



# Samoset Eagle

10,000 book update:	Night at the Museum
<p>Towards the beginning of the school year, the BLT (building leadership team) challenged the students and staff to read 10,000 books in a year. We did not get the full year to complete this challenge, but we did make it to some milestones.</p> <p>At 1,000 books we all got to wear our pajamas.            At 2,000 books we got music at lunch for a week.            At 3,000 books we had a day with no homework.            At 4,000 books we had the teachers serve lunch on the lunch line.            At the time of this newspaper, it was not determined if we would get the reward for 5,000 books. This reward is a present for all the students.</p> <p>We will not get to the 10,000 book reward which was Mrs. Cavanaugh in a dunk tank, but maybe next year.</p>	<p>The 8<sup>th</sup> graders went on a field trip to Island 16 to see "Night at the Museum 2". All the classes went. It was through the history department. It only cost \$5, which was a nice discount. You had to bring your food with you and some people ate during the movie. The movie was about a man who worked at the museum and there was this piece of gold that made everything in the museum come to life. That piece was moved to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC. The man had to move with it. It was not realistic but it taught us some things about history when the historic things came to life. It let us see some of the characters as more than just names on a page. It would be better if we could go to the concession stands and get the food there.</p>

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Ms. Cavanaugh  
 Taken By Joseph H.

## Hall of Science

BY ANTHONY A.

On April 3, 2009 the sixth graders went on a field trip to the Hall of Science located in Flushing Meadows Corona Park in Queens. The trip lasted most of the school day, as the sixth graders returned at approximately two o'clock. We took school buses that were not as comfortable as coach buses. The ride there was approximately one hour and fifteen minutes with rush hour traffic.

At the Hall of Science, there were many hands on activities. One activity was the Cow's Eye Dissection. At this experiment, we were shown the different parts of the eye. We also were shown the parts behind the pupil. Another activity was the Mission Space Simulator. The admission was six dollars. "It was fun. The simulator was shaking around a lot,"

says Alexa C. "It was worth the six dollars," Alexa later added. Since the weather was rainy, the outdoor playground was closed. A lot of students were disappointed. There was also a sports section. These activities included: how fast you throw a baseball, a surfing activity that helped you with balance, and wheelchair racing.

Toward the end of the trip, when we had to eat lunch, there was a mix up. We found out we could not eat in the cafeteria, but it was a surprise to us. Therefore, we couldn't by a drink or snack from the cafeteria. It turns out the people who organized the trip did not let everyone know we would have to eat on the bus. Overall, the trip to the Hall of Science was fun.

# Fun Night

By: Alexa C.

**"Special thanks to Mr. Balsamo and Ms. Miller for organizing the whole night."**

On April 24, 2009 The 6 and 7<sup>th</sup> graders had their fun night. The event took place in Samoset's cafeteria and gymnasium. The night included pictures with friends and carnival games. Also a DJ, Mr. Hanley! Fun Night started at 7:00 and ended at 9:00. It was two hours of pure fun! Each ticket cost \$15 and sadly no tickets were sold at the door. This night was the last

dance of the year for the 6 and 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

The carnival games included ring toss, Frisbee shoot and sink it in the fish bowl. There were also games that were blown up! Yet there was no bounce house. My personal favorite was when you race someone in blowing up a balloon to pop it! There were also lots of people dancing on the dance floor. With all that great music who wouldn't be dancing? A few conga lines also appeared during the night. If you were starting to get tired you could go into the cafeteria and use your bracelet to get a free drink and popcorn. You could have bought cotton

candy for \$2 or and additional popcorn and drink were \$1 each. Also a fun way to relax was to take a picture with a friend for \$5 each. You could have had a plain background or two people could place their faces in photo cut outs. One was a girl in a dress while the other was a muscle man. I think everyone had a great night. I know I sure did. This night was a great last dance for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Special thanks to Mr. Balsamo and Ms. Miller for organizing the whole night.

## Best Buddies Run

By Michael F.

Best Buddies is having a fundraising walk event to benefit best buddies on Long Island. It will be on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2009 at the Holtsville ecology site. Check in is at 9:00-10:30. At 10:30, they will start the 1.2 mile non-competitive walk around a path. At 11:00-1:00, there will be a celebration of friendship with music, raffles and gifts. Samoset is going to have a team of students and faculty walking. If you want to join them go on to the computer at [www.runforthebuds.org](http://www.runforthebuds.org). Best Buddies is a club where you can work with kids who have special needs. It is fun because it shows how we sometimes like the same things and all like to have fun.

## Liberty Science Center

By Michael F.

On Monday, April 27, 2009, half of the seventh grade went on a field trip to the Liberty Science Center in New Jersey. We got to school at 7:10 and left at 7:30. After a long drive, we finally got there. We saw many exhibits, an IMAX and a 3D movie. The IMAX movie was about the oceans. It showed how fish in the wild live. They showed fishermen off the coast of Africa and how the ecosystem is affected by fishing. In the 3D movie, we saw bugs in 3D. They focused on the life cycle of the caterpillar and praying mantis. It showed how bugs hunt each other and how disgusting it can be. It showed how the caterpillar turned into a butterfly. The exhibits were a lot of fun too. There was a large exhibit of animals. They had mostly fish and amphibians. They also had an exhibit on diseases and infections. They showed how germs can spread easily. They had an exhibit on the skyscrapers. They had a piece of the World Trade Center. They also had a beam you could walk across. They had an exhibit about communication where you could write on a graffiti wall and etch in clay. On the ride home, we watched a movie and some people slept. We got home around 5:00. It was a lot of fun.

# Final Exam Schedule June 2009

June 16 Tuesday	June 17 Wednesday	June 18 Thursday	June 19 Friday	June 22 Monday	June 23 Tuesday	June 24 Wednesday
<b>Last Day of Classes</b>	Grade 6–7 ELA 8:15–10:15	Grade 6–7 Science 8:15–10:15	Grade 6–7 Social Studies 8:15–10:15	LOTE Proficiency Exam 8:15–11:15	Grade 8 ELA 8:15–10:15	Grade 8 Math 8:15–10:15
	Earth Science Regents 12:15–3:15	Living Environment Regents 12:15–3:15	Integrated Algebra Regents 12:15–3:15	Grade 6-7 Math 10:30–12:30	Final Exam Make -up Time Grade 6-8	Final Exam Make -up Time Grade 6-8
<b>8th grade Fun day</b>						

## Studying Tips

**Find a quiet place to study.** –Although some people claim to concentrate better when there is noise, you want to avoid distractions.

**Keep organized.** –It makes studying easier if you have your notes and other study materials before you begin your study session. Do not waste time looking for items.

**Make yourself a schedule for studying.** – Designate some time to use for studying for each final. Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during this time. Make sure that you minimize interruptions. You may find you need to take breaks during your study time. Some people find studying for 30-45 minute intervals more effective.

**Review your notes.** –Some teachers will give final study guides or review packets. You should complete any of these review materials that you have. Review your notes from the year for help completing these. If your teacher does not give review materials, you should review your notes from each chapter.

**Prepare early.** –Do not wait until the day before of an exam to study. Make sure to begin reviewing your notes and study materials early, so that you can ask your teacher any questions you are confused about.

**Get enough sleep before the test.**

**Make sure to eat a good breakfast the day of the exam.** – Eating some protein and carbohydrates will help you maintain energy throughout the exam.

**Ask for help from your family and friends.** –Your family may be willing to help you study with flashcards, or practice questions. They may be willing to take your noisy little brother out for a few hours, so you can have some quiet time. Friends can help with any last minute questions about notes or review materials.

**Finally on the day of the test, remember to take a deep breath, relax and do your best.**

# Editorial: Express your Opinion

by Anthony A.

## Old Books, New Ones?

On April 28, 2009, Ms. Alexander's first and second period English class started reading Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli. The books handed out for the students to read were in very poor condition. About twenty five percent of the books were in ok condition but not the best conditions. In most books, pages were falling out and some pages were ripped! In my opinion, this school needs to wake up and start purchasing new, better condition books. Really, you expect a student to read out of a ripped up old book. In conclusion, this school needs newer books.

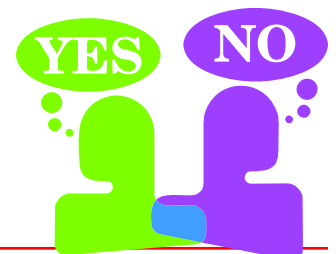
## Vitamin Water Should Stay

In this recent issue of Samoset Eagle Newspaper, there was a complaint about vitamin water and that it should be banned at Samoset. In my opinion vitamin water should stay for several reasons. First, everyone has different health conditions. Some people will be able to have it but others may not have Vitamin Water because of their diet situations. Furthermore, there are some others who like it. . The vending machine isn't cheap. According to a recent study, a vitamin water vending machine can cost over \$200-\$2,000! Now to remove it, that is another expense. You can't just throw away the machine. There are rules like warranties and insurance companies. In conclusion, we should keep Vitamin Water.

## Lessons: Way too Fast

This year, there were many great sixth grade teachers. The sixth grade teachers taught very well and tried to educate us in a way we could enjoy it. But, there is a problem. In my math class, we have fun and learn well, though I have had some trouble understanding math lessons. I think the teacher teaches us too fast. Everyday, we learn something new, which I am not saying is a bad thing but then it gets complicated. If we learn something confusing, we still learn a new lesson the next day. In my opinion, we should stay on a lesson for a minimum of two days. I know there are finals and midterms but that is why we should also be taught a decent amount of math lessons and not too many lessons that the teacher has to rush us. To conclude, we should slow down on learning math lessons.

That concludes today's opinions from the news desk



# Bike Safety



Why is bicycle safety so important? Bike riding is an excellent means of exercise however, every year, about

300,000 kids go to the emergency room due to a bike injuries. Some of these injuries are very severe.

Here are some tips to help you stay safe this summer:

- First off you need to make sure you are wearing a properly fitted helmet. Protect your brain, save your life.
- Make sure your bicycle is fitted to you. There should be about 1 to 2 inches between you and the top bar if you are using a road bike and about 3 to 4 inches if you are using a mountain bike. The seat should be level front to back. The seat height should be adjusted to allow a slight bend at the knee when your leg is fully extended. The handle

bar should be at the same level with the seat.

- Check your equipment. Make sure your tires are inflated properly, and that your brakes work.
- See and be seen. Make sure whether its daytime, dawn, dusk, bad weather, or night, you can be seen by others. Just wearing white does not mean you will be seen,
- Control your bike. Make sure you are always riding with at least one hand on the handlebars. Carry books in a backpack.
- Avoid riding your bike at night.
- Go With the Traffic Flow. Ride on the right in the same direction as other vehicles
- Obey All Traffic Laws. A bicycle is a vehicle and you're a driver. When you ride in the street, obey all traffic signs, signals, and lane markings.
- Yield to Traffic When Appropriate. Almost always, drivers on a smaller road must yield (wait) for traffic on a major or larger road. If there is no stop sign or traffic signal and you are coming from a smaller roadway (out of a driveway,

from a sidewalk, a bike path, etc.), you must slow down and look to see if the way is clear before proceeding. This also means yielding to pedestrians who have already entered a crosswalk.

- Stay Alert at All Times. Use your eyes AND ears. Watch out for potholes, cracks, wet leaves, storm grates, railroad tracks, or anything that could make you lose control of your bike. You need your ears to hear traffic and avoid dangerous situations; don't wear a headset when you ride.
- Look Before Turning. When turning left or right, always look behind you for a break in traffic, then signal before making the turn. Watch for left- or right-turning traffic.

**For more information on bicycle safety, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Web site at: [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov)**

# Lunch at Samoset

by Anthony A.

Below is a riddle of the different lunches that are served for lunch every week.

Do you know Samoset's lunches?

1. I have a lot of cheese; many people relate me to pizza.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I am always served on the grab and go line. I have salt on me and contain lots of bread

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Every Thursday, people often don't order me.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. I am very famous; my partner is teriyaki chicken.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. My friend is salty chips and served with a lot of meat.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. I have a coating of hot cheese; served with another choice of grilled cheese.

\_\_\_\_\_

# Earth Day in Ms. Alexander's Class

## By Anthony A.

On April 22, 2009, Ms. Alexander's first and second period English class wrote poems to honor Earth Day. Here are four elected poems to be in the Samoset Eagle Newspaper.

### Repulsive Polluters

*By Rachael*

People who pollute our earth are repulsive.  
They don't recycle.  
They don't use garbage cans.  
They use the streets.  
They don't use both sides of the paper.  
The use only one.  
They don't reuse bottles or glass jars.  
They don't use energy efficient cars.  
They don't turn off their lights.  
They don't reduce their use of natural gases.  
They don't save animals, forests, nor trees.  
They don't save flowers or bees.  
And most of all,  
They don't appreciate our earth.

### Because We Didn't Care

*By Courtney*

*Anthony Andrade*

Because we didn't recycle,  
We wasted our resources.  
Because we didn't turn off the lights,  
the night was too bright.  
Because we cut down too many trees,  
Our oxygen is fading.  
Because we throw away our dreams of helping earth,  
The earth is in shame.  
Because we didn't care,  
Mother Earth is scared.

### Mother Earth

*By Alexa and Ozlem*

Earth what a sight it could be,  
If you could pick up your trash you will see,  
Mother Earth's beauty,  
Mother Earth's care,  
Mother Earth's birds  
that fly in the air.  
Mother Earth's polluted can't you see?  
Mother Earth's scared.  
Mother Earth wishes  
We really cared.

### Let Nature Rock!

*By Katie , Kyler and Angelo*

Because of us,  
The nature on our earth has never had the chance to shine,  
Plants and animals are dying all the time.  
Because of us,  
The earth is in pain.  
Because of us,  
there are pollutants in body of water.  
Because of us,  
These problems are caused on earth everyday.  
Because of earth,  
We have a place to stay.  
Earth day should be everyday!