

By ANNA GEMMA GIORGI

This month's article is about being caring. A caring person is respectful and kind to others. This IB Profile has been very important to me during my journey to fight cancer.

My friends have been great. They've brought me funny cards and many gifts such as pomegranates (my favorite fruit!) and little pet frogs. They visit me in the hospital when I am desperate for company. They rub my feet and paint my nails. When I missed square dancing last year, my friends even did the dances for me right there in my hospital room!

Everyone here at school has also been very caring. My principal lets me come on the days I feel good. Some schools don't let you come if

you miss too many days. My classmates wear my shirt for spirit wear every Friday. They threw me a surprise birthday party and wrote me lots of cards!

Mr. Shirhall has been especially caring. He asks me how I'm feeling every morning. He lets me eat in his room because the smell of the cafeteria makes me nauseas. Mr. Shirhall also comes to my house on the days that I don't feel well. He does lessons or just reads to me. Another caring teacher is Ms. Budge. She lets me help out in her classroom when my class does P.E. It's so fun!

All the caring people at Sierra have helped me keep a happy attitude during my journey. I've learned that you should always be caring to others if you want them to be nice back to you.

Meet the Teacher: Mrs. Brown

By BIANCA WELCH

Hi Sierra sharks! Almost all of us that attend this school do VAPA. VAPA stands for visual and performing arts. Have you ever stopped to think about who Mrs. Brown really is? If so this article is for you. Mrs. Brown is married to a man named Stacy Brown and has three kids named Spencer, Samantha, and Colin.

Our VAPA teacher grew up in a town called Loomis about five miles from our school. After attending Del Oro High School, she went to college and became a teacher. Before becoming a VAPA teacher Mrs. Brown taught 4th and 5th grade for 25 years in surrounding communities such as Rocklin, Rancho Cordova, and Lincoln. She realized that her favorite thing to do with her class

was art and that is what inspired her to be a VAPA teacher here at Sierra Elementary.

Some of Mrs. Brown's favorite things to do are making pottery and spending time with her family. Did you know Mrs. Brown has a love for animals! She has 6 cows, 9 chickens, 1 horse, 1 duck, 1 goat, 2 cats, and 1 dog. Her favorite food is spicy Thai food followed by a sweet piece of chocolate for dessert. Mrs. Brown is also a fan of traveling. Her favorite place to visit is Italy.

For kindergarteners, you are going to have so much fun in VAPA next year! You're going to do clay owls, Square 1 Art, pinwheels for peace, and self-portraits. I hope you enjoyed getting to know Mrs. Brown a little better. THANK YOU Mrs. Brown for everything you do!!!



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Deadline: November 18th

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Thanksgiving Traditions

By CONNER BROWN

Thanksgiving is almost here again. We celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday every year on the 4th Thursday in November. This year, that's on November 27th.

The first Thanksgiving was in the year 1621 when Native Americans and the Pilgrims shared a feast that lasted three days. Thanksgiving is still celebrated with a feast which we enjoy with our families and friends.

The traditional Thanksgiving meal usually includes turkey,



DIY turkey arts and crafts.

mashed potatoes, stuffing, rolls, and pumpkin pie. In addition to eating a big meal, some families have tradi-

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November Brain Teaser
What goes around the world but stays in a corner?
Know the answer? Email us at sharknewspaper@gmail.com to be entered in the drawing to be this month's brain teaser champ!

Last month's riddle was correctly answered by 10 students including **Zachary Winter**. Students answered corn and poultry for the following riddle:

You throw away the outside and cook the inside. Then you eat the outside and throw away the inside. What did you eat?

Last month's teaser from Brain Food Riddles

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Sierra Elementary Fall Carnival: Fun for All!

By JENNA DWILLIS

On Friday, October 24 Sierra Elementary hosted its annual Fall Carnival. Every year each classroom decorates a pumpkin to be raffled and sets up a booth where students and their families can play games and win prizes. Three of my favorite booths were Make Your Own Pixie Stix, the Witch's Brew Penny Toss, and the Basketball Bounce. My favorite foods were nachos and blue raspberry shaved ice.

Groups of classes participated in a costume contest that awarded prizes for categories like "Scariest" and "Funniest." It was really hard for the teachers to pick winners because there were so many good costumes. The prettiest costume for one of the groups was given to Genesis in Ms. Hardy's fourth grade class.



Genesis – one of the "Prettiest Costume" winners.

All the teachers were dressed in Minion costumes and they were so funny. Hope you had an exciting time at the Fall Carnival!

Photo courtesy the Dwillis-Ball Family



Jenna Dwillis and her friend, Hannah Serrano (4th grade—Mr. Patten's class).

Photo courtesy the Dwillis-Ball Family

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The **FUND** Run was a huge success bringing in over \$24,000 and counting! Thank you to everyone who participated and especially to those who organized and sponsored the event.

- Shark Bits Team

International Baccalaureate Corner

We encourage international-mindedness in IB students. To do this, we believe that students must first develop an understanding of their own cultural and national identity. All IB students learn a second language and the skills to live and work with others internationally—essential for life in the 21st century.

Thanksgiving (cont'd)

tions of watching football, playing games, going on a walk, and even going shopping. Also, some people have to travel to see their families, but others celebrate at home. Here's what some Sierra students do for Thanksgiving:

On the holiday, 5th grader Isaac Ja stays home or goes to his grandma's or aunt's house. His family includes fried rice with their meal, which Isaac looks forward to eating. Cade Myers, in 4th grade, makes a feast for Thanksgiving. His favorite thing to eat is turkey. He also looks forward to the pumpkin pie. Not everyone is going to be eating the traditional turkey dinner. 2nd grader Grace Wuerthner's favorite food to eat on Thanksgiving is lobster. Some of our Sierra families travel on Thanksgiving.

For example, 4th grader Alyssa Cason goes to Redlands or Illinois. She likes playing with her cousins and her favorite food is the rolls. Another 4th grader, Andrew Morris, is looking forward to seeing his cousins at his grandma's house. Andrew's favorite food is the turkey.

My family celebrates Thanksgiving at my aunt's or my grandpa's house. We have the traditional turkey dinner with mashed potatoes and stuffing, and my favorite dessert, which is pumpkin pie. My brother, 2nd grader Logan Brown, and I have a favorite thing to do on Thanksgiving. We look forward to watching football. We're excited to watch the 49ers play the Seahawks this year. Go Niners!

Happy Thanksgiving Sierra Sharks! I hope you enjoy your week off of school!

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Who's Got School Spirit?! The Minions!



Sierra Elementary teachers and staff dressed up for the Fall Carnival.

Image courtesy Julie Budge.

What's Happening ~ November 2014

- Sami Circuit Training Days*..... **Tuesday & Wednesday, November 4-5**
- Family Reading Night (6-7pm)* **Wednesday, November 5**
- PTC Meeting (6-7:30pm)*..... **Wednesday, November 5**
- Family Math Night (6-8pm)* **Thursday, November 6**
- Minimum Day* **Friday, November 7**
- Staff Dev/Veteran's Day (no school)*... **Monday & Tuesday, November 10-11**
- Book Fair* **Monday-Friday, November 17-21**
- Min. Days & Parent/Teacher Conf.*..... **Monday-Friday, November 17-21**
- Wild Things Assembly (9-10am)*..... **Wednesday, November 19**
- Lunch with a Loved One (11:10am-12:35pm)* **Wednesday, November 19**
- Thanksgiving Break (no school)* **Monday-Friday, November 24-28**

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