

# TJ Student Chronicle

“By students, for students”

June 2022



Celebrating the Poets of TJMS!

*(Artwork by Safinah Munshi)*

---

## Welcome back to the Chronicle!

The staff of the *TJ Student Chronicle* (formerly the *Kids Chronicle*) are proud to bring you the second issue of the print edition of our school newspaper for this school year. Thank you all for your kind words about our return issue from April.

This issue is a special one featuring TJMS's amazing student poets. In April, we celebrated Poetry Month with several special events including a Poetry Slam and assembly (organized by TJ teachers Delores Connors, Gillian Iappelli and Terrie Roberts—special thanks to you all!). The editorial staff here at the TJ Chronicle decided to feature the work of our student poets in this issue. We hope you enjoy it!

This issue also includes more incredible artwork from 8th Grader Safinah Munshi.

With the return to school this year, we have revived the print edition of the magazine. This revival would not have been possible without the support of Gladys Rosenstein and the Puffin Foundation. Mrs. Rosenstein and her late husband Perry had been enthusiastic and generous in their support of the Chronicle, providing the funds necessary to publish the print edition. When I informed Mrs. Rosenstein about the revival of the Chronicle, she was excited to continue supporting us.

The Chronicle will continue to be a place for students to publish articles and artwork about subjects that they are passionate about and for an audience of their peers. The staff writes and edits their work and strive to produce a newspaper that demonstrates "TJ Pride".

***Published in memory of Perry Rosenstein of the Puffin Foundation, who was an enthusiastic and generous supporter of the Chronicle from its inception. We will continue to work to the high standards he helped us establish.***



## POEM

### Family Reunion in Virginia

*By Ashlee Lane, 7th Grade*

The sound of rocks being ran over as cars park in the driveway,  
Sounds of kids running around and playing with each other,  
Oh how I miss this wonderful feeling.

The sound of others arriving and greeting,  
The scent of food being baked and served,  
Oh how I miss this wonderful feeling.

The sounds of bouncy houses being blown and leaves being  
crunched,

Family members gathering around with balloons as they  
appreciate loved ones who have sadly passed,  
Oh how I miss this wonderful feeling.

Sounds of parents communicating with each other about their  
children,

The feeling of warm hugs being given,  
Oh how I miss this wonderful feeling.

## **POEM**

### **Untitled**

**by Jemarieux Murray, 7th Grade**

Hi self.

I hope you know all the things I love about you.

I love your confidence.

I love your personality.

I love how self-aware you are.

I love how you present yourself.

I love how you are outspoken and want to be heard.

I love how you make everyone around you feel special and noticed.

I love how you put family before anything else.

I love how strong you are.

I love how beautiful you are.

I love how smart you are, but what I love mostly about you is how you love who you are.

I love that you know who you are and what you want to be.

I see you as the queen that you are growing up to be and I wouldn't let anybody tell me or make me feel like anything less.

## **POEM**

### **Apocalypse of the Heart**

***By Arielle Fields, 8th Grade***

*I'm running out of energy and  
I sometimes skip cleaning my room, meals , and homework.*

*I sleep way too much,  
Lay in bed too much,  
Wear too many baggy clothes.*

*I just don't have the energy to try anymore,  
Life is so draining  
But when i try to take a break ,  
I'm "lazy" and  
I'm "not putting in enough effort".*

*I just want to be able to take care of myself,  
Just for a little while,  
Without being criticized for it,  
So then i can be everyones happy friend again!*

*Just because my eyes don't tear doesnt mean my heart doesnt cry and just because I  
came off strong doesnt mean theres anything wrong.  
I will stand up and forever and strong.*

## POEM

### The Frog

*By Jaelyn Farrell, 5th Grade*

Because of The dog

So he Hides

Under

The

Log.



## POEM

*By Shanelle Yunes, 5th Grade*

All the birds chirp there.  
Although, I really don't care.  
Oh the trees covered in pink  
Nobody cares, thats what I think.



## POEM

*By Marley Mirander, 5th Grade*

I go down stairs what do I see,  
A present sitting under the green tree.  
It has my name on it but what could it be  
I open the box and I see a puppy!



## **POEM**

### **Life is Good**

by Benjamin Gold, 6th Grade

Life is good every day.  
Life is good today.  
You can play a lot.  
Maybe that is what you want.  
Life is good a lot.  
Life that is good is what you want.  
Everything is cool.  
Maybe you are supercool.  
Life is amazing.  
Life is entertaining.  
Life is good every day.  
Life is good today.

## **POEM**

### *The Beauty of Kerela*

**By Alexandra Robin, 7th Grade**

Jasmine flowers bloomed below the balcony, and the sounds of the Arabian sea makes me feel at ease.

The smell of Amma's traditional cooking and the beautiful scenery of Kerela will make you miss it.

The sweet smell of freshly crushed cardamom pods and cinnamon sticks boiling in organic cow's milk mixed with freshly picked tea leaves makes an ever so delicious spicy Chai.

In the distance, you can hear the sweet singing of a native Mynah bird while the peaceful sound of a nearby rock streams clean crispy water, as it calms my soul.

As the day progresses I yearn for the sweet juice of a freshly picked mango from my great-grandmother's yard.

Freshly picked limes make 'limy' pickles to pick from. Sundharees and sundharans live in a sundharam place called sundharam Kerela.

Mango juice from frozen mango can't beat freshly made juice from fresh mangos falling from the mango tree.

# Facts About The Sun

**By Lucas Flores, 5th Grade**

Our sun is a giant 432,690 mile big ball of light that is constantly nuking, and is in an attempt to destroy itself every second (hopefully it won't explode too soon). The sun is what gives our solar system the light and warmth we need to stay alive. Without the sun, the Earth would've frozen a few seconds after it was made/generated.

In a few probably 3.6 billion years later, the sun will explode when it reaches the star death phase. Sure it might be scary, but us humans might die out and be replaced by robots about 4B+ years soon before the sun explodes. This might give us a lot of time to make 1000+ new generations that will live on until we soon might get replaced by robots.

I hope you enjoyed the short fun fact section about the sun. If you want to read another of my articles, it is called "Please Don't Chop Down Trees", featured in our April 2022 issue. Until probably next year, I might make 2 new articles for you and probably the next 5th graders. Bye!

# Oculus Quest 2 and Why it's a good Virtual Reality Headset

by Adrian Haddad, 8th Grade

The Oculus Quest 2 is a Virtual Reality Headset that came out on October 13, 2020. It was developed by Facebook Technologies. The Introductory price was \$300.00. Then it was later replaced with a different model that cost \$400.00.

The Oculus Quest 2 was going to be an upgrade for the Oculus Quest 1. But let me show the differences. One Difference is The Oculus Quest 1 has a Memory of 4GB, while the Oculus Quest 2 has a memory of 11.3GB. Another difference is that the Oculus Quest 1 has 64GB of storage, and The Oculus Quest 2 has 128GB of storage. There is also another version of the Oculus Quest 2 that has 256GB of storage that cost for \$100 more. Finally the last difference is that the Oculus Quest 1 has a 1440x1600 pixels per eye, while the Oculus Quest 2 has 1832x 1920 pixels per eye. There is a similarity: both playing times for both of the headsets have the same battery life. But the Oculus Quest 2 has a extra battery life that can you 4 more hours of gameplay. You can buy it for 65 dollars.

Now let's get to its games. You can play a variety of games on the Oculus Quest 2. Such as *Beat Saber*, *Supershot*, and many others. You can also watch your favorite videos in Youtube VR and watch your favorite shows and movies in Netflix VR.

But anyways the Oculus Quest 2 is an amazing virtual reality headset with great quality and features. So it is worth buying. So go out there and buy one of the best VR headsets out there.

## **FICTION**

### **Mia and the Lost Hedgehog, Chapter 1:**

#### **The Animal Care Center**

**by Shaba Basheer, 6th Grade**

Once upon a time, there lived a girl named Mia. She and her mom owned an animal care center. Mia and her mom loved to take care of animals. Their animal care center was in their backyard in the barn. They lived on a farm in Orlando, Florida. Mia loves to help her mom take care of the animals every single day. When the animals are scared while her mom is taking care of them Mia comforts the animal. She has always wanted a pet of her own.

Mia has some options for pets but does not know which pet she wants. She thought in her head the options of her pets, a kitty, hedgehog, and a hamster. Her mother told her what type she wanted when she decided which animal it would be. “Would you like to learn how to care for an animal and see which one you like to have as a pet?” said Mia’s mom.

“Yes!” said Mia with joy. So Mia’s mom dropped Mia off at the pet shop that her friend owns. She went inside the store and went to the front desk and asked her friend’s mom Mrs. Wall, where Laila was. “She is in the back sweetheart.”

“Ok, thank you.” So Mia went to the back to find Laila.

“Hi,” said Laila.

“Hey,” said Mia. “What are you doing here?” said Laila.

“I am here to find a pet.” Mia replied.

“Oooh. What type?”

(continued on page 14)

“I don’t know,” explained Mia.

“I will help you choose your pet.” said Laila.

“Thanks,” Mia said.

“First things first what kind of pet would you like Mia?”  
Laila asked.

“I want to choose a kitten and some other cute animals.”  
Mia and Laila went to the kitty area. Mia looked at all of the  
kitties but none of them were perfect for her.

“I am going to think about it and come back,” said Mia.

“Ok, bye,” Laila said.

“ Bye,” said Mia. She called her mom and went home.



## Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

Eight years ago, the Chronicle became a club at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. If you are at TJ but cannot attend the club meetings, you can submit articles or artwork via our Google Classroom page (class code is 3226f5z). I thank everyone who enjoys the Chronicle. If you would like to be a contributor contact us at [mmcmillan1@teaneckschools.org](mailto:mmcmillan1@teaneckschools.org).

The Chronicle welcomes all sorts of contributions, such as craft ideas, photographs, recipes, comics, drawings, as well as articles that would interest kids in Teaneck.

Also, we want to give a **HUGE** thank you to **The Puffin Foundation** in Teaneck and **Perry and Gladys Rosenstein, Kelly Sheehan, Rose and Eliza Silletto, Veronica Jelic** and **Jeff Bernstein** at **Metrographics** ([www.metrographicsprinting.com](http://www.metrographicsprinting.com)) who printed this edition. Without their generous support, this paper would not have been possible. Check out the Puffin website and find out more about what they do at [www.puffinfoundation.org](http://www.puffinfoundation.org). We'd also like to thank our TJ Administrators, our principal **Ms. Nina Odatalla**, and our Vice-Principals **Mr. Ramon Ortiz** and **Mr. Eric Koenig** and our **amazing teachers and staff** for their support.

I hope you continue reading the TJ Student Chronicle. Enjoy!

- The TJ Student Chronicle Editorial Staff



## **MASTHEAD**

**Cover:** *Artwork by Safinah Munshi*

**Welcome:** *by the TJ Student Chronicle Staff*

**Poem: *Family Reunion in Virginia***

*by Ashlee Lane*

**Poem: *(Untitled)*:** *by Jemarieux Murray*

**Poem: *Apocalypse of the Heart*** *by Arielle Fields*

**Poem: *The Frog*** *by Jaelyn Farrell*

**Poem *(Untitled)*:** *by Shanelle Yunes*

**Poem *(Untitled)*:** *by Marley Mirander*

**Poem: *Life is Good***

*by Benjamin Gold*

**Poem: *The Beauty of Kerela*** *by Alexandra Robin*

**Science: *Facts about the Sun*:** *by Lucas Flores*

**Technology: *Oculus Quest 2 and Why It's a Good Virtual Reality Headset*** *by*

*Adrian Haddad*

**Fiction: *Mia and the Lost Hedgehog, Chapter 1*** *by Shaba Basheer*

**Editors-***The TJ Chronicle Staff*

**Special Guest Editor-***Tyra Campbell, THS*

**Faculty Advisor-***Matt McMillan*

**Founders-***Rose Silletto and Eliza Silletto*