



Trumpeteer

“The Name of the Lord is a Strong Tower” *Proverbs 18:10*

Autism Awareness Month

by Jacob Pruse

April is Autism Awareness Month. Autism is a brain disorder. It is a spectrum disease which means there are varying degrees of the disorder. A mild form of the disorder is known as Asperger's. There are no medical tests for a diagnosis. Instead a diagnosis for autism comes from observed behavior and educational or psychological testing.



As many of you know, Mrs. Raber has a grandson, Nate, with autism. I had the opportunity to interview her to gain a better understanding of autism. Her grandson was diagnosed at age 2 because of speech delays. Behaviors of autism are delayed speech, avoiding social interactions and sensory issues. Those with autism are very intelligent with high IQs. They have an ability to focus on intricate things and can understand things that are complex for their age. It is believed that Einstein, Mozart and Van Gogh all had autism. Bill Gates may also have autism.

They do not know exactly what causes it, but believe it is genetic disorder triggered by the environment. They do know that it is not caused by immunizations which was previously suspected. Autism is growing; 1 in every 100 children is diagnosed with the disorder. It affects more boys than girls; four out of five children diagnosed with autism are boys.

Early diagnosis and intervention are extremely important. The younger a child starts treatment, the better, because the brain is still developing. Mrs. Raber's grandson goes to a school at Fresno State. Applied Behavioral Analysis is used as a treatment. They work with him face-to-face and use discrete trials to treat the disorder. Rewards are also used.

Mrs. Raber would like everyone to be supportive and understanding of those with autism and their families because it is a challenge for everyone involved.



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Submissions and Feedback

Online

Tower Students Forum
(www.towerstudents.com)

E-mail

TCStrumpeteer@live.com

In Person

Submissions may also be delivered by hand at any Tower Teachers' Meetings and Park Days

Note From Katherine:



AUTISM SPEAKS™
It's time to listen.

Because Autism and its causes are puzzling, the symbol of Autism is a puzzle piece. Remember Mrs. Raber's saying: If you have seen one person with Autism, you have seen ONE person with Autism. Every child is a unique case.

April Fool's?

by Amanda Fiske

Gosh. It sure is hard to write an article sometimes. You see, I have to turn my articles in a month before you get to read it! I would love to give an update on Tower Christian School Theatre Works, a.k.a Drama, except it would sound something like this: "Drama is going great and we will be having a dress rehearsal on Friday!" The problem with that is it would have already happened!

So I'd love to give you an April fool's pranks list but by the time you read this April fool's will have already passed. I could have talked about April fool's pranks in the March Issue but then you would all have forgotten all about it (speaking of which, how many of you actually read the school newspaper?).

Sooo I have come up with a new holiday! It's called, um, the "April-Fools-day-um-except-not-on-the-uh-first-of-April-DAY!" ...Yah. Well anyway, the reason for the holiday is just another chance for you to prank your family and friends. So, first of all you have to make sure the prank won't get you grounded. I have been searching the web and have found a prank that shouldn't do much harm.

Put a quarter on a piece of paper and trace it with a pencil, scraping the edge of the quarter with pencil lead (it must be a quarter because the edges are ruff and pick up more stuff! Hey I rhymed!). When you have gone all the way around the quarter there should be lead left over from the pencil surrounding the quarter. Now put the quarter in your pocket and approach your victim with a clean quarter in your hand. Tell the victim that you can do something they could never pull off and slowly roll the clean quarter from the top of your head all the way down to your chin. Then put that same quarter in your pocket. If they're the average human being they'll ask if they can try it. Give them the dirty quarter from your pocket. When they have completed the task congratulate them and take the quarter back. At this point you could walk away and let them figure it out for themselves later that they have a silver line going down their face. Or you could show them in a hand mirror what they've done to themselves and shout "April-Fools -um-except-not-on-the-uh-first-of-April!" Or you could rename the holiday and shout something else. =D



Peace, (hopefully), Amanda Fiske

P.S. I tried it on my little brother and it worked! He wasn't happy until I told him he could keep the quarters. Then all was forgiven.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians:

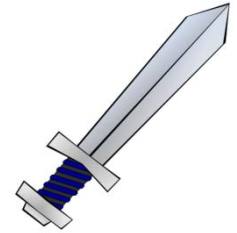
A book and movie review

by Katherine Elder

At the start of this year for school, I learned about Greek mythology in the book, D'Aulaires's Book of Greek Myths (I highly recommend it!). The Greek gods were very powerful and immortal, but not moral. Even though most of them were married, they would still have kids with humans. These kids were called

demi-gods. You've probably heard of some of them, like Hercules, Perseus, and Achilles.

Flash forward to the present day. In Percy Jackson and the Olympians, the Greek gods are still around. Mount Olympus, where most of the gods live, is on the 600th floor of the Empire State Building. The Underworld is in Los Angeles. And the gods haven't stopped having kids. Percy finds out in the first book that his dad is a god. He is rushed to Camp Half-Blood, where demi-gods are protected and can train during the summer. Percy is told that Zeus' master lightning bolt is missing and Percy is his prime suspect. The rest of the book is about Percy and his two friends, Annabeth and Grover, on a quest to find the bolt and return it before the summer solstice.

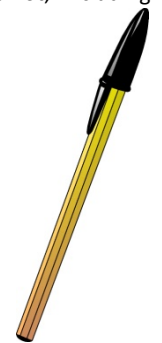


That's the first book, The Lightning Thief. There are five books in total, and I adore them! I really like Greek mythology and these books take on the twist of being set in modern day. It's really interesting reading about what the gods are "really" like and what happened after the end of the myths. The books have most



everything you would expect from fantasy books, including monsters, sword fights, flying, heroes, villains, a little bit of romance, and even an explosion every once in a while. They are exciting and funny, and occasionally sad. I highly recommend these books.

I was so excited when I heard they were making a movie based on the first book. I couldn't wait to see how they would show different parts of the book. Then I saw it. Percy is a demi-god with two friends called Annabeth and Grover on a quest to find Zeus' master bolt before the summer solstice. That's about the only thing that is the same in both the book and the movie. Ok, I'm exaggerating. Most of the things that they encounter on the quest happened in the book, but still, they changed a lot, including Percy's age. I was frustrated all through the movie because of all the things they changed. I wanted to strangle the movie screen! Well, I understand some of the things they had to change and that they couldn't put everything in the movie because of time. But other stuff they changed for no reason at all, in my opinion. They added things that didn't need to be added, and they completely changed the end, including taking out key characters and changing the main villain! While it did have some funny points, that didn't change how I felt about it. In short, I hated it.



If you have read the books, my advice to you is don't see the movie. You'll hate it and it won't be pretty. If you've already seen the movie and liked it, don't read the books. You'll probably get confused about the events and what's going on because you've seen the movie and are probably expecting it to be the same. If you've seen the movie and didn't like it, read the books! Hopefully you'll like them more! And if you haven't seen the movie or read the books, READ THE BOOKS! I hope you'll like them as much as I do!

Snowboarding

by Nathan Browatzke

Snowboarding is a great adventure. You get up at 5:45am and leave at 6:25am. My first time up this year, I went with my mom and brothers. We were almost there when we spun out. It was really powdery and half of our van was buried in the snow. We had to dig it out. But we were prepared with a shovel and sleds. It took 15 minutes to dig out. Once we were there, we got our gear and hit the slopes.

I started snowboarding at Sierra Summit last year, but I only went once. The first time snowboarding was not the best. In fact, I almost skied this year because it was hard, but I decided to try snowboarding one more time. I was ten times better than the first time and so I was glad I tried it once more. I got to snowboard a second time this winter and was so much better, I even went on intermediate ski runs. I would say if you like adventure, you might really enjoy snowboarding. I love it.



Top Ten Strongest Animals

by Jacob Pruse

- 10: Brown bear - Brown bears can move and lift over 1,000 lbs.
- 9: Mussel - Mussels can hold themselves down to the sea floor by pushing on strong glue-like secretions.
- 8: Gorilla - It can lift 4,600 lbs which is the equivalent of two family cars.
- 7: Anaconda - The anaconda is a constrictor and can squeeze to death creatures that are slightly larger and heavier than it (a full-grown anaconda can weigh 175 lbs.)
- 6: Eagle - An eagle can carry 4 times its weight during flight.
- 5: Seladang - A seladang or gaur can weigh 800-3,000 lbs. and can carry 2,000 lbs. across rugged terrain.
- 4: Tiger - A tiger can carry a full size cow up a ten foot fence.
- 3: Leaf-cutter ant - The leaf-cutter ant can carry 50 times its own weight! That's like a human lifting a truck!
- 2: Elephant - It's trunk can lift up to 600 lbs. and it can carry 20,000 lbs.
- 1: Rhinoceros Beetle - It can lift 851 times its weight! That's the equivalent of human lifting an army tank!



Potato Chip Tasting

by Amanda Fiske

Everyone rated on a scale from 1-5 in each topic and then I averaged them all up. Then they circled the name of which one was their favorite. In the end Pringles won. And just to let you know how much Pringles was loved, Amanda P., Jacob and Nathan gobbled down what was left of the

Pringles on the car ride back home! Every little crumb! And those were my Pringles! My precious, yummy, beautiful Pringles! But I guess that shows how much I love Pringles too. ;)

| | <i>Pringles</i> | <i>Lay's</i> | <i>Kettle</i> | <i>Trader Joe's</i> | <i>Ruffles</i> |
|--------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Crispy | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| Salty | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Taste | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 |

Serving size was the same for all, one ounce.

Top Ten Comedy Movies

by Jennifer Elder

April is National Humor Month, so I compiled a list of my top ten favorite older comedies. (And I am aware that Cary Grant made it on 4 times.)

1. The Philadelphia Story
2. The Shop Around the Corner
3. His Girl Friday
4. Desk Set
5. My Favorite Wife
6. Court Jester
7. Support Your Local Sheriff
8. The Quiet Man
9. Walk Don't Run
10. Mr. Hobbs Takes A Vacation



Peach Blossom

by John Baker, Jr.

Peach Blossom is very fun. First you have to choose a book, story or poem. Then you have to memorize it. I find it much easier to memorize a section and another section until it is finished. If you do hand motions the judges grade you better. You can do a group, solo or a duo. Sometimes you are in a room where the rest of your school is not. What our group usually does is after we finish we go get ice cream. My past experience is that you get nervous every year. This year I did a piece called "Edward the Emu!" Here's how it went, we arrived at Fresno State and checked in, then we got our t-shirts (you can buy one), and put our badges on, we then found our room and waited until everyone got there. I listened to the other students nervously until it was my turn. After I was done I let out a sigh of relief. Sometimes when you are finished the judges give you suggestions. When everyone was finished we got our certificates and took a couple of pictures and then drove to McDonalds to get an ice cream sundae.

The Trumpeteer

God is

by Nathan Browatzke



I Y H L F Y A G G N D H C H A
 O L L F V W T T N N K O Y V M
 R O T A E R C H I I M Q L P A
 P I A S J O Z K G P V W O X Z
 Z O O W A H L U A I K O H Y I
 O M W O Z X Z S D V M Z L M N
 E O L E J A S B E S H L B U G
 J D N Q R I F S L O M J A P Z
 U C S C O F U I I B I X F S T
 U K W N B O U U A R H N O K L
 G W A D I N I L T Z C S T C A
 Q T C C S E G P E R S O N A L
 E F A V U T Z X D O X U H L L
 S R W V C L G N I V I G R O F
 G Y X G D K A O Q D S E V N T

ALMIGHTY
 COMPASSIONATE
 FORGIVING
 KIND

AMAZING
 CREATOR
 GRACIOUS
 LOVING

AWESOME
 DETAILED
 HOLY
 PERSONAL

Guess Who?

by Amanda Fiske

I usually have my hair in braids.
 I like to play Capture the Flag.
 I am on student council.



The Lion and the Mouse

by Aaron Browatzke

There was a lion sleeping. A mouse ran over the lion. The lion growled. The mouse begged the lion not to eat him. The mouse said he would repay him. The lion laughed. The lion let him go. A while later, hunters trapped the lion. The mouse heard the lion roaring and ran to save him. The mouse saved the lion. The mouse and the lion were friends.



Guess Where?

by Amelia Sanders

Here mice are the Characters.
 And our world is smaller.
 Tiki birds sing and servant girls become princesses.
 Where am I?

The Three Fish and the Shark

by Aaron Browatzke

Once there were three fish. They decided to move. One stayed in the plants. One went to some rock. One went to a coral cave. One day a shark was hungry. He attacked the first fish. The fish swam to his brother's home. The shark attacked the second brother's home. They swam to their third brother's home in the coral cave. The shark got stung by the coral. He couldn't get them so he let them alone.



Comic

by Amelia Sanders

