



The Little Bulldog

February, 2017

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World News

First Time in History That a Mapmaker Wins Japan's Best Design Award

By Alisha Schruiefer

Have you ever heard about Japan's Design Award? The holder of the trophy of Japan's Best Design award was a robotic arm back in 2014. In 2015 the award was given to the designer of a mobility chair. In 2016, over 1000 entries won prizes. However the big surprise was that the 2016 grand trophy was given to the most unexpected thing ever, a map of the world!

To win the unusual grand prize, map maker Hajime Narukawa fixed a problem with our current world map, a problem that he had been working on for years. See, way back in 1569, Gerardus Mercator finished his world map and revealed it to the world, and it's pretty much the understanding of the world that we have right now. But his map has big flaws; it distorts the sizes of Antarctica and Greenland. Narukawa created a system named AuthaGraph, and it strives to help maps display all landforms and seas as accurately as possible.

With issues like climate change, sea level, average temperatures, earthquakes and more, our world maps are going to change a lot. Our perspectives, too! Can

you believe once people thought of California as an island? No! So it's time we developed a new map! AuthaGraph is an unusual map, though. Not only is it really accurate, but it can be folded and changed, from a sphere to a square! So, basically, you can view the planet in many different ways, without worrying about the dimensions of landforms and seas becoming distorted or changing. Now we understand why a map won such an amazing award!



The AuthaGraph

In conclusion, maps are very beautiful things. They help us see Earth without having to travel all around the world. They are pictures of intelligence and beauty. And, lastly, thanks to Hajime Narukawa, maps are accurate objects that stay true to what they display even as the world changes.

How Old Is the Moon?

By Clay Narcisenfeld

It turns out that the moon is actually older than everyone thought. In 1971, an astronaut named Alan Shepard collected rocks and soil from the moon. At that time they thought the moon was created 100-200 million years after the solar system was created.

Last month, they used the same rocks and soil and realized that the moon was actually created 60 million years ago, before the solar system was created. This means the moon is 4.6 billion years old!

This is a very important discovery because it will help astronauts learn even more information about the creation of the earth and the entire solar system!

Echidnas

By Samantha Pepper

In Australia there was an Echidna birth in the Taronga Zoo. Echidnas are extremely rare animals and this is the first birth in 30 years. You may not know what an Echidna is; they are a species of spiny anteaters. Three puggles, or Echidna babies, were born and hatched in August. They were bred in captivity even though it is really hard. When Echidnas hatch they stay in their mother's pouch and grow spines and hair for protection and mostly sleep all day to build energy and grow. The zoo has opened a new nursery special for the puggles. Echidnas are really unusual creatures and the zoo is lucky to have new puggles.

Cheetahs Racing Toward Extinction

By Nathan Chen

The cheetah population is now rapidly decreasing. There are approximately only 7,100 cheetahs remaining worldwide. Over 90% of cheetahs have been lost in the past 100 years. Cheetahs are being forced out of 91% of their native range. Farmers also kill cheetahs who are in their property to protect their own domestic animals. Illegal trafficking is another reason for a smaller population. ((Illegal trafficking is selling cheetahs and cheetah parts.) This is against the law. Prey loss is also a problem. Another issue is that humans over-hunt the animals that cheetahs eat. In Zimbabwe, Africa alone, the cheetah population has dropped from 1,200 to about 170 in 16 years. This means a loss of 85% of the cheetahs in Africa, which is the main continent cheetahs live on.

If we don't act now, we might lose cheetahs forever. One organization that protects cheetahs is Cheetah.org where you can donate money to help them. You can also help by spreading the word to your friends and family. Not many people know cheetahs are becoming endangered.

The Green Energy Boat

By Anneke Lewis

Have you ever ridden on a boat before? Most people have. These people have not however, ridden on the Energy Observer. It is very environmentally friendly. It doesn't increase pollution or use gas that could leak into the water. Energy for this boat comes from the sun, wind, and hydrogen. The only thing it gives off into the air is water vapor which is not a greenhouse gas. With the help of the equipment on the boat, the energy is converted from the seawater. This process is called electrolysis. The Energy Observer used to be just a racing sailboat, but Frédéric Dahirel, Victorien Erussard, and Jérôme Delafosse from France added solar panels, wind turbines, and hydrogen fuel cells to make it what it is today. In the spring, the Energy Observer will be leaving for its six year journey around the world, with stops in more than 50 countries.

National News

NFL Playoffs

By Dilan Mendiratta

There are four rounds in the NFL playoffs. The four rounds are Wild Card, Divisional round, Championship and the Super Bowl. The two divisions include the NFC and the AFC.

In the Wild Card round, the Dolphins played the Steelers. The Steelers won 30-12. The next game in the AFC was with the Raiders and the Texans. The Texans won 27-14.

In the NFC, the Packers played the Giants. The game ended as the Packers won 38-13. The last game was the Lions vs. Seahawks. The final score was a big blow out- 26-6. For the Divisional round games, the Texans played the Patriots, Chiefs vs. Steelers, Packers vs. Cowboys, and Falcons vs. Seahawks. In the Patriots game, Dion Lewis did something no other player had done. He rushed a touchdown, and got a touchdown pass and kick return for a touchdown. The final score was 34-16 and the Patriots won. In the next game, Chiefs vs. Steelers, the Steelers kicker scored all points in the win. The kicker, Chris Boswell, scored 6 field goals. The final score was 18-16. In the NFC, the Packers had a last second win. In the fourth quarter the Packers rallied to kick a 51 yard field goal. The final score vs. the Cowboys was 34-31. In the last game the Seahawks played the Falcons. The Seahawks started out strong but the Falcons took over. The final score was a Falcons win, 36-20.

In the AFC championship, Chris Hogan had a big game. He scored 2 touchdowns and 180 yards. The Patriots beat the Steelers 36-17. In the NFC conclusion, the Falcons faced the Packers. The Falcons rushing game was bad, but their passing game was explosive. Falcons won 44-21.

The biggest game of the year is always the Super Bowl. The Falcons faced the Patriots. Early in the game, the Falcons were winning 28-3. In the third and the fourth quarter, the Patriots rallied back to tie it up and went in the first ever overtime in Super Bowl history. Early in the overtime, the Patriots rushed the ball and scored for the win. The final score was 34-28 and the Patriots won, making Tom Brady the first ever quarterback to win 5 Super Bowls. It was an historic game!

Junior Chopped Champion Eli Hoffenberg

By Dilan Mendiratta

Eli Hoffenberg is a 10 year old boy living in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Eli appeared on the Chopper Junior Episode on January 3, 2017. He made it through 2 rounds and into the finals as one of the two cooks left. His competitor beat him in the dessert round.

Eli goes to the Jewish Primary Day School and he started cooking at the age of 7 or 8. His favorite things to cook are *carne asada* marinated in green sauce, and red Thai curry chicken with coconut milk. His mother says he is more creative in the kitchen than she is. Eli is considering being a chef and opening up a restaurant when he grows up.

President Trump's Cabinet

By Nathan Chen

Recently, President Donald Trump has been picking his cabinet members. The Cabinet includes the Vice President and the heads of 15 Executive departments. Serving as Vice President is Mike Pence. He was elected on November 8, 2016, and he took office on January, 2017.

Rex Tillerson is the Secretary of State. He was the president of the Exxon Company. His position was announced on December 13, 2016, and he took office on February 1st, 2017. The White House Chief of Staff is Reince Priebus.

The other cabinet members are:

- Treasury: Steven Mnuchin
- Defense: James Mattis
- Attorney General: Jeff Sessions
- Interior: Ryan Zinke
- Agriculture: Sonny Perdue.
- Commerce: Wilbur Ross
- Labor: Andrew Puzder
- Health and Human Services: Tom Price
- Housing and Urban Development: Ben Carson.
- Transportation: Elaine Chao. She is also the wife of Senior Senator Mitch McConnell.
- Energy: Rick Perry, former Governor of Texas
- Education: Betsy DeVos
- Veterans Affairs: David Shulkin
- Homeland Security: John F. Kelly

Some other senior officials are:

- Ambassador to the UN: Nikki Haley, former Governor of South Carolina
- Environmental Protection Agency: Scott Pruitt
- US Trade Representative: Robert Lighthizer
- Office of Management & Budget: Mick Mulvaney
- Small Business Administration: Linda McMahon
- Director of National Intelligence: Dan Coats
- Director of the CIA: Mike Pompeo

President Obama's Farewell Speech

By Elizabeth Martin

On Tuesday January 10th, 2017 President Barack Obama gave his farewell address. He gave the speech in his hometown, Chicago, Illinois. It was a tradition to give the speech in the Oval office, but Obama decided to address it in his hometown. He thanked America and the people for making not only him a better president, but a better man. He also talked about his hopes for the country. If you watched it you may have noticed his younger daughter, Sasha was not there. She was in DC studying for an exam the next day. (She could have gone and taken the test later, but I guess she really wanted to do it then.)

Remembering John Glenn's 50th Anniversary Orbiting Around the Earth

By Alisha Schrufer

The 50th anniversary of John Glenn's historic Earth orbit was February 20, 2012. Recently, on December 8, 2016, John Glenn died at the age of 95. We honor his trip around the Earth as we look back upon his life.

Glenn was the very first American and the third human being to orbit the Earth! He did this on February 20, 1962, in the spacecraft Mercury Atlas-6, nicknamed by Glenn "Friendship 7." The Mercury Project launched six spacecraft during 1961 and 1963. Of course, there were many rehearsals, run-throughs and preparations for the flight that changed America.

During the flight up into space, John Glenn and his capsule were weightless at a speed of 17,500 miles per hour. The Mercury Atlas-6 (MA-6) with John Glenn in it, orbited Earth a total of three times, and 4 hours, 55 minutes and 23 seconds later, they landed in the Atlantic Ocean a little to the east of Grand Turk Island in the Bahamas. Glenn and Friendship 7 were recovered by a Navy Destroyer after splashdown.

In 2012, John Glenn, Charles Bolden, and Steve Lindsey (and many other famous astronauts and people) celebrated the 50th anniversary of Glenn's space orbit with parties, performances, and ceremonies. You can honor him too, by learning more about him and his life and by remembering that if Glenn hadn't orbited the Earth 55 years ago, space travel wouldn't have become what it is today!

Fake News

By Drake Arnold

Fake news is a growing problem across the internet. Articles with false or incorrect information are written and then spread through the internet. Facebook and Twitter are some of the media sites that have been targeted. Many people read the fake news and think that it's true. Rumors and fake news spread very quickly and can be dangerous. People are hesitant to believe the real news because it is hard to detect the fake news. There are companies working hard to help put an end to fake news. Fake news is the newest form of spam mail.

The San Diego Chargers Move to Los Angeles

By Drake Arnold

The San Diego chargers have been playing in the same stadium for 56 years. The team owner, Dean Spanos, recently decided to move the team to downtown Los Angeles. Spanos had been looking for a new stadium for 15 years but could never reach an agreement with the city of San Diego. Many Charger fans are sad to see the team leave but the franchise is excited for the change. The team will be paying 12.5 million dollars in relocation fees to the NFL along with spending 650 million dollars to build the new LA stadium.

Giant Sequoia Topples

By Alexis Ewing

The largest tree species in the world is the Giant Sequoia. It can be as much as 27 feet around. However, despite being so large, the roots are weak, making the trees easy to topple over. One tree was discovered to be 2,000 years old. What made this tree so special to everyone that visited was the tunnel that was carved into the trunk. The tunnel was carved in the 1880's to allow tourists to pass through with their horses, buggies and cars. For generations people from all over the world would travel just to see this majestic tree. The tunnel that was carved years ago along with its weak roots was the reason that it toppled over in a powerful storm. The tree that once stood so beautiful and strong now lays on the ground in pieces. Many people from all over the world are sad to see this memorable tree gone.



The Giant Sequoia before it toppled

Interviews

Interview with Swim Coach, Kevin Fisher

By Clay Narcisenfeld

Q: When did you become the swim coach for Bullis?

A: I became the swim coach for Bullis in the fall of 2014.

Q: Were you a coach for other schools before Bullis?

A: Bullis was the first school where I have coached swimming. I had coached previously at a club team and my local community pool.

Q: What team did you swim for before you became a coach?

A: Growing up, I swam over ten years at my local swim pool, Country Glen Swim Club in Potomac, Maryland.

Q: What age were you when you started to swim?

A: I joined my first swim team at the age of seven.

Q: What is your favorite stroke to swim and why?

A: My favorite stroke is butterfly because it requires a lot of power and technique.

Q: Did you ever win first place in a swim meet and what stroke was it?

A: I still remember everything about the first race I won at a swim meet. It was in the 25 meter freestyle at Fallsmead Pool when I was eight years old. I even remember my time, even though it was over twenty years ago!

Q: Do you think the Bullis team will win this year?

A: The Bullis team this season has had some great accomplishments so far. We just finished up one of our Championship meets, where our team set three new school records. We have many talented swimmers who will return next season and I look forward to seeing what they can accomplish.

Interview with Ice Hockey Coach

By Matthew Halle

Q: Why did you decide to become a Hockey coach?

A: I love teaching kids in the spot where I grew up

Q: Did you play hockey when you were a kid?

A: I started skating when I was 3, and I started playing hockey when I was 7.

Q: What is the Bullis Hockey team record this season?

A: 2-11.

Q How many players do you have on the team?

A: 22 upper school players, and 16 middle school players.

Q: Who is your favorite team and player in the NHL?

A: The Pittsburgh Penguins and Sid Crosby.

Q: Do you like that Bullis has their own ice rink in Rockville?

A: I think it's great that we have a rink to play in. I believe it will help the program.

School News

Ellis Island

By Jack Sandi

Ellis Island is in Upper New York Bay, in New Jersey and partly in New York City. The Statue of Liberty is right near Ellis Island. Ellis Island was one of the first entry places to let immigrants into the country. Over 12 million immigrants came through Ellis Island between 1892 and 1954. Ellis Island is very important to our country because it brought all sorts of people from many different countries, mainly from Eastern, Southern and Central Europe. It also symbolizes United States as a nation of immigrants. There were many reasons why people wanted to come. There was religious discrimination in Russia and other countries. Some people were fleeing that. Others were living under poor conditions and wanted a better life. They saw the United States as a land of hope and a

better life for themselves and families. They also wanted to make more money so that they could send it to their family and relatives in their home country. The immigrants brought a lot of skills and tools with them and help built our country.

After a long voyage, the immigrants would first have to go through a medical examination. Anyone who had an infectious disease would not be let in the country and was sent back to their home country. After that they would go through an interview to make sure that they would add value to the country and have skills to offer. If you did not pass the interview, you would be sent back to your home country. All of this took time. It was not as easy as it sounds. People waited and waited to be an American, but some got sick, and some died. Families sometimes had to separate. That's why Ellis Island was called Island of Hope as much as it was Island of Tears.

Fourth grade took a trip to the actual Ellis Island on February 23. They looked at the conditions of Ellis Island as it was many years ago and visited the Ellis Island Immigration Museum. They saw what it was like to be an immigrant. As a fourth grader, I learned a lot visiting Ellis Island. If you have any other questions about Ellis Island, you can come to me or any other fourth grader.

Technology

Coding

By Matthew Halle

Coding is the language of computers. I think that coding should be taught starting in Lower School for all students. It is a way to help children learn about the world we live in. It is important to learn coding because it is a new language. It is a way of thinking about problem solving. Coding is a way for students to use technology to be creative. As kids get older it can be used for science and all learning. It is a great way to experiment. The earlier that kids learn about coding the more advanced they will be to learn the next steps in technology. I think that coding should be introduced in classrooms as early as possible. The future is all about computers.

The Dash and Dot Contest

By Samantha Pepper

There was a Dash and Dot national contest to see who could make the best accessory for Dash and Dot. The contest was open to kids four- fourteen years old. The top 15 winners got a Wonder Workshop T-shirt and the top three got a free Dash. Judges from "Make Wonder," the host of the challenge, picked the top 15 designs. The top 3 designs were then picked by public vote. Winners were announced on February 20, 2017. The top three designs were...

- 1) "Dot The Drone with Landing Gear" by Charlie from Walden Elementary in Illinois
- 2) "Dash The Candy Dispenser" by Sophie from Minnewaska Elementary in Minnesota
- 3) "Underwater Dash" by Jonah from Eleanor Van Gelder School in New Jersey.

Congratulations to the top three winners and enjoy your Dash!

Reviews

Places to Visit on the Weekends

By Elizabeth Martin

The Newseum

The Newseum is located at 555 Pennsylvania Ave in Washington, DC. You may be wondering what the Newseum is. The Newseum is a museum that is all about news. It has tons of games, activities, and exhibits to explore and learn all about what is happening in the world. My favorite activity is the one where you get to be a reporter. You choose what you want to be or where you want to go. For example, you can become a weather man/woman and say. There is a green screen behind you so it looks like you are actually a real reporter. I recommend this museum for



ages nine, ten and above.

The Newseum has 6 floors and in part view of DC. The museum also has a couple of movie theaters and a 4-D movie you can watch. If you get hungry, there is a cafeteria where you can eat. I love this museum because it has really cool games, activities, and exhibits to explore. I hope you find time to check this museum out.

of the top floor there is a really high

The Kids Museum

You may have heard of the Kids Museum. It is a museum with tons of activities just for kids. It's address is 6400 Democracy Blvd, Bethesda, MD. I recommend this for ages 6 and up. It has lots of cool arts and crafts, inventions, and robots. They change some of their activities every now and then but keep some too. It is a small museum but has lots to do and there are always employees there to help you.



Hidden Figures

By Alexis Ewing

I chose to review the movie *Hidden Figures* because it was an interesting movie and I thought it would be neat to share this story for Black History month. *Hidden Figures* shows what black people had to go through to have the same rights as white people. In the movie, Taraji P. Henson played the main character. Katherine Johnson and her friends Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson were African American women working at NASA. These women were the brains behind one of the most important events in American history! They launched astronaut John Glenn into orbit. These women were able to change science even though they were the only black women there. I think Katherine Johnson and her friends are role models. My favorite part of the movie was when Katherine Johnson stood up for herself. Her boss would always ask her why she would disappear lots of times during the day and he was mad, but she would have to run almost a mile everyday to the "Colored bathroom" because she was not allowed to use the white one in the building where she worked. She explained to him it was not fair and he listened. He made a rule that there were no more separate bathrooms at NASA!