



# JAGUAR JOURNAL

We Cover It All

## Black Pine Circle History

By: Callie Fulop

A lot of us were there at BPC's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday Party. But how did BPC get to where it is now? Well in 1967, three hardworking people came up with the idea of BPC. They then got it up and running! Their names were Oscar Pemantle, Francis Kandl, and Carman Gonzalez. In 1968 Black Pine Circle opened workshops for college students. At the time, the school was located in the high Sierras, whose big pine trees gave Black Pine Circle its name. In 1971, workshops opened for elementary and middle school students who were not being sufficiently challenged at school. In 1973, BPC's first official kindergarten class started, located in a Seventh Day Adventist Church. It quickly expanded into a full-scale elementary school, and eventually middle school as well. Many people say that this was when BPC "started", but we know better, don't we? Two years later, in 1975, the Lower School building was purchased and all of BPC's operations moved there. BPC ran things smoothly there for nine years before they bought the Upper School building from Tehiyah Day School in 1984.

We all love to read, don't we? Well, the library wasn't always there! That building has only been open to students since 2005. Later in 2005, Mr. Carlstroem became the Head of School. Wow—that was 18 years ago!

In 2011, the climbing wall on the Upper School campus was put in. Mr. Carlstroem made a good change, if you ask me!

Now don't tell me you don't like running around on the field! That was created in 2014. And in 2016 the Q Lab, a space for science and inquiry (cont. on page 4)

### Meet Ms Leverenz

By: Mira

Hobbies – Yoga, seeing live music, and hiking.

Favorite Food – Senegalese peanut stew.

Favorite Color – Teal

Favorite Movie – Zootopia

Favorite Book – All the Light We Cannot See

Favorite Place to Go on Vacation – Mexico

Do you have pets? No Pets

Where were you born?

New York City.

Why did you become a teacher?

So, I can spend all day with kids.

I learn so much from them.

Did you ever want to be something else?

Yes, a therapist

Do you have any siblings?

No, I'm an only child.

What was your favorite subject in school?

Art

**Welcome, Ms Leverenz!**

### In this Issue...

- BPC History
- Student Council News
- Club News
- Cookie Recipe
- Spanish Culture
- ...and more!



### Riddles

By Kavan Reddy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

1. What do you call a running turkey?
2. What did the turkey say to the computer?
3. What kind of key can't open doors?
4. Why did the cranberries turn red?

**Answers on page**

## LS Upcoming Events

By: Nathan Bennett-Crump

### LS Spirit Days:

- **December 1<sup>st</sup> Pajama Day**
- **December 13 Crunchings and Munchings Fundraiser**
- **January 12 Backwards Day**

### LS Events

- **December 14 Winter Concerts**
- **December 18- January 1 Winter Break**
- **January 2 In-service Day**
- **January 12 Family Maker Friday**
- **January 15 Martin Luther King Day**
- **January 16 Professional In-service Day**

## Green Committee News

By: Jane Gettell

Recently, in the Green Committee, we have been talking about how to reuse boxes. For example, turning a glasses box into a pen box! Or, using a chocolate box as a gift box for someone!

Brainstorm ways **you** can be creative with reusing boxes.



We hope to see you in the Green Committee soon. Bye!

Reduce  
Reuse  
Recycle

## Student Council Highlights

We've been putting a lot of time into planning a fundraiser. It was supposed to happen in November but had to be postponed until December. We will be selling lemonade, popcorn and forest gummy bears. We're working hard to make this fundraiser a success.

We've also been getting a lot of "nap time" in the suggestion box. Please, no more suggestions for "nap time".

We also have been getting suggestions that we have more variety in our Spirit Days. Your Spirit Day suggestions are welcome!

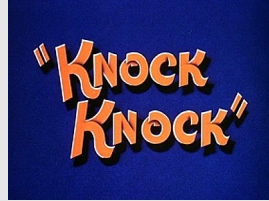
## Have You Ever Heard of Alebrijes?

For the first time at Black Pine Circle, we'll be hosting Mexican artist Jesus Sosa Calvo who makes Alebrijes in Oaxaca. Señor Sosa Calvo will visit the Lower School on December 8 and will teach our students the art of making Alebrijes and how to color them. All our K-5 students will be able to experience this activity coloring their own Alebrije.



## Riddles & Jokes continued

By Kavan Reddy 2nd Grade



Knock, knock  
Who's there?  
Harry  
Harry who?  
Harry up and pass the gravy!

Knock knock  
Who's there?  
Don  
Don who?  
Don eat all the stuffing. Save some for me!

### Riddle Answers

1. Fast Food
2. Google, google, google google
3. A turkey
4. Because they saw the turkey dressing.

## Hola Estudiantes de BPC!

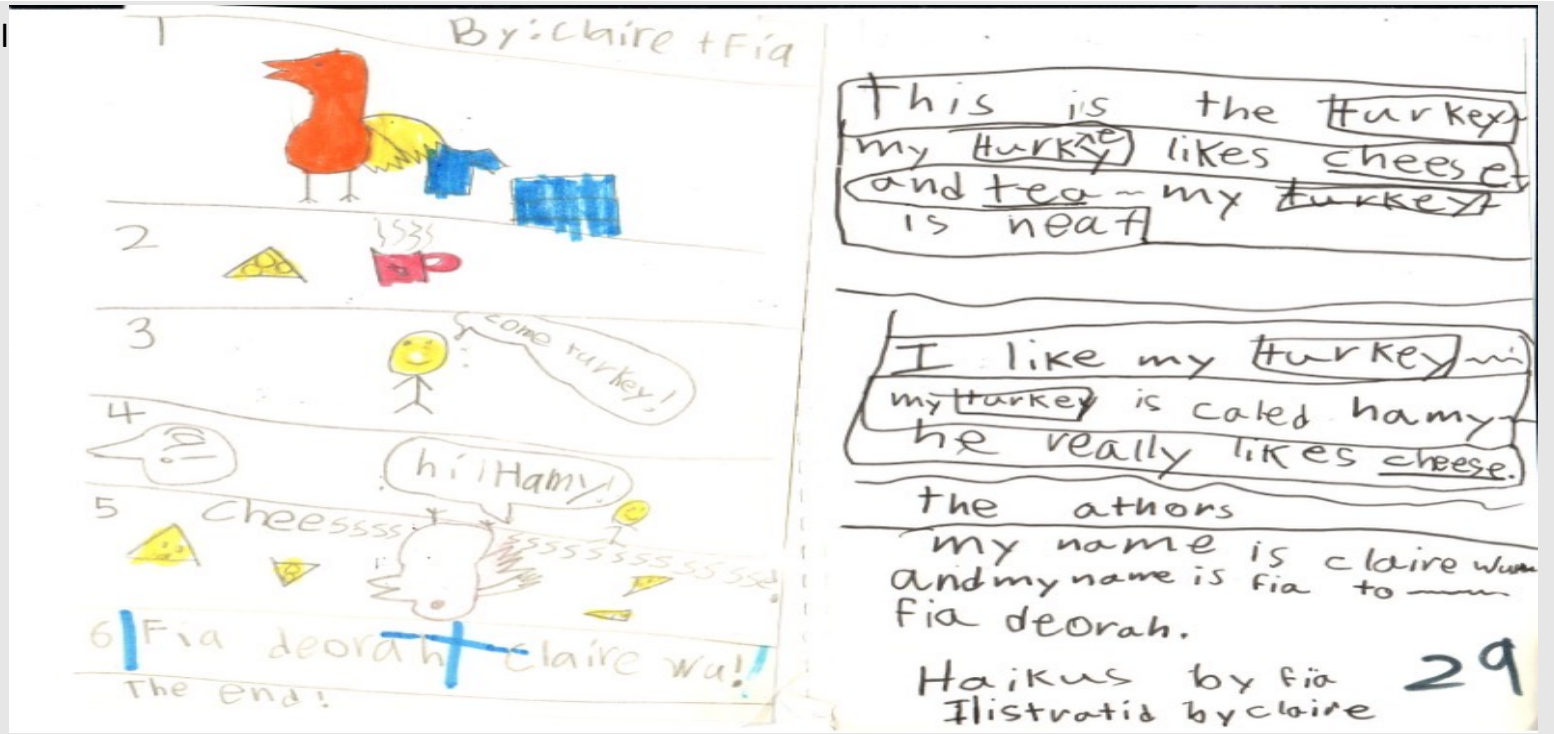
Estoy muy contenta! I'm very excited to announce that our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will have pen pals from two different schools in Barcelona. In fact, these are the schools I attended as a child. Two months ago, I contacted their 4<sup>th</sup> grade English teachers and asked if their students would like to do a letter exchange. Both schools said "YES!" Our 4<sup>th</sup> graders have already received their first letters in English and we are now getting ready to reply to them in español. We hope this is the beginning of a long-lasting friendship across the continents.

Saludos  
Maestra Aida





## Turkey Comic & Haiku By: Claire and Fia 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



### Chickens and Gardens

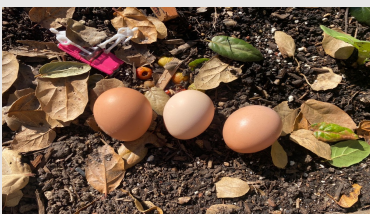
By: Finley Mastro

The chickens are doing great! The new ones, Puff and Jenkins, are settling in well. Now they are laying beautiful cream eggs. The original hens—Gus, Hamilton, Gallus, and Schmebb—are adapting well to their new friends. As usual, Chickens and Gardens Club is. Happening so the hens are enjoying extra treats, their favorites being the watermelon Ms. Lockwood brings them on hot days. Although sadly they will be seeing less of that now that it's getting colder. If you want to know more about chickens, ask Ms Lockwood or even better, join Chickens and Gardens Club!

Puff



Jenkins



### Witches and Wizards Club By Dasha Morozova

This club is free and hosted by Annie (a witch with wizarding friends) There are about 14-15 kids. We meet on Tuesdays in the garden. We make potions using natural materials found in the garden—leaves, wood, lavender, other flowers. We grind them together, add liquid and put it in a bottle. We learn spells that add love and that will help our world. We also read stories about witches and magical things. It's very FUN!



## Chocolate Chip Cookie Bars

By Elizabeth Ham 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

### Ingredients

**Cooking Spray**

**2 sticks of unsalted butter at room temperature**

**1 cup of granulated sugar**

**1 cup of packed light brown sugar**

**3 large eggs**

**1 ½ teaspoons of pure vanilla extract**

**3 cups of all-purpose flour**

**¾ teaspoons of baking soda**

**¾ teaspoons of salt**

**1 12-ounce bag of semi-sweet chocolate chips**

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a 9 –by-13 inch baking pan with foil, leaving a 2-inch overhang on two sides. Coat the foil with cooking spray. Combine the butter, granulated sugar and brown sugar in a large bowl. Beat with a mixer on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, about two minutes. Beat in the eggs and vanilla. Reduce speed to low and add the flour, baking soda and salt; beat until combined. Stir in the chocolate chips with a wooden spoon.
2. Spread the dough in the pan with a rubber spatula or press with damp or oiled fingers. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 35-40 minutes. Remove the pan from the oven with oven mitts, then put the pan on a rack and let them cool completely.

### Cookies Continued...

3. Lift the bars out of the pan using the overhang foil, then peel off the foil. Cut into squares.



### Cozy Books to Read Over the Break

By: Talia Agol

#### Younger Readers

*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

By Roald Dahl

*Geronimo Stilton series*

By Geronimo Stilton

*Diary of a Wimpy Kid series*

By Jeff Kinney

*Tale of Despereaux*

By Kate DiCamillo

*Magic Tree House series*

By Mary Pope Osborne

#### Older Readers

*Winterhouse*

by Ben Guterson

*The Candy Shop Wars*

By Brandon Mull

*Land of Stories series*

By Chris Colfer

*Wildwood series*

By Colin Meloy

*Keeper of the Lost Cities series*

By Shannon Messenger

*Harry Potter series*

J.K Rowling

*Nevermoor series*

By Jessica Townsend

"Wonder is the feeling of a philosopher, and philosophy begins in wonder."

- Socrates



### History of BPC continued...

opened for students. For kids who wanted quiet during recess—the oasis was built in 2017. Can you believe that the Oasis is only six years old? It feels like that place has been around forever!

Only one year later, in 2018, BPC celebrated its 45<sup>th</sup> birthday. And now here we are celebrating BPC's 50<sup>th</sup>! But if you've been doing the math carefully, you'll see that BPC didn't actually start 50 years ago. It started 56 years ago in 1967. What we're celebrating is the opening of the first BPC "school". But isn't it crazy to think that you're going to a school that has been around for 56 years?

(Source: History and Mission: Balance Between Arts and Academics. Black Pine Circle School, 2023, blackpinecircle.org)

