
SUMMER 2021

ABGS MS Looks forward to a Summer of Fun Memories & Relaxation!

Tiger's Paw Volume 1, Issue 2

A newsletter published by A.B.G.S. Middle School Newsletter Club

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WELCOME SUMMER 2021!

A Year We Will Never Forget!

We have all experienced a school year like no other! It was a challenging year to say the least. We had to attend school in cohorts certain days of the week and sit with the same pod and/or learn by Remote technology on other days. We missed our friends, personal contact with our teachers. We missed practicing and playing Middle School sports like football, soccer, baseball, cheerleading, wrestling, and lacrosse. We 8th graders feel slightly cheated, but we know it's no one's fault...no field trips, no dance, no trip upstate with Ms. Tuitt and others. We missed Homecoming Week and Valentine's Day when girls carried about big teddy bears, we missed following behind Mr. Moran as he played bagpipes to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We miss school dances in the café and hanging with friends during lunch in the cafeteria. Shockingly and surprisingly, we even missed after school AIS...in the building.

We will overcome this challenge and we will be stronger for having lived through it and, though we didn't ask to be, we are now a part of history. One hundred years from now students our age will read about kids all over the world whose lives were changed and altered by the onset of a virus in the middle of March 2020 that dominated and interrupted learning most of 2020 and a good chunk of 2021.

We look forward to saying hello to a more normal summer with visits to beaches and

parks and family barbecues and dinners. We can go unmasked if outdoors in small groupings; otherwise, the mask returns and, until further notice, the mask accompanies us indoors.

We wonder what is around the corner. Will we return to our classrooms in September and to familiar routines? Or will we continue learning on digital platforms that are ok at first like any new object but lack the people to people feeling that we have become accustomed to and that make school so much more real and fun.

We hope that **ALL** students will step through the familiar front doors of ABGS **everyday**....starting in Sept. We salute everyone in the ABGS MS Family! We made it through. Adapted from text composed by ABGS MS 8th graders.

-The Advisors

Art below: Elizabeth Pichardo



ABGS MOVING UP!

DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 21

TIME: 10:00am – 12:00pm

PLACE: ABGS FOOTBALL FIELD



REGENTS EXAMS

FOR 8TH GRADERS

LIVING ENVIRONMENT -June 22

ALGEBRA I -June 23

EARTH SCIENCE – June 24

For further information, contact:

Mr. Moore, 8th grade

Assistant Principal or

Mr. Isom, 8th grade

Guidance Counselor.

emoore@hempsteadschools.org

risom@hempsteadschools.org

Monies for yearbook are due! \$25 CAP & GOWN fee due June 11!

Late breaking News!!!!

8th Grade Dance

June 11, 2021

Hempstead High School Cafe

6:00-8:00pm

Dance Guidelines • You must be eligible for promotion to attend. • You must show proof of a negative covid test within 3 days of the dance OR show proof of vaccination. • You must wear a mask!



Inspired by Coronavirus
By 8th Graders

Saving Lives
by Elizabeth Pichardo
Stay six feet away
Some people are dying
Actions can save lives.

Haiku by Miguel Sanchez
We must wear a mask.
We can say hello if far apart.
We miss Mickey Mouse.

Covid
by Maria Alfaro
Lost family & friends
To a virus that is cruel
Panic and fear reign.

One Sad Day
By Katherine Coreas
You entered our world
You took away tranquility
You stole precious life.

Changed Lives
by Iyanna Stephenson
Our lives have been changed.
We miss our old lives so much
We stay safe at home.

Surprised by Alvin Moss
Surprised by weeks home from school
I realized we were not coming back
Felt good 'cause I don't like school like that.

Infection by Nasir Motley
It came from nowhere.
It has infected many.
It won't last forever.

The Future by Blossom White
The future looks bright.
Vaccines are here.
The world will be ok.

Wear a Mask by Caitlin Chambers
Things are not as in the past.
Now we wear a mask to stop the spread.
Because coronavirus fills us with dread.

The Virus by Eleazar Alvarez
It came from nowhere.
It's with us, hopefully not for good.
We need to escape from it.

Ripped by Jordy Mejia
It ripped through our family.
But we survived.
To keep hope alive.

Spreading by Myron Vasquez
Coronavirus
It's spreading everywhere.
Be very careful.

Virus by Joseph Raudales
People are getting sick.
It's all around the world.
It's going to end.

Dying by Jordin Zavala
People are dying.
Scientists search for a cure.
We should stay at home.

Sad by Sincere Nelson
This virus is sad.
Because we have lost so many.
We hope for a cure.

The Spread by Wilmer Bonilla
It spread like wildfire.
So many people were infected.
I hope a cure is found.

Soon by Emanuel Joya
I hope it ends soon.
We can be free from our homes.
We'll travel again.

Caring by Jorge Galo
People are dying.
Some wear face covers and care.
While some just don't care.

Missing by Psamonique Diedrick
Missed class, missed friends too.
And I even missed teachers.
Glad to be back.

Loss by Jonathan Maldonado
Many people are.
Gone from us because of the virus.
We miss them so much.

Infected by Ruben Garcia
Some people are infected.
The world we live in gets worse.
When will this all end?

SCIENCE LEARNING

MS. GRANVILLE'S CLASS STUDIES THE LIFE OF A BUTTERFLY



Ms. Granville's class learned about the Life Cycle of a Butterfly working with a live habitat. The students were able to identify and sequence the four stages of the butterfly life cycle – egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa(chrysalis), adult. The students were then able to compare, "Good Bug vs Bad Bug" in a garden. The three butterflies were let go in the garden just off of the Attendance Office area.



Tiger's Paw admires talented artwork on the second-floor wall.
. illustration at left Artist: Ashley Hernandez

Freedom in America Excerpts



Stephanie Moreno, Grade 8

There is not one American experience. In American history, we have seen countless times groups of people being treated differently from everyone else. Whether it be because of racism, recent events, sexism, or just plain hatred for a group of people, everyone is not treated equally. For example, after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, by the Japanese President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 which caused all people of Japanese ancestry to be submitted into internment camps operated by the military. In the order it states, "... all persons of Japanese Ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, PWT Thursday May 7th, 1942." This quote shows that even Japanese Americans, people born in the United States had to go to these camps because of the bombing. Anyone with Japanese blood had to go. In these camps they weren't allowed to bring personal items or pets. They were only allowed to come with clothes and toiletries. In these camps they were mistreated and treated as prisoners. They had to live in horse stalls and

U.S. History Students Speak in horrid conditions. They were portrayed as monsters by the media and were drawn as ugly creatures. The US government also had the audacity to ask the Japanese to join the military for war to "prove their loyalty" to them. If you were to decline you would be punished and seen as a traitor and if you accepted, you would be allowed to go home but would have to join the military. Those who disobeyed were put into jail and some even got shot at for protesting or trying to leave. In 1945, the internment camps ended but the torments were far from over. Americans were very racist towards Japanese people even after war. They would be made fun of at school, work, or out in the



streets. Many had to fear their lives and it was hard for people to trust them again even though, they did nothing wrong. Out of all the Japanese captured in the US, none of them were spies or working with Japan. So, they were in these camps for no reason. Not only that but their 14th amendment rights were violated. In the 14th amendment it states, "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

This quote shows that the government has no right to enforce any laws that harm citizens privileges and deprive them of their life, liberty, and property. The government violated this by forcing the Japanese Americans into camps without their consent and treated them like enemies when majority of the Japanese, were American citizens. The worst part is that the US didn't apologize until 40 years later and it wasn't a sincere apology either. Overall, this incident happened with no good reason and only caused harm to the Japanese-Americans. The amount of racism and discrimination the Japanese faced was awful, and its proof that there isn't one American experience.



Adrian Taj, Grade 8

One of the examples of this prejudice is the Japanese Americans, who were treated unequal by Americans due to the attack on Pearl Harbor. After that attack, Americans shamed Japanese and gave them "loyalty tests" which would determine if they were capable of being loyal to the U.S or not. If they refused or answered no to the last 2 questions of the loyalty test, they would be held in prison. People of the U.S, even after World War 2 was over, shamed the Japanese for the bombing, even

though the Japanese weren't even involved in the bombing in the first place.

Crystal Herrera Torres, Grade 8

Women have been misjudged by society because they're seen as fragile, defenseless, unintelligent.

Women weren't allowed to vote because they thought women weren't smart enough and only men were smart enough to vote. They thought politics would be too manly for women and that they shouldn't vote because it's not very feminine. Women were seen as fragile because of the stereotype that women should only clean and cook. They were seen as defenseless because women weren't supposed to be strong and powerful and only men should be strong and powerful. The women suffrage was a protest for the right for women to be able to vote. This lasted for decades. They were given the right to vote August 18th 1920. This is how women have been misjudged by society.



Jorge Rivera, Grade 8

One group that suffered greatly from American oppression but never received an apology or reparations was African Americans. From 1619 people of African descent have been torn from their homes, forced across an ocean, and obligated to work servitude. This system of servitude continues for over 240 years. These people then face another 100 years of

discrimination and legalized oppression. During their servitude, they were abused and treated like dirt. They were whipped, punched, shot, hit, kicked, and the women were sexually assaulted and forced to reproduce slaves. Over 200 years of slavery later, they were discriminated against and had no opportunities for them nor their families. They were looked at and treated like they were uncontrollable animals. They always segregated and they had the worse conditions. For an example, a white man may have a luxurious corner store while the colored version looks abandoned and has a terrible smell along with no style to it. This was the same deal with all the divided public stores, transportation, Schools, movie theaters, carnivals and so much more. While the US respected their 1st amendment more, it was up to their protests and power of speech that they were able to make their situation more tolerable. Powerful names like Martin Luther King Jr, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Rosa Parks, W.E.B. Du Bois and Malcolm X stand out a lot in American culture. There is still a lot of racism that plagues the US today, but it's proven that together nothing is impossible.

Luis Equite Zavala, Grade 8

Japanese Americans and immigrants were discriminated against after the occurrence of the Pearl Harbor attack. Most of these Japanese Americans and immigrants were forced to vacate their homes and move to these internment camps where they were locked up for years. Some of these Japanese that were locked up were legally American citizens. And many of their rights such as Japanese

American's religious freedoms were violated. Japanese Americans were denied the guarantee of freedom of speech and were denied the right to a fair trial. They were not allowed to complain about the internment camps or else they would be under close security. In these internment camps, the people were treated poorly and were under involuntary servitude.

Americans still had to face racism and segregation. That was their American experience.

Without a doubt, African Americans had the worst American experience to have ever been recorded in American history. In 1619, the first time they had stepped on American soil, it was as enslaved workers. African Americans were forced to work on plantations that held tobacco, cotton, and sugar all day. African Americans were seen as objects instead of people and were bought and sold globally all around the world. In 1865, slavery was officially abolished when Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. However, unfortunately for African Americans, their problems didn't stop there. After being officially freed from slavery, people's opinions on them stayed the same and they were seen as below the white Americans. African Americans were segregated against, they were forced to sit at the back of the bus, and they could only enter certain places. The KKK and the feelings that white Americans made things even worse for African Americans. Some were lynched, killed, and tortured for doing the most minor things. In 1868, the

14th amendment was ratified, and it granted African Americans the rights that they had deserved. In 1870, the 15th amendment was ratified and granted African American men the right to vote. However, white Americans did their best to harass African Americans and rig the votes so African Americans won't get to have a say. Some states even joined in and decided to implement things such as a poll tax which made it harder for African Americans to vote, and literacy tests. Even after States were forced to stop, African Americans were still segregated against and never really saw true equality. Even though now we don't see as much segregation, we still see racism. Especially through forms of authority such as police officers who shoot and kill African Americans for the dumbest of reasons. And sadly, this has been their American experience. treated poorly and were under involuntary servitude.



Diego Fuentes, Grade 8

Liberty, equality, freedom. This is the one American experience promoted all throughout the world. This is the one American experience that you have been led to believe, everyone would experience. However, all throughout American history, this hasn't shown to be the case. There is no one American experience that everyon

e has had the luxury of "experiencing". African Americans and Japanese Americans are only two of the groups of people who have experienced the dark side of the American experience. Both groups of races have experienced some of the worst injustices to ever have occurred around the world. Here is their American experience.

The Japanese Americans had experienced one of the most brutal suspensions of civil rights to have ever occurred in America history. In 1942, Franklin D. Roosevelt signed executive order 9066 during the midst of WW2. Executive order 9066 authorized the internment of thousands of Japanese Americans, most of which had who had done nothing wrong. Thousands of Japanese Americans were taken from their homes and placed in concentration camps. They were held captive in uninsulated stables and barracks and were subjected to horrendous living conditions. According to Roosevelt, the imprisonment of Japanese Americans was necessary for the safety of America, and its future. You see, on December 7th,

1941, the United States' Naval Base located in Pearl Harbor was under attack by Japanese planes, killing over 2,000 American in the process. America soon joined WW2 and declared war against Germany. At an attempt to avoid espionage, Franklin signed executive order 9066, but all it ended up doing was causing pain to Japanese Americans all throughout America. Even after they were freed, Japanese



Abigail Thomas, Grade 8

There is not one American experience. There has never been one, there will never be only one. Ever since the birth of the nation, multiple experiences as an American were established. From the whitewashing and genocide of the Native Americans to the discrimination and lynching of African Americans, from the humiliation and prejudice against Communist Americans to the resentment and murders of Japanese Americans- Americans have walked in many paths and will continue to do so in history. These paths, however, won't and will never be the same. As an American, we are endowed with specific, special rights, and those rights dictate what we can and cannot do. Yet, those same rights were denied to non-white and/or "unpatriotic" Americans, solely because they had their own individual views. If everyone is treated unequal by the law and in our society, there will never be one American experience.

**8th Graders
Celebrate
Seasons in a Verse!**

How the Wind Flows-

The Breeze on
Morning
It's Quick and Strong
as Thunder
But soft as fur too.

-Christian Reyes



**Summer's Stage
Days are brighter.
It is as hot as rage.
Its summers stage.
-Jasmin Lopez**

Rain

The clouds are out.
The rain pouring
down, outside.
It's very calming now.

-Jennifer Ventura



**Dancing leaves falling
on me.**

Leaves are
falling down.
They fall around
and around.
Just like there
dancing.

-Leslie Alas Diaz



Summertime

It is summer time
All day
long on the beach
It's going to be fun.

-Angela Mira

Winter Flakes

**Snowy whitey soft
Tall first short later
and melts
Drinking hot coco**

-Antonio Ramirez



The Clouds



Deep down, I
feel that.
the clouds are
underrated,
forgotten also faded.

-Rayquan Griggs

Flowers in the Spring

Spring is in the air.

**Flowers open in
the sun.**

The winds of Autumn

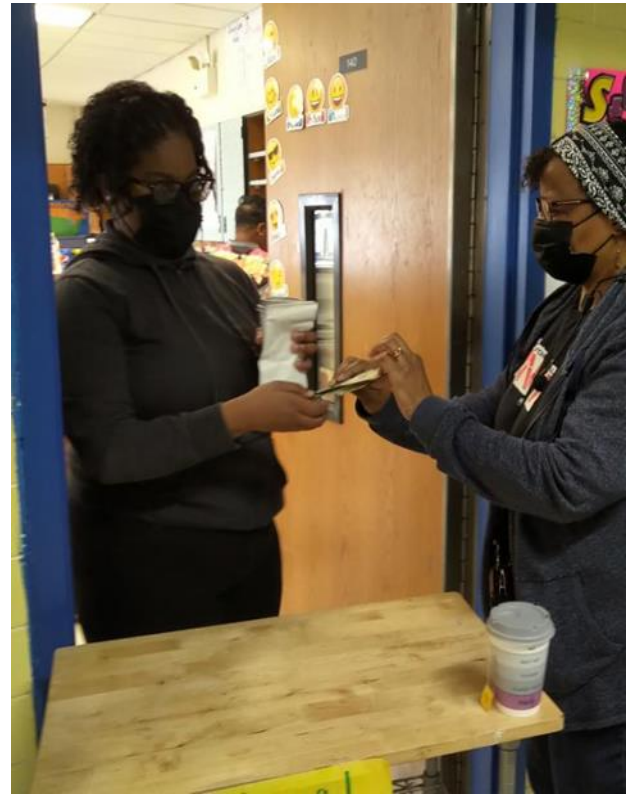
-Janiyah Sample

Winter's Chills

Leaves fall off
the trees.
Falling in the windy
breeze
Squirrel's sleep in
holes

-Sade Sanchez





AROUND THE BUILDING!

SCHOOL STORE: Many teachers are happy to take advantage of the school stores that are run on alternative days by Mrs. Coles and Mrs. Granville-Eason's classes. The days when the stores are closed, they are truly missed. Staff is able to purchase coffee, tea, breakfast items, healthy snacks, water, juices and a variety of chips. Thumbs up to the service provided by the students!

GOODBYE 8TH GRADERS!

The ABGS Middle School staff will miss this year's grads very much and wish them much success as they move on to the high school and tackle the challenges and the joys that lie ahead. We will recall fondly the smiles, laughter, pranks, academic successes as a result of hard work, fun times on field trips (yes, we used to have "field trips"), school dances and sporting events.

**8TH GRADERS
REFLECT
POETICALLY ON
THIS PAST YEAR**



**Never ending Story
by Katherine Coreas**

Last year seems like forever ago.
Exited school in March, planning to return.
Separated from friends and family and feeling the burn.
Of a monstrous virus which we would get to know.
We were forced to quarantine....
We lost loved ones to covid-19.
Barred from places we used to go.
Now we stayed home and had to let go...
A summer of pain because of one man's brutal behavior.
The country took notice

and marched to protest.
Anxious and worried about returning to school and giving our best.
But able to conquer school and reality by being my own savior.

**Pandemic Rider
Eleazar Alvarez**

The pandemic brought pain to our doorstep last year.
pushing us out of school and causing lots of fear.
Remote school was appealing so I was happy at first.
It was a welcome change from in-school and fulfilled a thirst.
Covid was at the door, but it did not come inside.
I tried to live my life; from covid I did not hide.
Quarantined in the beginning but didn't shut down.
While others were at home, I was out on the town.



Bikelife continued with rides everywhere.

Our community did the one joyful thing we all shared.
School continued and friends were sometimes less seen.
But we can't become a prisoner to a risky vaccine.

**Scary
By Iyanna Stephenson**

When school closed down, some felt happy, nervous and sad.
We went out and wore masks and missed the fun we had.
Summer was warm and good with visits to the park.
Wanted to go to school but didn't want to risk my life.
And my parents were concerned about how safe building would be.
High school here I come and who knows what tomorrow will see.





The Unexpected
By Elizabeth Pichardo

The 19-20 school year began as good as could be. Then a cold calculating virus came unexpectedly. It took some lives and others it spared. It was tough on all of us, but the virus didn't care. Some of us persevered, it was difficult to cope. But even as we struggled, we still held on to hope. We missed our friends and hanging out in school. But being in the building last spring was just not cool. We spent the summer behind a mask, staying six feet apart. Staying on top of grades was hard; we tried with all our heart. Moving on to high school is just around the bend. We can only hope that the virus scare soon comes to an end.



Flying High
by Miguel Sanchez

The virus attack was unexpected. No one saw it come our way. We wondered when school would reopen. Or would we continue learning in this new way? The virus killed many people. Towns and villages were shut down.

Only essential businesses were open. It was almost like a ghost town. We can say hello if far apart. We miss Mickey Mouse and all kinds of art. Covid 19 cases are going down. Now we can finally travel out of town.

Adjusting
By Caitlin Chambers

When school first shut down out of nowhere, it felt scary. Learning remotely took getting used and sometimes felt wary. Shopping with a mask on was something to get used to. I stayed home a lot and tried not to be blue. I missed seeing friends at school and missed going outside. But staying at home was my parents' choice to decide. Adjusted to remote classes and doing okay. Able to get more work done in the course of a day. Looking forward to high school, and making new friends. But as for this virus, I look forward to its end.

Home Learning

By Myron Vasquez
Being home felt safer than being in a building this time last year. It was scary at first because of so many people were getting ill. We got used to wearing masks whenever we went outside, and the air was clear. Except to the beach where we saw others who also stifled their fear. And we stayed home most of each and every day. Wearing masks was a habit we had to acquire. So, we went along with the program that way. Because first and foremost we had to be safe and ok

We tried to do our best at learning at home. We became scholars and got a good grade or two. However, there were times when we wanted to roam. We look forward to entering high school and learning stuff anew.



A Difficult Time
By Emanuel Joya

This was a difficult time for students. Schoolwork was hard to do. As a result, I barely passed my grade. Which for me was something new. Last year was traumatic for the planet. Now we are trying to rebound. But we have to remain aware That we could be facing another round. Sometimes we don't know what will happen. We are strong, kind, have hope inside. Beneath the cracks of evil Something good will thrive and we will never hide.



Illustration: Elizabeth Pichardo



**What We Missed
by Alvin Moss**

I had lots of fun in school.
Some teachers I liked; others were not so cool.
I miss hanging with friends and playing basketball.
The camaraderie is what I miss most of all.
I like remote learning more than I thought I would.
We have more breaks and time to focus than I previously could.
Summer was spent wearing masks and going to the park.
In a certain way, I have tried to leave my academic mark.
We see a light at the end of the tunnel at last.
Even though most of us are still wearing masks.
Less people are getting sick from this strange disease.
I will soon start high school which I hope will be a breeze.



**Losing Things We Cared About
by Ruben Garcia**

Things we took for granted were closed down.
No field trips, no friends hanging in the café,

No family meals at restaurants
All these things were gone in a matter of days.
No trips to the beach or to the pool.
We mainly stayed inside, played video games which was cool.
We wondered what would happen when school came back.
Would we continue this way or would be back on the old track.
High school will be hard for us all.
It's no joke, as we head into the fall.
If only we knew the hell that lay ahead
It's so sad that so many people are dead.



**A Tough Year
by Wilmer Bonilla**

The year has been tough.
At times it was very rough
All of a sudden, we had no school.
At first it was very cool
Summer was quiet, hung out with family at home.
The virus prevented all of us from wanting to roam.
Remote was a challenge because I missed my friends at school.
But once I got used to remote learning, it was kind of cool.
High school is coming, makes me a little worried.
However, the virus has taught us to slow down and not be so hurried.



**Hard Times
by Sincere Nelson**

This year was hard because we had to stay home.
Because of Covid-19, we could not roam.
We can look back on this time we spent and share memories of the places we once went.
We think of the places we could not go.
We think of all the sadness we came to know.
The year is almost done.
It's been a hard year but it's one that we have won.
Despite the scary way it was begun. -S. Nelson



**A Challenging Year
Jordin Zavala**

School closed and we were all of a sudden on remote.
It was both easy and hard, yet I was able to do it.
We didn't go out much because of fear of the virus.
However, we did go to church and we prayed quite a bit.
I wanted remote learning because of covid.
The building was supposed to be safe but who could prove it?
Remote learning isn't bad if you go to your classes.
Because otherwise you'll all far behind.
Didn't really miss school in the building too much.
This was a little bit of a surprise, I find.
As we head to the high school, we worry a little bit.
Because classes will be harder, and lessons will be harder to get.



My Reality
by Jordy Mejia

This year was depressing 'cause of covid-19.
A lot of people died, and we had to quarantine.
It was hard for me because my whole family got ill.
We are happy to survive because there was no magic pill.
This year will be the end of this crisis for a while.
For now, everyone can go back to their normal lifestyle.
I was depressed but I kept fighting on.
Trying to stay happy while wishing virus would be gone.
My reality was pain and suffering, but I came out on top.
My family is ok and during the year, I learned a lot.

Blank Memories

By Marcell Merritt
When I think of this past year, I draw a blank.
The challenge of it all makes it hard to be frank.
Stayed inside all summer long and played video games.
No parks, or camps, no basketball courts, yet no one to blame.
Wish I could wish away the stresses that the virus has given us.

To high school I hope to go,
even though I don't look forward to the fuss.



Changing with the Times
by Jorge Galo

Everything happened so unexpected and fast.
The two weeks we stayed home continued to last.
So many infected and so many dead
We lost time from school and worked at home instead.
Many students were affected by the lock down, some got depression,
others got anxiety, and many got stressed.
When we thought things were calming a Texas electric power grid broke
and people couldn't handle it though they tried their best.
Even though we have been through a tough year, we managed to survive.
These tough years taught us to never take things for granted because you never know what the future holds,
and you must take everything in stride.

A Rough Year
by Andy Reyes

Had to wear masks to play soccer outside.

From a scary coronavirus we had to hide
Played nonstop *Call of Duty* all day long.
School was confusing so at first, I got it wrong.
Hard to focus and give my all.
Felt like coming up against a wall.
Had to attend classes in building where virus was alive.
Stayed home, missed lessons, was unable to thrive.
High School lessons will be hard to master.
Hopefully virus will no longer grow faster.

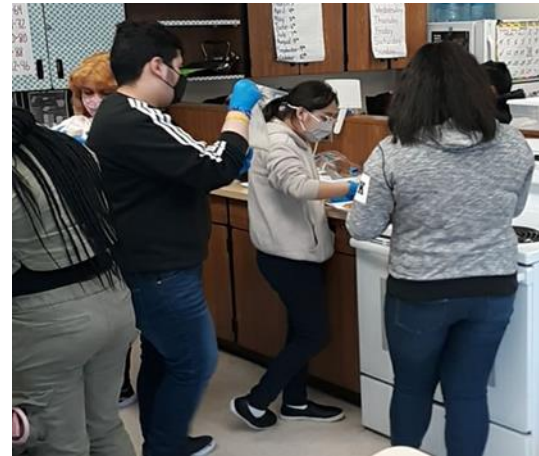
Missing Our Old Life
By Amaze Howard

At first it was boring because we could not go outside
Could not see our friends almost like we had to hide.
We stayed home, didn't venture out too much.
But with my pals I was able to stay in touch
The George Floyd murder happened in May.
It made a lot of people upset ...we won't forget that day.
Saw friends over the summer but wore masks.
Was also helpful at home with the tasks.
Mom didn't feel that it was safe for us to be in school.
Remote learning was ok, but it also wasn't cool.
I would rather be in-school in a classroom.
Miss the routines and not crazy about Zoom.

“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.”

-Malcolm X

Students in “Bakes by B’s” cooking class have fun creating delectable goodies. Bakes by B’s is an Empire State After-School program.



Photos: B. Wilson

POP-UP PROM DRESS/TIE'S GIVEAWAY A HIT!

Students were very excited on May 13 when Mr. Moore helped coordinate a Pop-up Prom Dress/Tie's day for 8th graders for the school dance and/or graduation. The popular event was also coordinated with the Community Affairs Bureau & Patrol Bureau South. Police officers from the bureau and staff assisted the girls and boys with their selections of dresses and ties. **The students say, "Thank you, Mr. Moore for providing us with a lifechanging experience!"**

ABGS Pop-Up Prom-Shop

**Jenny
Dominguez**



My experience at the pop-up shop was nice. It was a generous thing for the school to do for us students. Students that attended had a choice to choose a dress, tie, cologne and shoes. It was a great thing to do because some of the girls in the school, can't afford to buy a dress. However, this pop-up shop provided each kid with a chance, to get whatever and the best part being, we are able to keep it! The pop-up shop has impacted the students that were there in a positive way. This was something, I haven't seen in any school. I did like the shop very much.

Lois M.

This event I attended was sufficiently informational. This is because I learned how to "tie and wear a tie." Even though I did not get it the first time. The cop that was teaching us how, got me to understand after a couple of practices. And I also liked that we received cologne for special occasions. And I also felt a positive vibe when I saw officers in a positive environment. Which tells me cops don't only come with trouble.

Maximo

During the event, I learned how to put a tie on for special occasions. I was also given useful items like

cologne, socks and 2 ties. I saw many dresses and a peek at the plans for the graduation. Also meeting police officers that taught us how to wear a tie correctly was very cool. I enjoyed the event and really like the ties, I got to choose from.

Fernando

The pop-up shop in the school was delightful. They had a table for the boys where they had ties laid out for us to choose from and also a section with dresses and shoes, for the girls to choose from. I also met an amazing police officer who showed me and the boys, how to tie a tie. The experience was amazing and enjoyable. I received two ties, dress socks, and cologne. It was a 10/10 experience, and I will wear my tie with pride.

Antonio

My experience with the pop-up shop was fun. The police officers were nice and showed us how to tie a tie. Also, they gave us cologne and talked to us about being fit. The officers were being funny and using fun words, to help us tie the tie. Overall, it was a fun experience, and everyone was being kind and helpful.

Hillary

I think it was an amazing idea to host a pop-up shop for students because it is helpful, for those of us that cannot afford a dress for graduation and prom. I also think it was a wonderful idea because it is motivation for students so they can put more effort into graduating. Also, it was a nice idea because it shows that the principal and other staff want us to look nice at graduation and care about us.



MY BROTHER'S KEEPER SOCCER PLAYERS GET LOOSE ON THE FIELD!



ABGS MS My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Soccer players (boys and girls) meet Thursdays and Saturdays. Sports is a great way to meet new friends, keep fit and have a good time away from the classroom! MBK also sponsors Track, Football and basketball programs.

Photos: T. Ebron

My Brother's Keeper...

President Obama launched **My Brother's Keeper** in February 2014 to address persistent opportunity gaps facing boys and young men of color and to ensure all youth can reach their full potential. In 2015 the **My Brother's Keeper Alliance** (MBK Alliance) was launched, inspired by **My Brother's Keeper**, to scale and sustain this mission.

Sports / Reflection by Coach Graz
**Hempstead Tigers Football Return to
Pride and Competitive Form**

*An 8th grader stands out during
challenging season*

Coach Pratt's voice echoes these words that resonate like thunder throughout the practice field on this sunny but windy April afternoon. Hempstead Tigers Football being coached and played in the spring may seem out of place but during the Covid pandemic, sports seasons were modified and altered. The 2021 Hempstead Tigers finished their season with 3-1 record. The team achieved more wins this year than they have in the past two seasons combined. A spring football season along with the districts choice to opt out of modified sports opened the Varsity and JV season to allow 8th graders to play as long as they could pass the requirements. A few 8th grade boys came out to play with the JV and Varsity however the grind of getting to practice and lasting out there in the cold with bigger and faster competition proved too much to handle. **One young man, one strong minded and focused ABGS 8th grader, was able to endure and stand the test of a JV season: Nasir Motley. Nasir or NAZ as the coaches and players referred to him came to every practice with a determined mindset to become a starter. Every day, he "clanged and banged" with the big boys and proved his worth. By outlasting all the 8th graders, NAZ proved that he will be ready to play JV football in August.**



Coach Graz is helping coach HS boys' lacrosse. He shared this recent photo featuring ABGS alumni: Jade Shields (a college grad!), Anthony Alfaro, Charlie Jimenez, Obed Reyes and Kevin Velasquez.

"GO GREEN" THE ABGS WAY!

Participatory Budgeting Process Yields Results

The Participatory Budgeting (PB) process allows schools to engage students, parents, teachers, and community members in choosing a school program or improvement to fund. It helps students and other community members learn democracy and active citizenship. The middle school participated in the process, put proposals on a ballot, cast votes, and the ABGS MS community chose....drumroll!.... the **Go Green** program! This district funded program, which is already underway, features:

** New bike racks (see photo below...and check them out in person!) - two near the football field entrance and two near main entrance to the school.*

** outdoor seating*

**beautification of courtyards*

And coming soon:

**recycling stations*



Photos: L. St. John



Tania praises go green!

I think that the Go Green Project is important for our school because we would be taking care of our planet and setting an example for people to help us take care of the environment [do not litter, recycle, take care of the plants etc.] also to teach us students to take care of the environment and have a clean and healthy planet.



More praise for **going green!**

Zeydi – The **Go Green** Project is important because it teaches us how to take care of our planet. It's also important because it shows everyone that it only takes one step to make this world a better place.

Bricia – Having a **Go Green** Project strengthens students' appreciation and enjoyment of nature and agriculture. This project benefits our school and our world and the fact that we are making a difference is the most important part of all.

Solana - **Going Green** is very beneficial for our planet. It will make the world a better place for our generation and future generations to come. It helps to save our planet and to keep it beautiful.

Jose –The **Go Green** project is important for our school because it teaches students what they are doing wrong when it comes to bettering our planet. It also helps students understand that change can happen, and one small action can have a big impact.



GO Green is a worldwide initiative and here at ABGS MS our students are global ambassadors for Going Green!



The lively ABGS MS morning announcements are sure to wake you up and get your day off to a good start! The newsletter club wants to shout out the impressive voices that start our day: Zeydi Guerra, Bricia Escobar, Jose Licon, Tania Pachecho, Solana Atterbury



LEADERSHIP TEAM

ABGS Middle School

Principal/Director:

Mr. Gray

Assistant Principals / Directors Asistente:

Dr. Hill

Mr. Moore

Mrs. Moore-Drayton

Dean of Students/Decano of Estudiantes:

Mr. Davis

Mrs. Vanhook

IB Coordinator:

Ms. St. John

Guidance Counselors / Guia Consejeros:

6th grade – Mr. Merolle

7th grade – Ms. Velez

8th grade – Mr. Isom

Community School Director / comunidad escolar directora:

Mrs. Sowell

Newsletter Advisors / boletin asesores:

Mishka Fox & Bev Robinson

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