



# Beaver News

## EXCLUSIVE MONTHLY NEWS

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### ST. PATRICK'S DAY

BY  
CHARMAINE  
USUANLELE



& OLLIE  
KERR



Happy March everyone!!! March is filled with holidays and celebrations, but one of the most famous one is Saint Patrick's Day!!! Who is Saint Patrick and why do we celebrate him? Saint Patrick was one of Ireland's patron saints. Surprisingly, Saint Patrick wasn't even Irish. He was British and born to Roman parents, in the late fourth century.

At the age of 16 St. Patrick was sold into slavery and brought to Ireland to work as a shepherd. He escaped slavery when he turned 22. He dedicated himself to the Christian religion and is credited for bringing the religion of Christianity to Ireland. Legend says that St. Patrick used a shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to the Irish. The shamrock is now the official flower of Ireland.

People celebrate this Irish holiday by wearing green but did you know that the original color for St. Patrick



was blue? It was believed that wearing green would help make a good growing season for their crops in Ireland. It was also thought that wearing green would make people invisible to Leprechauns and they would avoid getting pinched by them. During the St. Patrick's Day Festival there is a parade, carnival, treasure hunt and dances and lots of Irish foods, like corned beef, cabbage, shepherd's pie and Irish soda bread.

Irish immigrants brought this holiday and traditions to the United States when they moved here. The first St. Patrick's Day parade was held on March 17, 1762 in New York City. Hope you enjoyed reading and learning about St Patrick.

### TOP 4 WAYS TO TRAP A LEPRECHAUN

BY GRETA NIEMANN



1. A great idea is the stick and box trick, it usually fails if you want to try it, but it's worth it if it's your first time trying to catch a leprechaun.



2. The fall in a hole trap is also pretty popular. But leprechauns are smart so you need to make the hole blend in with the trap if you want to succeed at trying to catch one.



3. There is also a snare trap you can make with yarn, it might fail, but I'm pretty sure the leprechaun still gives you something like coins or lucky charms so it's definitely worth it!!



4. The cup drop is where you try to trap the leprechaun using a coin. Tie a cup above the coin so when the leprechaun tries to pull it away the cup falls and the leprechaun is trapped ....hopefully.



Good Luck!!!



## THE SCOOP ON MRS KOPKO

BY LUCY SHEPHERD



I love doing new teacher interviews because I like meeting new people and learning about them. This is my second teacher interview. I would like to introduce you all too Mrs.



Kopko. You may have passed her smiling face in the hallways. Mrs Kopko is our school's new Learning Specialist.

**Did you always want to be a teacher?**

I wasn't sure what I wanted to be when I was growing up. I knew that I loved learning and that I wanted to work with children. After I graduated from college, I was considering various career paths. My wise mother, herself a music teacher, suggested I substitute teach while I studied for my graduate school entrance exam. I began substitute teaching and LOVED it! I finally felt like I was "home". I truly enjoy working with students and being a part of a school community. It was an easy choice to pursue a career as a teacher and I went to graduate school for Education.

**What was your favorite subject when you were a kid?**

My favorite subject as a kid was science. I still love learning about the world around us.

**As a Learning Specialist what is your favorite subject to teach and why?**

My favorite subject to teach as a Learning Specialist is Reading. Reading can open many doors, open minds, and create opportunities for everyone. I always strive to help my students become happy readers.

**What is your favorite thing about Centerville Elementary?**

I had the opportunity to work at Centerville before becoming the Learning Specialist. I was very impressed by the way the teachers and students were connected, kind, and caring towards each other. Everyone was welcoming and made me feel like a part of the team. I was very excited to become a teacher here. I have also had opportunities to meet the wonderful families of my

**Do you live in Beverly? If not what is the best thing about your town?**

I do not live in Beverly. I live very close by in Topsfield. One of my favorite things about Topsfield is the Topsfield Fair. We look forward to it as a family every year. The first night all the residents are given free entrance tickets and many of our friends are there. My two daughters and I entered the pumpkin decorating contest last year and we all won a prize! It was so much fun!

**What two things would you like your students to know about you?**

My students already know how much I care about them. I would like all the students at Centerville to know that I care about them, too! You may notice me smile or say "hi" to you in the halls because I like to connect with all the students here.

I explored the rainforest and hiked on a volcano in Costa Rica, twice!

**Do you have any pets?**

We have two super cute and fun cats, two even cuter Gecko Lizards, and two goldfish (my daughters won from the Topsfield Fair 2 years ago!) We also have Koi fish in our pond outside.

**How do you like to spend your summer vacation?**

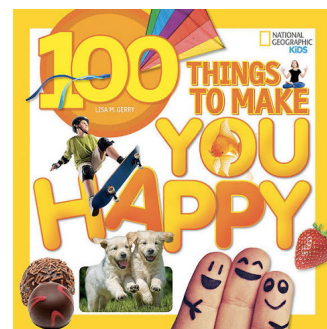
We spend a lot of time swimming in our pool on our summer vacations. We love going to the beach in Ipswich and in Maine, too.

**Do you like to cook? If yes what is your favorite food to cook?**

I love to cook! The joke in my house, though, is if you hear the smoke detector, it is because I am cooking. I am a cook in progress...let's say. My favorite thing to cook is pasta because it can't be burned. I also like to bake bread and Baklava. Baklava is a greek dessert with a crunchy thin layer, nuts, sugar, and syrup. Yum!

**What book would you recommend students to read during spring break?**

I love all things HAPPY! My book recommendation for everyone is "National Geographic's 100 Things To Make You Happy!" It is filled with all the latest research on creating your happiness. My family and I love this book. I am giving a few copies to the Centerville Library for you to check out!



Thank you Mrs Kopko for your book gift to the library. I am definitely going to check this book out. It was really nice getting to learn more about you. We are happy and lucky to have you as our Learning Specialist.

# MONEY WARS

BY CALLIE REED



In December Cynthia Bauer visited our school. She is a wildlife biologist and she talked to the fourth and fifth grade students about her work in Kenya. But that is not the only amazing thing about Cynthia. She was born without a left hand. Cynthia wanted to show people that just because she didn't have a hand did not mean she could not do things that most people can do. She played the guitar for us, showed us pictures of her rowing a boat, and carrying water on her head like the young girls in Kenya do every day.

When she visited Kenya she was sad to learn about how people with disabilities were mistreated. So in 2003 she created an organization called Kupenda which means "Love" in Swahili the official language of Kenya. Kupenda helps children with disabilities by paying for their medical costs and education. During Cynthia Bauer's presentation we learned about treating everyone with respect even people with disabilities.

Kupenda inspired us so much that we wanted to do something to help out and raise money. Both Kupenda and Centerville school thought that it would be a great idea to have a money war!

We are going to try and raise \$300 through a competition called Money Wars. Each class is given a bucket to put in any spare change they may have. The class who raises the most amount of money will receive a pizza party. If we meet our goal of raising \$300 Ms. Smith will dye her hair! We will get a school wide vote to decide what crazy hair color she should dye her hair.



Ms Cynthia Bauer

[www.kupenda.org](http://www.kupenda.org)





# WASTE FREE WEDNESDAYS

BY VERONICA LANE



On Wednesday March 14th our STEAM Green Team introduced "Waste Free Wednesday" to our school. On Wednesday students at Centerville were more mindful of the waste that was produced in the cafeteria. We started by packing a waste free lunch.

What is a waste-free lunch? It means that you have no trash to throw away when you are done eating. Waste free means only packing items that can be composted or recycled and that won't end up in the trash. That means, no plastic wrap, no foil, no zip lock bags and no packaged foods.



## Why Pack Waste-Free?

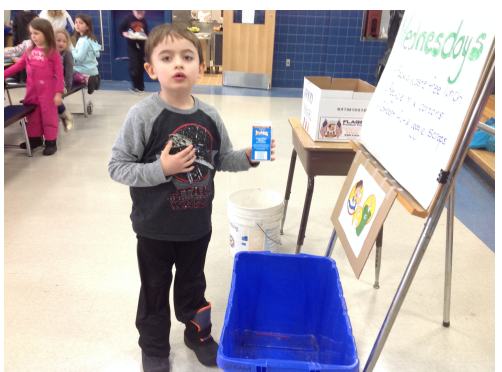
Did you know that a person creates an average of 4.5 lbs of trash per day? By reducing the number of items in your lunch that must be thrown out, or only using those that can be eaten, reused, recycled, or composted, you can:

- 1 Prevent pollution
- 1 Conserve natural resources
- 1 Save energy
- 1 Reduce the need for disposal
- 1 Be an environmental steward and make a difference in your environment and the environment of the future

If we do have fruit and veggie scraps, we use it for composting instead of throwing it into the trash. Some of the scraps goes to the worms in our vermicomposting bin and the other scraps goes into the compost bin in our school garden.

We are also recycling all of our milk cartons on Wednesdays. We will use the milk cartons as planters for the herbs we will be growing.

Sometimes even uneaten food and unopened cartons of milk end up in the trash. This is not good because this will only add to the waste in landfills. On waste free Wednesdays we don't throw away uneaten fruit or unopened milk and snacks. Instead we put it in the "Food Share" box so that if anyone that does not have a snack they can help themselves to one from the food share box.





## WORLD WATER DAY

BY TYRESE STITH



On Thursday March 22 was World Water Day. Many of you wore blue to observe World Water Day. We know that without water there would be no life. All living things need water. In STEAM we learned why it is important to take this day to remind ourselves about the importance of water and the role it plays in our daily lives.

Whenever we want water all we have to do is turn on the faucet. We are so lucky. However, other people in other parts of the world are not so lucky. They have to walk long distances in search of water. Millions of people around the world do not have access to clean and safe drinking water as we do.

The next time you turn on the faucet think about your drinking water's journey to your faucet. and how lucky we are to have clean drinking water.

## TECH TRENDS

BY NICKOLAS JACOBSEN



As you may know technology is just getting better and better each year and every year there is more technology. Pretty much anything can be made smart these days. Our cars are becoming increasingly connected. Did you know that by 2020, a quarter of a billion cars will be hooked up to the Internet. In our homes we have smart products like TVs, and even a refrigerator that tells you that you are out of milk and need to go food shopping. And, of course, many of us have voice-enabled personal assistants like Alexa.

The way we interact with technology has also changed. Take for example the new iPhone X. This phone has an animated emoji feature known as Animoji. It responds to facial expressions via the iPhone X camera, to animate various 3D animated emojis that can be sent as a video file with sound. I just love it because when you talk, or squint, or shake your head, the Animoji will do the exact same thing. It's more fun than it sounds! You just have to try it. You may have seen the TV commercial where people lip-sync to their favorite tunes using Animoji.



This has to be the most fun way to communicate. Have you tried Animoji?

## OPENING DAY

BY CHARLIE BERRY



& JOSH TAYLOR



Take me out to the ball game. Take me out to the crowd. Open Day is March 28. Coming back are superstars like Max Scherzer, Dustin Pedroia, Manny Machado, Jose Altuve, Bruce Harper, Gian Carlos Stanton, Chris Sale, Clayton Kershaw, and Andrew Miller.

We also welcome some newer stars like Joey Richard, Aaron Judge, Andrew Benintendi, Cody Bellinger, Corey Seager, and Carlos Correa.

Who will make the playoffs? Will Rangers be good again? Will the Dodgers get back at the Astros for the world series title? 30 teams, 10 playoff spots, 4 pennant spots, 2 world series spots, 1 CHAMPION. You want to know who it is? Then watch the season.

I say let's go Red Sox! -Charlie Berry

I say let's go Orioles! -Josh Taylor



## EASTER FUN

BY SOPHIA BALDUCCI



& CAMILLE YANOFSKY



What do you enjoy the most at Easter? Is it spending time with your family? Getting a bunch of Easter eggs? Maybe, it's leaving food for the Easter bunny, or perhaps having a long weekend.

For me it's the colorful, shiny eggs. Sometimes there is candy inside the eggs, like chocolate. You can also get a big chocolate bunny.

The kids would say that the best and biggest part, is the Easter bunny hiding the eggs. He may be hiding them behind rocks, in trees, and under bushes. Easter egg hunts are so fun. A lot of kids love to dye eggs, with fun pretty colors. As you can see there is a lot to enjoy on Easter. Have a fun and happy long Easter weekend.



Comics by Gavin Renna

