

Trojan Horse Magazine

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Volume 2, Issue 3



WELCOME TO THE FIRST WEEKLY EDITION

Welcome to the first weekly edition of the Trojan Horse Magazine. Each week that we are doing school from home, there will be a new issue.

Please submit your artwork, poetry, fiction stories, photos, non-fiction stories, puzzles, comics, reviews of books, movies, or games, and more!

All submissions can be emailed to mzdrojewski@swcsk12.org



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Artwork by:

Carmine Calimeri

Abby Monroe

Alexis Gonzalez Rodriguez

Mrs. Clark

*Cover Artwork by
Carmine Calimeri*

Header photo by [amandabhslater](#) [CC BY-SA 2.0](#)

NEWS AND NOTICES

Sora

Did you know you can access even more ebooks and audiobooks in Sora if you add your public library card? Just click on the menu and add your public library.

Are there others in your house who would like to access ebooks and audiobooks?

Adults can use Libby, the public library version of Sora. They just need to use their library card number and PIN. (Their PIN is usually either the last four digits of their phone number or the last four digits of their card number.) If they don't have a library card yet, they can get a temporary 60 day card online. Visit CCLSNY.org for more information.

Wellness Survey

Mrs. Lindquist would like to remind all students to complete the Wellness Survey that was emailed to you. If you haven't completed this yet, check your email and please try to do it soon.

2020 Census

While you're at home, one activity you can help your parents complete is your 2020 Census form. The census is done every ten years and helps the government and many agencies know the needs of the community. All of your personal information is kept private.

Census data is used for many things. If you have anyone in your family who is interested in family history or genealogy, they have likely used census information from the past.

*Got news?
Send it to Miss Z for
our next issue!*

Coping Corner

When you're facing stress or anxiety, coping strategies can help you deal with those feelings and move forward.

Why not make a coping strategies fortune teller? Follow the directions in the link to the right to fold a fortune teller. The second link shows you an example fortune teller.

Under the flaps, write down some of the coping strategies you can use to help with stress and anxiety. The third link gives you some ideas.

Supplies needed: paper cut into a large square, colored pencils or markers, ideas for coping skills

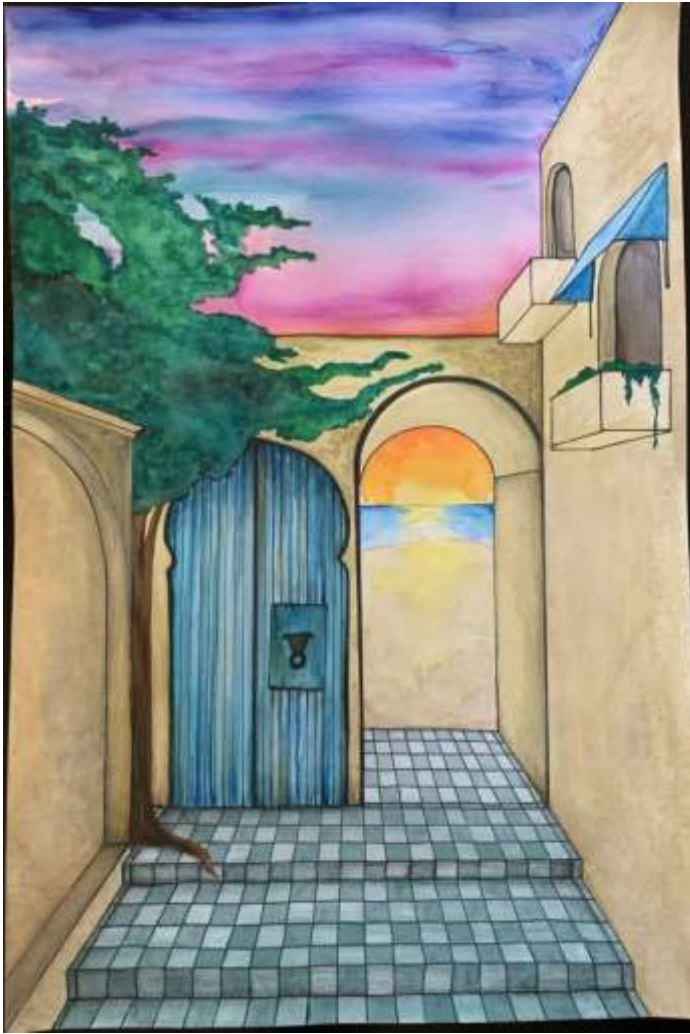
How to make a fortune teller:

<https://www.dltk-kids.com/world/japan/mfortune-teller.htm>

[Example](#)

[Coping Strategies](#)

(more examples on the last page of this magazine)



Artwork on the left:
Top: Watercolor painting by Mrs. Clark
Bottom: by Alexis Gonzalez Rodriguez

Artwork below by Abby Monroe

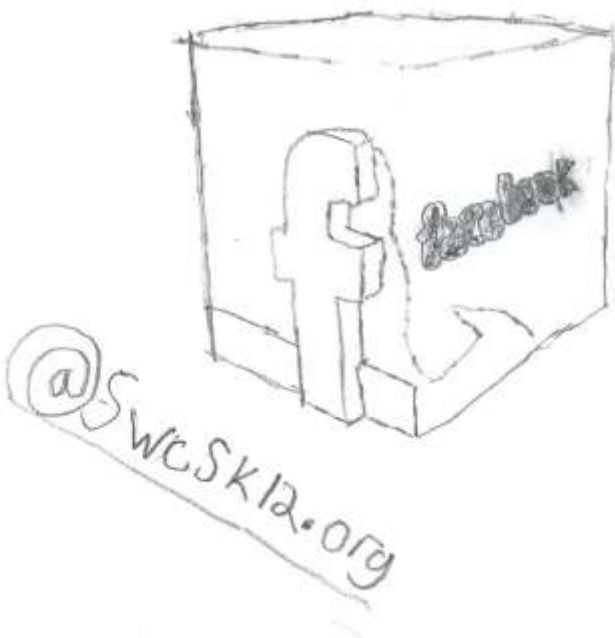


Classic Poetry:

The Purist

By Ogden Nash

I give you now Professor Twist,
A conscientious scientist,
Trustees exclaimed, "He never bungles!"
And sent him off to distant jungles.
Camped on a tropic riverside,
One day he missed his loving bride.
She had, the guide informed him later,
Been eaten by an alligator.
Professor Twist could not but smile.
"You mean," he said, "a crocodile."



GUESS THE PET!

Guess which pet belongs to which member of the Southwestern Middle School community!



1. Bunny

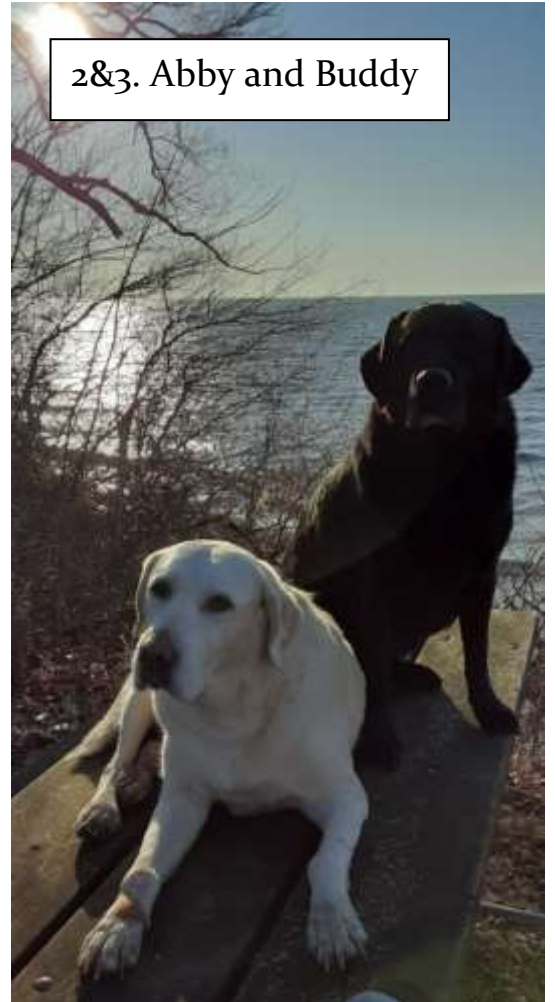


4. Minnow



6. Fenway

2&3. Abby and Buddy



5. Wrigley

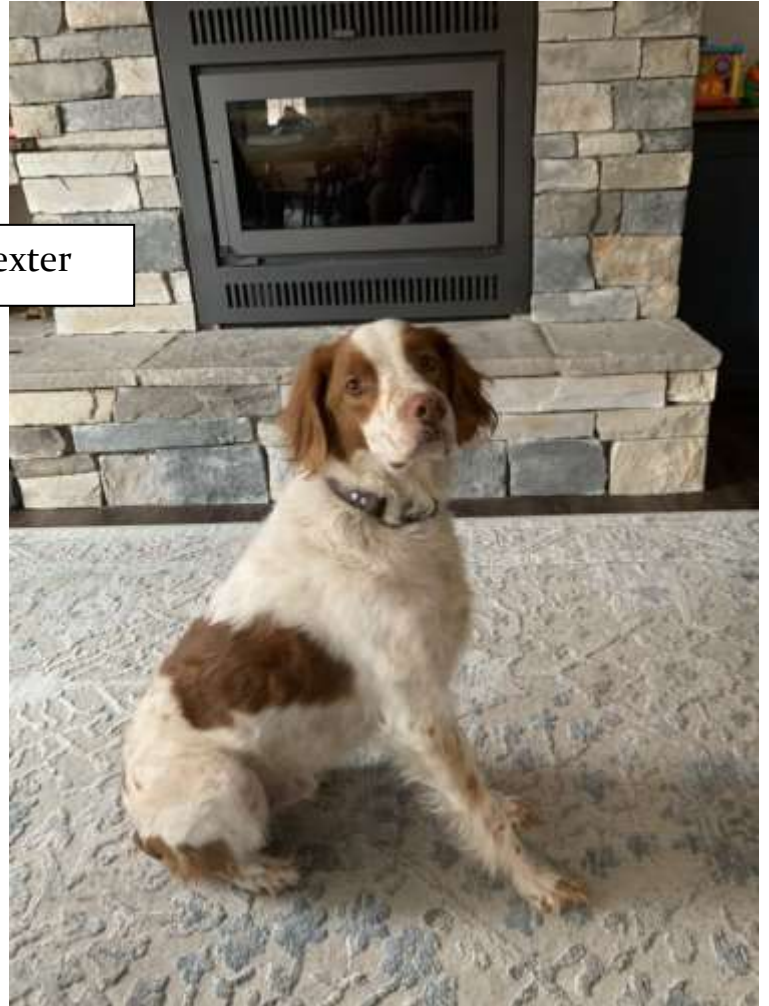


Do you think you know which teachers and staff these pets belong with?
[Fill out the form here](#) or find the link in the email that brought you this magazine.

Answers will be posted in next week's issue along with a new set of pets!



7. Mollie



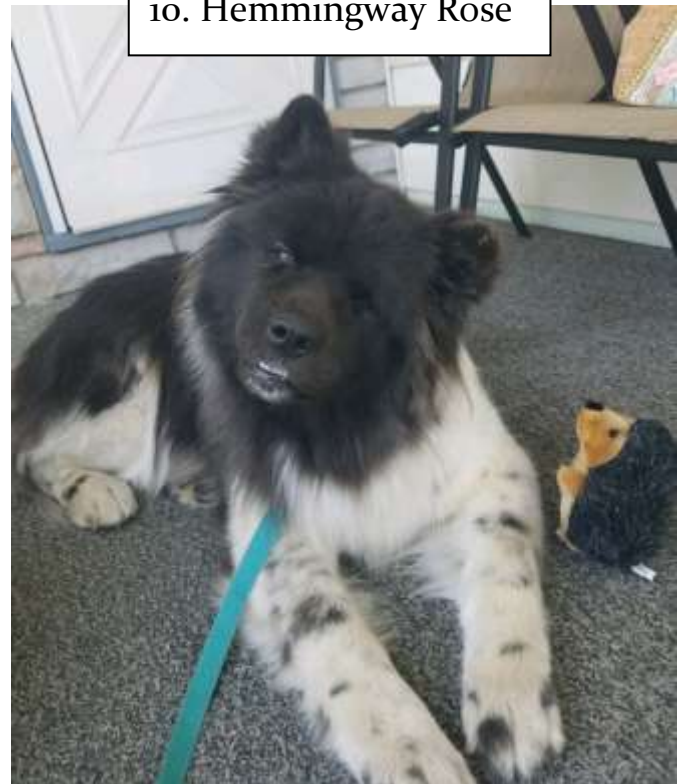
8. Dexter



9. Winnie



11. Rory Arthur
Williams III



10. Hemmingway Rose

MR. HUMEROUS – SHORT FICTION

By Miss Zdrojewski

Jamie's chattering made him easy to find despite the many places a six-year-old could have been hiding in our Grandma's huge backyard. He was sitting in the creek bed which was, at this time in autumn, just a bed of thick, chocolate frosting colored mud. His fast-paced chirping monologue, punctuated every few seconds with "N' ya know what else?" was directed at a blob of mud perched on a rock.

The dark mud covered every bit of Jamie's body and clothes. "What are you doing?" I asked in an almost shout. "Mom is going to kill you. She didn't bring any extra clothes." Jamie didn't even flinch.

"Look!" he cried, holding up the mud blob. "His name is Mr. Humorous. He's my best friend. Say hi to him."

I ignored him. "Jamie, it's lunch time. Leave the mud there and let's go." Jamie refused to leave his blob of mud, so Mr. Humorous came with us.

During the slow walk back to the house (six-year-olds can sense when you want them to hurry, and then you can kiss any dream of punctuality out the window) Mr. Humorous learned just about everything about me. "Everything" is used here loosely to refer to the details that a six-year-old thinks are significant, which includes my favorite stuffed animal and color, the really important facets of personality. "N' this one time, my sister Katie and me, we were in my grandma's creek, and there was this worm that was as long as my arm. I thought it was a snake, but Katie's brave and she named it Anna Lid but she didn't want me to play with it."

Mr. Humorous was denied a seat at the table, but he sat on Grandma's back steps and later ate the scraps Jamie brought him. "Mr. Humorous loves the bread Grandma made, but he doesn't like the cookies." Jamie said, stuffing a cookie in his own mouth.

"He told you this, did he?" I asked. Jamie nodded and then continued his conversation with the blob of mud. He had run out of stories to tell his friend, but now he seemed to be answering questions. He would pause, looking at the mud, give his answer, and then pause again.

Six-year-olds do not have admirable attention spans, so after Jamie had talked to the mud blob for a few hours my mom started getting worried.

"Jamie," Mom said, "Would you like to sit on Grandma's tire swing?" Jamie can never resist that tire swing. He tends to get a little wild on it, so it's not every visit he's allowed to sit on it.

He jumped right up at the mention of the swing, but then he asked, "Can Mr. Humorous swing, too?"

"No." Mom said, matter-of-factly. "No mud on the swing."

Jamie looked torn, but then he tilted his head toward the mud in his hand, paused, and said, "Okay." Mr. Humorous sat on a nearby rock watching Jamie twirl around on the old tire.

By this time, the mud blob was hardening slightly in the sun. If I squinted at it I could see where it might look like a little man; there was a smaller blob on top that could be the head. But then, it was just a blob of mud.

Grandma tried to take matters into her own hands. With Jamie preoccupied on the swing, she thought she could just get rid of the mud. She started for Mr. Humorous' rock, but before she could perform any kind of murderous act Jamie came leaping off the swing to the mud's rescue.

Mr. Humorous spent the whole day with us. He played tag, he played cards, and he hiked through Grandma's woods. By the time he sat on a log by Grandma's campfire pit to roast spider dogs and marshmallows, he was looking decidedly more dry and more like an action figure than he had earlier in the day.

When it was time for us to go home Jamie cried about saying goodbye to Mr. Humorous. "I can't leave him here!" he wailed. Mom would not let Mr. Humorous in the car, but Jamie said his friend wanted to go back to his creek.

It was too dark by that time for Jamie to go to the creek bed, so I was given the privilege of walking Mr. Humorous home. In my hands Jamie's friend felt almost warm. I set the little man down in the mud where Jamie's footprints were still visible.

"Well, Mr. Humorous," I said, "You're back home now."

I thought I heard a small voice say, "Thank you. And the name's Humus." But it must have been just my imagination.

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU'RE STRESSED

These are some strategies for coping with stress and anxiety.

Try them for yourself or use them to make your Coping Strategies Fortune Teller.

Do you have suggestions of other strategies that work for you? Send them to us for the next issue of this magazine!

Go for a walk

BUILD SOMETHING

Drink some water

Take slow mindful breaths

Play with a pet

Email a teacher

**TALK TO
A FRIEND**

Draw a picture

Play a game

Color in a coloring book

Read a magazine

Take a shower

Practice yoga

Write a letter

**Email Mrs. Lindquist or
Mrs. Fisher**

Q: How excited was the gardener about spring?
A: So excited he wet his plants.

Q: Does February like March?
A: No, but April May.

Q: Why is everyone so tired on April 1st?
A: Because they just finished a long 31-day March!

Jokes from: <https://kidsjokebook.com/spring-jokes-for-kids/>

Trojan Horse Magazine is now accepting submissions for our weekly issues!

Your entries may be poetry, stories, nonfiction, artwork, photos, jokes, puzzles, reviews of books, movies, or games, and more.

Help keep our community connected by sharing your ideas!

Entries should be emailed to mzdrojewski@swcsk12.org by noon each Tuesday. Entries received after that may be saved for the next week's issue.