

# COLTS NEWSLETTER



Issue #1: February 2021

## Bored Bored Bored

By Abigail Conroy

So, lemme guess. You're bored? Yeah, I get it, I am too. Luckily, I have put together a short article which will be updated each month. Each update, there will be two new suggestions on things to do when you're bored.

### Number 1

#### Read a book

To cure myself of boredom, I sometimes read a book. Books can take you worlds away without moving you an inch. Some great books to read are the graphic novels by Raina Telgemeier, the *Dog Man* graphic novels by Dav Pilkey, *Harry Potter* by J.K. Rowling, *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan, and the Manga series, *Yotsuba*, by Kiyohiko Azuma.

### Number 2

#### Play Outside

Whether it's the dead of Winter or mid-Summer, playing outside is always a great choice. Now, as there is still snow on the ground, hanging out in the snow is still a choice. Build a snowman, tackle your siblings, have a snowball fight, take a walk in the snowy woods (with adult supervision if you plan on going deep into the forest), lay down and watch the stars, or build a snow angel. If it's warm enough, go for a walk down your street! No yard, see if there's another place you can go to hang out at, like a park, field, forest, bike trail, friend's, or relative's house. There are endless possibilities. Just please remember to social distance!

## Holidays and Important Dates

- 2/2 - Groundhog Day and National Tater Tot Day
- 2/14 - Valentine's Day
- 2/17 - PTO meeting
- 2/22 - George Washington's Birthday
- 2/22 - 2/26 - February Break

💖 Valentine's Day is coming up!! 💖  
Make sure to spread your kindness and love to everyone!

## COVID Safety Tips!

- Wear your masks covering your nose and mouth at all time.
- Wash your hands for a minimum of 20 seconds often.
- Wipe down surfaces other people touch.
- Do not share personal items.
- Social Distance (keep away from others) you do not live with (about 6-10 feet).

### Feeling stressed?

Find a trusted adult or friend to talk to.  
Remember your school guidance counselors are always here to help too!

*Respect, Responsibility, Hard Work*



# WHAT'S UP AT HMS?



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Colts Council Meeting:** 2/3/21
- **Boys & Girls Basketball:** Playoffs start 2/9
- **Yearbook Cover Contest:** Entries due 2/15/20 to School Counseling Office or email Mrs. O'Brien ([kobrien@sau81.org](mailto:kobrien@sau81.org))
- **Genius Club:** Every Wednesday, canceled in February Break
- **HMS National Writing Project:** First meeting on Monday, Feb. 8th from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm on Zoom. Contact Ms. Glaude, Mrs. Truncellito, or Mrs. Spinelli to sign up.

## Monthly Recipe

### Chocolate Chip Cookies!

#### Ingredients

- 8 tablespoons butter, room temperature
- 1/3 cup + 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup brown sugar, light or dark, packed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 large egg
- 1 1/2 cups All-Purpose Flour

#### Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 375°F. Lightly grease two baking sheets, or line with parchment.
2. Beat together the butter, sugars, vanilla, salt, baking powder, and baking soda till well combined.
3. Add the egg, beating till smooth. Scrape the sides of the bowl, and beat again till smooth.
4. Add the flour, mixing it in completely.
5. Drop the cookies by the traditional "tablespoonful" onto the prepared baking sheets, spacing them about 2" apart. A tablespoon cookie scoop works well here.
6. Bake the cookies for 10 to 14 minutes (or up to 16 minutes; ovens may vary). The cookies should be a light golden brown, and a bit darker around the edges. For softer cookies, bake for a shorter amount of time; for crunchy cookies, bake longer.
7. Remove the cookies from the oven, and cool right on the baking sheets.

Makes 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 dozen medium cookies

"Basic Drop Cookies." *King Arthur Baking*,

[www.kingarthurbaking.com/recipes/basic-drop-cookies-recipe](http://www.kingarthurbaking.com/recipes/basic-drop-cookies-recipe). Accessed 2 Feb. 2021.

## February is... Black History Month!

By Abigail Conroy

Imagine a time when people of different colors weren't aloud to attend the same school. This really happened and we have a girl named Ruby Bridges, and a number of other children, to thank for integrated schools.

Ruby Bridges was born in Tylertown, Mississippi on September 8, 1954. Later, she moved to New Orleans. When she was six (6) years old, she, and a number of other African American children, were given a test. The results of the test determined which of the children would be selected to integrate the white-only schools. Bridges went to William Frantz Elementary School after passing the test.

Everyday, Ruby was escorted to the school by four federal marshals who would keep her safe and protected as she walked through the angry, violent crowds of protestors just to get an education. Ruby was taught by a young teacher from Boston, Barbara Henry. After about a year, more students began attending the school.

Ruby Bridges helped make our country what it is today. Who knows what the US would be like without her.



Ruby Bridges Ruby being escorted by federal marshals.

#### MLA citations

The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. "Ruby Bridges | Biography & Facts." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 2020, [www.britannica.com/biography/Ruby-Bridges](http://www.britannica.com/biography/Ruby-Bridges).

"Ruby Bridges: The 6-Year-Old Who Needed a Federal Marshal Escort to Attend First Grade."

*Www.Amighygirl.Com*, 2020, [www.amighygirl.com/blog?p=26000](http://www.amighygirl.com/blog?p=26000).

*Respect, Responsibility, Hard Work*



# Short Story of the Month

Written & Submitted by Victoria Ciancetta  
Edited by Abigail Conroy



Emily stared at the darkness. She glanced down the eerie stairwell. It smelled like mold and musty furniture.

“Do I have to get that jar??” She turned around and whined.

“Yes Emily.” Her mother said sternly.

“But it's scary!” She exclaimed. “And Dark! *Really* Dark!” Her mother ignored her. Emily shivered as she flicked the light switch on. The bright fluorescent lights shone and evaporated the shadows that hung around the room, but it did nothing to eliminate the spiderwebs that clung to the cement walls, or the cold chill in the musty air.

She jumped onto the floor from the last step and the soles of her uncovered feet hit the cold cement floor. She brushed her hand across the cans of Tomatoes, beans and Instant rice, pushing them away. No, she never ate those. Those were simply for show. Props. Lies hiding the truth. She moved two boxes of cereal to the side and grabbed the jar she was searching for. She made her way back up the rickety stairs. They creaked ominously, as if they would snap at any second, plunging her into the darkness beneath the stairs that even the brightest fluorescent lights could not ferret out.

Before stepping out into the hallway, she stared longingly at the glass canning jar she held in her hand. The pink-ish grey of the contents made her hungry. Her stomach growled like a panther who hadn't eaten in a week. She took a breath and emerged from the hallway, not long before her mother would have come looking for her.

She smiled sweetly at her mother, who was getting the other ingredients ready for dinner. With cotton candy sweetness that hurt her teeth just saying it, She told her mother, “We're all out.” She said this while holding the jar behind her back at an angle where her mother couldn't see it.

“Honey!” Her mother looked at her accusingly. “I know you're hungry, but you know the more....exotic food is much harder to find these days.”

Emily tugged it out from behind her back and sighed, handing it to her mother. She had planned to eat what was in the jar upstairs in her room. Alone. Where no one could see her.

It just looked so good and she was so very hungry.

She trudged her way up the stairs to her room. Slowly. Zombie-like. She sat on her bed and waited for her mother to finish cooking while she thought about the end of the world. The apocalypse. It had come so quickly and no one knew what had caused it. That horrid day had arrived so fast and her and her mother had been caught in the middle of it. If they had been smarter, and faster, they could have escaped. But they didn't.

“Listen Emily!” Her mother called from downstairs, interrupting her, somewhat depressing, train of thought. “I know you're hungry, but that was the last jar of brains, and I need it to make dinner!”

**Stay tuned for next month's story!**



# JUST FOR FUN!



## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“If you want to know what a man's like, take a good look at how he treats his inferiors, not his equals.” -Sirius Black (J.K. Rowling)

## MEME OF THE MONTH

MY BUSINESS  
IT'S NOT.  
SIP MY TEA  
I WILL



## INTERESTING FACT OF THE MONTH



## HELPFUL TIP OF THE MONTH

Reach out to the Student Help Desk for technology problems!!

Email [studenthelpdesk@sau81.org](mailto:studenthelpdesk@sau81.org)  
Call (603) 816-3553

## RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MONTH

**Book:** “Percy Jackson and the Olympians” is a great series for kids who like mythology, adventure, fun and fantasy, like me! Highly recommend it! -Leah Sturk, Grade 6

**Movies/TV:** “The Muppet Christmas Carol” is an amazing movie because it's funny and it has lots of great music. My favorite character is either Gonzo, who plays Charles Dickens, or Robin the Frog, who plays Tiny Tim. I recommend this movie to people who want a good laugh at the holidays.  
-Simon, Grade 4

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Want to submit something to the Newsletter? Have a comment or concern?

### Advisors:

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