

# CONNECTION

Sharing the day-to-day learning experience  
at

Community Homes & Services  
PO Box 744, Novato CA 94948  
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[www.communityhomesandservices.com](http://www.communityhomesandservices.com)

## This Here Magazine

As an institute of higher learning for people who have special needs, we work playfully every day at both of our campuses to make a world of fascinating facts, big ideas, little miracles, and beautiful stories resonate for our students.

We believe that as people become more culturally literate, they are likely to be more confidently conversant (and therefore more meaningfully involved) within society.

Our monthly magazine is the collaborative labor of love by which the students take pride in sharing glimpses and vibes of their day-to-day learning experiences and accomplishments.

We are most thankful to those of you who take a minute or two now and then to check in with us and we are happy to think that, while so doing, you may be smiling.



# CH&S March Birthdays

3/10 - Cat  
3/19 - Rickina  
3/20 - Devlin



## 12 Questions with Chris

1. **Name/job title:** Chris Frost, Art Teacher and Artist
2. **What do you want students to know?** That anyone can be an artist and that I love seeing people make things using their unique experience.
3. **If you had to eat one meal every day for the rest of your life what would it be?** Sandwiches.
4. **What breed of dog would you be?** Beagle.
5. **If aliens landed on earth tomorrow and offered to take you home with them, would you go? Why?** No, because I wouldn't want to end up as a pet or a science experiment and all the people/things I love are here on earth.
6. **What is your favorite ice cream flavor and ice cream topping?** Orange cream and graham cracker.
7. **What fictional world or place would you like to visit?** Atlantis
8. **What season would you be?** Well, my last name is Frost, so I suppose I should say winter.
9. **What fruit or vegetable would you most want to be?** Durian, because nobody would want to eat me. They're also known as the "king of fruits."
10. **What's the most embarrassing fashion trend you used to rock?** Those pants that you can unzip and remove the bottom part of the legs so that they are shorts.
11. **Would you rather be really hot or really cold?** Really cold.
12. **What's your favorite sandwich and why?** Pastrami because it's flavorful and kinda similar to bacon.



# Two New Students

## Aiden

Aiden only started at Life College a couple months ago, so we are still just getting to know him, but here are a few things we already know absolutely for sure:

- He's done some pretty good work.
- He has those "movie star" good looks (see picture, right).
- He is a knowledgeable sports fan.
- The guy is FUNNY!
- An ultimate authority on the subject of onions!!!

And the list keeps growing.



## Jian ("John")

(Left) Jian has been an Enterprise student for less than one month. He may be new, but he's already made quite an impression! John is:

- Good company, sociable, and friendly.
- A lover of nature and long walks.
- An elegant eater and a lover of spicy ramen.
- A helpful guy. Beginning on his first day, he helped staff with after-lunch chores and vacuuming!
- Devoted to his family.
- A fun and professional guy!

Welcome Jian, thank you for helping to write this introduction. We're glad that you're here, and we are enjoying getting to know you!



## MARCH 2022 NATIONAL DAYS

- 3/1 - National Peanut Butter Lover's Day
- 3/4 - National Dress in Blue Day
- 3/6 - National Oreo Day
- 3/8 - International Women's Day
- 3/13 - Daylight Saving Time
- 3/17 - St. Patrick's Day
- 3/20 - First day of Spring
- 3/21 - World Down Syndrome Day
- 3/22 - National Goof Off Day

# Andrew's Corner

## Tokusatsu: Japanese special effects

A little-known fact about *tokusatsu* is the word itself literally translates to the word “special effects”. Popular tokusatsu in Japan include Super Sentai, Kamen Rider and Ultraman. The Godzilla films popularity caused the rage of the kaiju genre of tokusatsu, which was also known as the “monster boom” for many decades. Kaiju means *strange beast*. Kaiju is a Japanese genre of films and television featuring giant monsters. The popularity of kaiju films was shifted to masked superheroes in 1957 when one of the big six film studios of Japan created the film serial “Super Giant.”

You have probably seen tokusatsu before and not known it. Have you seen Power Rangers, Godzilla, Ultraman or Kamen Rider? If so, then you have seen the Japanese genre called tokusatsu.



(Above) Protagonists of the popular tokusatsu franchises mostly of the late 1970s (from back to front, left to right): Ultraman Joneus (Ultra Series), Battle Fever J (Super Sentai), Kamen Rider Stronger and Kamen Rider V3 (Kamen Rider Series), and Spider-Man.



Toho Company Ltd. (東宝株式会社, Tōhō Kabushiki-kaisha) © 1954, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Tokusatsu shows or films usually bring to mind Super Heroes that wear full body suits during the action scenes, adorable girls that gain their powers from magic, and giant fire breathing radioactive reptiles.

Clips from tokusatsu films have been edited into American TV shows like Power Rangers, Masked Rider, Vr Troopers, Superhuman Syber Samurai Squad and Big Bad Beetleborgs. The 90's show called Power Rangers' popularity led to other American shows using clips from Japanese shows like Kamen Rider and the little known tokusatsu series Metal Heroes being used in “Americanized” shows like Masked Rider and Vr Troopers.

Bio: Andrew Newson is a student at Life College and is 23 years old. He likes comic books, video games, hiking, exploring new places with his mom.... and babies. He is an authority in all things Star Wars, Star trek and great places to go in the Bay Area. He is currently learning Mandarin, loves writing, and learning new things

# Joe's Group is Studying Writing

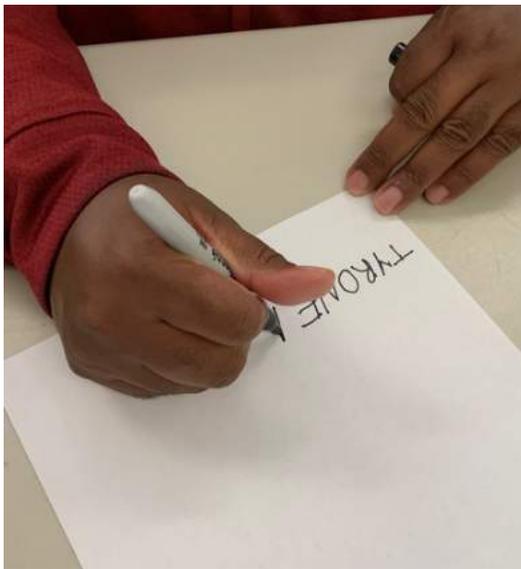
Writing is a big reason we've come as far as we have as a species. If the alphabet had not been invented, how would we keep track and remember most of our big ideas? And forget about books, movies, newspapers, speeches, and even shopping lists. Can you imagine no Facebook? No texting?

Joe's group has been studying all about the history and evolution of Writing Tools, going back to the pictographs of ancient civilizations, through eras of the quill, the wax tablet, lead pencils, fountain pens, ink wells, markers, sharpies, and, of course... probably the champion of all time: that good, old, ball point pen of yours!

Read their in-depth report on our website <http://www.communityhomesandservices.com/newsletters> and click on the March 2022 Addendum Writing Article.



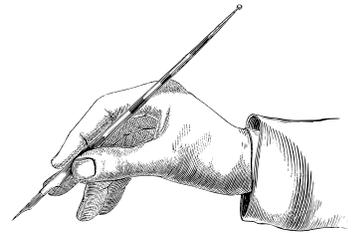
Mike shows his pictograph technique.



Tyrone uses a Sharpie marker.



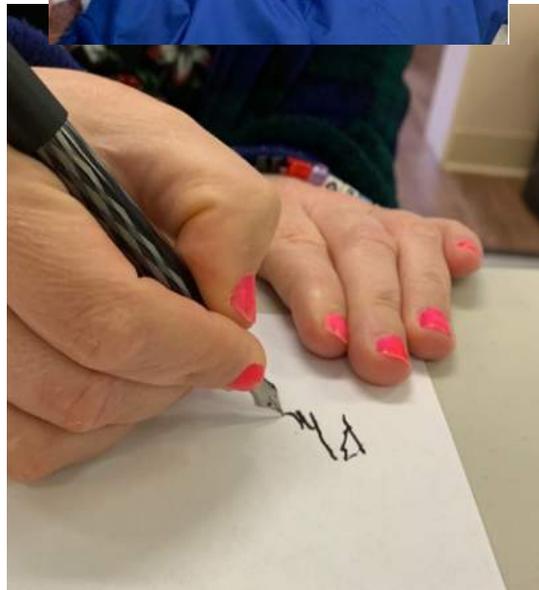
Bert prefers to use a Bic pen.



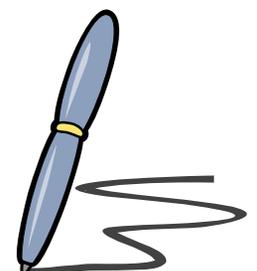
Douris Man with wax tablet, public domain.



Pictographs Recording the Allocation of Beer, Public domain



Phoebe tries out a modern fountain pen.





# Vocabulary and Word Games Class

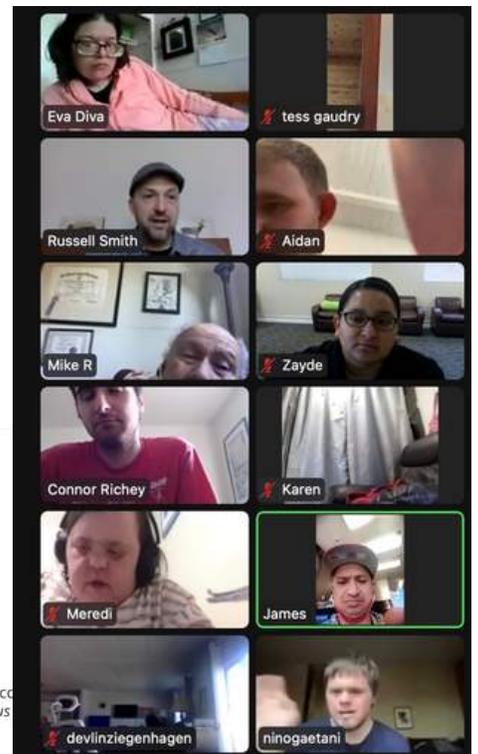
with Russell



Have you ever done a crossword puzzle on Zoom? It's a collaborative effort so it's even more fun! We are all in this together!

Russell read hints and we all put on our thinking caps. Check out our progress on this puzzle at the bottom of this page! Did you know that doing crosswords can preserve memory, cognitive function, and overall brain strength? Crosswords alleviate anxiety (improve mood) and solving crosswords as a group strengthens social bonds.

We also explored word roots; the word *temporary* comes from the Latin *temporarius* which meant "lasting a limited time." We love words!



### First Known Use of temporary

**Adjective**  
circa 1564, in the meaning defined above  
**Noun**  
1848, in the meaning defined above

### History and Etymology for temporary

**Adjective**  
borrowed from Latin *temporarius* "suited to the occasion, made for the occasion, lasting a limited time," from *tempor-*, *tempus* "time, period of time" + *-arius* — more at **TEMPO**  
**Noun**  
derivative of **TEMPORARY** entry 1

## temporary adjective

Save Word  
tem-po-rary | \ 'tem-pə-'rer-ē \

### Definition of temporary (Entry 1 of 4)

: lasting for a limited time



# Happy 110th Birthday Oreo!

From Jennifer's Knowledge Class

Oreos were introduced way back in 1912 and have been the best selling cookie in America ever since! Original flavors were chocolate & crème and lemon meringue, but the latter was dropped in 1920 because it was nowhere near as popular. Not much changed until 1975 when Nabisco debuted the Stuf Oreo (spelled with one f – not a typo). After that, we've seen all kinds of interesting and fun flavors.

**National Oreo Cookie Day is March 6**, and if you want to celebrate it this year, you can choose from among peanut butter, java chip, salted caramel brownie, carrot cake, lemon, Pokemon (hmmm... How would Pokemon taste?), or the limited edition of chocolate confetti cake, which (for the first time in Oreo history) features sprinkles in both the cookie AND the crème – plus a second layer of chocolate cake crème for good measure.

How spicy do you want your Oreo? Would you go for wasabi or hot chicken wing? While these last two were real, now and then fake flavors pop up online and go viral. Some weird ones include: spam, cheeseburger, ramen, Tide Pods, toothpaste & orange juice... Yikes!

Also:

- o Oreo Os cereal is back on the shelf.
- o Have you ever had deep-fried Oreos at the Fair?
- o For Halloween inspiration: the Oreo costume is a thing that exists.
- o And if you are into it, you can have your face painted on a custom Oreo

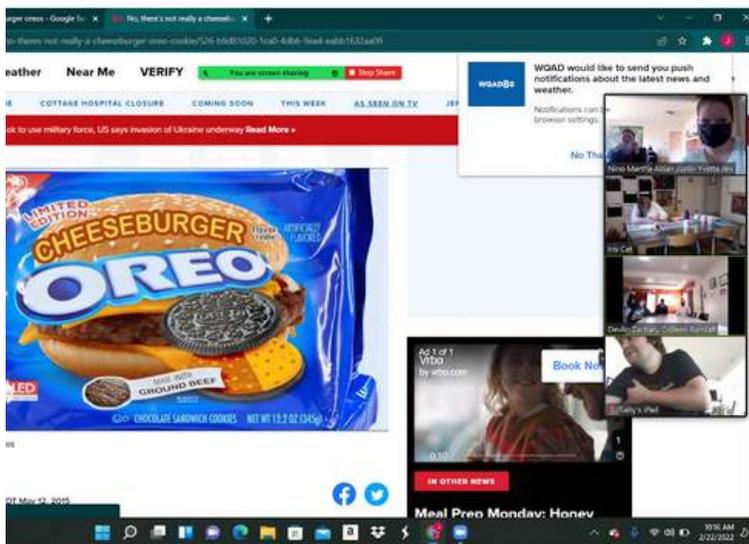


Awards for weird ways to eat Oreos:

- The Ham and Cheese and Oreo Sandwich
- Dunking Oreos in Orange Juice

If you have any comments, suggestions, or letters to the editor, please email to [tyoshida@communityhomesandservices.org](mailto:tyoshida@communityhomesandservices.org)

And the deep question we all must face: Are you going to have that Oreo opened or closed?



# The Mitchells vs. The Machines: A Great Movie Everyone Should See!

A movie review by Andrew Newson

Me and my mom watched the Netflix movie *The Mitchells vs The Machines* at Smith Rafael Theater late last month and we really loved it! The movie is about a dysfunctional family called the Mitchells who, during the middle of a family road trip, have to save the world from a robot apocalypse. *The Mitchells vs the Machines* was animated by Sony Pictures Animation.

This was a very creatively produced film. For example, the end credits were not the typical white letters on a black background. They were made to look like hand drawn animation on a piece of paper. The animation style is noticeably similar to *Spider Man Into The Spider Verse*, probably because the director and producer also worked on that film.

My favorite funny part was when the main characters were in a rundown mall and they were attacked by lots of Furbys under the control of the artificial intelligence called PAL which is based on the app Siri. The Furbys had lots of funny subtitles like "Behold! The Twilight Of Man!" When the Furbys found one of their own had been destroyed they instantly called to their "elder" for help, which is revealed to be a giant Furby that somehow shoots laser beams from its mouth!

After the movie the director, Mike Rianda, and the producers, Christopher Miller and Phil Lord, had an interview with the audience. They were really funny during their interview. They said that one of the producers actually had their dad, who was the inspiration for the dad in the movie, read the lines of the dad. The dad said his lines in a very uninterested manner and said that he would really rather go to his computer to play Solitaire.

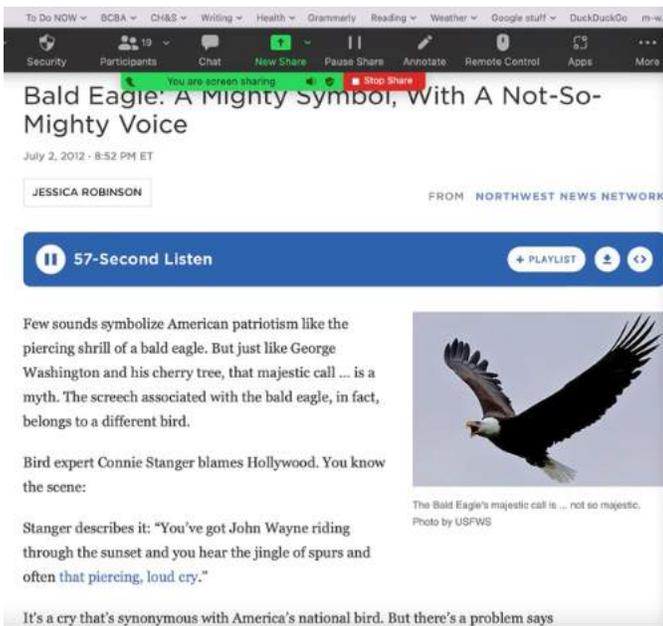
After they were done with their interview then they asked members of the audience for questions. I got to ask a question, which was if there was anything cut from *Solo: A Star Wars Story*, and they said they did have a planet that did not make the cut to the final film. The name: Phillordia in the Miller system. They are always joking! I got to meet and take a picture with Mike Rianda (below) and I talked about *The Mandalorian* with Christopher Miller, which contained some of the stuff he made in the movie when he was still the director.

All in all it was a very good movie and the panelist were hilarious!



# We Work Together to Edit This Magazine!

It takes a village! We edit this Magazine during class time. These screenshots show the language arts class students reading the Magazine aloud before it came out last month.



We checked the links to make sure that when we clicked on them that they landed us in the right place.

Reading aloud is not only a marvelous skill and a great opportunity to practice reading, but also an awesome way to check for typos or weird phrasing or the pesky double *the the*.

**We accept and appreciate donations of any size or kind. All donations to CH&S are tax-deductible. CH&S is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.**



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## St. Patrick's Day

by Jean Blewett

There's an Isle, a green Isle, set in the sea,  
Here's to the Saint that blessed it!  
And here's to the billows wild and free  
That for centuries have caressed it!

Here's to the day when the men that roam  
Send longing eyes o'er the water!  
Here's to the land that still spells home  
To each loyal son and daughter!

Here's to old Ireland—fair, I ween,  
With the blue skies stretched above her!  
Here's to her shamrock warm and green,  
And here's to the hearts that love her!