
The Clifton Chronicle

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Free

In this issue: A message from Mrs. Jackson, Cubs Nation looks back, a review of *Solo*, and ideas for Summer

The 2017-2018 School Year Comes to a Close



A Message From Mrs. Jackson

Cub Nation,

Another year is about to draw to a close and it is my hope that you take time to reflect on your level of success. Did you meet your goals, exceed your goals, or fall short? No matter what the outcome, learn and grow from your mistakes. Nobody is perfect but it is up to you to make wise choices and to demonstrate C.P.R. behavior both on and off of campus.

Here are some things I want you to think about. You are never too important to be nice to people. What you allow in your presence is your standard.

You are always going to be surrounded by people who are smarter, faster and more well off than you. The bottom line is that it does not matter. Why you might say? Because You are You!

Be the Cub who can get along with others. Be the Cub who is generous to others. Be the Cub

who is happy for others, even those that have more than you. Be the Cub who does the right thing. Be the Cub who is kind. If you pay attention to these things and make them habit, you will have the guarantee of a happier and more successful life.

On behalf of the Clifton staff, have a wonderful summer. Keep on exercising your brain with thinking, writing, and reading! Go Cubs!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jackson

Clifton Participates in Monrovia Days



By: Jonathan Camargo

Monrovia Days took place on May 18-20. This yearly event is organized by the city of Monrovia and celebrates the city's birthday. I was lucky enough to be in the parade as part of the Dual Immersion Program.

During The Monrovia Days parade lots of groups and organizations from around the city, come together to march down Myrtle Avenue.

The event also provides the city with the opportunity to listen to music provided by the Clifton and Monrovia High School bands.

In addition to the marching band and the Dual Immersion program, Kindness Club and the Spirit Marchers also participated in this year's parade.

Other groups present were the Boy Scouts and the local gymnastics teams. The carnival which was set up in Library Park was also a fun way for Monrovia's families to spend a few hours of their weekends.

That moment when you're in an exam



..and all you know is date & name.

Looking Back and Looking Forward

By: Natalie Nash

The 2017-2018 school year was quite an experience. As a seventh-grade student, you learn, ‘the lay of the land’ so to speak and grow each day you step foot on campus. You understand the school better than the year before and eventually will call it your school when you become an eighth-grader.

My seventh-grade year just got a lot more interesting as I recently was elected ASB president. My duties will officially start next school year as an eighth-grader. I am very honored and excited to be taking on this role. I am thrilled to be involved in the school and have a real impact on the Clifton campus.

While I feel I can never replace our current president, Ashley Vicencio, I am confident I will bring positivity to the school. However, I will miss all the eighth-graders who have had an impact on me this year. If you’re reading this, you know who you are. I will miss each and everyone of you dearly. You all influenced me in ways I’ll never forget. I can never thank you enough. I know that every single student in the graduating class of 2018 will do good in the world. If they truly believe they can make a difference, then they will. Good

luck to all of you and can’t wait to see you in high school!

A Midsummer Night’s Dream

By: Angelina Hamilton and Maya Grubb

On Wednesday, May 16th and Thursday, May 17th, Mrs. Skalsky’s drama class produced Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” We interviewed some of the cast and here’s what about how they felt to be selected for their roles, how to overcome stage fright, and what they thought about the choice for the play. Here is some of what they had to say.



The cast of the Spring play poses on stage.
Photo Credit: Cub Nation Instagram

Sophia Lee: “When I watched A Midsummer Night’s Dream with my family, I knew I wanted to be Puck. When Mrs. Skalsky posted the cast list and I saw that I got the part, my mom and I jumped up and down. I am pretty excited and thankful for being chosen and having the big responsibility of playing this amazing part.”

Bill Kenz: “I feel very lucky about being one of the leads. Last time I didn’t get such a big role, but this time I did and I was really happy. I think that *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* is a very interesting choice. I prefer

Shakespeare’s comedies more than Shakespeare’s tragedies like *Romeo and Juliet*.”

Haley Nelson: “I didn’t even expect to get one of the leads. So, when I found out, I was very surprised. I do have stage fright. When you’re up on stage there are many people that you don’t know. It helps if you remind yourself that you do know some of the people out there. Then it’s not so bad”

Midnight Catastrophe: An Original Short Story

By: Jane McClure



She ran into the lab, her shoes pounding on the pristine tile floor. She checked her watch. 11:58 pm. She wasn’t too late. The lights flickered, and she saw green scorch marks sizzling on the walls. She ran into her lab just in time to see a flash of emerald fire and hear the cage door squeak. “Jados,” she hissed, her heart beating even faster than her footprints.

The lights went out as suddenly as they had come on and she was left alone in total darkness.

“How did I lose another Dragon!” she yelled, her voice echoing up into the lab’s spider web-like ceiling.

A Farewell to Mrs. Arredondo

By: Victoria Sylvester



Mrs. Arredondo, one of our math teachers, is retiring this year. We decided to ask her a few questions and learned a lot about her that most students probably don't know. We came up with this list of 7 interesting facts about Mrs. Arredondo.

1. Mrs. Arredondo has been teaching for 38 years.
2. The part she will most miss from her time here at Clifton are her students.
3. Before she became a teacher, she wanted to be an astronomer.
4. Some of her hobbies are: antiquing, cooking, and dancing.
5. Mrs. Arredondo played softball in college.
6. Her favorite food is crab cakes.
7. Her plans for retirement are spending time with her grandchildren and relaxing.

It was a pleasure talking with Mrs. Arredondo. She holds a special place in all our hearts and will be missed very much. We wish her the best in retirement.



MY OTHER RIDE IS THE
MILLENNIUM FALCON

Solo: A Star Wars Story Review

By Gabe Thomas

I went into *Solo* absolutely dreading the whole ordeal. I was prepared for a pandering mess based solely on nostalgia, instead of a fun *Star Wars* adventure, but after seeing it for myself, I am happy to report it was not the disaster I was anticipating.

Solo: A Star Wars Story takes place about a decade before we meet smuggler and ace-pilot Han Solo in *A New Hope*. We see the origins of his friendship with Chewbacca, Lando and of course how he came into possession of everyone's favorite hunk of junk, the *Millennium Falcon*.

Solo was chock-full of exciting action sequences, fun callbacks, and enough to make it a different kind of *Star Wars* feature. Alden Ehrenreich plays it up as Han Solo. He does as good a job as anybody could have in the role. Donald Glover, also known as Childish Gambino, brings charisma to the character of Lando, making us remember why we fell in love with the big smoothie back in *Empire*.

Solo is most certainly not without flaws. Sometimes explanations do feel unnecessary and almost annoying, and there is a surprise appearance that is devastatingly out of place. Characters often feel unmemorable and disposable, and there are some definite hindering

pacing issues, particularly at the start.

Solo: A Star Wars Story has good character chemistry, a compelling enough story, the occasional fun action sequence, and more than enough to get a *Star Wars* fan to nerd out. Other characterizations and appearances feel useless and there are occasional annoying explanations.

Solo: A Star Wars Story is now in theaters everywhere.

5 Corny Star Wars Jokes

In honor of *Solo: A Star Wars Story*, here are 5 *Star Wars* inspired jokes to help you get through finals week. You're welcome and "May the Force be with you!"

1. Why did Anakin Skywalker cross the road?

To get to the Dark Side.

2. How does Chewbacca release Empire secrets?

He uses Wookieeleaks.

3. Why is Yoda such a good gardener?

He has a green thumb.

4. What do you call Chewbacca when he gets chocolate in his fur?

A chocolate chip Wookiee

5. Why does Yoda always need to borrow money?

He is always a little short.

Ideas for Spending Free Time This Summer

Top Five Books Series to Read Over Summer

By: Angelina Hamilton



1. Harry Potter

By: J.K. Rowling

Harry Potter, a famous boy wizard, goes off to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. As he grows, so does Lord Voldemort. Harry must fight for his life and the wizarding world.



2. Hunger Games

By: Suzanne Collins

Panem is divided into 12 districts and the Capitol. Katniss Everdeen takes her sister's place in the Hunger Games, where one boy and girl from each district fight to the death for television viewers' enjoyment.



3. The Fault in Our Stars

By: John Green

16 year old Hazel is diagnosed with lung cancer and attends a cancer support group. At first she's reluctant, but then she meets Augustus Waters.

4. Divergent

By: Veronica Roth



Tris Prior lives in a world where society is divided into five factions. She picks a faction that surprises everyone, but she has a secret: she's divergent. Her divergence could be the death of her.

5. The Selection

By: Kiera Cass



Thirty five girls are chosen at random to compete in a selection for Prince Maxon's heart and love. America joins to help her family, but what's waiting for her is unexpected.

Netflix Review:

Alexa and Katie

By: Sophia Adkins



On March 23, 2018, an amazing and show, *Alexa and Katie*, made its debut on Netflix. This sitcom follows the life of two teenage girls, Alexa and Katie, played by Paris Berelc and Isabel May. Alexa, is diagnosed with cancer, and as just like other patients, Alexa want to show strength instead of weakness.

Alexa's diagnosis does not allow her to play sports, go anywhere after school, or participate in any activities, but her best friend, Katie, keeps her busy. They break the rules and have to show courage as they face the challenges ahead of them. The show has warmed people's hearts as it shows acts of compassion, bravery and most of all, friendship!

This series is personally one of my favorites. You can find Season 1 on Netflix now. Season 2 has been

approved, so the release date will be announced soon!

5 Animes Worth Watching

By: Maya Grubb

Anime is a word used to describe Japanese animation. Anime is very different from regular TV shows and cartoons. They are a great way to get away from reality. If you've been thinking about getting into Anime, these suggestions are a good place to start. These series are available on Netflix, YouTube, and Crunchyroll.

1. *Your Lie in April*: A group of friends with a love of music goes through life together. It also has a really catchy opening song.

2. *Vampire Knight*: A school has two schedules. Yuki goes to the day classes. Yuki meets someone from the night class which is full of vampires.

3. *Death Note*: An anime about a guy named Light that finds a mysterious notebook with strange powers.

4. *Fairy Tail*: This is one that will always keep you guessing. There is a wizarding guild, dragons, villains, and lots of magic.

5. *Naruto*: An underdog, Naruto wants to be



Hokage, the leader and strongest ninja in his village. He is lonely because he has the nine tailed fox sealed in him.



Cub Nation Poll: What are you looking forward to this summer?

Compiled by: The C.C Lunch Staff

Hunter J: Sleeping and doing fun things with all the extra time.

Maya G: Going to Sweden to visit my family, and sleeping in.

Jonny C: Going to San Diego.

Daphne T: My pool, swimming, and going to Arizona.

Sophia L: Going on a road trip with my family.

Ani H: We might go to China.

Cristian F: Going to Hawaii.

Jordan P: Going to some Dodger games.

Sophia R: Hanging out with my family, and being home more.

Cheyenne C: I'm going to Del Mar with my neighbors, and we're also going to Florida.

Courtney S: I'm excited for a Serbian summer camp that lasts a week. I get to see all my out of state friends.

Brooklyn C: I'm going to New York for a month.

Sophia A: Watching *Friends*, and *Gilmore Girls*.

Aveny L: Playing *Fortnite*.

What Does June Have in Store For You?

By: Celeste Garcia

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

The temptation to do something bad is tempting. Remember to do what is right. Resist the urge and you will get through the month.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Keeping busy this month isn't a problem since you will have plenty of free time. Just make sure you don't confuse your priorities.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

If you say something that did not sound right, don't try to over explain things. Sometimes it is better not to say anything or just apologize.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Overreacting to a practical joke may embarrass you this month, but the quicker you can laugh at yourself the better.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

You will have a fun month with a side of you that few of your friends even knew was there. Listen to your gut this month.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Love is in the air. You never know where you might find love so be open for it. Extra love can also be given to your friends and family!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

This month the sun is in control of your energy. Start with the organization project you have been putting off.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You have a lot of good ideas this month but it might be later in the month before you can complete these ideas.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

If there's no one to tell you what to do this month, you may lose track of what to do. It's a good time for creative tasks.

Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20)

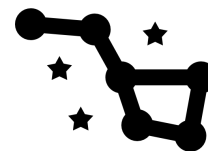
This is a great month to experiment with your look. Also, start thinking about what your goals are.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

You are very strong this month. It would be a great time to start a new hobby or try a new sport.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You should think positive thoughts. If you think you can, then you definitely will! Throw out a new topic of conversation. Everyone will be glad you did.



Interview Staff of the Month: Mrs. Jackson

By: Gabe Thomas and Angelina Hamilton

Mrs. Jackson, was selected as staff of the month for May 2018, and it's clear why; She is our amazing principal, and holds this school together. When we asked her a few questions, we learned many surprising things.

1. When did you decide you were going to be an educator?

"In August of 1999, I was doing cancer research at the City of Hope. I started teaching because I wanted to help students become passionate about science."

2. Were you a teacher before becoming a principal? What subjects and grades?

"Yes. I taught 8th grade science (regular and honors), integrated science for grades 9-12. I also taught Renaissance Leadership"

3. What is your favorite part of your job?

"Students. People would think that I come and inspire, but the truth of the matter is that students, parents, and teachers inspire *me*."

4. If you did not work as a principal, what other job would you choose?

"I used to be a fitness instructor, so maybe that, teaching, or being an event planner."

5. What are your hobbies?

"I enjoy working out, spending

time with family, and traveling."

6. What TV show are you currently watching?

"It's pretty rare that I turn on the TV, but when I do, I watch sports like college football, or basketball. I also like *The Voice*."

7. What is your favorite memory from this last school year?

"Being named a National School to Watch and getting the California Gold Ribbon."

8. If you had a superpower, what would it be?

"To remove pain from people. Whether it be emotional or physical pain, I would just zap them and remove their pain."

10. Can you share an interesting fact about yourself that students don't usually know?

"When I was a child, I sang on stage at the Greek Theatre with Whitney Houston. Also, I'm a product of Monrovia Schools, I went to Mayflower, then Clifton, and finally MHS."

We had so much fun interviewing Mrs. Jackson because she's such a fun person. Clifton Middle School appreciates her very much and we don't know what we'd do without her. Thank you Mrs. Jackson for always supporting this school!

moments
&
memories

Cub Nation Poll: What was your favorite moment this year?

Compiled by: The C.C Lunch Staff

Tatiana B and Siren T: The Halloween Dance

Courtney S: The volleyball season and playing with my friends this year.

Celeste H: Seeing Wonder with the whole school.

Raymond B: The Christmas parade. Yeah, That was fun!

Patrick M: Learning I got into R.L Nation

Ms. Velasco: When I danced for the lyp sync battle.

Savannah A: Being in Renaissance and winning Dance Chairman.

Mr. Ray: Taking Renaissance to see Mike Smith live.

Brooklyn M: Meeting Seren Townsend.

Mrs. Jones: Getting an award for going above and beyond.

Ananny M: Chilling with my friends on the bleachers.

Super Mario: Meeting all the new staff members.

Stacy M: When the staff dressed as elves.

Mr. Garcia: Getting all sorts of cool artwork from students for the library



Band and Orchestra Compete in Chula Vista

By: Jane Neuman

On May Fourth, 2018, the Clifton Band and String Orchestra went to San Diego on a Festival Tour. The festival host was Eastlake High School in Chula Vista. This tour was a big deal for the musical groups and took the help and participation of students, parents and the Band Boosters. While Orchestra has been to many festivals, this was only Band's second.

From best to worst, the ratings were: Superior (A), Excellent (B), Good (C), Poor (D), and Bad (F). Mr. Gooler, the Band and Orchestra director, stated that, "that both band and orchestra did their very best at competition. Orchestra was very impressive, scoring an "Excellent" rating from all three judges. I was also happy with the performances by soloists Anjali Schultz and Leandra Shelton." Mr. Gooler was also very proud of Band received a "Good" rating.

After the festival, the musical groups headed back to the hotel and had dinner. The students had some time to socialize, bond and relax after the tough competition.

The next day the musicians went to the San Diego Safari Park. Students boarded the tram and then were able to explore the park. They had the opportunity to see many creature of the savannah such as lions, giraffes, and elephants. Mr. Gooler mentioned that "the tram ride at the Safari Park was amazing."

Band and Orchestra made it back to Clifton safe and sound, but a little tired after such a gruelling competition and fun filled day. Mr. Gooler joked that, "seeing that everyone was alive when we got back was also equally amazing."

Random Jokes:

Q: What did the pony say when it had a sore throat?

A: I'm a little hoarse.

Q: What happens when it rains cats and dogs?

A: You might step in a poodle.

Important Dates

June 4th-6th- Final exams

June 5th - Promotion Ceremony
Late start day and 3:00 dismissal

June 14th- Summer school begins



The Clifton Chronicle

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