

POLARIS

SPRING EDITION

2024



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POLARIS STAFF

Eighth Grade	Seventh Grade	Sixth Grade
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Lara M.A	Baczkowski	Atyaani
Livia Klein	Lily Hoffman	Bhattacharya
Arpita V.	Natalie	Claire K.
Renu V.	Dickinson	
	Hannah Parrett	
	Dani Puvak	
	Camilla Caraig	
	Sabine Perez	
	Kullas	

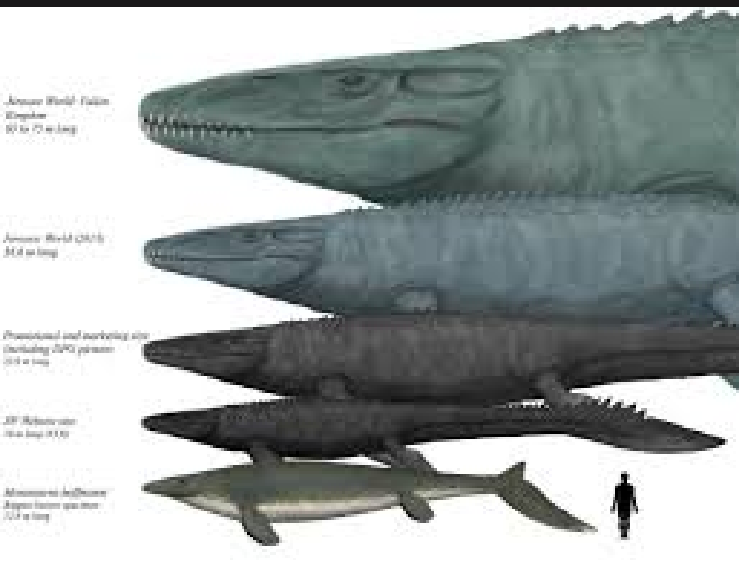


Writer's Club

WE HAD FUN WORKING ON THIS
ISSUE OF POLARIS AND WE
HOPE YOU HAVE FUN READING
IT!

WITH GRATITUDE, THE
WRITER'S CLUB GIRLS AND
MR. PERLSON!

DID YOU DI-KNOW?



THE MOSASAURUS SKULL FOSSIL WAS FOUND IN 1764 IN A QUARRY NEAR MAASTRICHT IN THE NETHERLANDS, WHICH WAS MISTAKEN FOR A WHALE.

THE MOSASAURUS OR "LIZARD OF THE MEUSE RIVER" IS THE TYPE GENUS OF THE MOSASAURS, AN EXTINCT GROUP OF AQUATIC SQUAMATE REPTILES. IT LIVED ABOUT 82 TO 66 MILLION YEARS AGO. PALEONTOLOGISTS BELIEVE ITS DIET INCLUDED VIRTUALLY ANY ANIMAL; IT LIKELY PREYED ON BONY FISH, SHARKS, CEPHALOPODS, BIRDS, AND OTHER MARINE REPTILES INCLUDING SEA TURTLES AND OTHER MOSASAURS. THEY WERE ABOUT 56 FEET LONG.

DID YOU DI-KNOW?



DUNKLEOSTEUS



IN 1867, A COLLECTOR FOUND THE FIRST FOSSILS OF DUNKLEOSTEUS TERRELLI, A GIANT PREDATORY FISH THAT SWAM OHIO'S ANCIENT SEA, IN THE SHALE CLIFFS ALONG LAKE ERIE. THE COLLECTOR CALLED IT "TERRIBLE FISH".

DUNKLEOSTEUS MEANS "DUNKLE BONES". OSTEUS IS GREEK FOR BONE, REFERRING TO THE GIANT BONE PLATES THAT MAKE ITS HEAD AND JAWS. AT 1,000 POUNDS, DUNKLEOSTEUS COULD CHOMP THROUGH BONE.





TRUE SHOOTINGS: 2017

LAS VEGAS SHOOTING

BY: NATALIE DICKINSON

On October 1, 2017, over 22,000 people were gathered at the Route 91 Music Festival in Las Vegas, Nevada. On the last night of the festival, Stephen Paddock opened fire into the crowd from the 32 buildings of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino. The shooting started at around 10:05 and lasted for approximately eleven minutes before Paddock took his own life.

58 were killed, along with 2 more people dying in the years to follow due to complications with wounds they got at the shooting bringing the casualties of the shooting up to 60, and over 800 were injured. Paddock's motive is unclear and the FBI yielded no indication that the motive was grievance against any person killed or injured in the event. The LVPR concludes that Paddock's intention to die by suicide was his "desire to attain a certain degree of infamy via a mass casualty attack."



Reasons that we are living in a simulation

Doppelgänger

It is so weird that you can just walk into any public space and see someone who looks exactly like you. The devs got lazy.



Those tiny freaking wings are not enough to hold the bee's fat body in the air. Even then, AIRPLANE WINGS DON'T FLAP. HOW DO THEY STAY IN THE AIR!!!

Bees and Airplanes



Airpods/
Headphones with
or without wires

How does the sound get from place to place? It makes no sense.



HOW DO THEY KNOW WHAT WE LOOK LIKE!!!!

Mirrors/
Reflections

Blind people
Dreaming

HOW DO THEY DREAM IN PICTURES IF THEY'VE BEEN BLIND SINCE BIRTH!!!!



While people who have been blind since birth do indeed dream in visual images, they do it

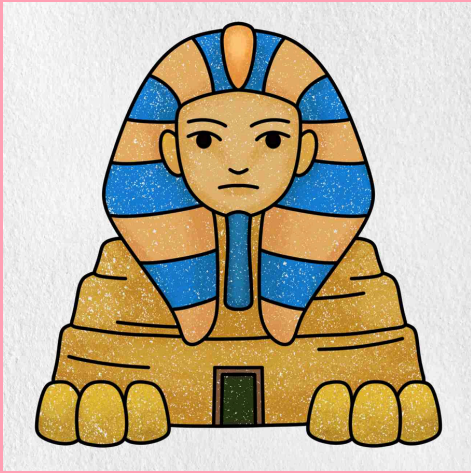


Where do insects go in the winter and why do they come back? No one wants them

Insects

SPRING STATS

IN HONOR OF THE SPRING EDITON!



THE GREAT SPINX WAS BUILT TO FACE DIRECTLY AT THE SUN ON THE SPRING EQUINOX.

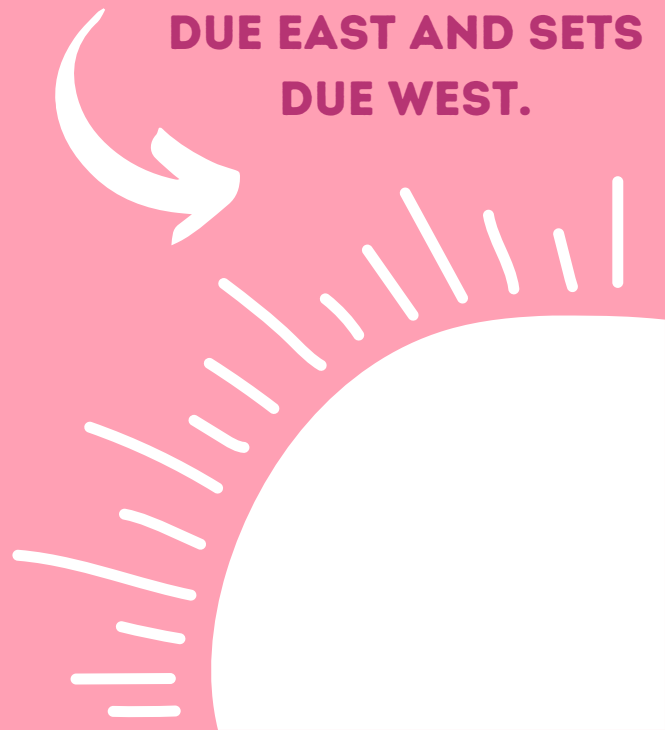
BABY BIRDS LEARN TO SING DURING SPRING. ALTHOUGH THEY ARE BORN WITH THE ABILITY TO SING, THEY MUST LEARN THE SPECIFIC SONGS OF THEIR SPECIES. THEY OFTEN LEARN THEIR SONGS WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF BEING BORN.



FOR THE JAPANESE, THE OPENING OF THE CHERRY BLOSSOM, JAPAN'S NATIONAL FLOWER, IN MARCH OR APRIL SIGNALS THE START OF SPRING.



THE FIRST DAY OF SPRING IS CALLED THE VERNAL EQUINOX. THE TERM VERNALIS IS LATIN FOR "SPRING". THE FALL AND SPRING EQUINOXES ARE THE ONLY TWO TIMES DURING THE YEAR WHEN THE SUN RISES DUE EAST AND SETS DUE WEST.



Riddle Me This...

The answers are below and upside down!

R: What is seen in the middle of March and April that can't be seen at the beginning or end of either month?

R: I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with the wind. What am I?

R: What disappears as soon as you say its name?

R: This belongs to you, but everyone else uses it.

R: How many letters are in the alphabet?

R: Which word in the dictionary is always spelled incorrectly?

Answer Key (upside down)

1. The letter "R".

2. An echo.

3. Silence.

4. Your name.

5. The word "incorrectly".

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.



Brief History of NBMS

The original NBMS was built in 1955. MCPS maintained it until the school was closed by the school system. There were 2 additions made in 1959 and 1969. MCPS reopened the school in 1999. By then, NBMS had undergone a massive glow-up!



Gorgeous photo of the old NBMS in the evening.



NBMS is ranked #6 in Maryland Middle Schools and is ranked #3 in Montgomery County Public Schools Middle Schools!

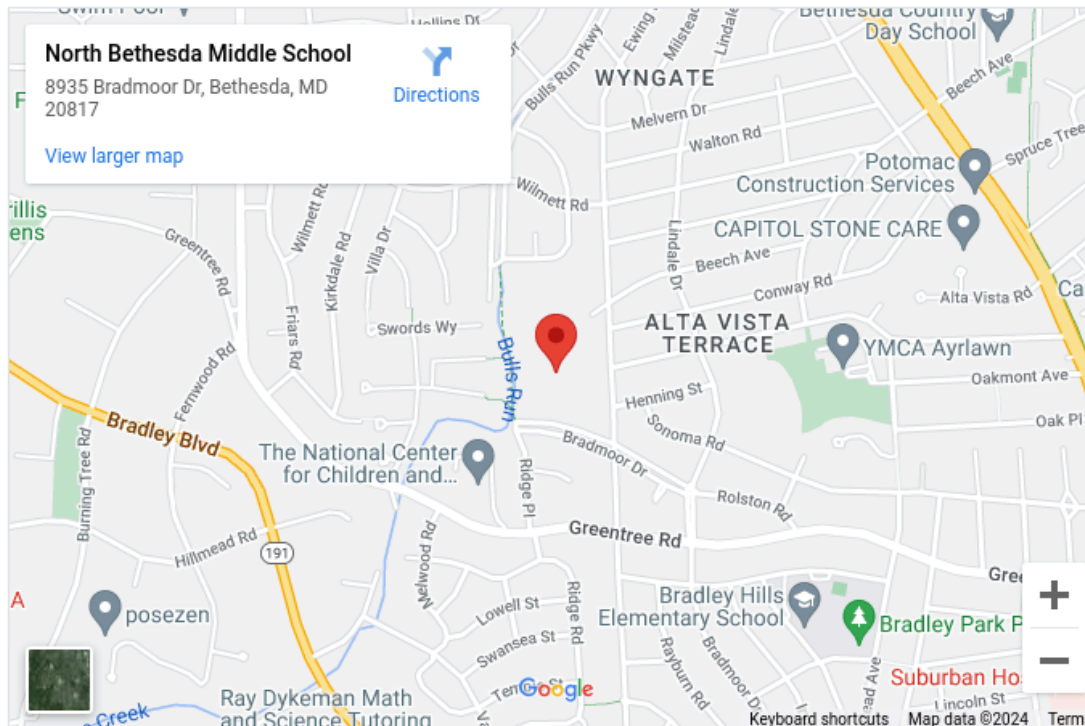
Cont. History of NBMS



Here's a picture of a very serious (and old) NBMS teacher talking to some past students of NBMS in one of the old classrooms!

MAP + DIRECTIONS

8935 Bradmoor Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817



The red dot is where we're located!

History Of North Bethesda



Archaeological evidence suggests that Paleo, Archaic, and Woodland Native Americans along the banks of the Potomac River. They traveled along the ancient route, the Seneca Trail. Today it follows North Bethesda by Old Georgetown Road. Like many ancient roads, the Seneca Trail followed a ridge line – in this case, the high ground between the Potomac River and Rock Creek. The recorded history of the area is associated with the colonial era. Settlements formed along Rock Creek and the Seneca Trail in the 17th century were known originally as “Dan” and “Leeke Forest.” The southern part of the North Bethesda CDP was originally the country estate of the Grosvenor family, members from the family include Alexander Graham Bell and a former President of the National Geographic Society.



History Of North Bethesda - Lara M. A.



Pita's Poetry Pile

BY (AR)PITA P. VIJAY :)



THE TANGLED TANGO

CLOCK IT

MALFUNCTION

EARTH'S LAMENT



THESE AREN'T THAT GREAT BUT I HOPE YOU LIKE IT :)



Pita's Poetry Pile

BY (AR)PITA P. VIJAY :)



THE TANGLED TANGO

tangled in a slow dance

a
s
t
r
a
y,

in the ballroom.

r o s e

tinted glass

disguises foolishness.



IT GETS BETTER OKAY??



Pita's Poetry Pile

BY (AR)PITA P. VIJAY :)



CLOCK IT

the path is covered in **SHADOWS**

each step feels a

m i l e

trapped in this cycle of dread

i continue to tread

the life i once used to be happy i led.

dawn to day

until i hit *replay*



IM NOT DEPRESSED I PROMISE-



Pita's Poetry Pile

BY (AR)PITA P. VIJAY :)



MALFUNCTION

hope whispers
hope whispers

"I'll stay with you."
I'll stay with you."

memories flicker
memories flicker

until I fully break
until I fully break

through and through
through and through





Pita's Poetry Pile

BY (AR)PITA P. VIJAY :)



EARTH'S LAMENT

I am Earth
and I sigh.

my tears of joy once flowed in *endless rivers*
now, my *holy ground* has dried up.
I *crumble* underneath deafening sounds
of **roaring** beasts in streets.
burn me up in ashes
lead me to destruction,
the *tortuous* road I am diving into head-first.
anything is better
than *waiting*
for my **rebirth**,
which will never come.

I am Earth
and I sigh.



CLIMATE CHANGE IS A
SERIOUS ISSUE - AND YOU
CAN TAKE A STEP TOWARDS
COMBATING IT.

MY FAVORITE POEM ON HERE :)
THANKS FOR READING!

By Liv Klein

Thursday, July 8th, 12:09am

The man was back again. I thought I'd start documenting his appearances... just in case, I dunno, anything ever happens to me. I walk home every day from my job at the mall. I have the ending shift, and the mall closes at 10:00pm. Naturally, I'm out of the mall by around 10:30pm. It's always dark. I don't have a car, and I live 200 miles away from my parents. My friends live too far away for the drive to be worth it. I've just kept 911 on speed dial for the past couple of months. I have yet to call them...but.

This strange man.

He walks around 20 feet behind me, and always wears the same neon yellow bucket hat, with all black clothing, and a black face mask. When I mention the hat, my friends always think I'm joking. I'm not. He's followed me three times so far, starting to follow me about a mile into my walk, but disappearing 30 minutes before I get home.

Today was different.

I got out of the mall slightly earlier than usual. It was around 10:10. This time, the man was wearing a different hat. Still bright neon, but in the shape of a baseball cap. His shirt also had a bright white letter on it. I tried not to seem as though I was looking, but I'm pretty sure it was a U. If you think I haven't tried calling the police, you'd be wrong. But...they don't see it as much of a threat, and I can't prove that he's following me.

I don't want him to know I've noticed.

I just realized that I never noticed any facial features, though I'm only sparing quick glances behind me.

I pray to God that in the darkness of the night, and in the scarce time I look at him, it's all just my imagination.

By Liv Klein

Saturday, July 10th, 10:37pm

I'm sitting on the floor in the candy store I work in. I decided to bring in my notebook. It was the smartest decision I ever could have made. I see him out there. He circles around once, and then disappears from my limited view. And...

He's not alone.

The police won't answer

In fact nobody is answering any of my calls

I'm just gonna wait it out until morning.

Until then, I'll describe the others that I've seen.

They're all silhouettes of men, I still see no visible facial features.

The second one I've seen is wearing a neon pink headband. The

third is wearing a neon orange pair of earmuffs.

It's weird because it's the middle of July. The fourth is weirder.

Neon green bunny ears.

It's like these...men...don't understand social cues.

Shoot.

I just heard a bang on the window.

Run to the ba

Page 3 **ae a**
By Liv K

Sunday, July 11th, 2:35am

I've locked myself in the back room. I'm pressed up against the door. My heart is pounding out of my chest. I've been here for four hours.

I heard the shatter of broken glass an hour prior.

I haven't heard anything since.

Just the woosh of the wind. Which is...odd...because it's not windy outside.

I'm assuming the wind picked up. I'm hoping the wind picked up.

All of my phone calls are immediately sent to voicemail. I've left an extreme amount of voicemails.

Just wait it out.
Everything will be fine.

It's been another hour. Nothing's ha

Page 4 **ae a**
By Liv K

Saturday, July 10th, 6:73am

Thank god it was all a bad dream. I must write in my sleep, since I woke up just a couple of minutes ago, gripping this notebook hard.

Pages are ripped out.

Saturday, July 10th, 673am

I woke up again.

The pages are back, though I don't understand half of the words.
It's like it's all in gibberish.

I ie i a i ei

Saturdaymarchjulytenth673am

HELP

THE END.

ANGEL NUMBERS



Numerology

Angel numbers are number sequences that repeat. These sequences appear in normal places but they have assigned meanings.

If you see 000 or 0000, it means new opportunities and a fresh start.

If you see 111 or 1111, it means you get an opportunity to wish for anything you like!

If you see 222 or 2222, it means balance, trust, and alignment.

If you see 333 or 3333, it means that you have the opportunity to add your unique talents.

If you see 444 or 4444, it means stabilization.

If you see 555 or 5555, it means major changes could be on the horizon.

If you see 666 or 6666, it means empathetic nature.

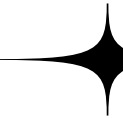
If you see 777 or 7777, it means good fortune.

If you see 888 or 8888, it means a connection to the spiritual universe in a powerful way.

If you see 999 or 9999, it means a chapter may be coming to an end.

What did you wish for?

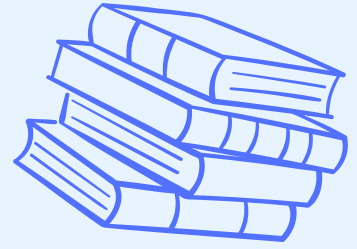
Make a wish.



The clock strikes 11:11.



BOOK



Recommendations LIST



SCI-FI

Warcross by Marie Lu
Legend by Marie Lu
Gone by Michael Grant
The Hunger Games by
Suzanne Collins



FANTASY

*The School for Good
and Evil* by Soman
Chainani



SPOOKY

Belladonna by Adalyn
Grace
The Weight of Blood by
Tiffany D. Jackson

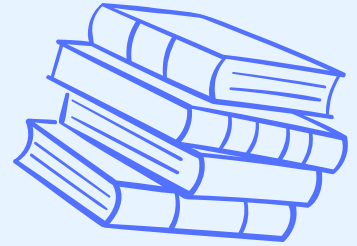


HISTORICAL FICTION

The Downstairs Girl by
Stacy Lee
Sophia's War by Avi
A Night Divided by
Jennifer A. Neilson



BOOK



Recommendations LIST Pt. 2



FANTASY CONTINUED

The Mermaid, The Witch, and the Sea by Maggie Tokuda-Hall

Six Crimson Cranes by Elizabeth Lim

Ash Princess by Laura Sebastian

Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard

City of Bones by Cassandra Clare



MYSTERY

The Inheritance Games by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

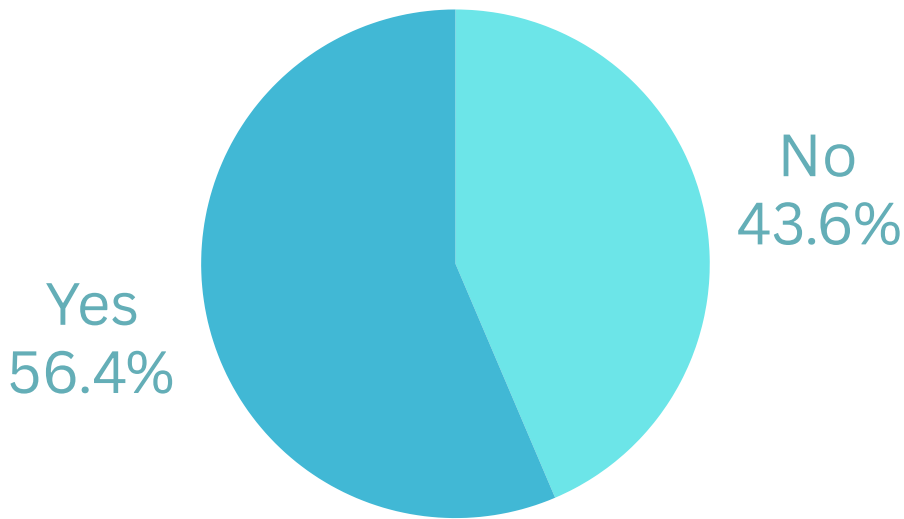
A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson

Five Survive by Holly Jackson

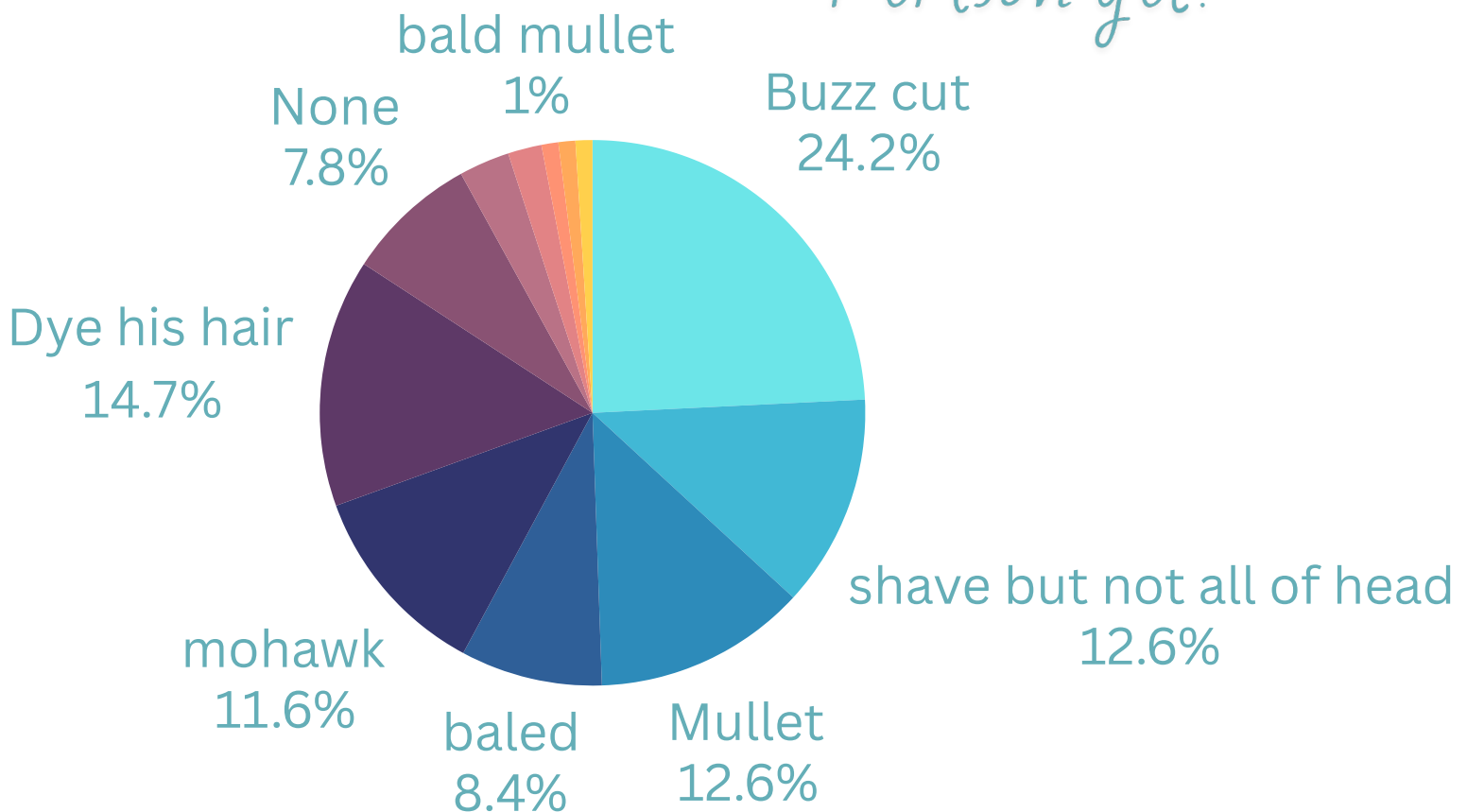
The Reappearance of Rachel Price by Holly Jackson

SURVEY RESULTS

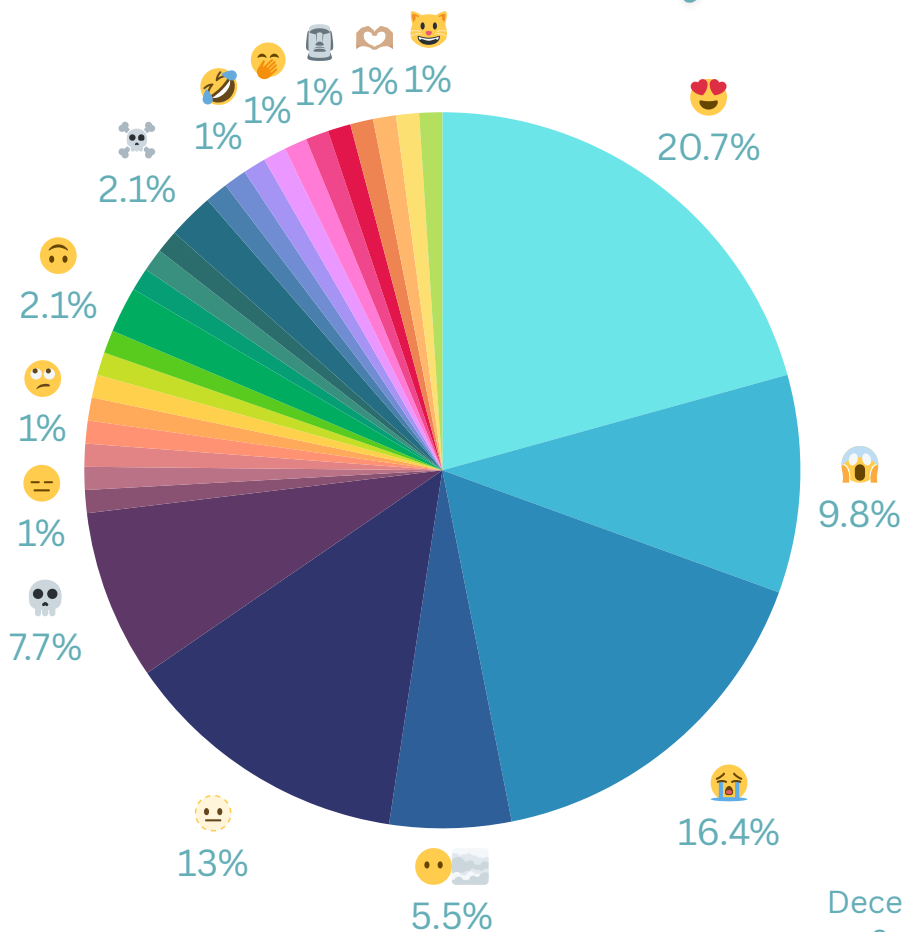
Should Mr. Perlson cut his hair?



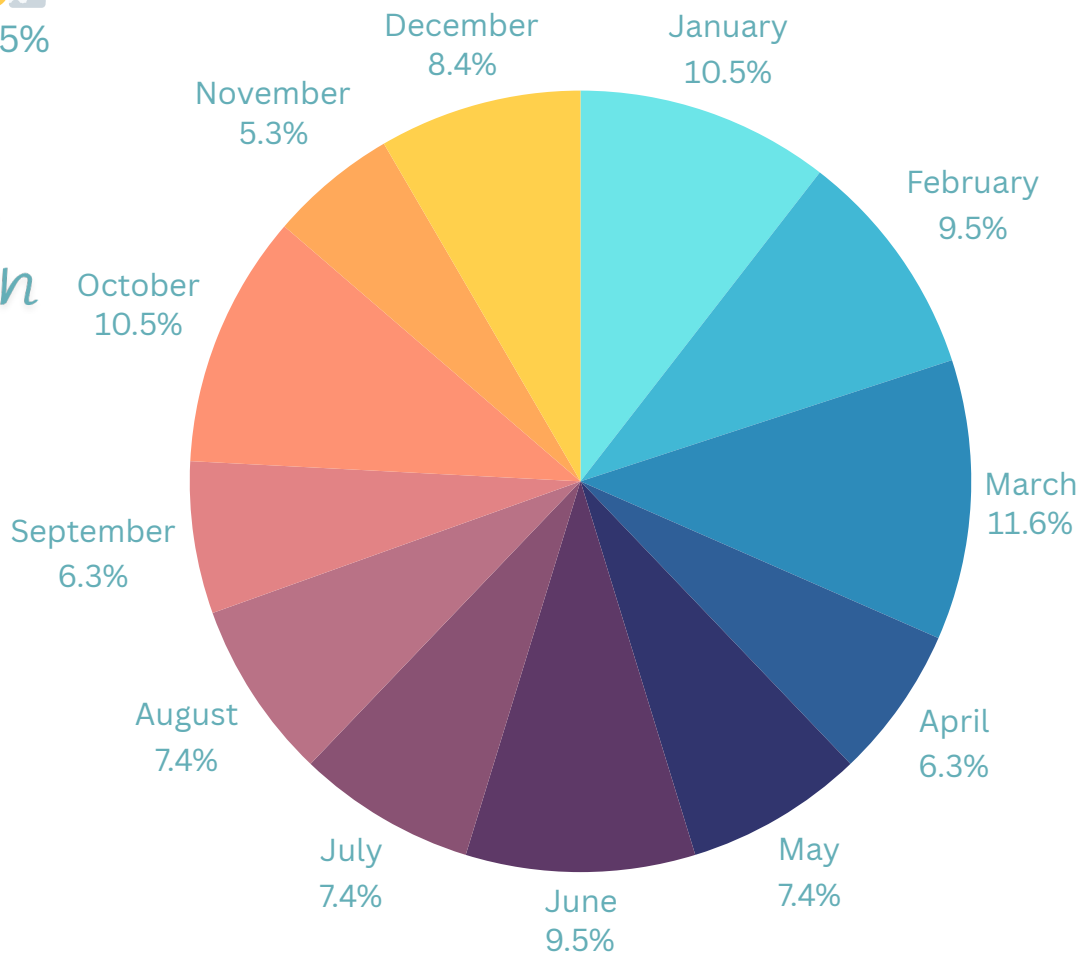
What haircut should Mr. Perlson get?



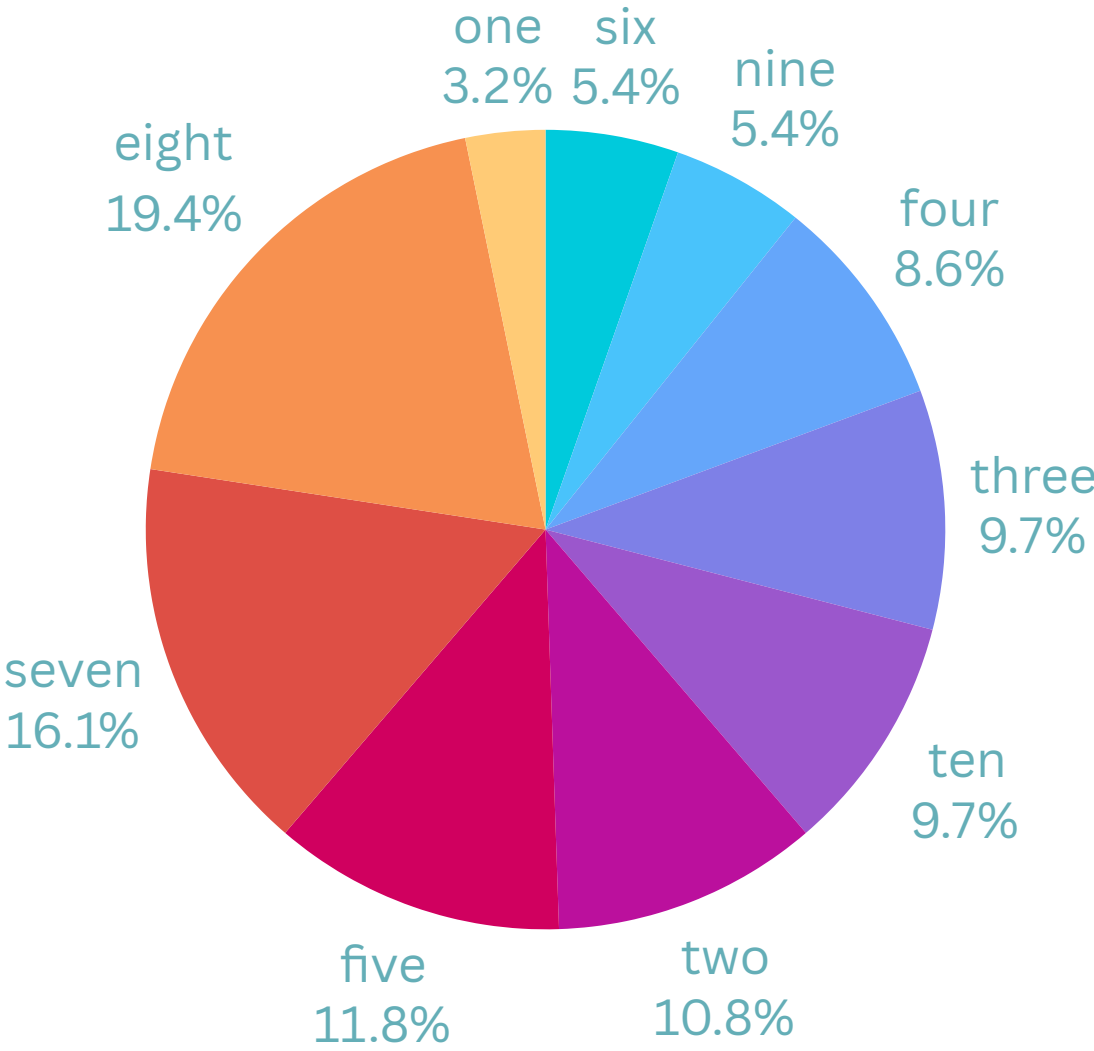
What's your favorite Emoji?



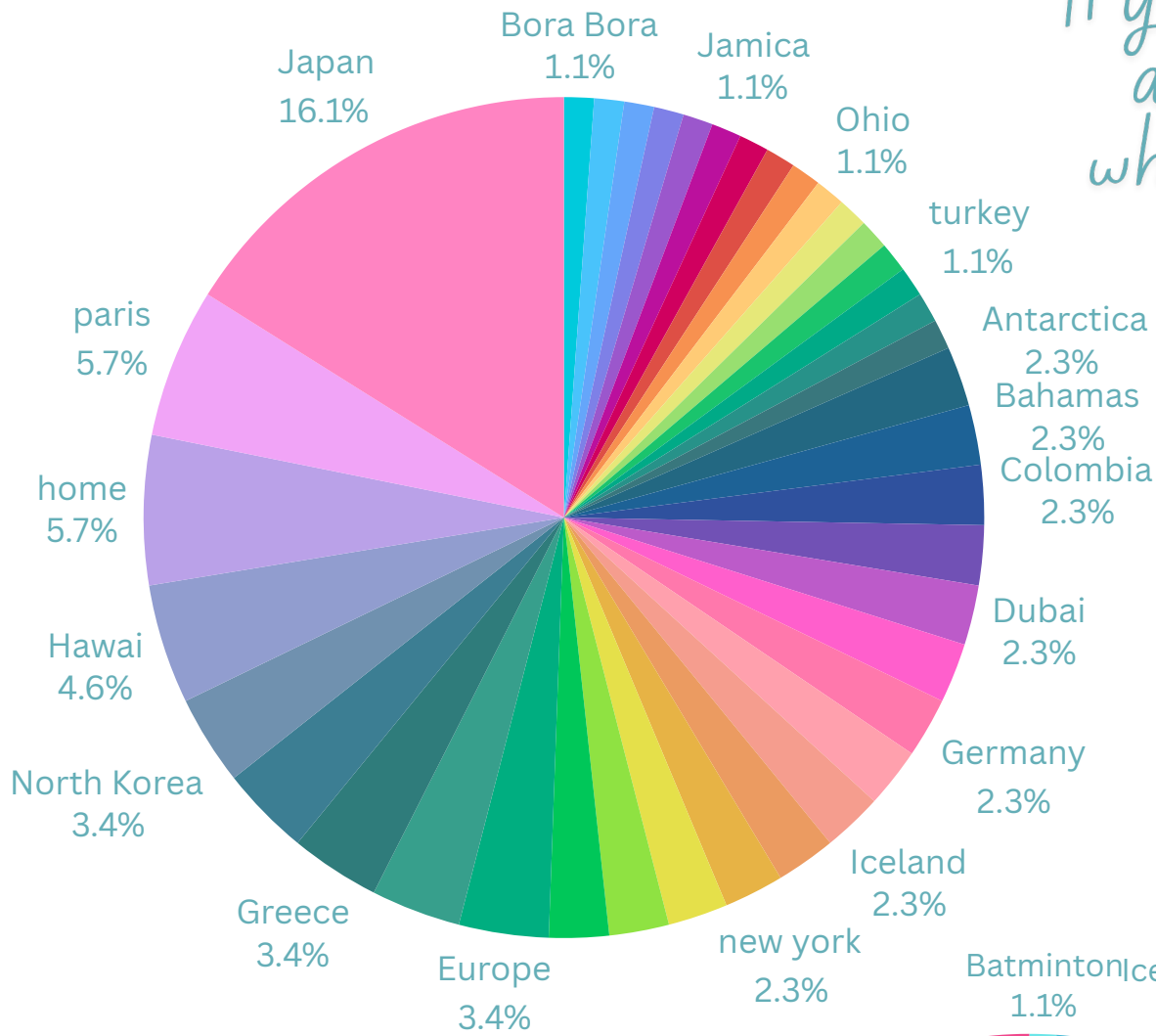
What month were you born in?



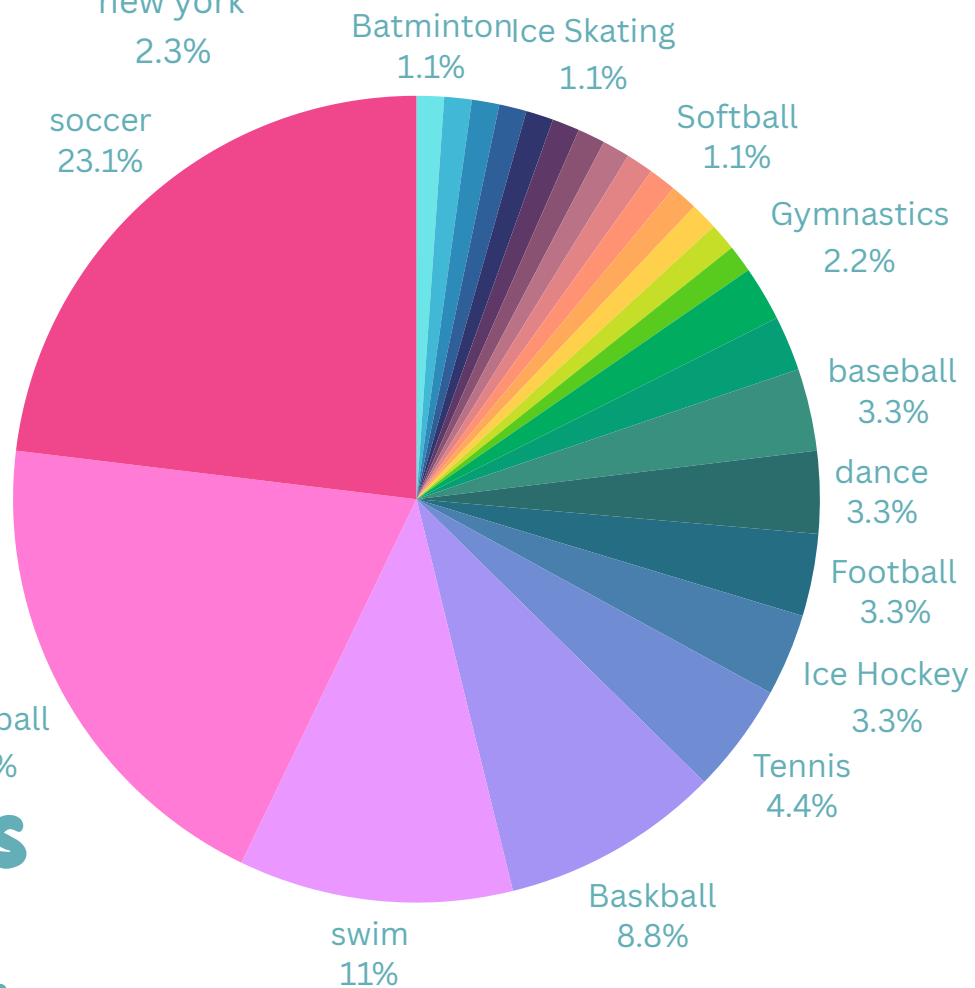
Choose a number between
1-10?



If you could go anywhere where would you go?



What is your favorite sport?



Survey results
by: Aubrey R.

SPRING



Sadly Mr. Perlson
said he would not cut
his hair but if you see
him in the hallway be
sure to annoy him and
tell him to cut or dye
his hair.



uh-
rendezvous
entrancing
negligent
uners

It was you,
It was everyone.
In the dark,
In the silence.
Except for the pattering rain,
That shielded my running
thoughts.



I was told nothing,
I believed everything.
In that moment,
I found life.
In that moment,
I realized, maybe I am.

The lava that bubbled,
Waiting to erupt.
The plates sliding,
An earthquake in the making.
The geyser, a
Boiling and spraying water.
The beautiful storms,
Wreaking havoc.
The tsunami,
Crashing and destroying.
Bright sunlight,
Gleaming.
Painting-like sunsets,
Chills.

Not just you, or me,
But us.
All of us.

A stone,
At first glance.
But a glimpse of the inside,
Revealed layers.
With every word
Every smile
Every laugh
Every minute
Since birth.

by renu vijayraj



Everything is beautifully intricate,
You couldn't believe for a minute,
You didn't think it was.

existential crisis

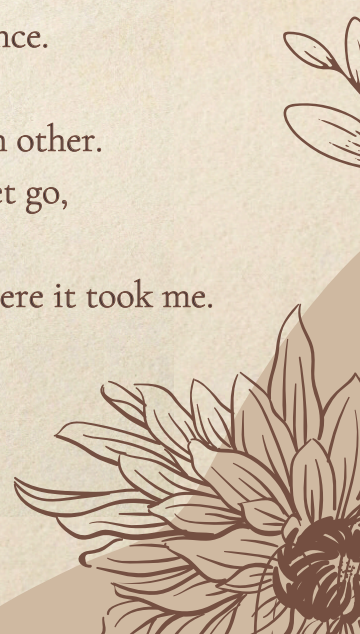
Each person is a world,
A lifetime of possibilities.
To yourself, a singular life.
Beautiful landscapes
Warm beaches
Painted sunsets
Inner-warmth
Deep seas and their inhabitants
Crackling fireplaces
Hugs and cries
Geysers erupting,
In souls.

You,
Aren't just a person,
Not just a world,
But someone's universe.
Whether it is now, or tomorrow.

Volcanoes erupt,
When you blink.
A star explodes,
When you sob,
Galaxies collide.



Us, aligned with the cosmos
Time, it's very existence.
Trillions of years,
But we are given each other.
Hold on, and don't let go,
Let it embrace you,
And it'll take you where it took me.





Some cool pictures
from
the soccer game
against Pyle :)

The team celebrating
after their 3rd goal



I don' know anything
about soccer but this
is cool

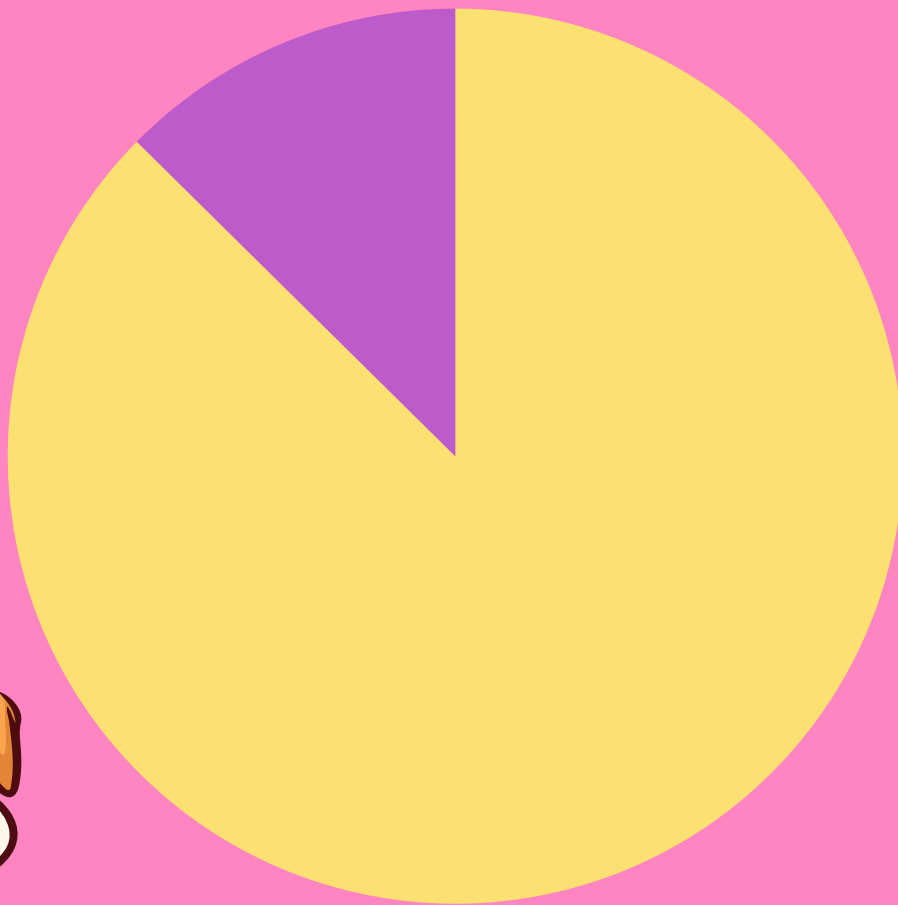
Photos and page courtesy of
Meera Sethi



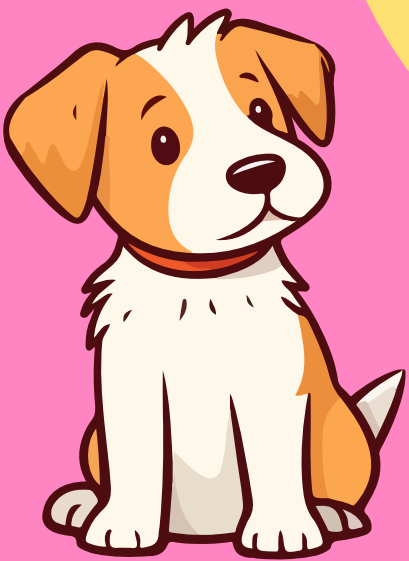
Cats vs Dogs



CATS!!
12.6%



DOGS!!
87.4%





Thank you for
reading the
Spring 2024
edition of
Polaris! If you
liked it, feel
free to join our
club next year.
If you have any
questions,
please contact
Mr. Perlson

