

# THE JAGS JOURNAL

The latest news and updates from the LCCS newspaper staff



## Tanay Tabhane Wins LCCS Lower School Spelling Bee

by Brandon

Every year, LCCS has an in-person spelling bee for lower elementary school students. However, this year it was quite different due to the pandemic, and it was held through Zoom on Thursday, May 20th. The way to become a spelling bee contestant is to be one of the top spellers in your class to win the classroom spelling bee. Then, you move on to the final spelling bee, which includes grades K through 4. There were a total of 55 students in the lower elementary school spelling bee. Here are some words the participants had to spell: instruments, Canada, bison, FORTRAN etc.

A spelling bee is a competition in which contestants are asked to spell a selection of words, usually with a varying degree of difficulty. To compete, contestants must memorize the spellings of words as written in dictionaries, and recite them accordingly. The concept is thought to have originated in the

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# Lower School Spelling Bee, Continued

United States. Some contestants lost by not capitalizing names of proper nouns, and other contestants lost by misspelling words. Some contestants lost because they did not say the word before and after they spelled the word.

Although there were 55 students in this year's 2021 spelling bee for lower elementary school, there could only be one winner! I had the opportunity to interview the spelling bee champion, Tanay Tabhane.

**Brandon:** Tanay, how did you prepare for the school spelling bee?

**Tanay:** I practiced a lot and asked my family to test me.

**Brandon:** Did you think you would make it through all the rounds?

**Tanay:** I thought I would lose in the first few rounds.

**Brandon:** What was the final word you won on?

**Tanay:** The word I won on was "soleil."

**Brandon:** Tanay, on the final word you had to spell, were you happy, nervous, scared, excited, or confident?

**Tanay:** On the final word I was very scared and nervous.

**Brandon:** What advice would you give to someone who would want to win a spelling bee?

**Tanay:** Don't be nervous or you will have better chances of losing.

This year's spelling bee was a very new experience due to the pandemic and an exciting competition amongst the teachers and the 55 participants. Although there were new challenges, everyone did their best and stayed strong. Congratulations again to Tanay Tabhane, and see you all next year!

## CDC's New COVID Guidelines: What You Need to Know

by *Gabriela*

New COVID guidelines are out, so here's all the info you need about the new CDC guidelines regarding the COVID-19 virus.

Fully vaccinated people can now go outside and do daily activities without a mask or six-foot distance. Still, be cautious around others who aren't vaccinated, for your safety and theirs. "Fully vaccinated" is defined as, "2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine." This also includes children ages 12 and up. If you do not meet these criteria, you are not fully vaccinated and you must continue to follow the regular COVID-19 guidelines. Though, if the state or territory you are in requires masks or social distancing, you must follow their rules regardless of your vaccination status.

Fully vaccinated people can now resume activities they previously took part in prior to the coronavirus without masks, such as larger gatherings and going to theme parks unless advised against so by state or

# CDC's New COVID Guidelines, Continued

local law enforcement.

If you are fully vaccinated and have been in contact with someone who has COVID-19 you do not need to quarantine or get tested. However, even if you are fully vaccinated, you are still required to wear a mask on public transportation vehicles such as buses, planes, and trains. As always, still be careful around others. At this time we are currently unaware of exactly how effective the vaccines are on other strains of the virus, so we should still be cautious if we get symptoms or have friends who haven't been vaccinated. These recommendations do not apply to healthcare settings such as doctors offices and nursing homes. With summer just around the corner and more opportunities to get outside and be surrounded by people, you can't know for sure who's vaccinated. So please, use your best judgement as you follow the new guidelines.

## Save Our Seas Challenge Winners

This year, the LCCS Green Team issued a challenge to our school community: the Save Our Seas Challenge. The purpose of the challenge was to encourage students to participate in "green" activities that protect our seas. In order to complete the challenge, students needed to complete a series of 10 tasks, such as taking a five minute shower three times, or scraping extra food into a trash can or composting bin so it did not end up in the sink.

12 enthusiastic LCCS students decided to take the challenge and completed all 10 tasks required in order to complete the entire challenge. The LCCS newspaper would like to give a huge shout out to these environmentally-conscious students for their hard work. Congratulations to Samuel Fox, Joshwin Arun, Frankie DiMartino, Umaiza Qamar, Gavin Perez, Liam Bell, Emma Fandialan, Amy Rivera, Dereck Diller, Emily Diller, Emarie Araujo, and Anya Birla for completing the Save Our Seas Challenge! See below for a headshot of each challenge winner.



Anya



Umaiza



Samuel



Amy



Liam



Joshwin



Emma



Emily



Dereck



Gavin



Frankie



Emarie

# Ex Racehorses

by Franciszka

After many long years running around the track, many horses had forgotten how to be a horse. As their racing career came to an end, many bounced from owner to owner, unsure who would take them home after each race. The old horses had proven themselves strong and durable, but after so much time spent running, some potential new owners viewed them as used up.

Horses who are bred for a racing career start training young, before they are even finished growing. Trainers begin working with these horses when they're around 18 months of age to break them in. During this time, the horses get accustomed to taking direction, wearing a saddle, and eventually taking a rider and running timed gallops of different lengths. Then comes their first race.

A racehorse's career generally peaks at 3 years old, when they are thought to be at the height of their athletic prowess. This is when horses can compete in the most prestigious American races: the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes. Only 12 horses have managed to win all three of these races, claiming the coveted Triple Crown trophy.



There are many reasons why a horse's racing career can end. Champion racehorses are often retired early, becoming what's known as a "stud horse." When a former racehorse begins a second career as a stud horse, it means his owner uses the horse to breed with mares, the goal being to potentially produce new race-winning foals. This can be extremely demanding for the stallion, but can be very lucrative for the horse's owners, who can earn thousands of dollars for just one visit.

Racing careers can also come to an abrupt end if a horse is injured during training or competition. A number of factors can contribute to the likelihood of injury – from weather, to track length and surface (dirt tracks are more dangerous than synthetic), to the overuse of performance-enhancing drugs.

There are many strain- and fatigue-induced injuries that may put an end to a horse's racing days, but don't need to mean the end of his or her life. "Some retired racehorses are lucky enough to be picked up by trainers or rescuers who put a lot of time and training into them to give them a new career," says Ashley DiFelice, founder of Twist of Fate Farm and Sanctuary in Pennsylvania.

Others are not so lucky. Many will end up at auctions while some are sold directly to kill buyers or dealers. These horses will be shipped directly to slaughter with a very slim chance of being saved. This is what is happening to these horses, and we need to help them, we need to make a change.

# Best Summer Crafts

by Fatima

Do you want cool and easy decorations for your outdoor/indoor space? A great decoration for you is leaf banners! Let's get started!

## Things you need:

- Colored paper (any colors you want)
- Scissors
- String
- Tape

## Directions:

First, take a long piece of string and set it aside. Then, cut out colorful leaves and put pieces of tape at the back of all of your leaves! Next, bring back the string and tape all the leaves to the string - make sure to make them separate! And you're all done! Hang it wherever you like.



Let's make another easy quick craft! This time we will be making, smiling suns!

## Things you need:

- Yellow paint and a paint brush
- Yellow, red, and orange colored paper
- Googly eyes
- Colored markers
- Paper plate



## Directions:

First take your plate and paint it in yellow. Next, cut out triangles with your red, orange, and yellow colored paper. Attach those triangles to the back of your plate to make the sun's rays. Lastly, make a face with your googly eyes and your markers!

# Summer Activities

by Hans

Are you planning to have fun during your summer, but you don't know what to do? Here are some summer activities to make this year's summer the best it can be! Also, stay safe, and bring a camera to remember the fun!

1. Ride a roller coaster!
2. Catch fireflies at night.
3. Go to the beach!
4. Explore your backyard.
5. Go to a farm and pick yummy fruits!
6. Make lemonade from scratch!
7. Have a barbecue!
8. Stargaze in the grass.
9. Go camping in your backyard!
10. Have a photo scavenger hunt.
11. Make your own homemade ice cream.
12. Swim in a pool!
13. Make a summer themed drawing.
14. Go bird watching.
15. Make fairy houses.
16. Read at least 2 times in a week.
17. Make fun science experiments.
18. Have a bonfire and eat s'mores
19. Have a luau in your backyard!
20. Visit an art exhibit.
21. Make a mural.
22. Make your own play.
23. Eat a popsicle.
24. Do summer cleaning.
25. Have a dance party!

Try some of these activities during your summer break!



# Mememes of the Month

by August

When you first turn on the AC in the car and it blows hot air



Friends: What's your plans for today?



**Thank you so much for reading! Have an amazing summer and we'll see you next year!**  
**- The LCCS Newspaper Staff**