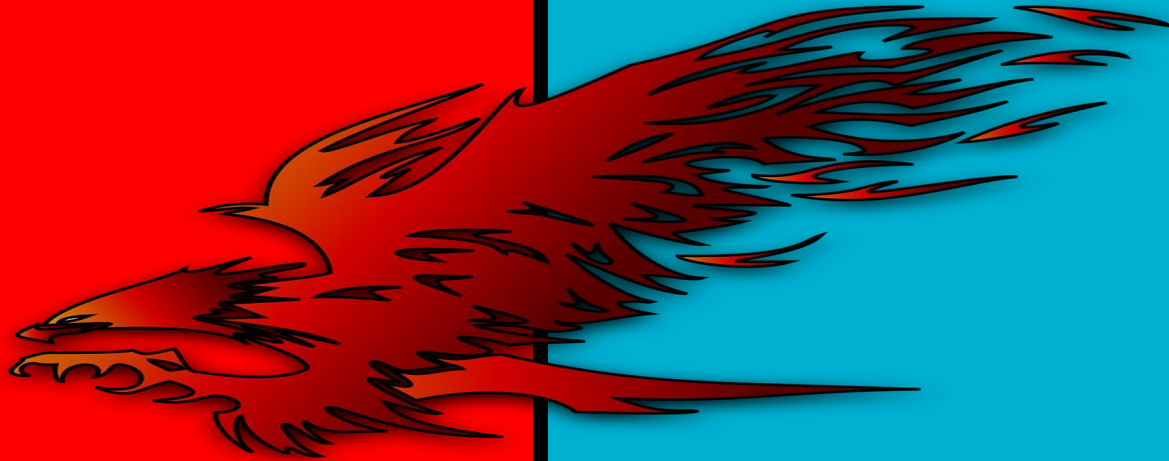


**Volume 2 Spring 2017**

# **The Red Hawk Review**

**Rock Creek Elementary's Digital Voice**

**As told by 4th graders from "The Kircher's Crew"**



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# Rock Creek Buzz Words

S	K	G	I	S	S	T	K	P	K	F	T	K	R	G	E	T	N	H	I	
C	D	K	K	T	T	I	Y	E	I	C	S	E	W	N	X	N	P	M	A	
I	G	T	U	P	N	I	E	K	E	H	S	K	O	I	L	E	A	R	N	
E	D	D	Q	D	G	R	B	P	V	P	S	G	R	R	B	G	I	H	T	
N	Y	E	N	F	C	I	S	A	O	T	T	N	G	A	E	I	T	Z	N	
C	A	E	E	K	N	E	D	N	H	R	A	L	E	C	V	L	O	A	I	
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S	Y	O	L	J	C	I	J	S	A	S	F	N	H	E	I	E	G	Y	K	
B	R	J	D	V	B	U	I	A	X	T	Q	I	H	S	L	T	I	L	C	
B	E	T	O	I	L	W	S	F	G	W	R	R	F	N	K	N	I	C	O	
P	D	Y	L	E	L	B	I	S	N	O	P	S	E	R	C	I	S	C	R	
I	O	I	B	L	N	R	O	N	N	R	E	X	C	E	L	L	E	N	T	
N	T	K	J	L	E	B	K	P	E	T	Y	C	S	N	W	Q	L	K	R	
Y	F	W	E	A	A	C	K	N	G	H	I	A	M	A	Z	I	N	G	U	
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J	B	I	P	T	O	F	E	F	U	N	M	A	T	H	N	H	W	I	H	
K	N	O	H	B	R	N	Q	S	M	E	N	H	F	F	H	R	L	V	F	
G	I	E	O	B	E	Y	V	D	B	S	U	H	F	U	B	L	A	Z	U	
A	V	A	B	K	T	R	A	M	S	S	K	W	A	H	D	E	R	O	L	
R	T	X	S	G	S	M	G	B	B	B	R	I	I	D	G	E	D	Y	I	S

# The Concept Behind the Magazine and Broadcast

By Ananth B., Jocelyn K., & Santino R.

We're about to tell you how this whole Redhawk Review magazine all started...

The first question we asked Mrs. Kircher was, "What gave you the idea to start the Redhawk Review?" Her answer was, "Well, this is going to be a long answer, because there are several pieces of the puzzle that have inspired me to have our class take on a project like this. I was originally inspired by our big buddy class, who create the "Roar Magazine" and Whitney High School's Yearbook. Since they were going to be our big buddies, I thought to myself, 'What better use of their remarkable talents,

than to have them help us create our own Rock Creek Magazine.' "

Secondly, Mr. O'Donnel, who is a our district's Technology teacher on Special Assignment, writes a weekly digital newsletter.

Mrs. Kircher thinks it's pretty cool how it is interactive and digital, so as to reach a great audience and save paper.

Lastly, she was inspired by our very own Leader in Me program, which helps kids develop their individual leadership. She thought this would be an excellent place for students to feel connected, empowered, and motivated to learn.



Oh it's really true! Now the Kircher's Crew has created our own Rock Creek news channel! It's on both YouTube and our school's website. So far, we have four episodes shot with our hosts, Mitchell C. and Carson N., as well as some guest newscaster appearances! We have a ton of fun shooting these videos.

We have had 100's of views, which means people enjoy watching these! On these amazing videos, the hosts talk about the many upcoming events we

host here at Rock Creek. Viewers will learn about Family Math Night, Family Book Fair/Tile Painting Night, our PTC Fiesta Dinner, and Disney Day, to name a few.

If you want to watch some of these incredible videos, check out our YouTube channel: "The Redhawk Report." You can also link to our school website at:

<http://rces.rocklinusd.org/>

Want to learn more about our school and all that happens here: Please link the image below to visit our [YouTube Channel](#):





# St. Paddy's Day Fun Run

*By Aidan and Ananth*

This year Rock Creek had a jog-a-thon! At the jog-a-thon there were so many people trying their hardest to run, jog, and even walk with their friends. This event was a fun-filled day at Rock Creek. Some of Rock Creek's teachers and parents were participating in the jog-a-thon, too! There were also some parents that came to support the kids, and many who sponsored their children. At the end of the jog-a-thon there was a little treat for everyone to celebrate all the hard work! Hope to see you all there next year having so much fun, again!



**FamilyMathNight®**  
discover the wonders of math...together

We sure enjoyed calculating and building with math at Family Math Night this year! Over 175 people attended with kids from preschool to 6th grade! There were so many activities for kids at every table- from beginner to advanced! For example, there were amazing activities like using straws and twisties to create a 3-dimensional figure like a cube.



We even used geometry to create a collaborative totem pole project! Everyone enjoyed this year's event. A big thank you to Mrs. Hodgens, our student station facilitators, our custodians, our teachers, Mr. Williams, and our families for making it all happen! Hope to see you there next year!

*By Aidan D., Santino R., and Lawson S.*

# Red-tailed Hawks

## Rock Creek's Namesake



*By Savannah C.*

Red-tailed hawks are amazing, beautiful creatures that are extremely well-suited to survive. Red-tailed hawks are part of the raptor family, which means “bird of prey.” Some raptor include eagles, hawks, vultures, owls, falcons, and condors.

All raptors have sharp and excellent eyes, beautiful and deadly talons, a hooked beak perfect for ripping the flesh of their prey, and a carnivorous appetite preparatory for when food is scarce. They have a distinctive amber coloring with a streaked belly.

Red tailed hawks are one of the most common hawks in North America and are most well known for their unique, cinnamon-colored tail. They are also commonly referred to as “Red Hawks,” instead of Red-tailed hawks.

It’s screech is a sound you will never forget, as it is a particularly raspy cry, and each cry has a different purpose. When a red tailed hawk mates they may mate for life or until one of the pair dies, having about one to five eggs each year. Their nests may be in trees, ledges, and even on buildings. Red tailed hawks nest in high places because they like to look around their area and territory.

If you see a Red-tailed hawk, you might wonder what it is doing- looking at a field while flying in wide controlled circles. When they do that, they are looking for prey. When one spots something, they pull their legs forward and dive with full control. You will most likely see a hawk in a large open field or at the edges of one on top of trees, lampposts, signs, or in a nest .

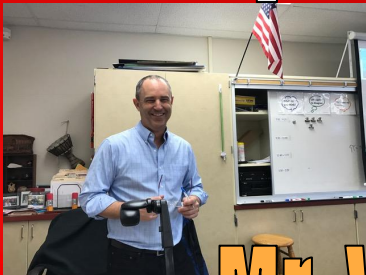


The hawk has a diet of small mammals, such as moles, mice, wood rats, snowshoe hares, rabbits, jackrabbits, and ground squirrels. Their diet also includes birds, for example: pheasants, starlings, bobwhites, black birds, and every so often even snakes and carrion. Red-tailed hawks are exquisite, unique creatures that live with the best skills to survive in their habitat.



Red tailed hawk resting after a long day.

# Staff Spotlight



## Mr. Wallin



### *New Teacher at Rock Creek*

Q. What's your entire given name?

A: "Mark Kyle Wallin"

Q. What's your favorite sport?

A: "Right now, running! I just recently got done with my third marathon."

Q. What did you want to be when you grow up and why?

A: "I wanted to be a Geologist, because I loved collecting rocks."

Q. What subject were you best at when you were in elementary school?

A: "I was best at math."

Q. Why did you want to be a teacher?

A: "I wanted to be a teacher, because children keep me feeling young. I also love it when children get excited about learning new things."

Q. Was it hard to become a teacher?

A: "Yes and no." No, because I enjoyed what I was doing."

Q. Did you have the same job last year?

A: "Yes I have been a teacher for 28 years."

Q. What made you want to come to Rock Creek?

A: "I taught at Valley View for ten years and Cobblestone before that for ten years."

Q. Do you think that Rock Creek is a good school?

A: "Of course!"

Q. Do you think you will be here in the future?

A: "I hope to be here in the future."

Q. What is the best thing about Rock Creek?

A: "The community is welcoming to me."

Q. Have you ever been a principal before? Would you like to be one?

A: "No, I would never be a principal because I love teaching way too much."

Q. What do you like about teaching 3rd graders?

A: "I like that they are at the age that they can do stuff independently."

Q. If you could teach only one subject what would it be?

A: "That's tough to answer ... I love all the subjects."

Q. What advice do you have for students?

A: "There are so many pieces of advice... work-hard, but enjoy above all."

*By Brooke S. and Courtney I.*

# Staff Spotlight Pt. 2 Mrs. Miller

Q. What is your favorite book?

A:” Oh the Places You’ll Go” by Dr. Seuss

Q. Did you work at a school before this one?

A: “Yes, I did- Oak School and Garden Gate.”

Q. What made you want to come and teach at Rock Creek?

A: “I was impressed by this district.”

Q. Have you done other jobs, besides teaching?

A: “I have been a ski instructor, camp counselor, and many other jobs with kids.”

Q. Do you like this school?

A: “YES!”

Q. What other things do you like to do outside of school?

A: “I enjoy spending time with family and friends.”

Q. How many kids do you have?

A: “I have two- they are boy and girl twins.”

Q. What college did you go to?

A: “Loyola Marymount University.”

Q. What is your dream job other than a teacher?

A: “I would have to say a lawyer.”



Q. What is your favorite part of teaching?

A: “The kids are the best part!”

Q. What is the best thing about Rock Creek?

A: “All the caring families.”

Q. Why did you become a teacher?

A: “I wanted to work with kids.”

Q. What advice do you have for the students at Rock Creek?

A: “Each kid makes a difference.”

Q. What have you learned most from your students?

A: “I have learned flexibility.”

Q. If you had one superpower what would it be?

A: “To fly!”



*By Savy B. and Kylee F.*

# Learning Leader

By Ryder Y. and Santino R.

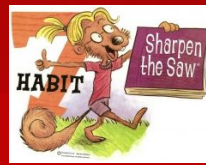
## *Do you know... Savannah, a 4th Grade Student at Rock Creek?*



If you haven't yet met, Savannah, well you will want to after you read this!

Savannah Cunningham is one of the best readers at Rock Creek Elementary School. Last trimester she earned more than 300 points and read over 2 million words with a 92% accuracy rate at book level much higher than her grade level! This awarded her the highest AR points earned of any Rock Creek student.

How did she accomplish this, you might ask? She reports reading about 3 hours a day! Wow, she sure is committed!



Some might say that she must do nothing but keep her nose in a book. However, the truth is, she is a regular ten year old, who finds balance in her life. She plays outside each day with her friends and siblings, spends time with her family, and takes care of her responsibilities at home. Her favorite animal is a cat. She loves eating pizza best! Her absolute favorite color is aqua. She enjoys playing the video game, Minecraft.

Last but not least- you know you want to know ... her favorite book is ... Harry Potter. All in all, Savannah is a good reader, but more than that- she's a fun and hard-working person, who's great to be friends with!



Savannah accepting her Accelerated Reader Achievement Award from Principal Williams



# Exercise Anyone?!

*Who makes this possible? You got it- our very own,  
Mrs. Hawkins!*

*By: Kylee F.*

Mrs. Hawkins is our great P.E teacher, who has been teaching P.E for about 20 years. Mrs. Hawkins teaches skill-based P.E. She does a lot of extremely hard things after our school is over. For example, she coaches after school programs, helps Whitney High School track, and every Tuesday she runs speed stacking after school.



Have you wondered if our hard-working P.E teacher ever gets any breaks? At our school, she gets a lunch break. Mrs. Hawkins said that she **loves** our school, Rock Creek, and said it was very rewarding to work here. Mrs. Hawkins thinks it is very fun to work with the fantastic kids! Mrs. Hawkins has a sidekick that works with her, too. Her name is Mrs. Moraga. Mrs. Hawkins is our amazing hard-working P.E teacher, who we are so lucky to have!

*Coming up soon is  
The NorCal World Cup  
Stacking Competition*

*By Brooke S. and Carson N.*



Cup Stacking is very important here at Rock Creek Elementary, and some of us are amazingly good at it. On April 29, there will be a huge competition at Whitney High School, that we hope to be successful at.

“Once a stacker, always a stacker,” states Cooper J., of Mrs. Kircher’s class. Cooper, along with many students from Rock Creek are all participating in the stacking tournament that’s approaching.

The world record breakers for the cycle are William Orrell & William Polly. Their time was 4.813. The woman’s cycle record is held by Chu-Chun Yang with a time of 5.397. Stacking involves superb hand-eye coordination. All of the stackers have one thing in common: they love to stack!



# We Like to Move It, Move it

*By Maxwell Bowen, Cooper Jensen, Caden Simas, Courtney Iadanza, and Camron Campagna*

Cross country at Rock Creek is a fantastic way to get lots of exercise and to make many new amazing friends! Cross Country practices are a whole one hour of fun, exercise, and running! Many people have improved their mile times by a very large amount in Cross Country! This program of Cross Country starts near the beginning of the year and lasts about an entire month and a half! Everyone will get to know each other very well and will improve their interpersonal skills!

There are six races in the season and many fun practices. Cross country has been fun for many talented runners!

Many people have enjoyed Cross Country in the past few years! If you enjoyed it this year, it might be even more fabulous next year! The races are fun, friendly, and give you lots of exercise!

If you're an energetic, fast, and speedy runner, then maybe you should be part of Cross Country! More people, equals more fun, so join next year!

Sign up for 2018!!

# Science Center

*By Mitchell M.*



Deoxyribonucleic acid also known as DNA is a molecule that holds a human being together. DNA is in all living things. A full grown man's DNA could stretch from the Sun to Earth and back 600 times! Everyone is 99.9 percent alike because of their DNA. Did you know that people are attracted to each other's DNA? So, what you may think is "true love," may just be DNA!

Your parents and siblings share 50 percent of their genomes with you. Approximately 3,000,000 pieces of your DNA make only one genome. We also share 94 to 99 percent of our DNA with chimps. DNA is made of only four things cytosine, thymine, guanine, and adenine-amazing right!? DNA is so fascinating, because it connects all of us- literally!



# Red Hawk Review Credits

**Cover:** Caden S. and Mitchell C. in collaboration with Rylea from Whitney High School

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**Interview Team:** Savy, Kylee, Courtney, Brooke, Jocelyn, Santino, Ananth

**Fact Checkers:**

The 4th Graders from  
The Kircher's Crew

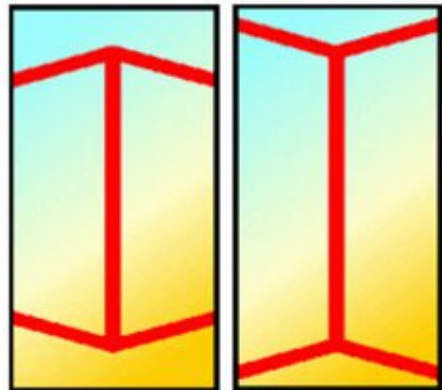
**Copy Editor:** Mrs. Kircher  
with help from Mrs. Nichols's  
WHS Media Students



# Optical Illusion

## MULLER-LYER ILLUSION

Take a very close look at the 2 vertical lines.  
Do you think one line is longer than the other?



Answer: They are the same size! Hard to believe, get out your ruler to measure the lines and see for yourself!

Like brain benders like this? Check out <http://www.optics4kids.org/home/content/illusions/>

**Go RedHawks!**

