

Covering the Newhall School District

Volume 3, Issue 9

November 2021-February 2022

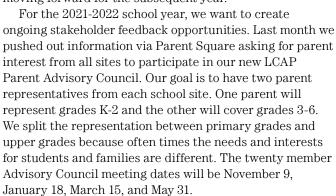
Getting Reading Right in NSD!



SUPERINTENDENT

Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Parent Advisory Council

As we launch our new three-year Local Control and Accountability Plan in the Newhall School District, one of the most significant changes we are implementing this year is the creation of an LCAP Parent Advisory Council for the District. Traditionally we have only engaged our families in stakeholder meetings in January to provide feedback on the goals and actions of the plan, which then drive the adjustments moving forward for the subsequent year.



The LCAP Parent Advisory Council will meet initially to hear the progress on the current goals and actions in the 2021-2022 plan and provide feedback on how the various actions are impacting students and families. The District has created a parent-friendly two-page LCAP overview document that is available in English and Spanish on the District website. (https://www.newhallschooldistrict.com/domain/2617)

Our goal in this process is to provide greater communication, transparency, and opportunities for our families to collaborate with the District in determining what actions are working in the LCAP and what new ideas should we consider moving forward. #EmpoweringEveryChildEveryDay



Jeff Pelzel Superintendent

Consejo Acesor de Pades del Plan de Rendición de Cuentas con Control Local (LCAP)

Al lanzar nuestro nuevo Plan de Rendición de Cuentas y Control Local de tres años en el Distrito Escolar de Newhall, uno de los cambios más significativos que estamos implementando este año es la creación de un Consejo Asesor de Padres del LCAP para el Distrito. Tradicionalmente, solo hemos involucrado a nuestras familias en reuniones de partes interesadas en enero para proporcionar información sobre los objetivos y las acciones del plan, que luego impulsan los ajustes para el año siguiente.

Para el año escolar 2021-2022, queremos crear oportunidades continuas para comentarios de las partes interesadas. El mes pasado enviamos información a través de ParentSquare solicitando el interés de los padres de todas las escuelas para participar en nuestro nuevo Consejo Asesor de Padres del LCAP. Nuestro objetivo es tener dos padres representantes de cada escuela. Un padre representará los grados K-2 y el otro cubrirá los grados 3-6. Dividimos la representación entre los grados primarios y los grados superiores porque a menudo las necesidades e intereses de los estudiantes y las familias son diferentes. Las fechas de las reuniones del Consejo Asesor de veinte miembros serán el 9 de noviembre, el 18 de enero, el 15 de marzo y el 31 de mayo.

El Consejo Asesor de Padres del LCAP se reunirá inicialmente para escuchar el progreso de los objetivos y acciones actuales en el plan 2021-2022 y brindar comentarios sobre cómo las diversas acciones están afectando a los estudiantes y las familias. El Distrito ha creado un documento de descripción general del LCAP de dos páginas para padres que está disponible en inglés y español en el sitio web del Distrito. (https://www.newhallschooldistrict.com/domain/2617)

Nuestro objetivo en este proceso es proporcionar una mayor comunicación, transparencia y oportunidades para que nuestras familias colaboren con el Distrito para determinar qué acciones están funcionando en el LCAP y qué nuevas ideas debemos considerar para avanzar. #EmpoderandoCadaNiñoCadaDía



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Going Up

By Brian Walters, Board President

I was in elementary school when the bicentennial of the United States Constitution was celebrated. I had the opportunity to participate in a mock Continental Convention where we would act out the events that transpired during that miraculous gathering. Wig and all, I played the role of David Brearley, a little-known New Jersey delegate who was the signer of the Constitution on that state's behalf. Like me now, he was a lawyer. He was later appointed by George Washington as a federal judge. He died at the age of 45, my same age now.

Though his time was relatively short, his work on this young nation's behalf has had a lasting impact on this country and on me even more personally. Sitting with other fellow elementary students, as we acted out the Convention and debated the proposals that would serve as our nation's legal framework, I felt the power of people with vastly different viewpoints who come together for a common purpose: making the world around them a better place.

General George Washington was the President of the Continental Convention. On his chair was painted a sun hanging above the horizon. At the successful conclusion of the Convention, Benjamin Franklin, another delegate to the Convention, was famously reported to have stated, "I have often looked at that picture behind the president without being able to tell whether it was rising or setting. But now at length I have the happiness to know that it is a rising and not a setting sun."

There are times you may wonder whether the landscape you face is a rising or a setting sun. But for us in the Newhall School District, when it comes to our students and our families, we have the happiness to know we will always see the rising sun.

Subiendo

By Brian Walters, Board President

Estaba en la escuela primaria cuando se celebró el bicentenario de la Constitución de los Estados Unidos. Tuve la oportunidad de participar en una Convención Continental de imitación donde representaríamos los eventos que ocurrieron durante esa reunión milagrosa. Con peluca y todo, interpreté el papel de David Brearley, un delegado de Nueva Jersey poco conocido que fue el firmante de la Constitución en nombre de ese estado. Como yo ahora, era abogado. Más tarde fue designado por George Washington como juez federal. Murió a los 45 años, mi misma edad ahora.

Aunque su tiempo fue relativamente corto, su trabajo en nombre de esta joven nación ha tenido un impacto duradero en este país y en mí aún más personalmente. Sentado con otros compañeros de primaria, mientras representábamos la Convención y discutimos las propuestas que servirían como marco legal de nuestra nación, sentí el poder de personas con puntos de vista muy diferentes que se unen con un propósito común: hacer del mundo que les rodea un mejor lugar.

El general George Washington fue el presidente de la Convención Continental. En su silla estaba pintado un sol colgando sobre el horizonte. Al concluir con éxito la Convención, se informó que Benjamin Franklin, otro delegado de la Convención, declaró: "He mirado muchas veces esa imagen detrás del presidente sin poder decir si se estaba atardeciendo o amaneciendo. Pero ahora, por fin, tengo la felicidad de saber que es un sol amaneciendo y no atardeciendo."

Hay momentos en los que puede preguntarse si el paisaje al que se enfrenta es un sol amaneciendo o un sol atardeciendo. Pero para nosotros en el Distrito Escolar de Newhall, cuando se trata de nuestros estudiantes y nuestras familias, tenemos la felicidad de saber que siempre veremos el sol amaneciendo.





Welcome to a new school year. By

now students have adjusted to the

excitement of being back in their

classrooms. New school years are

always exciting, but this year is even

The articles in this issue bring you

more exciting due to the pandemic

up-to-date from each classroom.

Thank you for continuing to

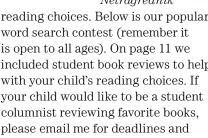
changing our lives.





reading choices. Below is our popular word search contest (remember it is open to all ages). On page 11 we included student book reviews to help with your child's reading choices. If your child would like to be a student columnist reviewing favorite books, please email me for deadlines and guidelines.

Have a wonderful holiday season. Our next issue is March 2, 2022.





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FOUNDER/PUBLISHER: Kay Coop 562/493-3193 • kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com

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SCHOOL NEWS ROLL CALL, LLC P.O. Box 728, Seal Beach, CA 90740

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Football Word Search Contest

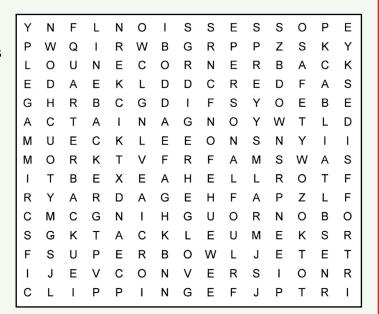
One word in the list is NOT in the word search. When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put Newhall in the subject line.)

Entries must be received by December 15, 2021

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

Clipping Kicker Scrimmage Coach Linebacker Special Teams Conversion Loss of Down Super Bowl Cornerback Offsides Tackle Defense Personal Foul Tailback Field Goal Touchdown Possession Flanker Quarterback Yardage Goal Post Roughing Interference Safety Congratulations to

Sandra Buendia and Dejah Morris Winner of the May Word Search Contests!



Stevenson Ranch PTO 2021-2022

https://www.newhallschooldistrict.com/domain/265

Our SRE PTO is so excited for this year and to continue supporting our students, staff and community as we have in the past. We hosted our first in-person event — Family Movie Night — on September 30. It was a huge success and families enjoyed seeing each other and watching a movie under the stars. We will be hosting our first ever Trunk-or-Treat on October 29th and we cannot wait to see the creativity from our families. We brought back our Runners Club on October 6th and students are encouraged to participate every week to develop fitness patterns for life.

Our unique 8-week Innovations program is underway and students are extending classroom curriculum to learn how to become an Engineer (TK&K), Astronaut (1st Grade), Biologist (2nd Grade), Animator (3rd Grade), Government Official (4th Grade), Journalist (5th Grade), Newscaster (6th Grade).

We have many more exciting events scheduled for this school year and look forward to fewer restrictions so that we can bring back our most beloved event in the spring — Wrangler Round Up Festival.

We have an incredible community of parents, grandparents, caregivers and friends who come together to fundraise and volunteer their time and skills to support our students and staff. We are proud to be SRE Wranglers!



Nuestra Organización de Padres y Maestros ("PTO") de SRE está muy emocionado por este año y por continuar apoyando a nuestros estudiantes, personal y comunidad como lo hemos hecho en el pasado. Organizamos nuestro primer evento en persona — Noche de Película Familiar — el 30 de septiembre. Fue un gran éxito y las familias disfrutaron viéndose y viendo una película bajo las estrellas. Celebraremos nuestro primer "Trunk-or-Treat" el 29 de octubre y estamos ansiosos por ver la creatividad de nuestras familias. Volvimos a traer nuestro Club de Corredores el 6 de octubre y se anima a los estudiantes a participar cada semana para desarrollar la aptitud física. Nuestro programa único de innovaciones de 8 semanas

está en marcha y los estudiantes están ampliando el plan de estudios del salón para aprender a convertirse en un ingeniero (TK y K), astronauta (1º grado), biólogo (2º grado), animador (3º grado), funcionario del gobierno (4º grado), periodista (5º grado), y locutor de noticias (6° grado). Tenemos muchos más eventos emocionantes programados para este año escolar y esperamos menos restricciones para poder traer de vuelta nuestro evento más querido en la primavera: el Rodeo de Vaqueros ("Wrangler Round-Up").

Tenemos una comunidad increíble de padres, abuelos, cuidadores y amigos que se unen para recaudar fondos y ofrecer su tiempo y habilidades para apoyar a nuestros estudiantes y personal. ¡Estamos orgullosos de ser los Vaqueros de SRE!



Dr. J. Michael McGrath Elementary

21501 Deputy Jake Dr., Newhall, CA 91321 • 661/291-4091 •www.mcgrathelementary.com



Jennifer Boone Principal

Leading Strong Lives

McGrath Elementary was proud to participate in National Red Ribbon Week, a yearly campaign that focuses on drugprevention education. To help kick off Red Ribbon Week, McGrath sponsored three school events to build student awareness on the importance of living a drug-free and healthy lifestyle.

First, McGrath hosted the Drug Free Youth (DFY) assembly, sponsored by the city of Santa Clarita. This assembly provided education for fourth- and fifth-grade students. The performers shared positive messages and encouraged students to make good choices, excluding drugs and alcohol from their lives even when faced with peer pressure. An extension to the assembly was the DFY Club in middle and high school. The DFY clubs are school-based anti-drug clubs that are voluntary and are led by teens. McGrath is so grateful to the city of Santa Clarita and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

for supporting our youth with the DFY assemblies and programs.

McGrath introduced the BMX Freestyle Bike Team for Red Ribbon Week. This group of role-model athletes impressed the students with their stunts while sharing positive messages of living a healthy and drug-free lifestyle. They shared their anti-bullying message as well and informed children of the steps they need to take if bullying occurs. The BMX team is always a great show, and children remember their messages.

Finally, students were encouraged to use positive affirmations and participate in Red Ribbon Spirit Week to "sock it to drugs" and wear red to be "red—Y to say no to drugs." Throughout the week, students made pledges to be drug free and completed activities to encourage good choices and live healthy lifestyles.

Red Ribbon Week provides an opportunity to educate our children and allow for participation in drug-prevention activities. McGrath Elementary School is proud to be a part of this nationwide initiative!

Meadows Elementary

25577 N. Fedala Rd., Valencia, CA 91355 • 661/291-4050 • www.meadowselementary.com



Janette Van Gelderen Principal

Arts Integration: 2nd Grade Theatre Residency

Integrating arts into the classroom is a powerful way to help students build not only their creativity, but academic performance as well. Arts Integration fosters collaboration, boosts self-esteem, and allows students to make stronger connections to the curriculum. This year second grade students are participating in an eight-week Theater Arts Residency. Over the course of this residency, students work alongside

our Resident Expert to build their actor's toolbox. They are learning about how to use their voice, bodies, and imagination to express emotions and act out scenes that come straight from their Benchmark Advance Language Arts curriculum. Working together, students are building their concentration and cooperation with one another while making connections to literary content. Whether they are acting out a line from a myth to show the protagonist's emotion, or creating a tableau with a partner to show the lesson learned in a fable, one thing is certain, our students are creating memories and deepening their love of learning.



Newhall Elementary

24607 Walnut St., Newhall, CA 91321 • 661/291-4010 • www.newhallelementary.net



Jackie Tapia Principal

Mayor Bill Miranda at Newhall Elementary

City of Santa Clarita Mayor, Bill Miranda, met with sixth grade students at Newhall Elementary. A select panel of students shared the Newhall Family Theatre stage with the Mayor and asked him thoughtful questions.

The Mayor shared

his inspiring personal story about his poor upbringing in an innercity neighborhood and the importance of "familia" to make it through difficult times. The students were especially motivated after he shared that he was a Latino, his first language was Spanish and that education had been the key to

his success. The audience reacted to each answer with an enthusiastic applause. The students gladly accepted the Mayor's challenge to visit the local library for a couple of hours this month. The Mayor ended the round of questions saying, "You are the future leaders of America. I want you to leave this auditorium with your heads high. You are special!"



Oak Hills Elementary

26730 Old Rock Rd., Valencia, CA 91381 • 661/291-4100 • www.oakhillsschool.com



Wendy Maxwell Principal

Fund-Raising through Kindness

Oak Hills PTA kicked off our school's biggest fund-raiser of the year in October. Raise Craze is an awesome fundraiser because

it reinforces kindness in the classroom, improves the culture of our school, and involves every student to participate by completing acts of kindness.

Raise Craze is a fund-raiser centered on good deeds and acts of kindness. Students can show their appreciation by serving others. In other words, students not only helped Oak Hills but also helped out our entire community. No act of kindness was too small, and each one counted.



Serving together can be fun and rewarding. For two and a half weeks, the school hosted various schoolwide acts of kindness so that every student could join in and earn Acts of Kindness credits. There were also many classservice ideas that the teachers were given to do as an entire classroom. Some of the schoolwide acts of kindness were Socktober, Operation Blankets for Love, Spirit Day Fridays and kindness posters.

Our goal for this fundraiser was \$65,000 to provide field trips, assemblies, awards. AR, Fall Festival, Muffins with Moms, Donuts with Dads, Game Night, Reflections Art Program, Family Movie Night, Scholastic Book Fair, and much more.

Old Orchard Elementary

25141 N. Avenida Rondel, Valencia, CA 91355 • 661/291-4040 • www.oldorchardelementary.com



Daria Ramirez *Principal*

Family Stories/Cuentos Familiares

Reinforcing reading habits at home improves children's reading skills no matter what language they read in. At Old Orchard, our Dual-Language Immersion program is

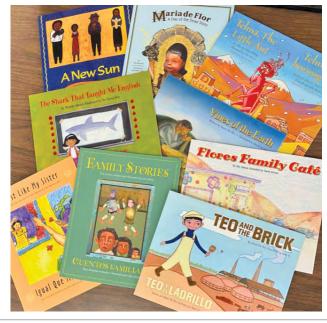
committed to developing our students' bilingual and biliteracy skills at school

and in the home. To support that effort, we are partnering with our parent community as we launch Family Stories/Cuentos Familiares, a bilingual reading program offered through the Latino Family Literacy Project. The program offers a six-to-eight-week parent-engagement course for Spanish-speaking parents, with the goal of cultivating their native Spanish language while building their English-language skills.

In October, we began recruiting families by promoting the literacy program at our English Learner Advisory Council and at our Dual Language Immersion Parent Night. In November, our families will engage in the sixweek course that will be facilitated by Ms. Castañeda, our

third-grade Dual Language Immersion Spanish teacher. Each week, she will introduce a new bilingual book and model a reading strategy, and families will replicate this strategy at home with their children.

The program not only emphasizes the importance of establishing a family reading routine at home but also creates the opportunity for both parents and children to engage in dialogue and practice English and Spanish vocabulary together as a family while they share their own "cuentos familiares," or family stories.



Peachland Elementary

24800 Peachland Ave., Newhall, CA 91321 • 661/291-4020 • www.peachlandelementary.net



Diana Stenroos *Principal*

Where Will the ROAD Take you?

At Peachland Elementary, our school theme this year is "Where will the ROAD take you? (Respect Opens All Doors) Once a month, we come together in our quad for a school wide assembly where we celebrate our teachers, classes and students who are on

the Road to Success. During our celebration, we honor a student from each classroom who is on the road to success by displaying our Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports 3 Be's. Students who show they are safe, respectful or scholarly are recognized in front of their peers and earn a special prize bag! Additionally, we honor a school staff member for their work and dedication to our students and families. Classes of students are also recognized for being our Top Attendance Winners and receive a sign for their classroom window. We are proud to celebrate our Roadrunners who are on their ROAD to success!



Pico Canyon Elementary

25255 Pico Canyon Rd., Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381 • 661/291-4070 • www.picoelementary.com



Tammi Rainville Principal

We had Cro-Magnon Day!

Celebrations of instruction help us at Pico Canyon ensure that we are creating a student-centered community. After a unit of instruction, our students love to celebrate with hands-on activities that are supported by our wonderful parent volunteers. And we are thrilled to welcome our parents back on

campus for these moments as well!

Student-centered events are at the heart of student connectedness and developing "Husky Pride." We had one such celebration already this school year in the sixth grade: The students dressed as Cro-Magnons and participated in archeology "digs" while living the life of a Cro-Magnon for the day.

During the event, the students excavated buried bones and drew pictures of their discoveries, and then made educated inferences about what type of animal the

bones originally came from. They also created cave art modeled after the ancient art in the caves of Lascaux,

The students even participated in a "hunt" where they worked together as a clan to find "animals" in our neighboring park. The day culminated in a feast of earlyman food and a delicious "dirt cup" dessert. The attached picture says it all! #MemberOfThePack!



Stevenson Ranch Elementary

25820 N. Carroll Ln., Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381 • 661/291-4070 • www.stevensonranchschool.com



Tim Lankford Principal

Innovating Together

We are excited to launch the Innovation program here at Stevenson Ranch Elementary School for the 2021-22 school year. This is an enrichment opportunity

for students to collaborate, think critically, problemsolve, and creatively develop projects to share their ideas. The program includes an

inquiry-based design process in which the learning experiences spark an interest in students to think about becoming innovators. Students are provided with an opportunity to participate in this program as an extension of their classroom learning.

The Innovation program began this year with the third-grade animation series. The project for this series was an explanation of why some animals form groups to survive. Facilitated by our school intervention and enrichment teacher, Lindsay Sadowski, students spent several weeks learning about specific animals and their behaviors. Using

this information, students created and shared animation videos based on their learning.

We are excited to continue this opportunity and look forward to the projects students will develop throughout the year. Go Wranglers!



Valencia Valley Elementary

23601 Carrizo Dr., Valencia, CA 91355 • 661/291-4060 • www.valenciavalleyelementary.com



Amy Gaudette Principal

VV as One

From outside my tent on the roof, on the evening of September 19th, I had time to reflect upon the wonderful things that are

going on at Valencia Valley with the support of the APEX Leadership Company.

On the roof? Yes! By that time in our two-week fundraiser, our little community had raised over \$20,000 for school-yard improvements. That wasn't even the best part of it though. Our students were also learning how to be leaders!

With the theme of "AS ONE: Aspire, Self-starter, Own it, New day, Energize," the APEX coaches spent a few minutes each day conducting high-energy lessons in our



classrooms. They then hung out in the yard with our students playing and reinforcing the lessons. These efforts aligned with our regular PBIS work, which supports our students on their Viking quest to be "Respectful, Responsible, and Safe!"

By the time the APEX coaches had wrapped up at VV, our teachers had been pie'd in the face: the students had worn pajamas, crazy hats, crazy socks, etc; I had jumped from a

plane with my Viking shirt on; and our little community earned over \$70,000! What an incredible way to come back together as one, and with Viking Pride!

Wiley Canyon Elementary

24240 La Glorita Circle, Newhall, CA 91321 • 661/291-4030 • www.wileycanyonelementary.com



Dr. Stacy Williamson Principal

Creating Community Relationships

This year, Wiley Canyon Elementary School began collaborating with Hart High School. The purpose of our partnership is to foster a relationship between our school and the high school. These school-based partnerships expose students to more diverse learning opportunities and community resources. They also allow our students to learn about the many academic, athletic, and volunteering programs that they can be involved with when they get to high school.

Community relationships can increase parental engagement at a school, which can also help promote student success. Partnerships in education build bridges between families, communities, and schools as students are exposed to a variety of experiences within the campus and community setting. Students can more easily extend their horizons to develop the 21st-century skills they need to become thriving citizens in our everchanging world.

In order to launch our partnership, Hart High School invited all Wiley Canyon students to their Homecoming Game. In preparation for the event, Wiley held a pep rally. During the pep rally, our third-through sixth-grade students participated in a football throwing competition, where everyone had a blast! We are looking forward to working together throughout the year.



Daniel's Review

Daniel H.

Wafflematics

Title: Narwhal's School of Awesomeness (A Narwhal and Jelly Book #6)

Author: Ben Clanton Narwhal the narwhal and Jelly the jellyfish see a school of fish and decide to join them on their way to school. When they all



get to school, they find out that school is cancelled because Mr. Blowfish the teacher has a cold. Narwhal and Jelly come to the rescue and become substitute teachers for

the day. Narwhal uses his favorite food of all time, waffles, to teach the fish Wafflematics, which is waffles + math! I loved this book because it is silly, cute, and doesn't have anything scary in it, just like all of the other books in this series. Read this book and you will love Narwhal and Jelly like I do!

Daniel is in second grade and he likes to spend time with his family playing board games, reading, and playing sports like tennis, soccer, and

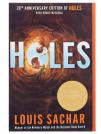
David's Review



David H.

One Big Puzzle

Title: Holes Author: Louis Sachar Holes is about a kid named Stanley who gets sent to a camp as punishment where he and other kids have to dig holes in the ground each



day, looking for something for the camp warden. What I liked about this book is that it's really 3 stories in 1. There are

a bunch of "holes" in each story and the stories are like puzzle pieces that, when combined, make up one big fun story with bits of humor splashed throughout it. This is a "Mom, I know it's bedtime but can I please read the next chapter?" type of book. I absolutely loved this book and you will too!

David is in fourth grade and he loves to read and play piano. He likes math and outdoor activities such as rock climbing, tennis, and basketball

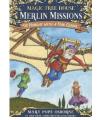
Kailani's Review

Kailani T.

Favorite Tree House Adventure

Monday with a Mad Genius

by Mary Pope Osborne is the 10th book in the series Magic Tree House. It is about two siblings of Frog Creek, Pennsylvania (Jack and Annie) who go back in time by the magic tree



house. Their mission is to help a magician named Merlin of Camelot find the secret

of happiness. During the journey, the siblings travel to Florence, Italy and meet Leonardo DaVinci in the 1500s. Jack and Annie watch DaVinci fly the Great Bird and finish the Mona Lisa painting.

This was a fun book to read. The story is full of excitement and interesting information. I learned about Mona Lisa and Leonardo DaVinci. Reading that DaVinci was also an inventor, architect, stage and costume designer, horseman, chef, geologist, and botanist was fascinating. My favorite parts are when Jack and Annie figured out the secret of happiness and that DaVinci was also a horseman. I highly recommend this book for anyone who loves adventures.

Kailani is a 4th grader who loves to read. When not playing with her brother, Kailani likes to listen to music, ride horses, and play board games. Hope everyone stays well and healthy.

Taegyoung's Book Review

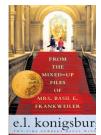


Taegyoung K.

Hideout at the Museum

Title: The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler

Author: E. L. Konigsburg What do you think that the museum is for? There is a girl who thinks a museum is good for hiding. Claudia Kincaid has complaints



about her responsibilities at home and the things that make her uncomfortable. She decides to run away from home and makes a plan to go to the Metropolitan Museum of art in New York to hide so that nobody

can find her. She leaves home and takes one of her brothers, Jamie, because he has some money that she needs to go there. Finally, Claudia and Jamie enter the museum and find a place to hide. Now, they start their adventure at the museum.

Can they keep hiding at the museum? Or will they get caught by the guards? What will happen to them at the museum? This book will lead you into the mysteries and adventures. Let's dive into it.

Taegyoung K. is a 6th grader. She loves reading books and writing her own stories. Also, she likes to draw and play video games.





Getting Reading Right in NSD!

