

One Working Unit

January, 2017 Edition



I.S.303 Celebrates Chinese New Year



On January 27, 2017, the students of I.S. 303 were treated to a celebration of the Chinese New Year; the year of the rooster. The event was made possible by Ms. Amador, Mr. Caggiano, and New York State Assemblyman William Colton of the 47th district. The morning began with Ms. Amador making her opening remarks and introducing Master Zhang Yuan's dance troupe, complete with colorful costumes and life-like dragons that wiggled their way down the aisles to the amazement and delight of the audience. The dancers put on an amazing show and the costumes looked like they were from a movie. The Chinese New Year dragon came down the aisle and all of the students were in amazement. The event coincided with the actual Chinese New Year which was Saturday, January 28th. The Chinese or Lunar New Year is a festival celebrated in millions of Chinese homes and cities throughout the world. In an interview with Assemblyman Colton, he was quoted as saying, "It is always a pleasure to come here to I.S. 303 and see all of the wonderful things that the students are achieving and accomplishing. I am proud to serve the students and community of I.S. 303 and look forward to coming back soon".



By: Maksym
Makoviychuk
Interview By: Abigail
Quirindongo, 6-104

Principal's Message From Ms. Admador

The more time one spends at IS 303, the more love one acquires for this school and community. As I do rounds and bump into students, teachers and staff, smiles are exchanged and the comfort of home is felt. Most recently our school community came together to put smiles on babies' faces born with cleft palates. Just imagine, we exercised at our second annual Zumbathon and raised enough money to change lives. Believe it or not, smiles change lives. The next time you see someone and offer them a smile, you might just be making their day or their life a little brighter!



TEACHER FEATURE:

Mrs. Cohen (ESL teacher)

By: Rosamaria Garces 7-217



Q: What subject do you teach here at I.S. 303?

A: As an ENL teacher, I teach the students that are English Language Learners. I love to teach and meet students from all over the world. This is the most diverse school that I have worked in.

Q: What led you to become a teacher here?

A: I had been teaching French in a private school for a few years. I decided that it was time to go back into teaching in a public school. Here I am, working in Coney Island.

Q: What hobbies and activities keep you busy when you are not at work?

A: I love to spend time with my family and friends. I also love to read, travel, and hunt for vintage clothing.

Q: Throughout your teaching career, what are some things that you have learned from working with your diverse student groups?

A: I've learned to pay close attention to my students' languages. This always helps to give me a better understanding of how my students learn. I have also learned many wonderful and insightful things about their cultures and customs.

Teacher Feature Continued

Mrs. Montalbano

By: Rosamaria Garces 7-217



Q: How long have you been a teacher and what brought you to I.S. 303?

A: I have been a teacher for four years now. I saw the I.S. 303 website and thought that it looked like such a wonderful place to be a teacher. There were so many great opportunities offered to the students.

Q: What do you enjoy most about teaching the sixth grade class that you have?

A: I enjoy engaging my students in the work and watching them learn. All students learn at a different pace and it's very rewarding to watch them grow as individuals.

Q: What do you like to do in your free time outside of school?

A: I am the coach of a volleyball team. I also enjoy spending time with my kids and the rest of my family.

Zumba-Thon By: Kyla Brown 6-108



Ms. Montalvo will be hosting this year's IS 303 Zumba- Thon. The Zumba-thon is a ninety minute, non-stop dance event where the community, teachers and students of IS 303 join together to raise money for this great charitable event through Smile Train. This organization helps children with cleft lips and palates. The event takes place on March 2nd, 2017 from 4pm to 6pm.

I interviewed Ms. Montalvo to learn more about the upcoming event, as outlined below:

1) *What is the Zumba-thon?*

It is a 90 minute non-stop dance that the community, teachers and students of I.S.303 join together and to raise money for a charity donation. It is March 2nd and we will be donating the funds that we collect to Smile Train. Smile Train is an international charity that provides free cleft palates repairs through surgery to cure children with this condition. Our goal will be achieved because we have the I.S.303 community to help.

2) *What is the charity about?*

We did the Zumba-thon charity event last year for the Smile Train Network; it was such a success. I.S.303 raised \$1,000. This year, we are expecting to raise even more money to benefit the children.

3) *Why a Zumba-thon; why not something else?*

Dancing is one of the best ways to express your emotions, attitude, personality and uniqueness. I love zumba and working alongside of the I.S.303 students and staff brings energy and enthusiasm to the Zumba-thon. Together we embrace the Zumba-thon and we are unstoppable.

What do we do during winter break? By: Sophia Elsherif 6-108

Winter break is coming soon. Winter break is five days long from Monday, February 20th until February 24th, 2017. The history of the mid-winter break began during the oil crisis of the 1970's. The presidential holidays were placed together so that schools could have a week off where energy and fuel would not be needed to run the schools. Today, students and teachers still love this time of year. I plan on going to the Ringling Brothers' circus to see it for the last time before they retire. What does everybody plan on doing during this week off? I conducted a short interview with two of my fellow classmates to see what their plans are.

This is from Kyla Brown, 6-108

1) What do you do during winter break?

"I get time to relax and have fun with my family."

2) Do you have fun?

"Yes, I always have fun with my family. I am planning on going to a birthday party".

3) What is your favorite part of winter break?

"Being off from school and not having to wake up early".

This is from Melissa:

1) What do you plan on doing during your vacation?

"I plan on spending time with my cousin and going to the movies".

2) Are you looking forward to being able to sleep late?

“I am, it will be great to catch up on sleep and not have to worry about getting up for school”.

3) Will you be able to spend time with your family?

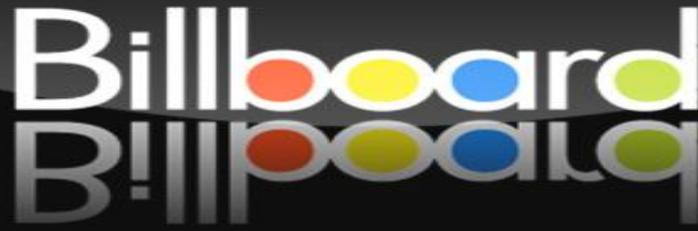
“Yes, we are all going to be together and I am looking forward to spending my vacation time with them as well”.

Club Penguin

By: Daniel Brown 7-229

Club Penguin is a really cool game in which you can do basically anything! Club Penguin is an online game you can play with people around the world. In club penguin you will need a membership to do many of the cool things. However you can still do some cool things without one. For example, you can talk to other players and even have pets called puffles. You can also dress your penguin and make him look cool. You can do cool challenges and verse other people. In Club Penguin you can also throw snowballs at things and unlock cool rewards. If you like to decorate, you have your own igloo! You can put your pets in there and give them food and a nice bed. They will love your home but make sure to visit them everyday or they can run away and you lose them forever. When you walk your pet you can get random items or money which is really cool and fun.





By: Marlene Chappel 7-217

This month's top twenty five is a great mix of genres to enjoy. There is a mix of pop, hip-hop, R&B, and soul. With the Grammy awards quickly approaching, you can be sure to see some of these chart toppers receiving awards.

- 1) Shape Of You - Ed Sheeran
- 2) Bad And Boujee - Migos featuring Lil Uzi Vert
- 3) I Don't Wanna Live Forever (Fifty Shades Darker) - Zayn/Taylor Swift
- 4) Million Reasons - Lady Gaga
- 5) Bad Things - Machine Gun Kelly x Camila Cabello
- 6) Bounce Back - Big Sean
- 7) Closer - The Chainsmokers Featuring Halsey
- 8) Scars To Your Beautiful - Alessia Cara
- 9) Don't Wanna Know - Maroon 5 Featuring Kendrick Lamar
- 10) Paris - The Chainsmokers

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