

December 2015

GECKO



Dear Readers,

We are back with the Winter edition of the Gecko ! We sincerely apologize for our long hiatus. However, the Gecko is back and with a lot of great literature pieces written by the students of Ross Prep.

We hope everyone will enjoy reading the Gecko. We will see you again for the Summer edition of the Gecko.

Sincerely,
The Editing Team

"Snow"

Amazed I stood there
looking high up in the sky.
Something was drifting down
covered in white.
Is this possible?
How can this be?
I stare at amazement
at the piece of snow
that lazily lands on me.

Vivian Zhang, 8th grade



"The Blue Seas"

The deep, blue sea has the most beautiful creatures.

Through the rhythm of the waves, you can hear the mermaids softly singing their songs and splashing their tails.

The fish in the sea rush pass with a side to side motion and on the waves they ride!

The crabs in the sea explore the shore, pinching toes all day, so you better wear shoes.

The salty sea attacks and retreats repeatedly on the shore.

During the night, the hungry sharks in the deep, blue sea rushes to the shore hoping and assuming it will find its dinner.

Me, sitting on the beach chair, scanning the sea, wondering if any creatures will be looking.

Tatiana Leader, 7th grade



"My New Dog"

I can't believe I'm getting a dog!
I bet she's going to be so much fun!

She's a girl.

I have stickers of dogs.

I am going to have so much fun with her!

She's a puppy!

I will give her my bear.

I will love her with my heart.

She's the cutest puppy in my home.

It's a German Shepherd.

So, when it grows up, it will protect me!

Gabriella Schriber, 2 grade

Flowers

A flower is a beautiful creation.

When it blooms all you can do is look at it and wonder what would I do without this beauty? You watch it sway back and forth in the breeze. Its fragrance spreading. When dusk

has gone and the flower is in its most beautiful stage, you can see the morning dew on its blood shot petals. Though when the day is over, you must say good riddance and wait for the magnificent creation to return.

Alexa Abourizk, 8th grade



Activity Inspires Creativity (excerpt)

Practically all my life I've been very active and creative. When I was about four, my dad and I built a house out of pillows, and I slept in there for two nights. I spent about two hours planning and building that house on my mom's bed. I loved every minute of building it. It let me be creative and active.

When I was about six, I built a small fort out of pillows from our couch and turned it into a workshop. I had different parts of the workshop that kept my supplies like paper, crayons, and markers. I also had entrances and exits and one secret tunnel behind the couch that my dad loved to sit in. Everyday, when I came home from school, I would spend hours in my workshop drawing. I don't know why that workshop was so cool to me, but I know it just was. Maybe it was that I built it myself and that it kept me busy. Even though it got hot in there, I didn't mind.

I have always loved being active. I love playing basketball with my dad, playing soccer at school, and playing dodgeball with my friends. I constantly build things. I need to be active. I can't stop moving or else I'll freak.

Shechaniah Hicks, 6th grade

Marcus

Ancient Ocean Blues by Jack Mitchell is a story about a boy named Marcus who goes on a mission for Caesar. At the start of the story, Marcus is a coward, knows nothing about sailing, and does not want to marry Paulla. However, after learning a lot on his way to his destination, Marcus becomes a brave leader, an experienced sailor, and a happy husband.

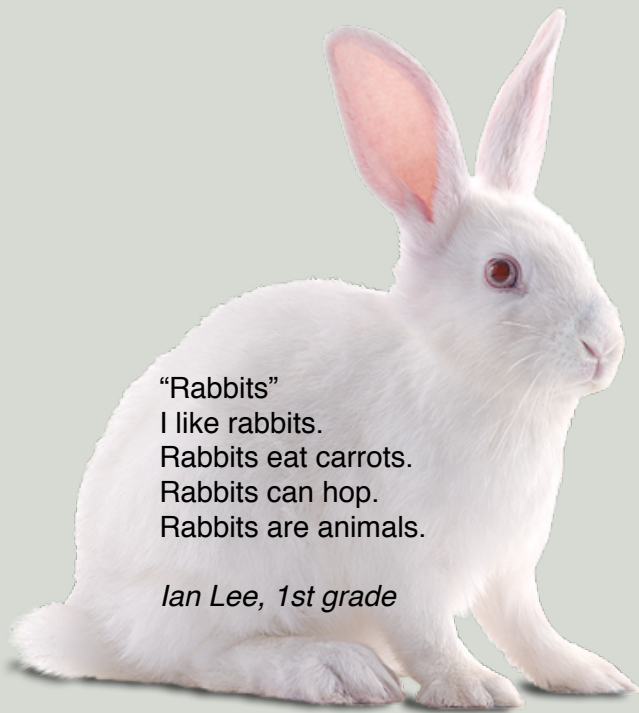
At the start of the adventure, Marcus cannot protect himself because he is a coward. He is afraid to stand up for himself when Gaius makes him bribe people for Caesar. However, once he gets captured, he confidently escapes. Then he leads the villagers of Tragias to battle and defeats the pirates. Marcus never believed in himself but now he knows that he can do anything if he just put his mind to it.

Marcus is not an experience sailor in the beginning. He knows nothing about sailing. He gets sea sick. However, there comes a time when he has to sail the boat because the captain is injured. He has never sailed a boat before in his life, but he is willing to try. By the end of the story, Marcus is leading a boat into battle. He becomes an expert sailor.

Marcus does not like Paulla when he first meets her. His parents are going to make him marry her. She annoys him and they don't seem to have anything in common. But then Paulla sticks by his side in each adventure. She helps him fight in battles and gets him interested in new things. He then realizes that he likes Paulla. Finally, at the end of the story, they agree to marry because they are truly fond of each other.

Marcus accomplishes a lot on his way to do his job. He becomes an experienced sailor, he stands up for himself, and he falls in love with Paulla. His growth allows him to become a great leader. If he had not been through all of that, he would never have grown or known everything that he learned on his adventure. Through Marcus we learn that you can do anything if you put your mind to it.

Tia Brookes, 7th grade



"Rabbits"

I like rabbits.
Rabbits eat carrots.
Rabbits can hop.
Rabbits are animals.

Ian Lee, 1st grade

"The Magic Riddle"

Did you know puddles are magical?
We didn't see the puddles in the play structure.
But our feet felt wet.
We jumped over a puddle and landed in a new world.
We felt excited!

Luciana Cruz, PreK-K

"When I Found Lucky, the Kitten"

Last year I was eating dinner with my mom and Levi. Then our neighbor came over, and she told us that she heard meowing in her car. After dinner we all went over and checked in the front. We saw a female kitten. We named her Lucky. We kept her for a day. Then we brought her to her new home. She liked her new home.

Lilian Altic, 2nd grade

Haunted House for Sale

If you're looking for a house, today is your lucky day! This house has four bedrooms and bathrooms. One of the bathrooms has a Frankenstein in it, and he loves brushing his teeth with your toothbrush. In the bedroom, there are two ghost maids. The house also has a beautiful dining room and a kitchen Spider Chef, who will serve you meals. There is also a library and office. The librarian is a bat who will get you the book you're looking for. At the spa, there is a werewolf spa worker, named Wrinkly Finger. But, beware, your skin will be wrinkly when you are done. In the gym, there is a blob of goo named Blobby, and he will coach you. I hope you enjoy this house! If you say no, that will be your last word. Have a nice day! Special sale if you buy on October 31st.

Zoey Abourizk, 4th grade

Haunted House for Sale

If you're looking for a scare, come see this amazing home. This house has three bedrooms and two bathrooms. The closet is very creepy, and the bathroom floors are super slimy. The kitchen has a Frankenstein who will serve you. The kitchen and dining room are connected, which is good for family dinners. The living room is big and beautiful. Next to the fireplace there are two elevators that are really big. You might see spiderwebs around the nonfiction library. You may also see a lot of real stuff that doesn't exist anymore. In the fiction library, there is a bunch of fake stuff. The horror room is the perfect place to watch creepy, scary, and freaky movies. A cemetery is right out in the backyard. Come see this home!

Yasmin Hiranandani, 3rd grade

"Friday"

It is Friday.
When it is Friday, I am happy!
I am going to eat pizza.
I am so happy today.
I am going to have popcorn and a drink.
I love Friday, which is today!
I am happy today.

Isabella Pablos, 1st grade

"GAMES"

Great entertainment
Activates your imagination
Makes you think
Excites those who like them
Surprises those who have never tried them

Shechaniah Hicks, 6th grade

"If I Lived in Ancient Rome"

If I lived in Ancient Rome,
I would have a plebeian wooden home
next to the Pantheon dome.
In Rome,
I would like to be the hero,
instead of that evil Nero -
who just sits in his tower,
feeding off other people's power.
In Rome,
I work in my master's house
taking care of an old priest's spouse -
eating honey-dipped mice off the mosaic
floor,
then off to watch the Colosseum gore
of the gladiator's fight,
as they show their awesome might.
In Rome,
Oh, what would I give for something to
eat
that hasn't been stepped on by sandaled
feet!
Perhaps some barely or wheat
and some water from the aqueduct to
combat the heat?
Lo and behold,
me in Rome -
That would be a great feat!

Joseph Cavaconne, 6th grade

"Jacob"

I am from a little house on the marsh -
the tall grass blowing in the salty breeze,
turning from green to brown each year,
always tickling my feet.

I am manatees, bunnies, and guinea pigs -
fat and fluffy.

I am sea creatures swimming in the coral -
busy, colorful, and majestic.

I am a penguin magnet and a fish friend.

I am NYC pizza -
so big you have to fold it.

I am cakes, cookies, and bread -
warm and sweet.

I am the ups and downs,
the good and the bad.

I am an explorer, traveling the planet.

I am a Lego master, scientist, and inventor -
shiny new discoveries to be made.

I am a bright light with untamed hair -
watching, reading, and playing the day away.

Jacob Beck, 6th grade

"If I Lived In Ancient Rome"

If I Lived in Ancient Rome
I would go to see the Pantheon dome.
I would be a plebeian
and fight off the barbarians.
I would read a scroll
about how to get rid of moles.
My sandals would have open toes
for walking on the Roman roads.
Salted jellyfish and honey-dipped mice
I would eat,
and then make a servant wash my feet.
Next, I would go to the pools and take a bath,
and off to the lecture hall to do some Math.
To the Colosseum and watch gladiators fight,
then catch a chariot race before daylight.

Abigail duPlessy, 5th grade

"Poem"

The day tasted like the orange
my grandmother gave me that night.
It was sweet and sour,
and held control of my feelings.
She planted her cold, dying hands
in my warm, growing ones.
And her smile told me
everything was taking its course.
The day tasted like the orange
my grandmother gave me that night -
Overpowered by its sweet smell,
but it tasted sour.

Vivian Zhang, 8th grade

Biography of Abraham Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809, in Kentucky. When Abraham Lincoln was a boy, everyone called him Abe. Abe's job was to cut the wood. The wood would become firewood or used to make fences. Abe had another job. It was to plow the fields. Abe loved to read. He took a book everywhere he went. When he was a young man, Abe worked at a store in New Salem, Illinois. One day a woman bought something. When the woman left, Abe noticed that he had not given her enough money. Abraham Lincoln was chosen to be the President of the United States on November 6, 1860. The Civil War began in April 12, 1861. It finally ended on April 9, 1865.

Juliette, 2nd grade