

# PANTHER PRESS



Photo by Dr. Riff

## Stormageddon Strikes Oriole Park

BY ALEXIS SOTO

On a spine-chilling evening, a strong storm blew through our neighborhood, leaving no lawn ornaments untouched. The storm was so strong that a huge branch hit the historical Oriole Park School sign, causing significant damage. This storm would've scared your paws off.

Dr. Riff expressed distress over the state of the sign, describing it as an 'eyesore'. Chicago Public Schools has claimed they will be responsible for making the repairs. The question is, how long will it take until we can look at the school without remembering that scary night.

PICTURE: Oriole Park 6<sup>th</sup> Grade, Chinese Pagoda

## Oriole Park Returns to Chinatown

BY KENNETH GRAVES

On October 2nd the sixth graders took a field trip to Chicago's Chinatown. During the trip the sixth graders enjoyed the culture of China up close and in person. In order to get there, the sixth graders took the blue and red line to the Cermak/Chinatown station. Once they got to the front gates of Chinatown they did a scavenger hunt, exploring tiny shops and narrow stores. Some of the places the sixth graders stopped at were a Buddhist temple, a noodle shop, and Zodiac Square; a large square decorated with the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac. After the scavenger hunt, all the sixth graders went to a small but delicious restaurant named Imperial.

When entering into the restaurant there was beautiful decorations and golden dragons adorning the walls. Besides all that, the food was amazing. The dishes they had were not your ordinary American-Chinese food but they were truly authentic. Some food that we had were beef and broccoli, egg rolls, fried rice, salt and pepper fish and, ciao main.

PICTURE (right): Ping Tom Memorial Park  
PICTURE (left): Zodiak Square



## Cross Country Team Beams with Panther Pride

BY EMMET JULIEN

September 18 was the first cross country meet for the OPS cross country team. It was very hot at 85°. The team had been practicing for three weeks, and Ms. McGuffey was confident, "It's pretty hot for the first cross country meet, but we have been practicing for three weeks, and I'm confident we will do well."

*(Shout out to Charlotte Will who started stretches before the meet with her fellow runners.)*

The team met up at Riis Park. The rain made everything slippery but this didn't bring the runners down. As the runners organized prepared to run Nicholas Maldonado from 6th grade was still happy, "I feel tired, weak, and proud!!"

The team also ran at Notre Dame High School on October 1st. It was a beautiful day for a race. One OPS supporter said, "A beautiful day for a run, I think all the teams will have a good day." After the race Ms. McGuffey was proud and said, "We rocked Notre Dame! It's a great local race that is organized, and the 5th and 6th girls took home three medals plus three t-shirts".

One of the fastest racers of few words, Delilah Radziszewsk, was asked how the race felt, simply said, "Hard". And when asked the same question at Notre Dame she said simply, "Tiring".

"Before race jitters, ever feel them?" well these kids have, Bella Costilla 8th grade all time pro said, "I'm feeling like there's butterflies in my stomach". Charlotte Will, 1st Placer said, "I'm nervous but I think I will do well".

After the first Cross country meet, Delilah Radziszewsk star runner just said the race was "hard", probably because she just ran a mile and a half in nine minutes! While Ms. McGuffey on the other hand had a lot more to say. She said, "Oriole Park hosted its third annual cross country meet against Taft IB and Edison Park. We had 40 Runners compete. This year's course included two hills- the Oriole Park hill, twice. All runners did awesome!"

### In our next Issue:

- Oriole Park School 100 years ago; Farm? Haunted? Haunted Farm?
- Fascinating Staff Members at Oriole Park
- Soccer Dilemma that May Affect Us All
- Trunk or Treat Coverage
- And much More

## Who is . . . Mrs. Leyden

BY ISABELLA COSTILLA

I had a great opportunity to talk with Mrs. Leyden. She shared her story of how she became the teacher she is today in our school. I'll share with you what brought Mrs. Leyden to this great job and how she became interested in teaching. I'll also show you, lovely readers, what it was like for Ms. Leyden growing up and what made her the remarkable woman she is today.

**Bella:** Mrs. Leyden, what did you do in your free time after school?

**Leyden:** I would go to the mall or the park with my friends, have dinner with my family, and have sleepovers with my friends.

**Bella:** What was dinner like when you were little?

**Leyden:** Our whole family would always have dinner together at about 5:00 PM. When my father got home from work we would all eat dinner. My mother was the best cook. Me and my two sisters would always clean up after dinner.

**Bella:** When did you first think about teaching what inspired you to do it and, is there a reason why you chose teaching tell me why?

**Leyden:** I think that I finally decided that teaching was something I wanted to do in college. I had many great teachers growing up that made me see it as a great profession. And.....I am glad that I chose teaching because I love my job.

**Bella:** Who would you say influenced you the most to become the teacher you are today and why?

**Leyden:** I remember having one favorite teacher in grade school. Her name was Mrs. Nelson. She taught Language Arts and I remember her as being a great teacher. I never really thought of who influenced me to be a teacher but I guess in some way it was her.

**IF YOU ARE (5<sup>TH</sup> – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS)  
INTERESTED IN JOURNALISM,  
EDITING, PHOTOGRAPHY, COMICS,  
POETRY . . .**

**THE PANTHER PRESS TEAM MEETS  
EVERY TUESDAY FROM 11:10 TO 12:10  
IN MRS. MCGUFFEY'S ROOM.**

**Emmet's Commedy Corner  
also known as  
'Jokes my Grandma told me'**

BY EMMET JULIEN

**Skeeter:** Wasn't that great? I love march songs!

**Fozzie:** Personally, I like April songs. Get it, March, April...Wocka Wocka!

**Fozzie:** Why do movie stars have lots of fans?  
Give up? Because they're HOT!

**Rowlf:** Why don't you wear shoes Fozzie?

**Fozzie:** Why should I? I'd still have bear feet.  
Wocka Wocka!

**Fozzie:** Why did the man put a sweater on his hot dog? Because it was a chili dog. Wocka Wocka!

**Fozzie:** OK, so a guy asks me 'Did you take a bath today?' and I said Why is there one missing? Wocka Wocka!