



Westdale News

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

December is a busy month around Westdale. Our 2nd grade music program is Wednesday, December 9th at 6 p.m. at Arrowwood Elementary.

On Wednesday, December 16th author and illustrator Aaron Zenz visits the building. Each grade level will have a presentation from him. Mrs. Ellis has been reading some of his books to students in preparation for his visit. Included with this newsletter is an order form if you would like to purchase a book. All order forms are due back by December 14th.

Our Michigan weather is as unpredictable as ever lately. Weather permitting, we go outside for recess every day. Please remember that students need to be dressed for the weather/temperatures with snow pants and boots (for the snow), hats, gloves/mittens, and jackets.

I would also like to congratulate Ms. Sala and her family on the birth of their daughter, Lola Sage. She was born November 19th. She is a happy, healthy beautiful baby.

On December 23rd, we will host our annual Read In. It is from 1-2 p.m. and each student may invite a special person (mom, dad, grandparent, aunt, or uncle) to come and read with them. Space is limited so we ask that there only be one person per student. A sign up sheet will be sent home at the end of this week.

Sincerely,
Karen Volk

December 2015

Upcoming Events:

- 12/9: 2nd Grade Music Program 6 p.m. at Arrowwood
- 12/11: Y5 & Kindergarten Virtual Field Trip Letters to Santa
- 12/14: 2nd Grade Field Trip
- 12/16: Author Aaron Zenz visits
- 12/18: PJ Day
- 12/18: Game Day
- 12/18: Blue Raspberry Popcorn Sale
- 12/22: School Store
- 12/23: Read In at 1 p.m.
- 12/24-1/1: Winter Break
- 1/11 & 12: Dental Bus Visits
- 1/18: PD Day, no school for students

We are focusing on the

Life Principle of

Friendship

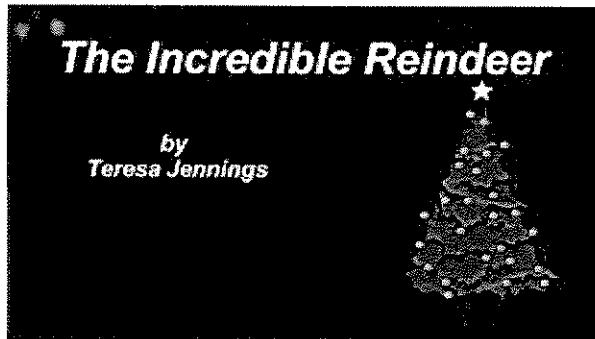
this month.

Friendship is caring
for and trusting

Others.

Music News

THE INCREDIBLE REINDEER HAVE BEEN MOVED!



Our second grade music program will now be at

6:00 p.m.

Instead of the originally set 6:30 p.m. time. We are still performing at the Arrowwood Commons on

Wednesday, December 9, 2015



NEWS FROM NUTRITION SERVICES

On-Line Access to Student Meal Accounts

Are school mornings at your house chaotic? Have you ever had one of those days when you get to work and realize you forgot to give your child lunch money? Have you ever wondered why your middle school student is asking for more lunch money on Friday, when you just gave him/her \$20.00 on Monday?

On-line access to your child's school meal account allows you to monitor purchases, transfer funds between siblings and deposit money in your child's account with a credit card, all from your computer. On-line deposits are made directly to your child's school meal account and are available immediately. If you choose to make on-line deposits to your child's account, a processing fee of \$2.00 will be added to each transaction. One transaction may include deposits to several student accounts. Cash and check deposits are still accepted if you prefer to send money to school with your child.

To request on-line access to your child's school meal account, go to: www.stcs.org, follow the links to Departments, Nutrition Services, and On-Line Access Request. Complete and submit the form to request a login and password.

On-Line Free/Reduced School Meal Applications

If you experience a financial hardship at any time during the school year, feel free to apply for free or reduced price school meals. If you have a login and password to access your child's school meal account, you have access to our on-line free or reduced price meal application. If you do not have a login and password for your child's school meal account, follow the instructions above to request a login and password. If you do not have access to a computer, free and reduced meal applications are available at your child's school. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Nutrition Services Office at 989-793-9713 or nsoffice@stcs.org.



P.E. NEWS

Westdale students practiced Sport Stacking in Physical Education class during the month of November. Sport Stacking is an exciting individualized & team sport where participants stack & unstack twelve plastic cups in a predetermined sequence. Westdale students had a great time learning the different stacking combinations during class. We worked on the 3-3-3 and the 3-6-3 patterns.

Sport stacking helps students develop bilateral proficiency, which assists in equal performance on both sides of the body. By increasing bilateral proficiency, a student develops a greater percentage of the right side of the brain, which houses awareness, focus, creativity and rhythm. Stacking helps train the brain for sports and other activities where the use of both hands is important, such as playing a musical instrument or using the computer.

If you are interested in learning more about this great sport, please go to www.speedstacks.com or contact Mrs. Bordeaux.

Westdale Kids Run the Nation

Westdale's second graders had the opportunity to participate in the Kids Run the Nation Program during the fall. Kids Run the Nation is a gender inclusive, multi-week, youth running program designed to meet the physical activity goals outlined by the USDA for children in grades kindergarten through sixth.

These students met once a week for ten weeks with their coaches, Melissa Bordeaux and Kris Mikoleizik, after school learning about the sport of running as well as topics such as nutrition, healthy living, and wellness. At the end of the ten weeks they had the opportunity to put their hard work to the test and participate in a mile run Reindeer Race on November 21st. A great time was had by all the participants!



Westdale P.T.O.
"Parent-Teacher Organization"

* We would first like to thank everyone that was able to contribute to our Fall Fundraiser. The sellers, the distributors and those who volunteered to pass out all of the packages. It was a huge success and all of your help was appreciated!

Congratulations to our top three sellers:

1st place: Sophia Galus in Mrs. Watz's class

2nd place: Marlea Pacheco in Mrs. Romain's class

3rd place: Mason Salazar in Miss Watt's class

* We still have blue Westdale shirts available in the office for sale. They are \$5 each, and we have most sizes except youth small. There is a limited amount left, and are available on a first come, first serve basis. These are the last of the shirts available at this low price!

* Boxtops are collected year-round. Please continue to send them in to the office when you have them. They are an easy and great way to earn money for your school!

* If you have a smartphone, please download the "Shoparoo" app. It is an easy way to earn money for your school. Once the app is downloaded, it will ask for a code. Enter the code "ring9818". Then you can start "snapping"! So every time you shop, eat out or purchase anything, all you have to do is take a picture of your receipt and answer two simple questions. By doing that, the school earns points (dollars) based on what you have spent. It's an easy and simple way of raising money for our school!

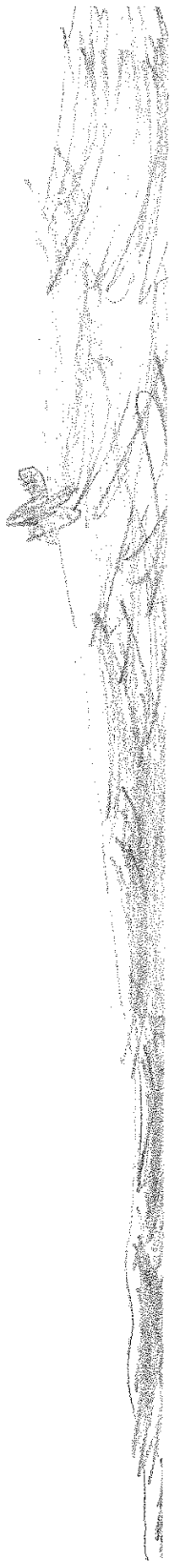
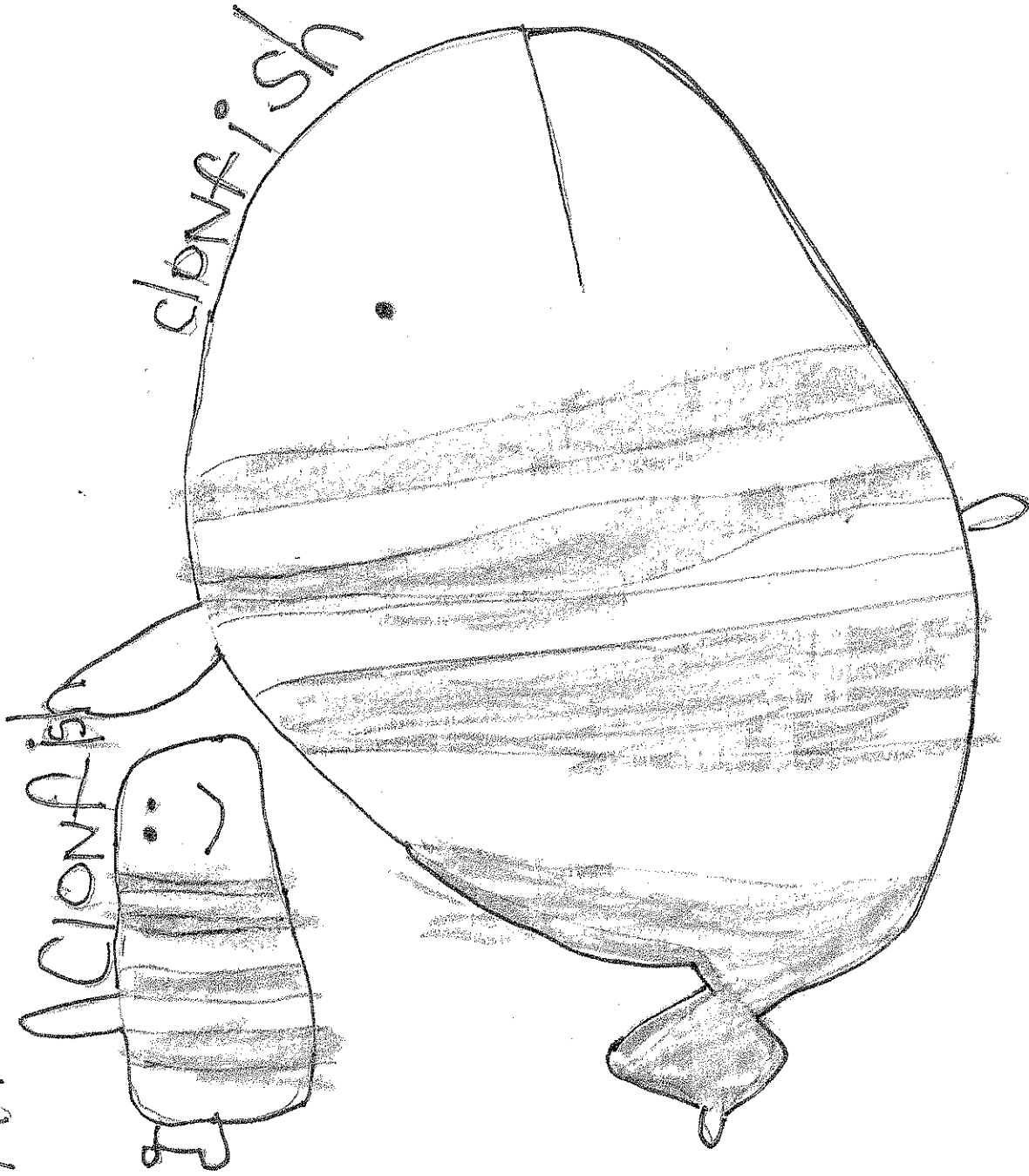
* Popcorn sales have been going strong! Next up is blueberry popcorn. It will be on Friday December 18th. In January we will be back to the regular butter flavored popcorn.

Thank you for your support and thank you to those who have volunteered to help pop it as well. We couldn't do it without you!

****Next P.T.O. Meeting is Wednesday January 20th @ 6 pm in the music room- please join us!****

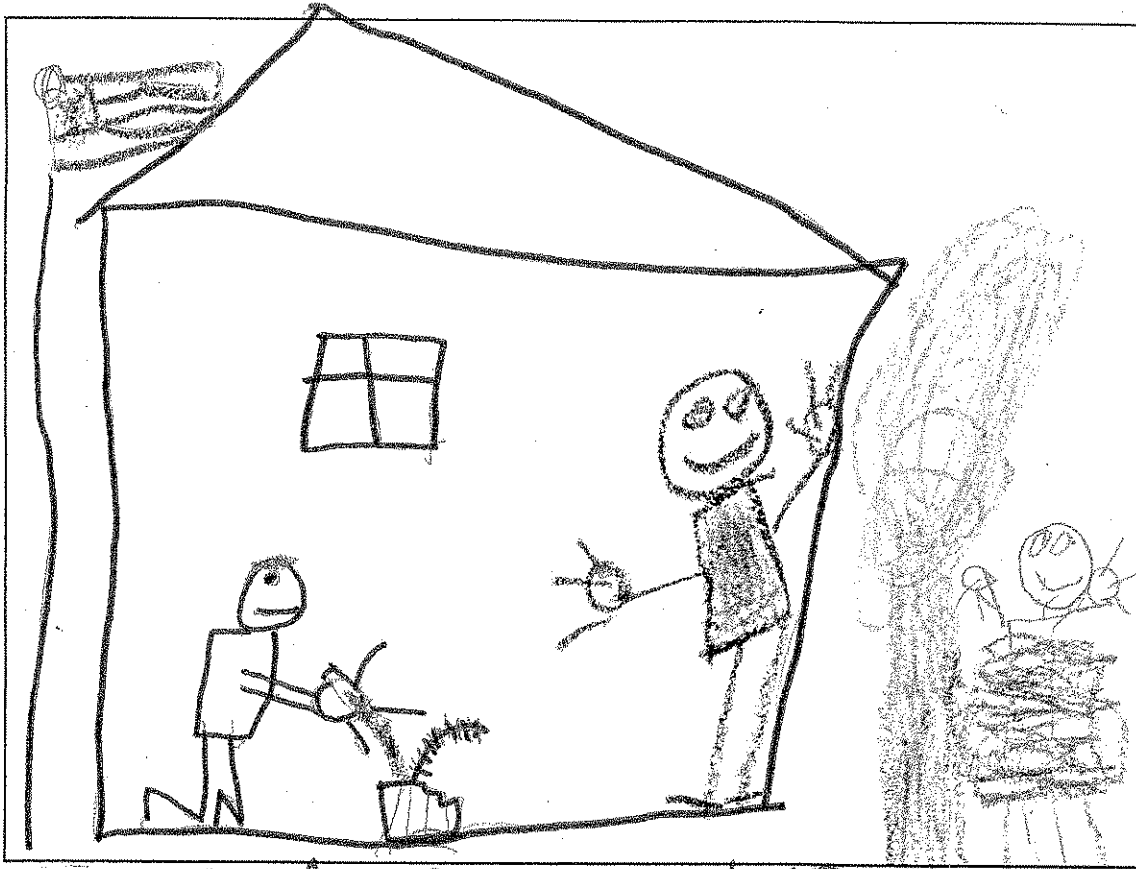
The Young Fives students have been studying about marine animals. The students have learned to tell information through oral language, drawing a picture with details, and labeling. They listen and write the sounds they hear in the words when they are labeling. Wyatt's writing explains that clownfish are marine animals and live in the ocean.

Wyatt



In September each student in Mrs. Keith and Mrs. Torres's room received a pot and a plant, all thanks to a kind donor! Students potted their plants and have been watering and caring for them each week! Thank you Ms. Trudy Gregory for your generous donation!

Name ALEX Date _____



THAC YO
FOR the
PLANT.

Thank you for the plant.

Name BROOKLYN

Date _____



I like my PAT

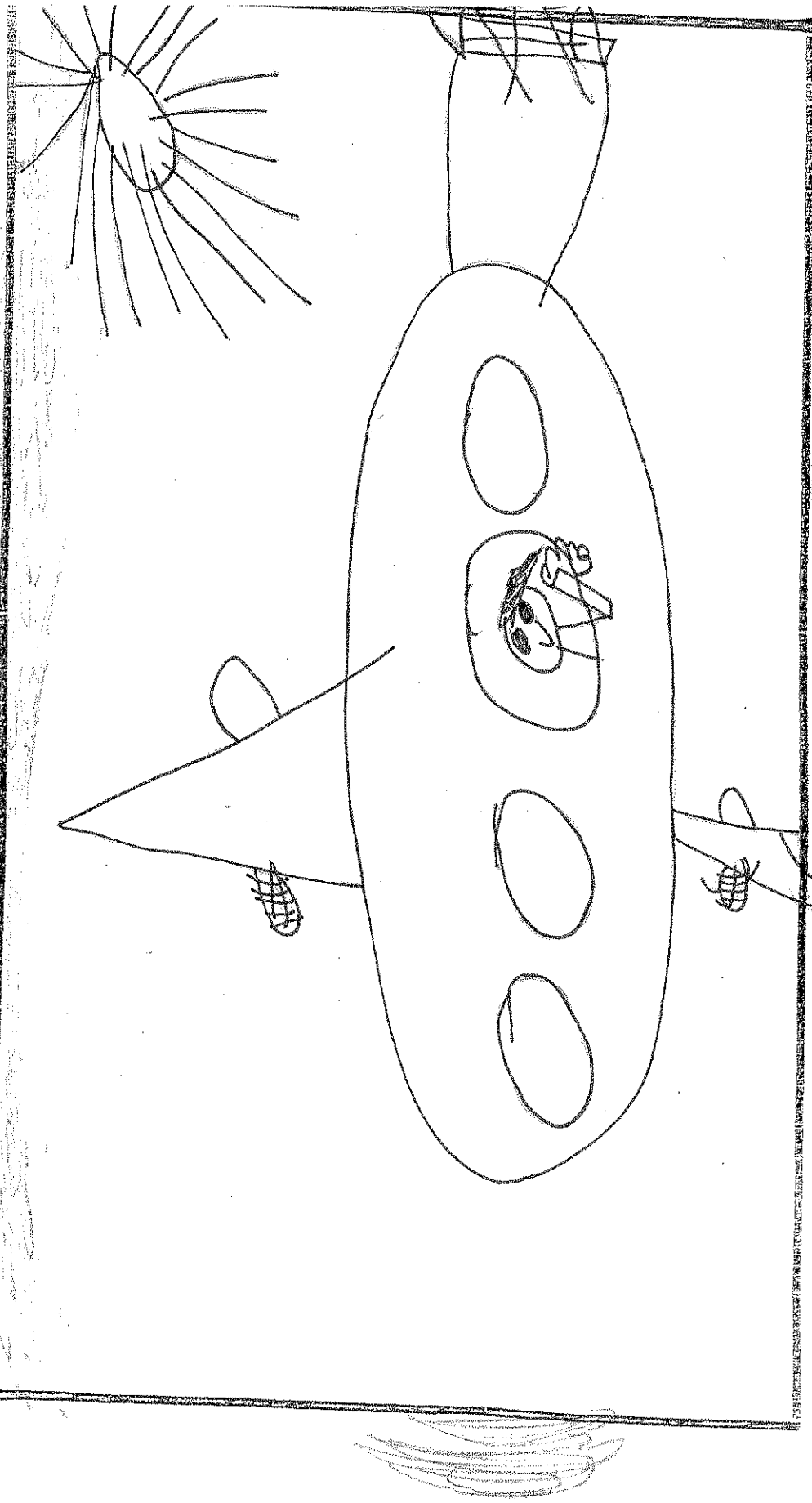
I love you

FOR DOING IT.

I like my plant. I love you
for doing that.

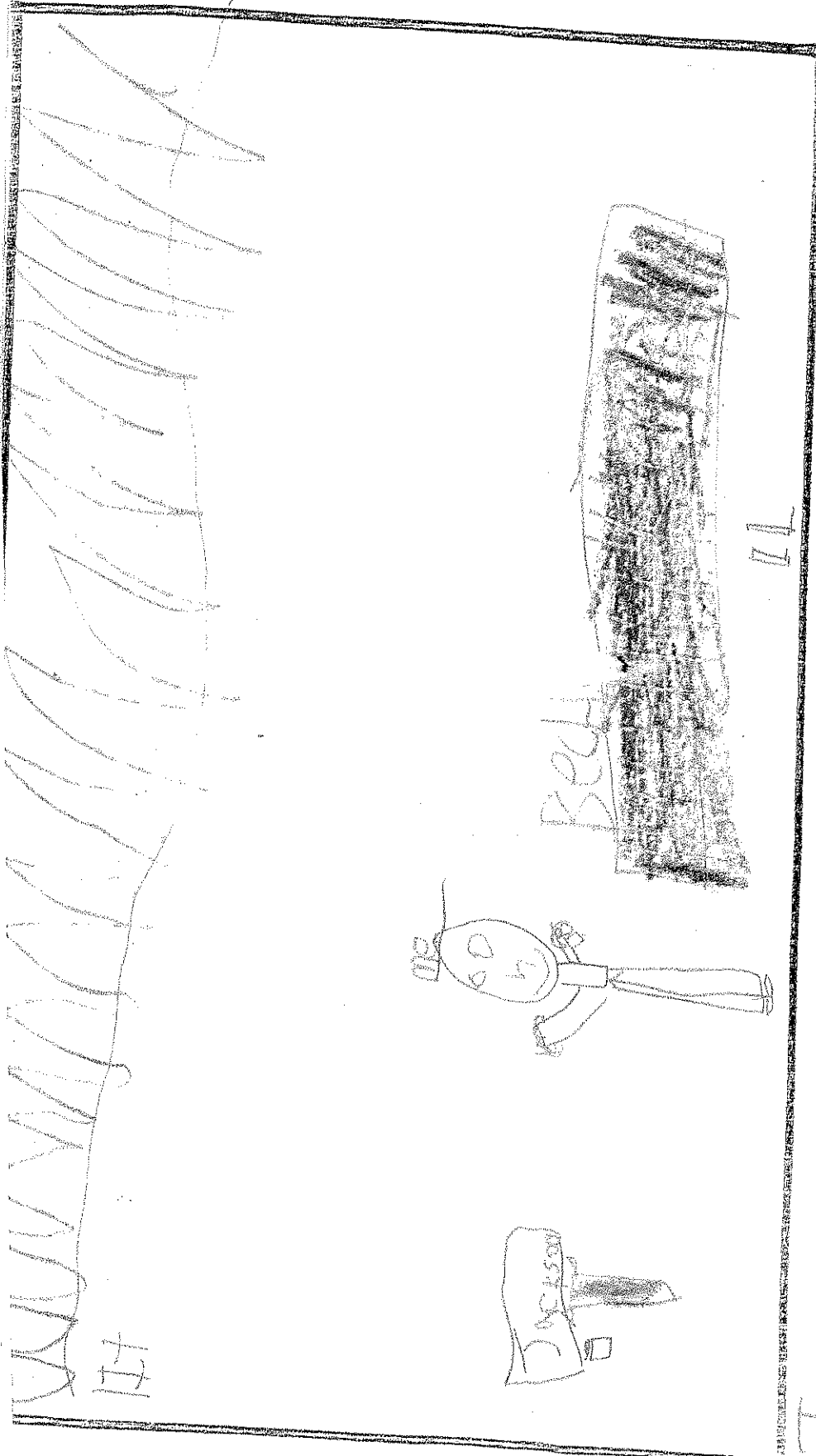
Brooklyn Isom, Kindergarten

Ellaneicsa



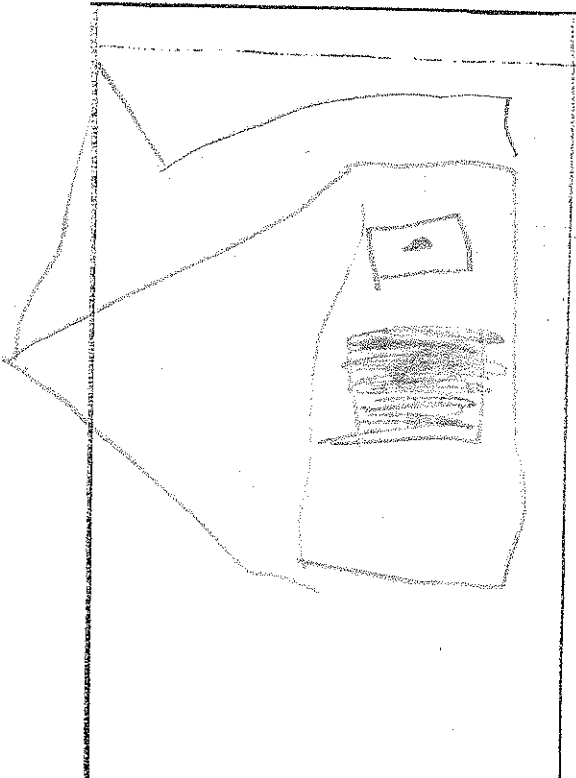
I go to the airport

I go to a airport.

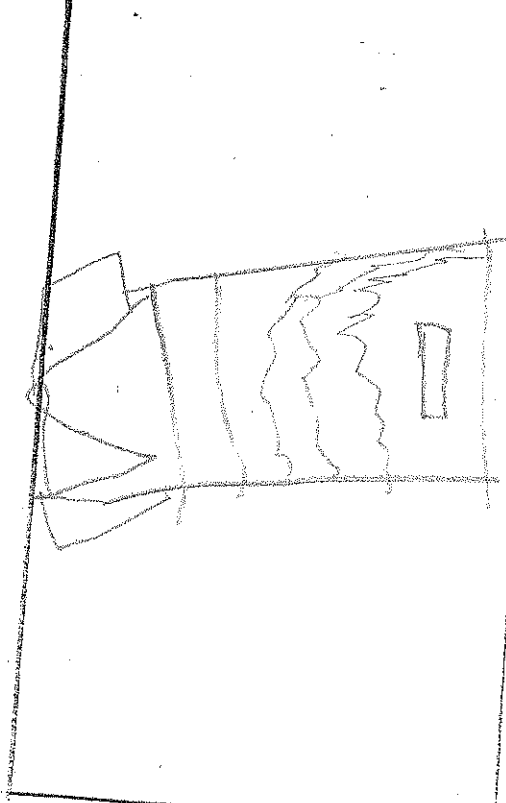


I AM PUT ON MY BLACK MITTS AND MY SNOWPANTS AND THEY ARE BLACK.

I AM PUTTING ON MY BLACK MITTENS AND MY SNOWPANTS AND THEY ARE BLACK.



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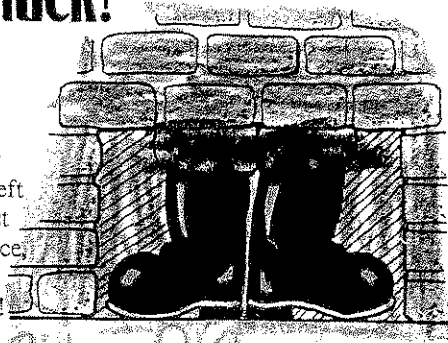
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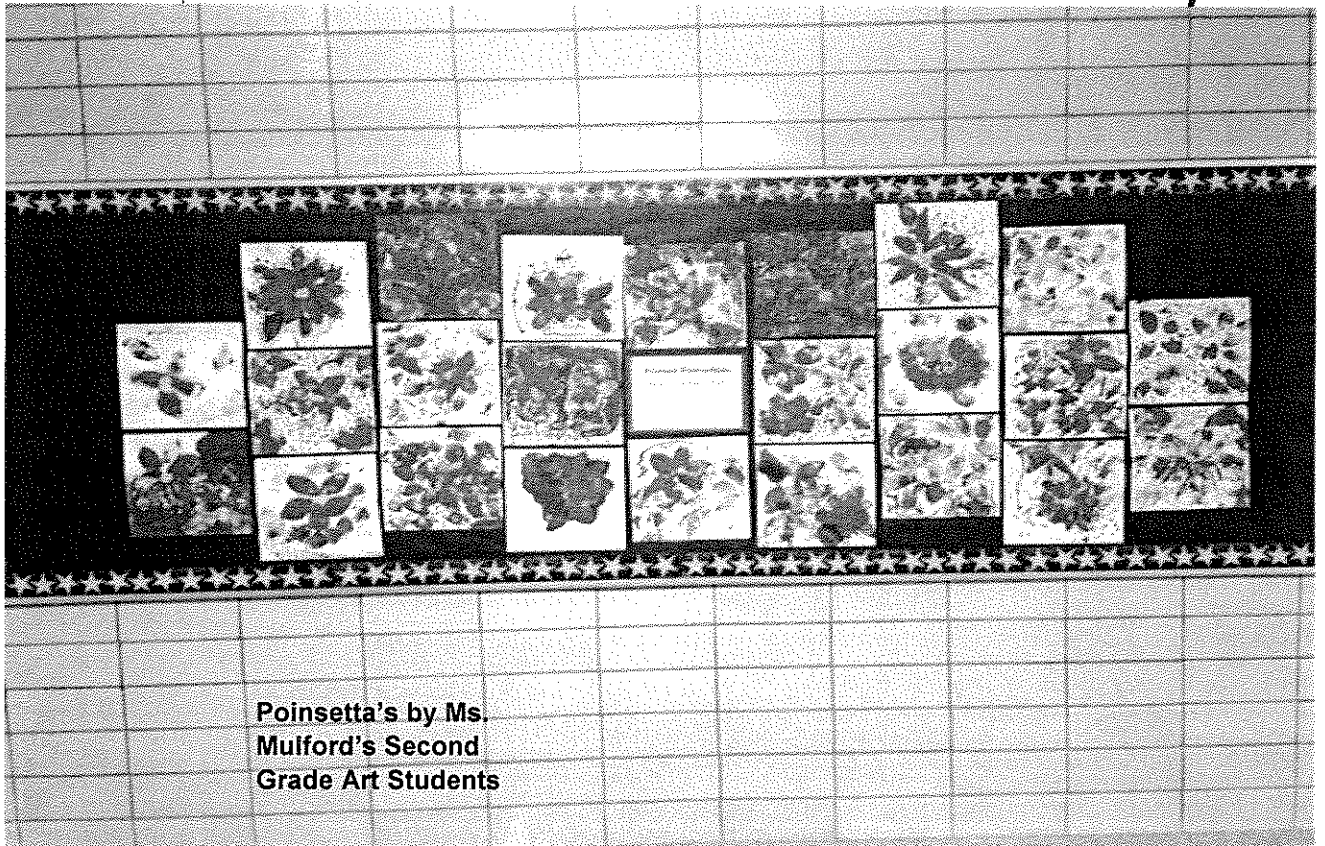
Santa's Stuck!

Finish this Christmas story.

Early Christmas morning I rushed to our living room to see the surprises that Santa left for me. But I wasn't prepared for the biggest surprise of all. There, hanging in my fireplace, were two shiny black boots. I knew in an instant that Santa was stuck in my chimney!



I SAID DO YOU NEED
HELP. SANTA SAID YES I DO I
WILL PULL YOU OUT AND
YOU CAN GO OUT THE
DOOR.



Poinsetta's by Ms.
Mulford's Second
Grade Art Students

If I Were an elf
I wode make some toys

for some kids. If I

were an elf I

wode be HAPPY. If

I were an elf I

wode make YOU HAPPY.

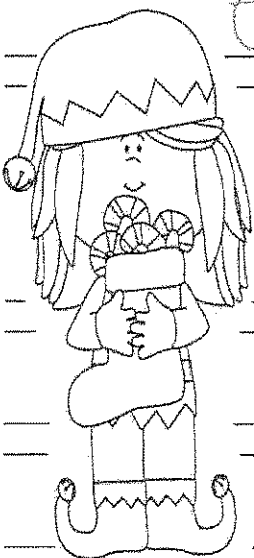
If I were an

elf I wode help

santa with some

things. I wode

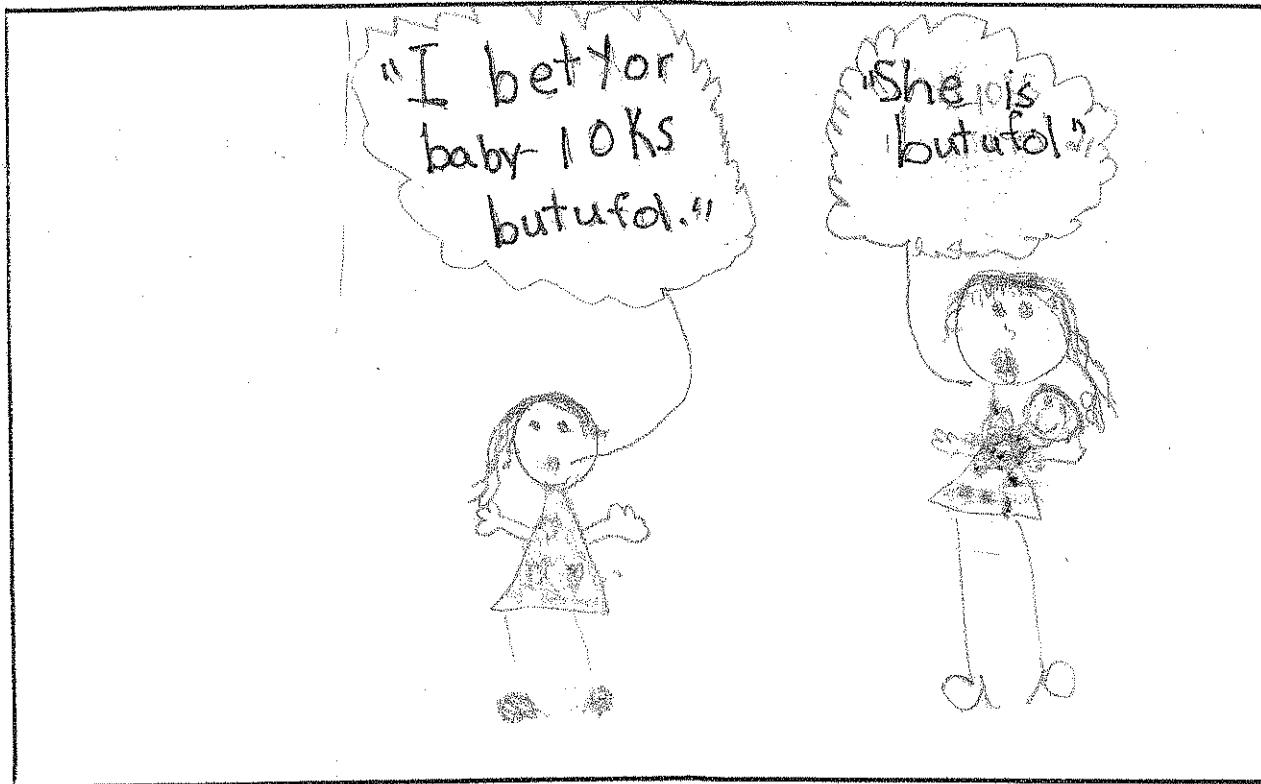
Love Being a elf.



Name Lilly

Name Ella Smith

Date 1/4/14



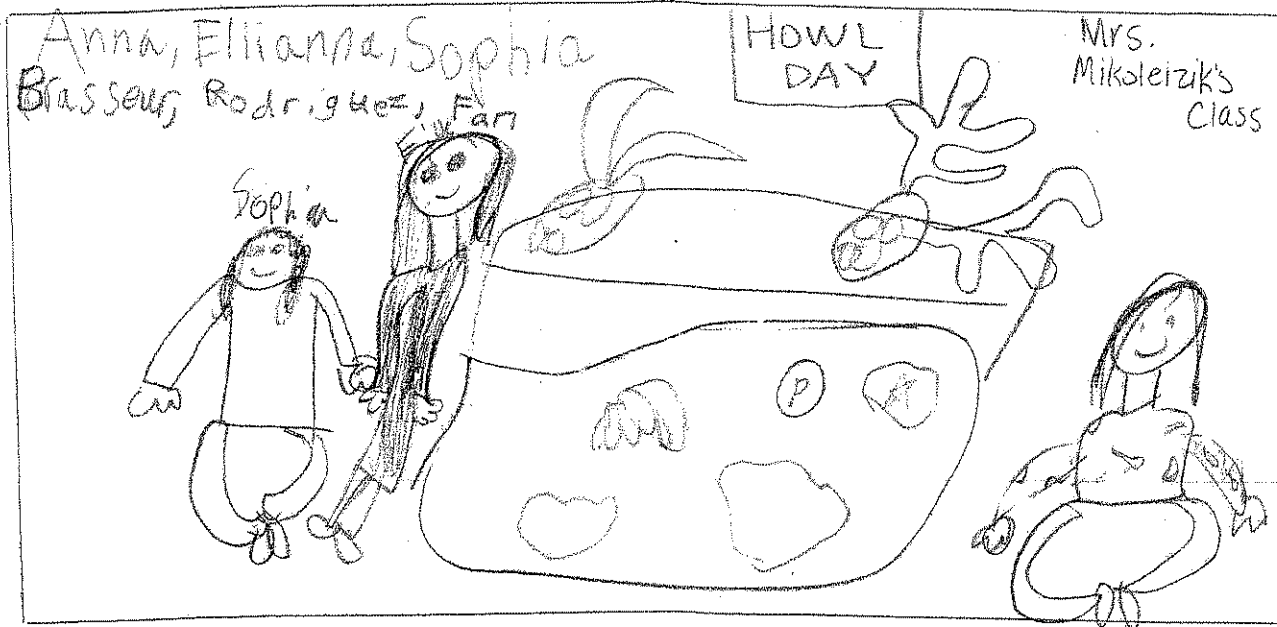
Dear Ms Sala,

I bet your baby looks

beautiful. I really miss you

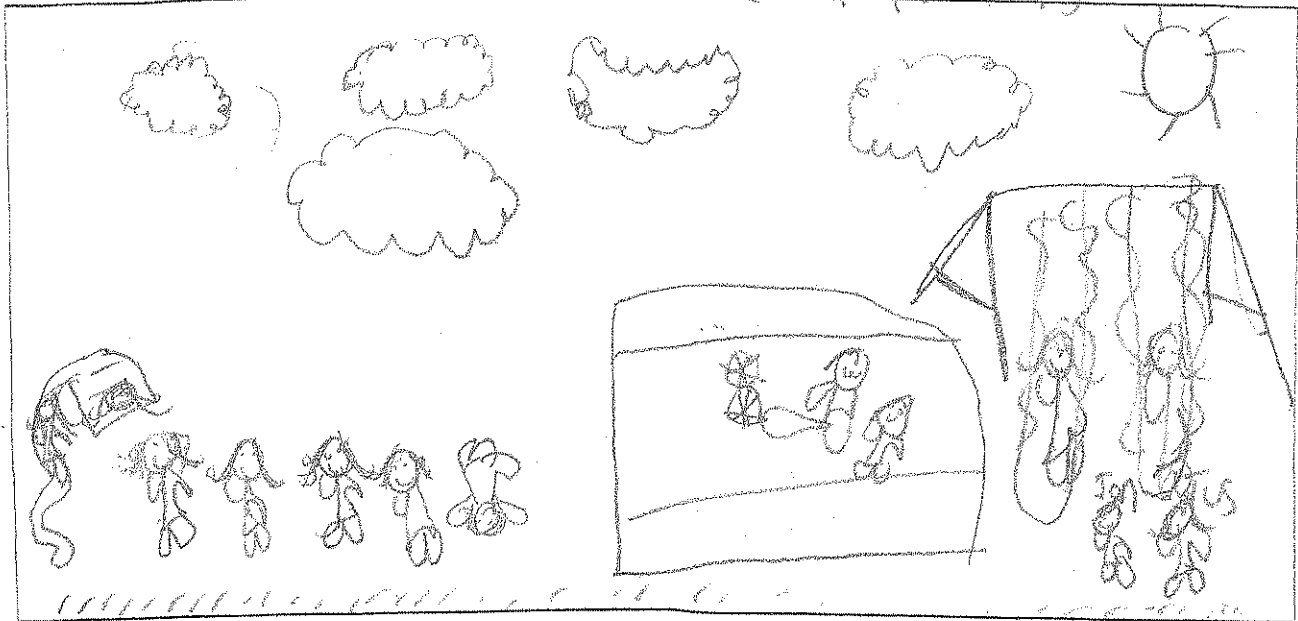
and the baby has my

toys. love Ella 



Have you ever had howl day? We have. It was howl day last week. We were going into Mrs. Cantelero's class. We were looking at very cool shells and rocks. One rock was copper. It's what pennys are made out of. There was a fossil of a birds skull and two deer antlers. Howl day is fun because we get to visit other classrooms.

Justice Murphy



One Good Turn Deserves

Another means that you be

nice to others when they are

not nice to you when you are

not exspating it at all! That

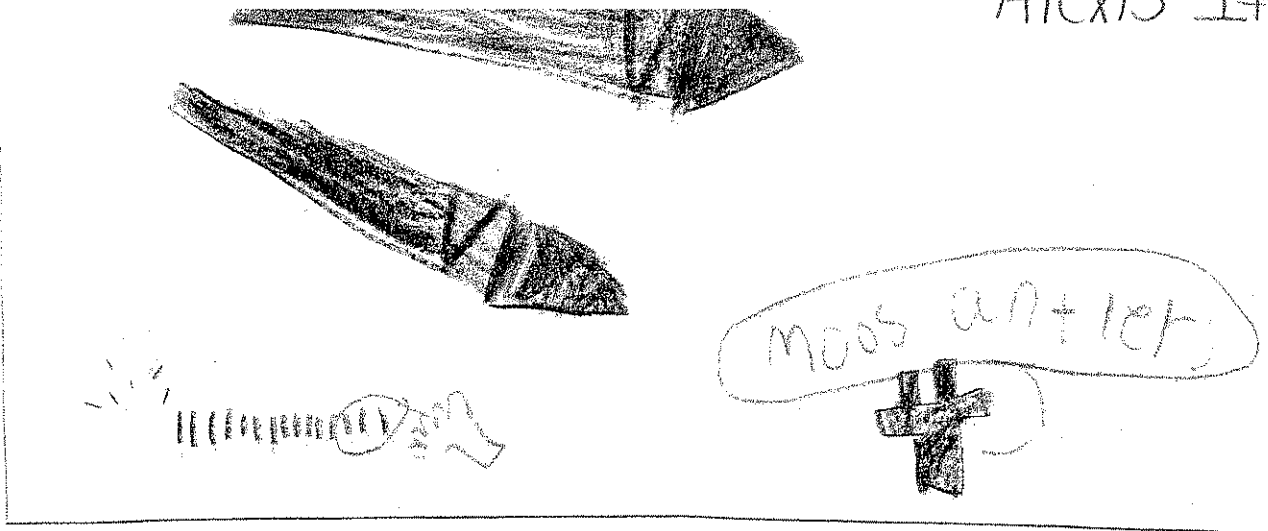
daesn't mene that you have to be

mean when you are sad. They

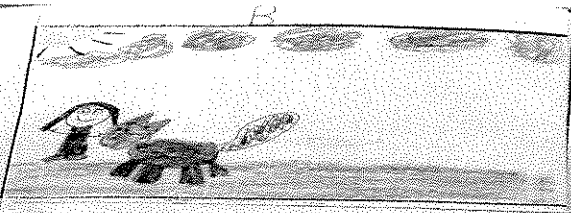
can make it better. If someone is mean

and don't fix it walk away.

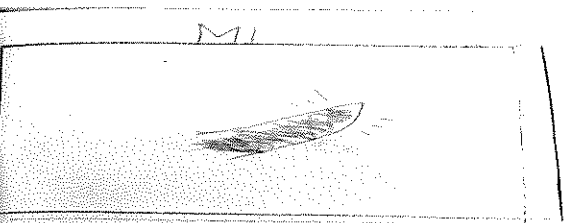
Alexis Ittner



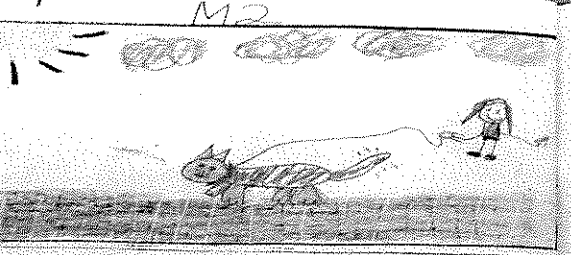
Yes, the mooment we
have all been waiting
for. Howl Day is here! I
liked Mrs. Cartise's classroom best.
She showed us how the pi-
grams and Nate of Anarukins
hunted. To make a arrow they
used long pieces of grass
and sharp rocks. I can't wait until
next Howl Day!



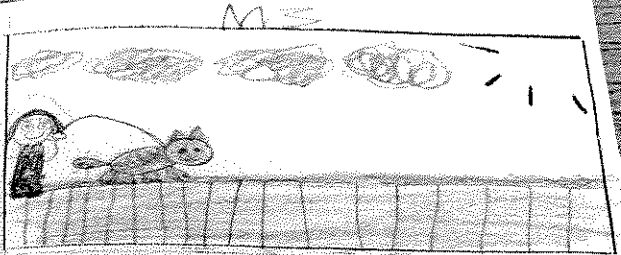
I took my dog for a walk and my dog likes going for a walk too.



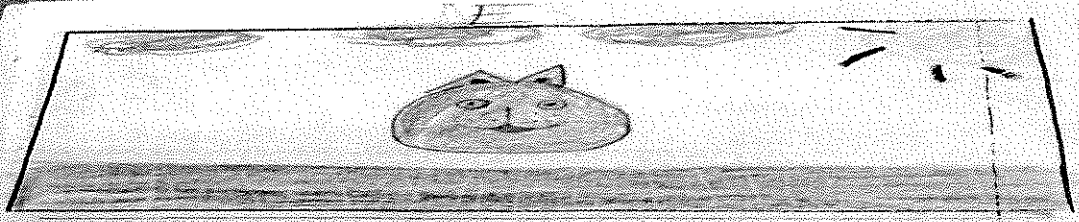
My dog likes going for a walk all the time. When she goes for a walk she wiggles her body and wiggles her tail.



I hold the leash all the time because my grandpa does not want to hold the leash. I always take my dog for a walk.



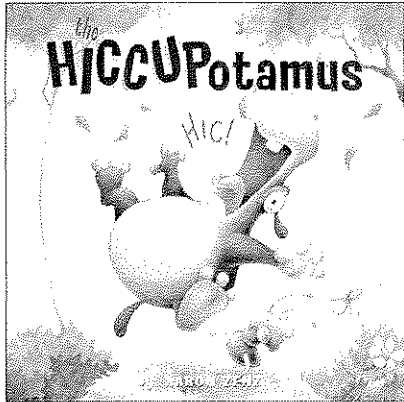
We walk back and forth, up and down my sidewalk.



My dog is happy when we go for a walk.

Author/Illustrator **Aaron Zenz** will be visiting our school on **Wednesday, December 16th** with fun sessions on writing stories and creating art! If you would like to order copies of his books, he would be happy to sign and personalize them for you. Return this form with payment before/by **Mon Dec 14th** to receive your copies the day of his visit.

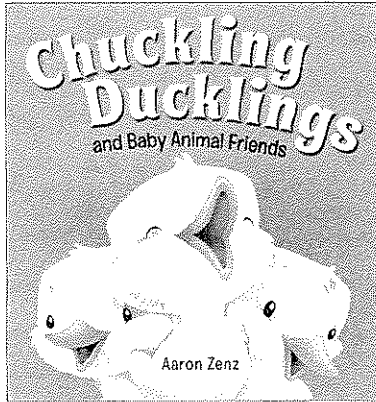
(checks can be made out to Aaron Zenz)



The Hiccopotamus

Number of Books _____ x \$13 = _____

Recipients' Names _____



Chuckling Ducklings

Number of Books _____ x \$16 = _____

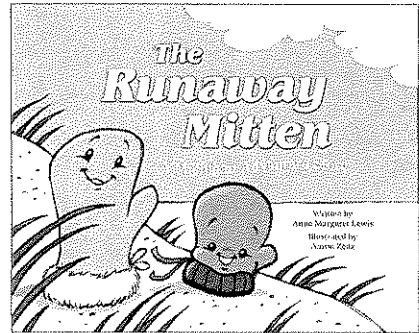
Recipients' Names _____



Orangutangled

Number of Books _____ x \$15 = _____

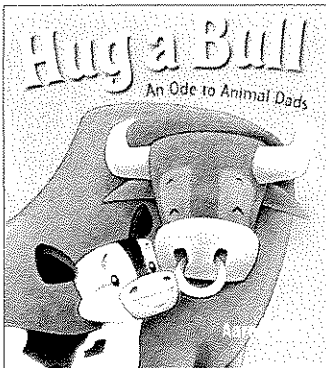
Recipients' Names _____



The Runaway Mitten

Number of Books _____ x 16 = _____

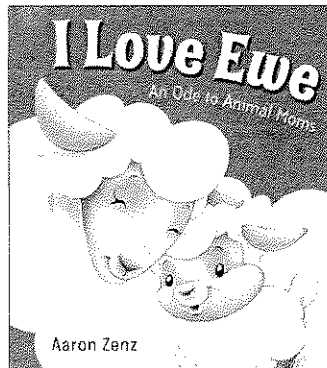
Recipients' Names _____



Hug a Bull

No. of Books _____ x \$13 = _____

Recipients' Names _____



I Love Ewe

No. of Books _____ x \$13 = _____

Recipients' Names _____



**Spaghetti-Slurping
Sewer Serpent**

No. of Books _____ x \$17 = _____

Recipients' Names _____

Total Number of Books: _____ **Total Cost:** _____