

November 2024

# BOBCAT TIMES

Mrs. Castillo's and Mrs. Russo's  
Journalism Class

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## Your Voice, Your Council

Congratulations to the winners of this year's "Student Council" elections! On November 8th, 2024, all middle school students voted for their favorite candidates. It is with great pleasure that we announce the officers for this school year: The 2024-2025 Class President is Philip Goldberger. The Vice-President is Sophia Lacker-Antón, the Treasurer is Zoe Hornedo, and the School Secretary is Sadie Davidson.

After an exclusive interview with the officers, it was clear they all have one goal in common; they want to make our school a better place and ensure that everyone's voices are heard. President Philip Goldberger has many plans to improve our school. In the interview, he stated "My goal is to improve school bathrooms, allow students to use the field after school, filtering the water from the water fountain, and installing vending machines".

A special thank you to students who participated in the campaign as well. It was a great election!

## Meet the Officers:



Zoe Hornedo, Sophia Lacker-Antón, Philip Goldberger, Sadie Davidson



Ms. Balderramos, Philip Goldberger, Ms. Castillo

### **Editors:**

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### **Co-Editors:**

Emily O'Malley

Avery Changkinkee

By: Amparo Cortès and Izabella Miller

## Take the Lead: Principal for the Day

Principal of the day has been a long running district tradition going on for over 20 years. This year our new principal, Ms. Balderramos, had the honor of choosing one herself! Ms. Amaran, a MDCPS partner and longtime PTA partner, was happy to step in for the day! When asked why she chose Ms. Amaran, Ms. Balderramos explained how she has been a great asset to our school, providing support to both the school and PTA group. Ms. Amaran was extremely enthusiastic to be at our school. She truly enjoyed the experience and was able to see the school from a different perspective. Ms. Balderramos is happy to announce that she definitely plans on continuing the Principal of the day tradition.



By: Adam Aneiros

## Tiny Heroes, Big Adventures: Firetruck Fun

Every year, firefighters visit our school to offer an incredible learning experience for the students. During these visits, they teach children how to respond in case of a fire and explain the equipment they use. On November 1, 2024, all the kindergarten students had the opportunity to participate in this educational event. When asked about their favorite part of the experience, many students expressed excitement about learning about the mask and hose from the fire truck. The children were thrilled to see the fire trucks and discover how the equipment works. They also mentioned wanting to learn more about the mechanics of how the trucks operate. Several students showed their desire to become firefighters when they grew up, inspired by what they learned about firefighters and their jobs. For the students, this experience of learning about fire trucks was joyful and made them all smile. Additionally, four children shared that they wanted to be firefighters to help people, extinguish fires, rescue those trapped in burning buildings, and protect their communities. The students are very thoughtful and kind to already know they want to help people in the future. Overall, the students showed great enthusiasm for learning about fire trucks and demonstrated a desire to gain more knowledge about them in the future.



By: Emily Frankel and Zoey Adler-Zabelins





## Words of Wisdom

**“Even if it looks like your failing, keep going because success is soon to come”**

**-Christian St-Surin, 8th Grade, Ms. Prada**



**“Don’t go through where a path may be, make your own and leave a trail”**

**-Phillippe Bergantinos, 8th Grade, Mr. Giordano**



**“Happiness can be found in the darkest of times, but only if one remembers to turn on the light”**

**-Dafne Zuzenberg, 7th Grade, Ms. Edwards**



**By: Kali Heiken, Bella Frye, and Anna Kulenovic**

## Race to the Finish: Cross Country Finale

The Bobcat Cross Country team wrapped up their season on Monday, November 4th, at the Miami Dade Middle School Championships. It was an exciting season filled with personal records and major improvements!

The boys’ JV team placed 5th out of 19 teams. Paxton Griffin ran his best time of 13:44 and finished in 6th place, while Ryder Wilson came in 18th out of 147 runners. Arysza Urakov made steady improvements all season and achieved his best time at the final meet. On the JV girls’ side, Olivia Jackson kept improving her time at every race.

In the varsity events, Anisa Diaz-Velasco placed 10th out of 111 runners and earned a medal for her outstanding effort. Felipe Fumero also did well, coming in 27th out of 155 varsity boys with his best time yet. Congratulations to all the runners, this was an excellent season. They really showed their hard work running in this heat and humidity. It really shows their dedication to this sport and it makes us all proud to have such amazing students represent our school.



**By: Geronimo David**



## Enhance Your Natural Sparkle

There are many popular beauty brands to choose from when you are searching for the perfect product. A brand that has recently entered the trending top ten is LANEIGE. Its wide range of products has caused LANEIGE to become a bestselling brand in global shopping and among many pre-teens and teens of the new generation. Some of LANEIGE's most popular products include lip masks, lip balm-glosses, and hydrating sleep masks. If you're trying to find an inclusive product, LANEIGE can offer you a product that accommodates your skin type. If you're searching for a product that can provide hydration to your lips and skin, this brand has a variety of options for you to decide upon. A product for more oily skin would be something like the Water Bank Blue Hyaluronic Emulsion, which balances your skin's oily texture with moisture. A product for dryer skin would be the LANEIGE Water Sleeping Mask, which hydrates your skin while also smoothing and brightening it for a glowing look that will make you look and feel radiant. LANEIGE allows people to find the perfect product for them and their skin, so if you are searching for a reliable product that provides results, LANEIGE is the way to go!



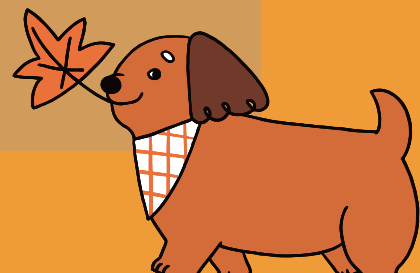
By: Clarissa Borrelli

## One Goal, One Champion: World Series Final

With the Dodgers winning the baseball World Series, it was an amazing experience as the games were very exciting. In Game 1, the Dodgers were down one run, there were 2 out bases loaded, at the bottom of the 9th inning (the last chance they have to score) Freddie Freeman was up to bat (hit). In order to win the game, he needed at least a double (hit the ball and get to second base) to win the game. On the other hand, Nestor Cortes (pitcher for Yankees) needed one more out to win the game. But despite his best attempt, Freddie Freeman was able to hit a grand slam (home run when everyone is on a base) worth 4 points. With that game winner the Dodgers took game one. Games 2 and 3 the Dodgers were still able to keep their winning streak alive, winning 3-0 in the series and need one more game to win. The Yankees managed to win game 4 with a score of 11-4 and stayed alive. Anthony Volpe had an outstanding performance in that game while hitting a grand slam and becoming the star player in that game. In Game 5 the Dodgers took home the world series beating the Yankees and now becoming the Baseball National Champions. Popular MLB star player Aaron Judge on the Yankees did not perform very well in this tournament by striking out seven times while batting. Going back to Freddie Freeman, out of the finals he came out as MVP of the world series finals. Manager Dave Roberts did a successful job helping the team secure its victory with unique and special tactics. Shohei Ohtani on the Dodgers was very calm and really stood out on the field and was a big part for helping the Dodgers. The Dodgers stopped the Yankees from winning their 28th title. With this victory the Dodgers are now 8-time champs. The Dodger's coach, Dave Roberts, led his team for the third time in eight years.



By: Mateo Robaina, Kai-Khalla Oexner, and Tomas Souza





# Give Miami Day

Give Miami Day, the annual online giving event by The Miami Foundation, did something new this year by taking its message into schools. For the first time, they taught kids about the importance of donating and being generous. Grace Dewitt from The Miami Foundation explained that they visited many schools this year, including RKBH, and the kids were really excited to learn about how donations can help their community. Students got to choose which causes they care about the most and learn how to make a difference by donating. This new focus on schools made the event even bigger, with more kids and families getting involved. Dewitt said that the more people donated, the more money they can raise for local nonprofits. She also mentioned that just \$25 can make a significant impact across Miami-Dade County.

Whether it is kids or adults, she believes everyone's participation helped make the event even more successful and created a stronger, more generous community. The Bobcat Family is grateful for all the efforts made in this event and proud to say that the school raised \$30,492. Additional funds will also be awarded from The Miami Foundation.

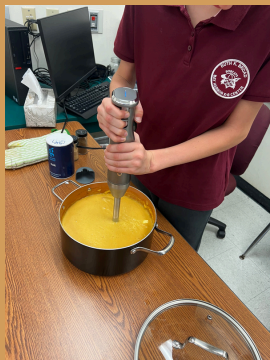


By: Geronimo David, Penelope Lopez-Casula, and Mateo Robaina

## Cooking Corner

### Pumpkin Soup Ingredients:

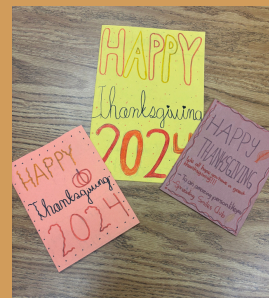
1. Pumpkin Puree
2. Potato
3. Onion
4. Salt
5. Pepper(seasoning)
6. Cinnamon
7. Heavy Cream
8. Butter
9. Pumpkin Seeds
10. Carrots



By: Penelope Lopez-Casula and Arielle Barcelo

## Spreading Smiles

The Spreading Smiles Club Thanksgiving collection was a great way to support families in need. As part of this event, students were kindly asked to support the foundation and donate \$2 or more, and any Publix gift cards of any amount. This year, the organization members created personalized cards to place gift cards inside. These were made for those in need to feel special and welcomed. The club also encouraged people to spread smiles and happiness. The more money, the more people and families got to eat on Thanksgiving Day. This is critical because it embodies the spirit of gratitude in our community. Donations helped ensure that everyone enjoyed a festival meal. By giving to others, we were able to spread smiles and help our community. After all, Thanksgiving is a time of gratitude and what better way to express it than by giving to those in need!



By: Felicitas Barenaspina and Emilija Slitere



## **Dear Bobcat: Advice Column**

**“I need to convince my parents to buy me something, but I can’t convince them”**

If you want to convince your parents to buy you something, but they keep saying no, maybe you need to explain the importance of this item and why it means a lot to you. Another good way is to remind them that the winter holidays are coming up, and if you celebrate, you can ask your parents for the item as a gift. Why not try to earn it by telling your parents that you will help around the house or do chores for a budget, and you can save up to buy the item yourself. There are always ways to solve things. Try one of our suggestions and let us know how it goes!

**"How do I get straight A's?"**

To get straight A's, start by trying to keep yourself organized. Get a folder for each of your subjects and a homework folder as well. Also, do your homework! Doing your homework will help you understand the subject better and help boost your grades even more. Try asking your parents for help, and if you can't do it yourself, try asking your teacher to explain the skills to you again. Lastly, focus in class; don't get distracted by anything or anyone. This should do the trick!

**“One of our teachers has been giving us too much homework. What should I do?”**

Organizing your work as soon as you get home will help you finish your work early. However, this still won't fully fix the fact that you are getting a lot of homework. There isn't much I can recommend doing but talking to your teacher about the issue can always help. You can explain to them that you struggle keeping up with the amount of homework that they assign. I hope your teacher takes your opinion into consideration!

**“What to do when your friend is getting bullied?”**

Being bullied is a serious thing, relationships throughout your school years are important and keep you happy and motivated. If your friend is getting bullied, make sure to report it to a higher up, like a teacher or counselor. These adults are here to help you even when it is not school related so don't feel shy to ask for help. If this doesn't work and your bully still has not stopped, stand up for your friend. If the bully respects you and not your friend, then maybe if you talk to them, they will stop. Above all, make sure your friend knows they are not alone and have support from you.

**By: Valentina Fernandez, Danika Padron, Matvey Sukhanov, and Yesenia Verloka**

