



# News



2 EDITION

2023 - 2024 | Quarter 4

## THE DAILY HAWK

*Together, We Can!*

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Welcome to the  
2nd edition of  
The Daily Hawk.

Happy end of  
the 2023-2024  
school year!

Have a great  
summer!

**THANK YOU TO  
OUR  
REPORTERS:**

**Delilah Lopez Huerta**  
(6th grade)

**Gavin Abitabile**  
(7th grade)

**Alayvah Ware**  
(8th grade)

Interested in joining newspaper?  
Email [leshowitza@hudsoncsd.org](mailto:leshowitza@hudsoncsd.org)

# Hudson Book Festival



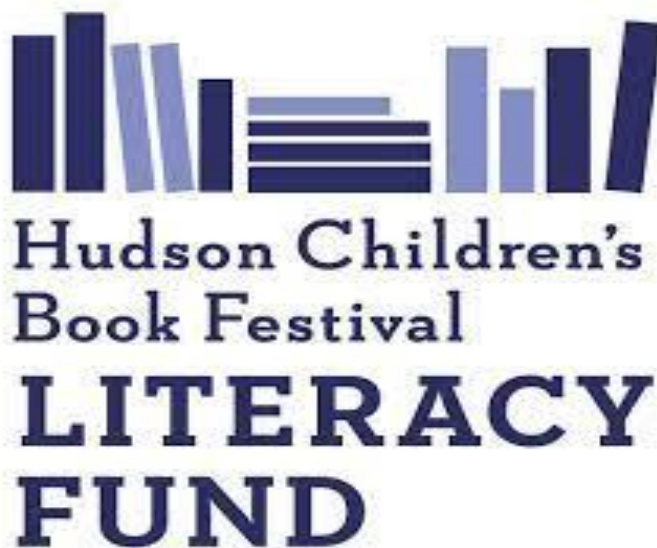
By Gavin Abitabile

Quarter 4

On Saturday, May 4th, the 13th annual Hudson Children's Book Festival took place at the Hudson Jr/Sr High School. This event is one of the largest book festivals in New York with over 75 award-winning authors and illustrators. There are a variety of graphic novels, chapter books, children's books, coloring books and more. The festival was all started by Lisa Dolan and Maria Suttmeier.

The best-selling author at the festival this year was Nick Bruel, author of the award-winning *Bad Kitty* series, followed closely by John Patrick Green, author of *Investigators*.

Mrs. Nixon, the director of the festival since 2012, organized the event. Nixon says, "But before [directing] I was coordinating the author applications and author visits. Kind of all the behind the scenes stuff."



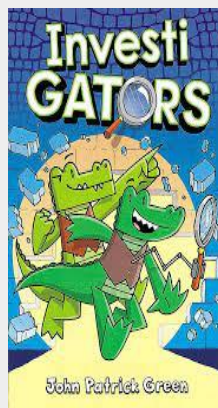
At the festival were first time attendee authors like Megan Madison (titles include *Yes! No!* And *Being You*) and Jessica Love (*Julián is a Mermaid* and *Julián at the Wedding*), and returning authors like Nick Bruel and Jennifer Roy (*Yellow Star* and *Trading Faces*).

6th grader Delilah Lopez Huerta returned to the book festival for the second time and said, "It's fun seeing so many authors come in and having so many options to buy and pick books."

# Hudson Children's Book Festival photos

By Gavin Abitabile

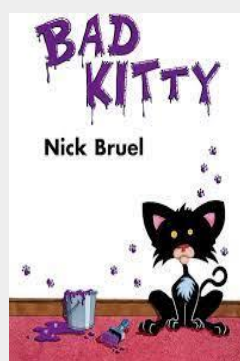
Quarter 4



**INVESTIGATORS**  
BY JOHN  
PATRICK  
GREEN



**HOW DO  
DINOSAURS  
SAY GOOD  
NIGHT?**  
BY MARK  
TEAGUE



**BAD KITTY**  
BY NICK  
BRUEL



**BETWEEN  
MONSTERS  
AND  
MARVELS**  
BY ALYSSA  
WISHINGRAD





# 3 Q&A with Mr. Behr, HJHS's New Assistant Principal

By: Alayvah Ware

Mr. Behr is the new assistant principal of Hudson Jr. High School. He was appointed on January 23rd. The Daily Hawk wanted to learn more about him to introduce him to the school.

## What is your favorite thing to do outside of school?

"I enjoy spending time with my two kids and my wife. My second favorite thing is going to New York Jets games!"

## Where did you work before Hudson?

"I started my teaching career in the South Bronx Dept. of Education. I taught physical education for 6 years. I then went to Poughkeepsie Middle School for 5 years. Finally, I did a pit stop at Highland Falls. I've also coached Varsity Football and Girls Softball."

## How has your experience been in Hudson so far?

"Great! This school is on the smaller size, about 370 students, which allows me to interact with more students on a daily basis. Students and staff alike have been willing to help out and show the way."



## What's the most challenging part of being an assistant principal?

"The most challenging part of my job is helping students make the difference between right and wrong."

## Do you have any pets?

"I have a lab pitbull, Stella. She's about 11 years old."

## Where did you grow up?

"I grew up in Monroe, which is in Orange County."

# Spring Concert

By Allison Leshowitz

Quarter 4

On June 10, the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade choirs and band performed their spring concert under the direction of band teacher Mr. Giosa and choir teacher Ms. Stern.



**7th and 8th grade choir**

The evening began with a performance by the 7th and 8th grade choir, who sang a version of The Beatles' song "Blackbird" arranged by Beyonce, and a song in Swahili called "Sisi Ni Moja." The 6th grade choir sang crowd

favorites such as "Beat It" by Michael Jackson and "Hakuna Matata" from *The Lion King*.

Ms. Stern shared the challenges and rewards of preparing for concerts: "The most challenging part is convincing the kids that they're capable of performing at a high level. We spend months working on the same music, and they have a hard time seeing their own progress. The most rewarding part is when the kids rock the concert and feel proud of themselves!"



**6th grade choir**

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# Spring Concert

By Allison Leshowitz

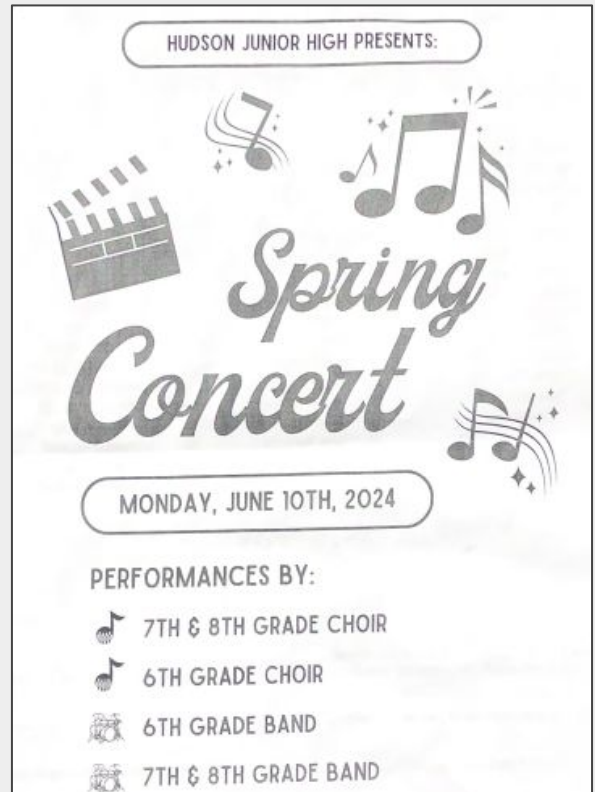
Quarter 4

Choir member Bernabi Martinez, 8th grader, said, “At first, it was really hard [to prepare] and it took time. But once you put that hard work in, you can succeed and perfect your goals.” When asked about pre-show nerves, he said, “No, I’m not nervous because I practiced.”

Next up were the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade bands. All three grades came together to perform the “Mission Impossible” theme song, which they also performed on their trip to Six Flags last month.



6th, 7th, and 8th  
grade bands



To wrap up the evening, the 7th and 8th grade band played “Chips and Salsa,” a fast-paced tune that, Giosa shared, “is meant to challenge the students.” The students wonderfully showcased their musical talents and provided a night full of entertainment.



# Good Things about This Year!

By Delilah Lopez Huerta

Quarter 4

This year was a rollercoaster! Here are some good things about this year:

On February 2nd, we had a ***Black History Month Assembly***. Most of the kids liked that because we had people singing and dancing. I hope everybody had an awesome time during the Black History Month assembly.

***AVID made posters*** for Kayla Miller, the author of *Camp, Act, Crash* and more. We had such an amazing time doing that. People were laughing and although some people didn't know how to draw, we still had fun!

This year, we started ***morning video announcements*** where people from band read out funny (and important!) school news. Thanks to Mr. Giosa, we had the opportunity to do and watch those every morning. Thanks to all of the kids who participated.



# Suggestions for Next Year...

By All Staff

Quarter 4

Here are some things we would love to see for the 2024 - 2025 school year...

- Reward students for good grades - for example, let us have some free time outside
- Start school clubs earlier in the year, and have more of them, like dance club or technology/coding club
- Restart the Junior Honors Society
- Have students choose their own books to read for classes



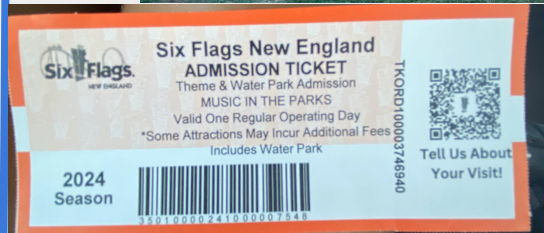


# News at a Glance

## By All Staff

### Music in the Parks Field Trip

On May 31st, the Jr. and Sr. High band and choir went on a field trip to Six Flags New England to play in a competition. The band placed 3rd with a ranking of excellent and the choir placed 1st with a ranking of good.



### Nature's Classroom

From June 3rd to 7th, the 6th graders went on a trip to "Nature's Classroom," a camp where you get to learn about nature and do crafts. You also get a break from the normal school days and make new friends.

### Congratulations to...

The 8th graders for moving to the High School next year! We wish you the best of luck!

