

January issue

Panther Tales



HOPES AND DREAMS FOR 2009

by Somaya Bracy Miss Price's 3rd grade class

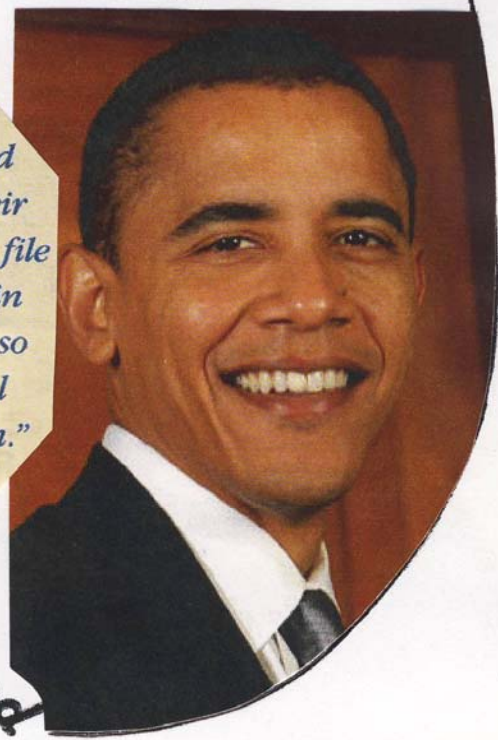
What I want to happen this year is that I want my family to be together and never fall apart. They did stick together this year, this wish is just for the future...just in case. I also want me to live my life just the way it is. My plan is to get good grades and a scholarship to college. If I get bad grades or have a behavior problem I want to fix it. I also want to put my periods in my stories and work a little bit better. I hope to hold on to my dreams like becoming a singer. La la la la la. Or a dancer. 1 2 3 Step! I'll also be a regular girl that wants to be me and get good grades and be the way I am. You need to be the best you can be because that's the Rutherford way. I am not always going to be in the Rutherford School, but they taught me a lot. You rock 2009!

A LETTER TO PRESIDENT OBAMA

Danielle Nolan's (in Mr. Cordisco's 5th grade class) persuasive writing piece (a letter to President Obama) was published in the January 22nd, New York Teacher magazine.

"I would like to have the school environment upgraded. The kids need bigger desks so they can fit their books. The teachers need bigger file cabinets to keep all their files in place. Recess needs to be safer so kids don't get hurt. The school needs more basketballs for gym."

- DANIELLE NOLAN, 5TH GRADE
KLR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MONTICELLO



K. L. Rutherford

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Feb. 2nd - March 1st
2009

**BOX TOPS AND
LABELS FOR EDUCATION**

The leading classes are:

- 1) Ms. Bockman - 471
- 2) Ms. Epstein - 434
- 3) Mr. Cordisco - 405
- 4) Mr. Prestianni - 360
- 5) Ms. Cordisco - 309



LIFE ROPE PROJECTS

Mrs. Diana Hartman and Mrs. Julia Serrano's 5th grade classes created life ropes for a culminating activity in Social Studies. These projects represented significant events in each student's life. Each student picked events to include in their life rope and arranged them in chronological order. They then decided on an interesting way to personalize their project, making each one unique. The students presented their projects and proudly displayed them in the fifth grade wing at KL Rutherford Elementary School.

INAUGURATION DAY IN OUR CLASSROOM

Mrs. Serrano and Mrs. Hartman's fifth grade classes watched the inauguration of Barack Obama become the 44th president of the United States. While wearing their fanciest clothing, students dined on fancy hor d'oeuvres and patriotic punch. Flag cookies were hand decorated by each student. After, each student shared a presidential research report of former presidents.



February 2nd
**GROUNDHOG
DAY**



February 14
**VALENTINE'S
DAY**



THE DISSECTING OF OWL

PELLETS IN ROOM 213

By: Anna Fiore, Anisa Sanders, and Emily Edwards

In Mrs. Cordisco's class we dissected owl pellets. Some people think it sounds gross, but it was very interesting. Owl pellets are not manure, they are bones, fur, and non-nutrients left over after the owl has eaten. Owls have two stomachs, one stomach has the nutrients, and the other has bones, fur, and items not needed for the owl's health.

The first day of dissecting was fun. We had a tool called a probe, and we pecked at the pellet until it opened. Inside the pellets we found bones and fur. The second day of dissecting the pellet, we had to take all the bones we found and put them in a separate dish for the next day. The bones were very tiny so we had trouble picking them up. On day three, we took all the bones and compared them to a chart in order to know what they were. We then created a skeleton of the animal. On day four we did the same thing to finish up our project. After we were done gluing, we used scissors to cut around the bones on the tracing paper. After that, we glued it to a black piece of construction paper.

Last, but not least, we wrote things about our owl and our owl pellet on an index card and glued it onto the black paper. This helped us to understand more about our owl and its prey.

This is an amazing project you can do with your teacher, friend, or parent. It's a lot of fun. By the way, these pellets were store bought and cleaned by pros.



February 16-18
**MID - WINTER
RECESS**
No School



February 5th &
February 19th
**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**
7:00pm



DECEMBER / JANUARY MUSIC NOTES

Our students put on a wonderful Winter Concert this year. They danced, played various percussion instruments, and of course shared their golden voices in song. In the New Year our 3rd grade students will begin studying recorders, and all grade levels will continue learning about music from various countries around the world. This study is opening new musical vistas for our students' young ears. The chorus will also focus on songs from countries where the language is other than English.

Twelve KLR 5th graders will be participating in the elementary chorus at the All County Music Festival hosted by the Monticello School District this year. They will begin preparing in January for the concert which will be at the beginning of March.

In our music classes students are continuing to learn about music styles from around the world, to read and write music, and play recorders. Our All County Elementary Chorus participants are preparing for the All County Festival which will be hosted by our district this year. Congratulations to Ryan Katz, Cameron Johnson, Sydney Johnson, Jordan Drapkin, Da'Khari Williams, Catie Lucas, Quanasha Wilkes, Alli Smith, Rebecca Bass, Shaun Jackson, Alexandra Stant and Danielle Nolan.

SPECIAL DELIVERY...

Another student has gone above and beyond what is expected of him to earn the Rutherford Medal. Fifth grader Justin Kozachuk comes in early every day to count, divide and deliver our school newspapers to each classroom. His honesty and dependability make him the wonderful young man that he is. Well done Justin!

