**Winter Ice Skating** by Kailina Weaver

The shining ice beneath me glimmers in the light,
With children laughing all around.
It was the moon making the ice shimmer in the night,
The ice skates making that wonderful sound.

The air was so crisp and nice,
It felt like I was in a dream.
People with hot coco sprinkled with pumpkin spice,
And kids licking off the cream.

As the skaters scurried home,
All that could be seen was the swirling designs on the pond.
Some children stopped for a snow cone,
While snow-covered children were in my sight and beyond.

Today there was magic in the air,
And now I rest my weary head.
I dream of a world that’s loving and fair,
With peace on Earth as I snuggle in bed!

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**Growth Mindset**

Sometimes your successes, failures, talents, and shortcomings are defined by how you look at them and by the mindset you have.

If you have a Growth Mindset, you can turn the things you think you can’t change into opportunities for growth and discovery!

A Fixed Mindset is the belief that either you are or you aren’t good at something. On the other hand, having a Growth Mindset means you believe that with effort, you can develop and improve your skills and abilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fixed Mindset</th>
<th>Growth Mindset</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you aren’t good at something right away, you probably just don’t have a “knack” for it.</td>
<td>Anyone can be good at something as long as they practice and work hard at.</td>
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<tr>
<td>It’s better to stick with what you know so you</td>
<td>Stepping out of your comfort zone helps you learn and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Failure is discouraging</td>
<td>Failure can help you learn.</td>
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You Can Build a Growth Mindset by turning off the Fixed Mindset voice that tells you you’re going to fail. If something doesn’t turn out the way you want, instead of getting frustrated or giving up, think about how you can do it differently. Also, understand the power of the word “yet.” “I don’t understand it...yet.” I don’t know how to do that “yet. And “I’m not good at this...yet.”
Travel

**LAMS Arts Café Brings us the Taste of Italy!**

Linden Avenue Middle School students in Mrs. Cerulo’s 8th grade Family & Consumer Science classes presented a Little Italy-themed Arts Café on January 9th. The café featured a delicious Italian menu made and served by students with help from staff members. Mrs. Cerulo’s students had an opportunity to try their hands at different job duties within the café. Some students worked in the kitchen as chefs and servers, while others took reservations, acted as hosts and hostesses, and took guests’ orders.

Parents and teachers waited patiently for the doors to open. The smell of Italian food filled the air. Once inside you felt like you were in an Italian-decorated café. Customers were welcomed with a special drink menu which offered coffee, tea, Pellegrino, or the event’s signature drink, the Sicilian Sunset. It’s the perfect combination of pineapple juice, cranberry juice and seltzer with a splash of grenadine. The first course was a crisp green salad followed by an entrée of minestrone soup, ravioli in pesto sauce, or manicotti. Dessert choices included cannoli cupcakes, lemon cookies, or strawberry gelato. As they enjoyed the meal, diners were serenaded with Italian music while scenes of Italy were displayed in the background. Tutto era meraviglioso e piacevole!
ART— Mrs. Brehse 8th Grade Art Classes

The 8th grade art classes created modern scrolls based on traditional Asian scrolls. The students designed and cut their own organic stencils and placed them on their paper to create a compositional flow, allowing for interesting negative space between the shapes. They then studied analogous and complementary color schemes, experimented with watercolor and black ink, and learned to trust their aesthetic intuition. Each work of art became an individual expression, much like the self-portraits they'd completed (to much acclaim!) before.

Badminton Tournament

The PE department held its annual lunchtime doubles badminton tournament, with a record number of teams participating this year!

The 6th graders had 28 teams, with the eventual champions being Justin Juran and Brady Kelly.
The 7th graders had 24 teams, with Owen Daniels and Karl Russell being crowned the champions.
The 8th graders had 18 teams and leaving their mark as LAMS 8th grade "kings of the court" were Devin Lee and Carter Donahue.

The winning teams will have their names engraved on a plaque that will be displayed in the trophy case. Thank you all for participating.
Msr. Fraleigh by Anila Schmidt

Mrs. Fraleigh has been in this district for 17 years but has been an elementary teacher for 21 years because she worked in the Germantown school district for 4 years. She has taught 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade. When I asked Mrs. Fraleigh how she was enjoying working at LAMS, she replied enthusiastically, “I’m loving it!”

Her top 3 places to visit are anywhere in Italy, Iceland, or Rothenberg, Germany. If she could live anywhere in the world with no worries, it would be Italy!

Mrs. Fraleigh is an animal lover, she loves puppies! She has 3 dogs and 2 cats! If you haven’t had the pleasure of talking with her, stop by her room and say hi.

Mrs. Fraleigh is a 6th grade teacher who just joined LAMS this school year. She was born and raised in Germantown where she attended kindergarten through 12th grade. She went to Siena in Loudonville where she earned an undergraduate degree. She then attended New Paltz for her Masters Degree.

Mrs. Fraleigh’s favorite color is green. She is married and has two kids named Devin who is 26, and Isabella who is 18. Devin is a biologist and Isabella is a freshman at Siena College where Mrs. Fraleigh attended. She has 4 sisters and 2 brothers, and most of her family live nearby.
Hello again, it’s me. Today I’m going to meet my maker, literally. So basically I killed a bunch of monsters and helped save Olympus, again! After I saved them, they invited me to Olympus.

When I got there it was exactly as I had remembered it. The only difference was that there were lots of people/gods in every street. Big stone pillars surrounded the city. The gods were transparent and a thousand different colors. The nine muses, strumming their harps, waved hello as I passed by them. That’s when I saw the palace. It is so stunning, it shines like pure gold, which it probably is. I ran up the big stone steps and through the palace doors, slumped in their thrones, sat the Olympians. They seemed tired and defeated and the funny thing is, they just won (sorry bad joke!) Anyway, what first caught my eye were the thrones. Each one was unique to the different god who sat in them.

What’s My Mother Like?

What truly caught my eye though, was my mother. Her throne was decorated with spears so sharp they would cut you if you looked at them. She was stunning! My mother had beautiful brown hair like mine minus the beautiful part, and wonderfully bright stormy grey eyes like mine minus the wonderfully bright part. She had a shiny gold helmet in her left hand and a long golden spear in her right. Then the strangest thing happened—she smiled at me. It was a plain and simple smile of pure affection. It made me smile right back at her and the she said, “Hello, welcome to Olympus, daughter.” It was so perfect, I got lost in the moment. The next thing I knew, I was in the dining hall being served huge platters of food. It was a feast fit for a king! It all went in a blur. I do remember though, my mother pulling me aside and telling me that she loved me. She told me that she was so proud of me and she wished that she could help me out more often, but the rules do not allow it. She also teased me about a friend of mine that only my trusty steed knew I liked, but somehow either being a goddess or that she had some motherly superpower, she knew I like him and teased me about it the whole evening. That day was the best day of my life and I really did connect with my mother.

Peace bro’s, Calypso out.
The Valentine’s/Red and White Dance by Kailina Weaver

The Valentine’s/Red and White Dance was very fun, energetic, and sometimes funny. This time, the gym was open. If there, you could play basketball and, later, dodge ball!

In the kitchen, there were plenty of refreshments.

Some of the options were cotton candy, but that ran out quickly, other types of candy, water, Gatorade, and pizza. That was all good. The music was up-beat and fun to dance to. The DJ also played some dance-along songs. You could also make a suggestion and maybe he would play it for you. All in all, it was a good way to hang out with friends, your classmates, have fun, and socialize with people.
Just to Make you Smile. . .

by Kailina Weaver

WHAT’S THE KING OF ALL SCHOOL SUPPLIES?....*The ruler!*

TEACHER: WHOEVER ANSWERS MY NEXT QUESTION CAN GO HOME.”....*One boy throws his bag out the window.*

TEACHER: WHO JUST THREW THAT?....*Boy: Me! I’m going home now!*

WHAT DO YOU CALL A DINOSAUR THAT IS SLEEPING?....*A dino-snore.*

WHAT HAS EARS BUT CANNOT HEAR?....*A cornfield!*

WHAT DID THE LEFT EYE SAY TO THE RIGHT EYE?....*Between us, something smells!* 

KNOCK, KNOCK? 
Who’s there? 
A BROCKEN PENCIL? 
A broken pencil who? 
NEVERMIND...IT’S POINTLESS.

WHAT DO YOU GET WHEN YOU CROSS A VAMPIRE AND A SNOWMAN?....*Frostbite!* 

WHY DID THE STUDENT EAT HIS HOMEWORK?....*Because the teacher said it was a piece of cake!* 

WHAT KIND OF TREE FITS IN YOUR HAND?....*A palm tree!* 

WHAT DO YOU CALL A GHOST’S TRUE LOVE?....*His ghoul-friend!*

Mrs. Pierantozzi will be retiring at the end of this month from our school. She expressed that it has been a wonderful experience working here at Linden Avenue! Mrs. Pierantozzi would like to say thank you to students and staff for the kindness she received during this past year. Best wishes to all.
LAMS Raiderbots by the RaiderBots

LAMS Raiderbots by the RaiderBots

The RaiderBots is one of two LAMS Robotics teams that competes in the FIRST Lego League. Each year, an innovative project is required for the competition. This year, FIRST focused on an architecture theme, “City Shaper,” thinking about the many communities that we live in. Each team had to find and solve a problem in their community or hometown. The RaiderBots chose bike safety as their problem. Biking is fun, healthy, and faster than walking and often more efficient than driving. Since biking on sidewalks is prohibited, bike owners are forced to brave the dangers of different roads or take other methods of transportation. Our town has two main roads which cross in the middle of town. These roads are very dangerous. Almost all of bike and pedestrian crashes have happened on those two roads.

- Broadway, which runs North and South, and has almost 9,000 cars and 400 trucks a day.
- Market Street, which runs East and West and is traveled by 6,000 cars and 300

Altogether, that’s 15,000 cars and 700 trucks driving through the center of town a day. Linden Avenue, which borders our middle school, has almost 3,000 cars cross each day and is also dangerous. There are two large neighborhoods in Red Hook—one in the north (served by Knox Road off Linden Avenue), and one in the south (on the west side of Broadway North of the movie theatre). A safe bike route from either is currently not possible. Living in the north neighborhood means biking to town down Linden Avenue, which is busy with cars, each of which could injure/kill a biker. If you live in the south neighborhood, biking to town means either illegally cutting through private property or braving the many dangers of Broadway. Traveling to Hannaford, our grocery store, means traveling by Broadway, regardless of whether you live up north or down south.

The Raiderbots knew they wanted to solve these problems but also knew they needed to meet and talk with experts to figure out how. They met with:

- Emily Dozier, a senior planner for our County’s Transportation Council,
- Ed Blundell, Mayor of Red Hook,
- Eoin Wrafter, Commissioner of the Dutchess County Planning and Development team, and
- Marc Molinaro, our County Executive.

Emily Dozier told the Raiderbots that they would need to shield the bike lane on Linden Avenue to protect bikers, but otherwise it could work. Barriers would prevent car accidents and fatalities on that road. Ed Blundell told the Raiderbots he was aware that people currently illegally traverse a piece of private property.

Continue on next page...
An easement across that property is possible, as well as a bridge over a stream which can be impassible many times of year. The easement, though, would take convincing the landowner. Mr. Molinaro and Mr. Wrafter informed the team that while this would cost a lot of money, the County might have some resources to make this happen because the New York State Complete Streets law. They also told RaiderBots to send a bike lane proposal, hoping to make this dream become a reality.

On January 10, 2020, the RaiderBots sent their ten-page proposal to the Dutchess County Commissioner of Planning and Development for the Raider Bike Lane. This bike lane could turn into a reality, which would benefit bikers and drivers alike. More bikers means less drivers, reducing overall traffic and using less gas! The RaiderBots also made a website, www.rhbikelane.com that explains some of how this happened, and hopefully, encourages other towns to improve their lifestyle. Considering the RaiderBots member’s ages, trying to change the world around them was no small feat.

The county has now responded to the proposal, asking the RaiderBots to clarify certain parts of the proposal that needed more detail. While this bike lane will take much more time and effort, the “Raider Bike Path” presents a viable future for Red Hook. The RaiderBots will continue pursuing this, even though their FIRST Robotics season is over, to hopefully make this plan a reality.