

# TIGER TRACKS



March 2017

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Welcome!

The Tiger Tracks team would like to welcome Homeroom 301 to our staff of monthly reporters. Be on the look out for their interesting articles!



## Valentine's Day in Homeroom 301

by Homeroom 301

Ms. Fernandez's class celebrated Valentine's Day by learning about the comparisons and contrasts of the customs in their countries. Rashil Amer and Meguen Cun interviewed the class and then reported the following. The class is 63% Guatemalan, 26% are from El Salvador, 7% are Palestinian, and 4% from Colombia.

The similarities between these countries are they all give gifts such as chocolates, roses, cards, and stuffed animals. They give them to their crushes, family, and friends. Colombia, In addition, El Salvador, and Guatemala participate in the game Amigo Secreto.

The differences between these countries is that in Colombia and in El Salvador, the holiday is called El Dia del Amor y la Amistad, but in Guatemala it's called El Dia del Carino. Also, in Colombia it is celebrated on the third Saturday of September and not on February 14 because it is said that Valentine was decapitated on that day. In Guatemala, everyone goes to the lakes and rivers on a picnic and they play games. Although Rashil and Ameera don't celebrate St. Valentine's Day in their homeland, they have exchanged gifts with their families in the United States.



## Read Across America

by Aliya Laliwala

March 2nd is National Read Across America Day (Dr. Seuss Day), which is an annual event that is part of Read Across America, an initiative on reading that was created by the National Education Association. Each year, National Read Across America Day is celebrated

on March 2nd, the birthday of Dr. Seuss. However, if it falls on a weekend, it is observed in the school systems on the school day closest to March 2nd. This day is a motivational and awareness day, calling all children and youth in every community across the United States to celebrate reading. To celebrate this day, pick up an interesting book, sit back and enjoy reading it.



## International Women's Day

by Ashley Aroni

International Women's Day is celebrated every year on March 8. Why do we celebrate this special day? We celebrate the contributions women made throughout history and across nations. It is also known as the United Nations (UN) Day for Women's Rights and International Peace. It is about celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also brings attention to the importance of gender equality.



## Daylight Savings Time

by Jawad Jamil

Daylight Savings Time this year is on Sunday, March 12. That is when we change our clocks forward an hour. The main purpose of it is to make better use of daylight and make evening daylight last longer. This also affects people since they will be able to do certain outdoor activities with an extra hour of light. This idea was implemented in February 9, 1942 by President Franklin Roosevelt and was gradually adopted by other countries. Today, over 70 nations worldwide participate in Daylight Savings Time, however, they all don't change their clocks on the same weekend.



## Science Project

By Brianna Lopez and Melissa Montijo

Ms Brueck's and Mrs. Messina's seventh grade classes are creating cars with balloons based on what we've learned about forces and motion. Classes were divided into four groups consisting of students with different jobs are project managers, designers, engineers, and mechanics. The project managers are the people who report the progress of the group to the teacher. The designers are in charge of making the car attractive and the mechanics need to place all of the parts of the car without interfering with other parts. The engineers work with the designers and mechanics, helping them by getting them supplies and parts to the car. Once our masterpieces are finished, we will have a race to see whose car is faster.



## The History of St. Patrick's Day

by Afrodite Hyrssonallidis

St. Patrick's Day is an upcoming March holiday. The origins of St. Patrick's Day came from the celebration of the Roman Catholic feast day of the patron saint of Ireland. St. Patrick's birthname was actually Maewyn and he was born in Roman Britain. He was kidnapped into slavery and brought to Ireland. He escaped to a monastery in Gaul (France), converted to Christianity, and then went back to Ireland in 432 as a missionary. While Christianity had already taken hold in the country, tradition has it that Patrick confronted the Druids at Tara and abolished their pagan rites, making Christianity more widespread. Patrick became a bishop and after his death on March 17th, 461, was named Ireland's patron saint.

When the Irish emigrated to the U.S., they created the bigger celebrations and parades known today. Eighteenth century Irish soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War held the first St. Patrick's Day parades. The celebrations became a way for the Irish to connect with their roots after they moved to America. So today we know St. Patrick's day is celebrated every year on March 17. Some fun facts about St. Patrick's day is that the shamrock, or three leaf clover, is used to explain the Trinity according to legend of St. Patrick. Also Corn beef and cabbage is an Irish American dish. Irish Americans were so poor they could not afford certain meals so on St. Patrick's Day, the best meal they could afford was corn beef and cabbage. It became a staple for the holiday. So have yourself some corn beef and cabbage, grab your lucky shamrock,, and enjoy St. Patrick's Day!



## Fun St. Patrick's Day Activities

By Pelin Cokuslu

With Saint Patrick's Day coming up, here are some interesting and enjoyable activities to do on this holy and solemn day celebrated by the Irish. However, Irish people and non-Irish people can both engage in pleasurable activities for this holiday, such as Celtic dancing, learning how to play the Irish Tin Whistle, and attempting to set a record for the most Shamrock Pins worn by about/over a hundred people. You can even learn how to play the Tin Whistle, which isn't very difficult to learn. The hardest part is to buy one, but once that task is completed, one then simply searches up videos online and practice. You can also a learn how to speak the Gaelic language, which is sometimes known to be the language of the faeries.

Finally, a wonderful activity that most bakers, or anyone, would enjoy is baking a classic Irish dessert. This scrumptious treat is Irish Soda Bread. These are the ingredients needed for this sweet bread:

4 cups all-purpose flour, plus extra for currants

4 tablespoons sugar

1 teaspoon baking soda

1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt

4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch dice

1 3/4 cups cold buttermilk, shaken

1 extra-large egg, lightly beaten

1 teaspoon grated orange zest

1 cup dried currants

Here is a recipe to make it at home, if it fits your liking:

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper.

Combine the flour, sugar, baking soda, and salt in the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment.

Add the butter and mix on low speed until the butter is mixed into the flour.

With a fork, lightly beat the buttermilk, egg, and orange zest together in a measuring cup.

With the mixer on low speed, slowly add the buttermilk mixture to the flour mixture.

Combine the currants with 1 tablespoon of flour and mix into the dough. It will be very wet.

Dump the dough onto a well-floured board and knead it a few times into a round loaf.

Place the loaf on the prepared sheet pan and lightly cut an X into the top of the bread with a serrated knife.

Bake for 45 to 55 minutes, or until a cake tester comes out clean. When you tap the loaf, it will have a hollow sound.

Cool on a baking rack. Serve warm or at room temperature.

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This is a recipe from Food Network and the link to it is <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/ina-garten/irish-soda-bread-recipe>.

### March Fun Facts by Winnie Zhao



\*March was the first month of every year until 1752, when the Gregorian calendar was used.

\*March is Women's History Month, American Red Cross Month, National Nutrition Month, Read Across America, St. Patrick's Day, and Daylights Saving Day.

\*March was named after Mars, a Roman God of War, because it was the month in which the military campaigning season got under way after winter.

\*The Aquamarine and the Bloodstone, which symbolizes courage and bravery, are the birthstones for March.

\*The Daffodil, which means friendship and domestic happiness, is the birth flower of March.



### Fourth Grade Project by Ria Patel

Mrs. Capano's fourth grade class are studying fractions by making pizza and pies using different colors of construction paper. They also made paper pepperoni and mushrooms to put on the pizzas and fruits like strawberries and blueberries for the pies. The students then had to answer questions about how much of the pizzas or pies had toppings on them. This was a fun way to learn about fractions.



### Mayor for a Day by Ruven Pino

Soon will be the chance for students to see what it feels like to run the small town of Fairview by becoming mayor for a day. These contestants will give speeches and try for one of the eight positions. Then elections will be held and students will vote for their favorite candidates. Winners will get to spend the day at the borough hall and see how the town works before having a nice lunch with Mayor Bellucci and council members, as well as other town officials. Make your choices wisely because this chance doesn't come very often. Imagine what it would feel like sitting in that big chair at that town meeting!



### National Near Miss Day By Brianna Soto

Believe it or not, there is a special and unique holiday almost every day of the year that you may or may not know exists. One not-so-known holiday is National Near Miss Day, a day that celebrates an asteroid that nearly collided with the Earth on March 23rd, 1989. It is celebrated to remember the terrifying day that the Earth survived an almost collision.

The mountain size asteroid came within 500,000 miles of colliding with Earth, which is scientifically, very close. Had it collided with Earth, the rocky object would have left a crater, perhaps the size of Washington D.C. which would have been devastating. Phew!



### National Potato Chip Day by Jonathan and Joshua Pashalian

Have you ever heard of a day named National Potato Chip Day? On March 14, this delicious snack will be enjoyed and celebrated by millions across the country. This day is when the first beloved quick snack was created by Chef George Crum on August 24, 1853. The creator of this actual day is still anonymous!.

From then to now we have so many types of chips starting with the classic potato chips to wasabi flavored potato chips. With so many to choose, what do you do? Think of your favorite flavor and head to your nearest grocery store and they should have it. If you ever are craving a savory snack choose one of the flavors, sit down, relax and enjoy your favorite flavor of crispy potato chips!!!



## Alien Abduction Day?

by Medina Iljazi

There is actually a holiday about alien abductions! The holiday called National Alien Abductions Day or Extraterrestrial Abductions Day occurs on March 20th of each year. A famous plant called kohlrabi is planted on that day since many considered it a "alien vegetable". The holiday is celebrated around the world as many look up into the sky, looking for UFOs or even wishing to be abducted!

It's unknown who created the holiday but the holiday became popular in 2008 as a festival in Toronto, Canada. But why would anyone celebrate the holiday? Well, people watch science-fiction movies, so it's natural for them to make things like fan-made videos and parodies of pop culture. If you are a science fiction fan, then enjoy this weird holiday about aliens



## .Shark Tank

by Maria Giron

For the past few weeks in Mr. Eagleson's class, we've made inventions and presented it like the show "Shark Tank". The first time we presented, most of our inventions were rejected for improvement. He gave us another chance to improve them and most were rejected again. There are only two inventions the Sharks, Mrs. Grgurev and Mr. Eaglson invested into. Those two groups will have to compete for 1 million dollars. They will get one week to improve and fix some things the Sharks suggested. The final presentation will include more Sharks. The winning invention will be chosen once we come back from the winter break.



What's cooking everybody? The name's Amylee. Welcome to March. You all know what's coming, right? Welp, if it isn't the old Saint Patrick's Day! March 17! I don't mean to sound like a nerd, but for your information, but this particular holiday was first celebrated in America in 1737, and was started in honor of St Patrick, known as the patron saint of Ireland. Though, ironically and obviously, he wasn't Irish. You know, that day is thought to be good luck. Speaking of which, we have a lucky friend whose B-day is on March 11. Happy Birthday to Mr. Ata Erdal. YAY! From now on, we're doing something a little new. It's called "B-day Callout". Every month, someone's birthday will be called out. It could be anyone. If you want yours to be called out, the boss is always open. PEACE!

## Sports

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### Irish Sportsmen by Ata Erdal

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, here is a short list of five popular Irish Sportsmen.

#### BRIAN O'DRISCOLL (RUGBY UNION PLAYER):

Brian O'Driscoll is one of Ireland's true sporting treasures as he conducted himself with pure class both on and off the pitch. He holds the record of being the most capped rugby union player with 141 test appearances.

#### GEORGE BEST (PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER):

George Best is universally regarded as one of the best ever footballers alongside the likes of Pele, Diego Maradona and Johan Cruyff. He was a tricky and skillful winger, who managed 137 goals for Manchester United and nine goals on the international stage for Northern Ireland. Best peaked early in his career and this 1968 European Cup winner will always be remembered as one of the most talented sportsman the Emerald Isle has ever produced.

#### PAUL MCGRATH (FORMER FOOTBALLER):

Paul McGrath made a reputation for himself as a tough tackler and a brilliant soccer player, even though he suffered many injuries and personal problems. McGrath is often regarded as the most influential player Ireland had during the national team's glory days during the country's first major tournament appearances at the European Championships in 1988 and the World Cup in 1990. By the time Ireland's 1994 World Cup chance came around, McGrath was still one of Ireland's most important players, and his performance in the 1-0 win over Italy will not be forgotten.

#### AP MCCOY (FORMER HORSE RACING JOCKEY):

AP McCoy, and Irish jockey, is famous for winning the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National, as well as being a 20-time champion jump jockey. Throughout his career, McCoy won a remarkable 4,348 jump races and nine flat races. He also won BBC Sports Personality of the Year award in 2010, becoming the first jockey to win it. He also won RTÉ's Sports Person of the year in 2013 and recently received a lifetime achievement award at the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year ceremony for 2015.

#### HENRY SHEFFLIN (IRISH HURLER):

Kilkenny hurling legend Henry Shefflin made an incredible 71 championship appearances during a golden era for the Cats. In that time he won 13 Leinster titles, 10 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championships, six league titles and 11 All-Star awards. With 27 goals and 485 points, Shefflin is the top championship scorer of all time and is considered to be the best ever to play the game.



#### Softball by Zena Hassan

This season is softball for girls! Fairview's girls did great last year and hopefully they will have a great season this year. The tryouts were in the end of February with Mr. Henion, our gum teacher. Practices will be before and after school. Get ready for this approaching softball season! For more information about softball, please contact Mr. Henion.

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## Who Said It?

*"Beware the Ides of March."*