. Students weeded and took care of the garden. "I like to go in the garden. The English Lavender is my favorite color," said first grader Ilsa Johansson.

"We wanted to help clean the waters of the Puget Sound. This is one small way in which we could contribute to a cleaner environment for the future," said first grade teacher Ms. Chester. She reminded students to stay on the paths and not step on plants.



Second Grade by Daelyn Gregory

Students in Mr. Mac's class explained their PBL: "How can we engineer a machine that makes a sound?" The catch was, they couldn't use their hands. For example, the goal could be accomplished by pushing a marble onto a drum then the marble would do its own thing.

"We made a Rube Goldberg that can make a sound and it was really cool," said student Darwin Gregory. "A Rube Goldberg is a man-made machine that has one purpose: it is started by someone touching one little thing, and it starts up like a domino track."

Third Grade by Nina DeWine

In third grade, students worked to show how sound is important in our world. In Ms. Williams' class, student Della Young said, "If we did not have sound, we could not hear others when we are trying to communicate or cry for help."

Jacob Weir's group made two model houses: one with layered walling and one with only cardboard. They put an iPad in each house and listened to the difference. Rowan Smith made a vibration trumpet. Third graders worked very hard for PBL night and had wonderful presentations.



(Photos by Jenny Bartoy and Ravi Jaskar)

Fourth Grade by Taylor Heilesen

"How can a fourth grader combat climate change?" For this PBL, students chose energy sources to research: hydropower, fossil fuels, biofuels, and solar, geothermal, and wind power. Students wrote about the pros and cons of each energy source and presented ways to combat climate change.

Fourth graders designed windmill blades and observed the power generated by different blade shapes and tilt angles when blown by a box fan to control the wind speed. Teacher Ms. Reed said, "I like PBL projects because they're connected to real-life problems. I love the engineering experiments."



Fifth Grade by Daelyn Gregory and Maeve O'Gara

Fifth grade PBL answered the question "How do we ensure the natural rights of all members of our community?" Students learned about protecting the rights of everyone in their area. Groups discussed animal rights, as well as littering, sexism, ageism, bullying, the LGBTQ+ community, and a couple more.

Student Katie Scarlett explained, "Our group researched the equality of men and women. We made a tri-fold that talks about how sexism started and how we can stop it."

Happy New Year!



Tiger Times staff (Photo by Jenny Bartoy)

The Tiger Times team wishes you a Happy New Year and looks forward to reporting the news at Sherman Elementary in 2018.

Sherman Needs You!

by Devi Ross

Do you like to swing, slide, jump, and run? If so, enter the Sherman Elementary Auction Poster Contest. This year's theme is *Design a Playground of the Future*.

Your poster can be any size and you can use any materials, such as paint, crayon, pencil, etc. Please write your name, grade, and teacher on the back of your poster and turn it in to the office by **January 12**. The winning posters will be printed on the auction invitation and be displayed at the auction. So get your art supplies and start working on that poster. You can do this!

Hygiene Drive

A few dedicated third grade students have created a group called the "Homeless Heroes" to help people who are homeless in our community. They are teaming up with ASB to collect hygiene items for people who are homeless.

The hygiene drive will take place **January 16-31** at Sherman. They will be collecting items such as shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs/brushes, and deodorant—both regular size and travel size. The kits will be assembled by Sherman students and delivered by community partners.

Upcoming Events

Friday, January 5	Coffee with the Principal
Tuesday, January 9	PTSA Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, January 10	Late Start
Friday, January 12	Deadline for Auction Poster Contest
Monday, January 15	No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Friday, January 26	No School - Data Day

Staff Focus: Ms. Donna Sibbers

by Adison Blaisdell

Ms. Sibbers is Sherman Elementary's nurse. You can find her in the office on Tuesday and Wednesday. She agreed to answer a few questions for the Tiger times. Thanks, Ms. Sibbers!



Ms. Sibbers (Photo by Karen Jaskar)

Tiger Times:

What was your job before you came to Sherman?

Ms. Sibbers:

I taught nursing in a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Kenmore, Washington.

What made you come to Sherman Elementary?

I live in this neighborhood and I love this school.

Why do you like Sherman?

It feels like home.

Where did you go to school to become a nurse?

I attended Idaho State University.

How did you decide to become a school nurse?

I was a substitute on Vashon Island and enjoyed being in a school.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy boating and sailing.

What is something people may not know about you?

When I was in elementary school, I got to meet Vincent Price, a famous horror film actor. I got to have lunch with him.

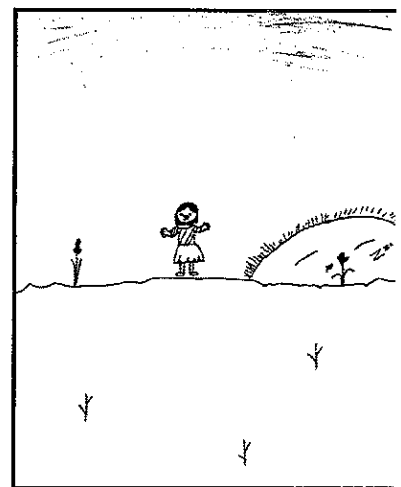
Mindfulness News

by Nina DeWine and Hailey Bloxham

We do mindfulness at Sherman Elementary to help kids calm down. After recess or free time, kids might jump up and down and be energetic. Teachers can have trouble teaching because students are so energetic that they cannot do what they are supposed to do.

Kids need some sort of meditation to help them concentrate on school work. That is why we do mindfulness after recess.

Mindfulness is a peaceful moment not to think about anything, just to make everything rush out of your head. Mindfulness is an amazing thing to do.



Art by Hailey Bloxham

Seussical

by Patrick Gow

This year's school play is *Seussical* starring fourth grade student Caleb Rotchstein as Horton the Elephant. Rehearsals started January 4 and performances will take place at the end of April. Ms. Nye is directing the play. "If she was not here, we would not have a theater program," students said.



This is the second time Sherman Elementary has produced *Seussical*. The other shows put on by the school have been *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Lion King*, and *Shrek*. The theater team hopes to see you at the performance.

Anti-Bullying Tips

by Vera Comstock

- If you get bullied, tell the bully: "Stop. It's mean to bully people." Or tell a teacher.
- If you see someone getting bullied, be a friend to the victim and go with them to tell a teacher.
- Someone might bully other people because they might not know how to make friends.
- Don't bully. It makes everyone sad. Even you are sad when you bully.
- Ms. Jaskar says: "Report bullying. Be a friend."

Ask Tiger: Good Habits

by Dean Gideon and Maeve O'Gara

Dear Tiger, I have some bad habits. What should I do?

First of all, it's all right to have bad habits! The best way to get rid of them is to make New Year's resolutions. Since the new year just began, you can make a resolution.

How do I keep a resolution you may ask? Well, research shows it takes 21 days to form a new habit. But once you get it down, it's easy to continue! For instance, if you want to get into the habit of doing yoga, keep practicing for 21 days. Once you are done with those 21 days, it will become second nature.

Speedball and Sportsmanship

by Sofia Rukeyser-Silva

Intramurals can be fun but as you may know, there have been some problems with sportsmanship. In the fall, students participating in Speedball bragged, argued, shoved, and complained. Student referees made random calls and seemed to root for a team when they were not supposed to.

Ms. Zachmeier's class decided to address the problem. Students went to some classes and talked to them about sportsmanship. Their purpose was to reduce the amount of bullying happening in intramurals. Ms. Zachmeier said, "I was so proud and curious to find out what was going to happen." Students participating in the intramural program report that things have greatly improved.

Young Ambassadors

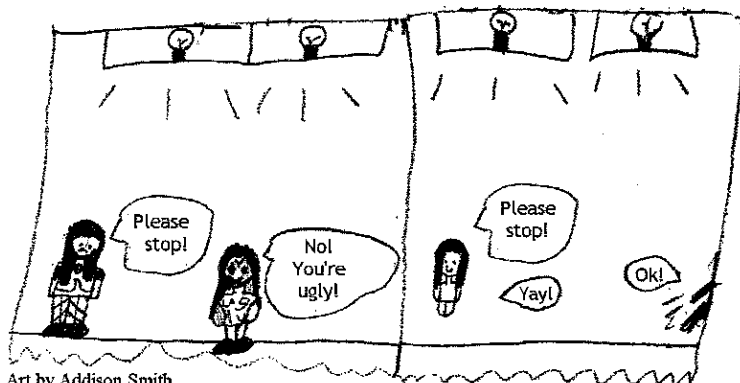
by Sofia Rukeyser-Silva

The Young Ambassadors are a group of 36 elementary school students from Sherman, Delong, Washington, and Jefferson elementary schools. They practice and perform athletic activities like uni-cycling, tumbling, jump-roping, and circus skills.

Tryouts were very competitive and challenging. Only 9 Sherman students were selected for the team. "I like Young Ambassadors because when we travel for performances, we stay in the same hotel and we get to bond," said Aleah Brown, fourth grade.

Bullying:

NOT Bullying:



Art by Addison Smith

Student of the Month: Micah Campbell

by Benjamin Bartoy

Fifth grade student Micah Campbell was elected President of the Associated Student Body at Sherman Elementary at the end of November.

Tiger Times: Why did you want to become president?

Micah: This is my second year on ASB. Last year, I tried out for president but was elected vice-president. Once the flyer came out this year, I signed up and gave it to Ms. Bleckert the next day because I was very determined.

What did you work on with ASB last year that you'd like to continue now as president?

Last year, we did the food drive and the clothes drive. We've done the food drive this year and I'd like to do the clothes drive again. I think that would be a good thing because we got a ton of clothes last year. Earlier this year, we also did a shoe drive.



Micah Campbell (Photo by LEO's Photo.)

What do you want to change at Sherman Elementary?

I'd like this to be the best year at Sherman, not just for me but for everybody. So far, we have a lot of fun things planned on ASB. We're going to make a gaga ball pit and have more fun, maybe more science and PBL projects.

Did getting elected change your school or home life?

It's kind of weird. Some kids walk up to me and say, "Hey Mr. President, congratulations!" and stuff like that. My parents are supportive.

Book Recommendations

by McKenna Batjer

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

The first year at middle school is always hard, but what if you've never been to school before and you look different from the other kids? Auggie Pullman was born with facial deformities and he's going to school for the first time. Read the amazing story of how he ignores other people's opinions and becomes a wonder.



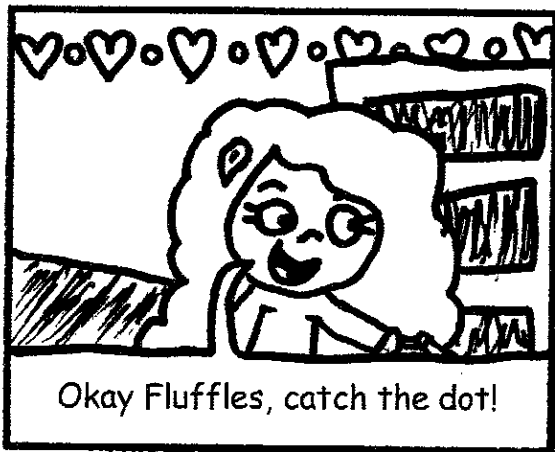
El Deafo by Cece Bell

She was a normal kid and then everything changed; she couldn't hear. She used to be ashamed but she realized that her disability was something special and that she could be her own superhero, El Deafo!

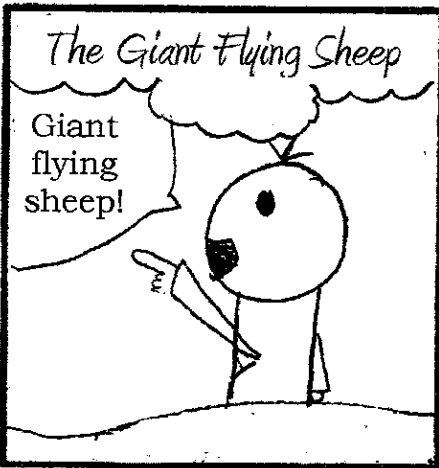
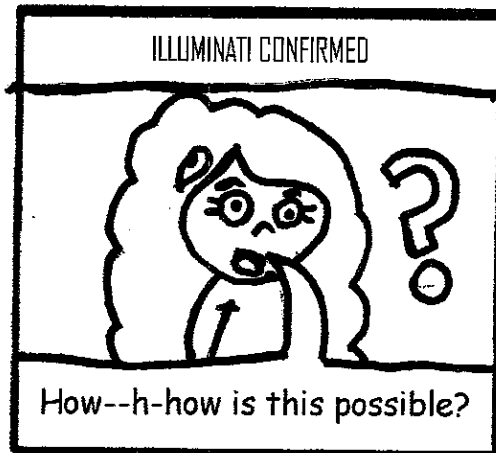
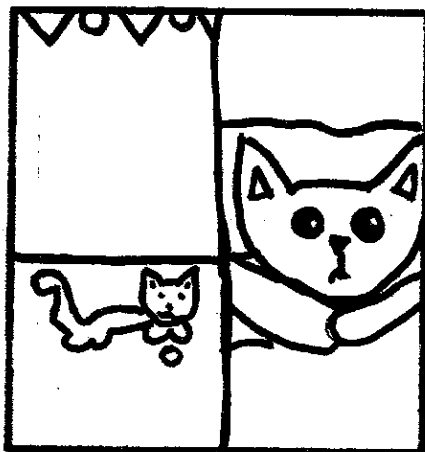


Wildwood by Colin Meloy

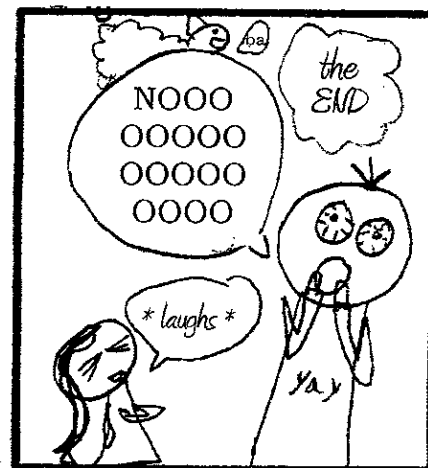
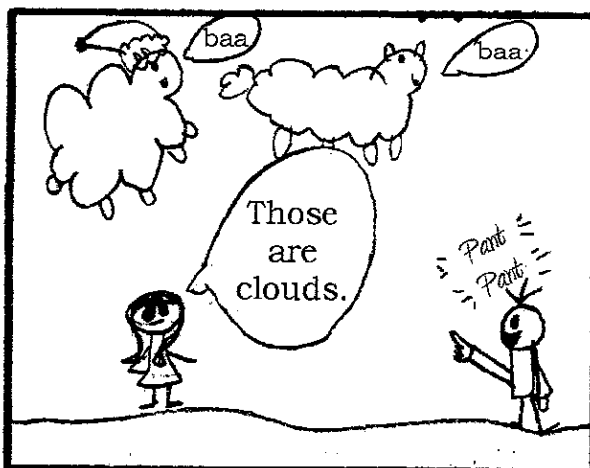
It was a normal day but then Prue's little brother, Mac, was abducted by crows! In order to save her brother, Prue and her friend Curtis have to venture into the Impassable Wilderness but they have no idea what they'll find.



by Daelyn Gregory



by Lily Wren and Makena Sherman

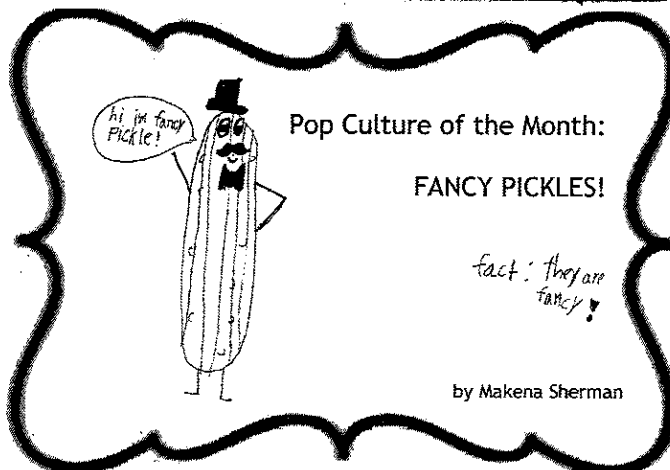


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Sherman
Tiger
Times
Roar
New
Year
Pickle

by McKenna Batjer



The Tiger Times - Sherman Elementary School Newspaper. Advisor: Karen Jaskar (counselor, kjaskar@tacoma.k12.wa.us). Editor: Jenny Bartoy (parent, jennybartoy@hotmail.com). Fourth and fifth graders are welcome to join the Tiger Times team. Newspaper staff meetings take place on Thursdays at lunch recess in the library, with work meetings on Tuesdays. For suggestions and submissions (opinion letters, Ask Tiger questions, student of the month recommendations, story ideas, mindfulness tips, jokes, art, etc), please use Tiger Times mailbox in Sherman Elementary office.