Muir Middle School Students Attempt to Set Guinness Record for World’s Largest Japanese Fan Dance on September 21.

(Please see Muir Middle School page 13.)
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SUPERINTENDENT

Measure S Update: Burbank Taxpayer Dollars Hard at Work

Due to the generous support of Burbank voters, our schools continue to receive much needed upgrades. This past year we sold the last issuance of bonds for the $110 million Measure “S” election of 2013. The Series C bonds are expected to have an average interest rate of 3.59%. Most important is the fact that the District will be able to maintain a maximum tax rate of $55.18 (per $100,000 of assessed property value) on all of its outstanding school bonds, as promised.

The proceeds of the bonds will be used to continue with the improvement projects. These projects include heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades; fencing and asphalt replacements; LED lighting retrofits (at nine sites); playground upgrades; solar panel installations (at nine sites); and the installation of fire alarms, clocks, PA systems, and energy management systems. In addition, the modernization project at Horace Mann Children’s Center and our special education preschool are near completion.

As of September 2017, the District has achieved energy savings of 889,905 kWh or $124,943.00. A solar dashboard, in the Measure S section of the District’s website, can be viewed to see the savings at individual school sites.

We have also completed portable classroom replacements with brand new modular buildings at Washington, Emerson, and Roosevelt elementary schools. The new modular buildings include many upgrades such as built-in teaching walls, better quality and more efficient LED lighting, and improved heating and cooling systems. In addition, these classrooms have been modernized with 21st Century teaching technology and improved wireless equipment. An energy management system (EMS) has also been incorporated into all new classroom buildings. The remaining elementary modular projects are progressing:

We are finalizing the modular project at Stevenson Elementary School, have started the work at Bret Harte and Jefferson elementary schools, and have commenced the planning for Edison, McKinley, and Disney elementary schools.

Work is also progressing on our technology projects. Thanks to our partnership with the City of Burbank and Burbank Water and Power, all sites now use high-speed internet (dark fiber). Upgrades continue to the network infrastructure and wireless at our sites, and we have refreshed computers in all of our computer labs, offices, and libraries. This summer we deployed an additional 101 Chromebook carts for our schools. In addition, a new Data Center was constructed at the District Service Center and we have begun installing a new telephone system (VoIP). Finally, we are upgrading all of our classrooms with new projectors, document cameras, and voice amplification systems.

For more information regarding Measure S, please visit the District website at: http://www.burbankusd.org/District/Department/9472-Measure-S

Matt Hill
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monthly EdWalk

Join me to walk, talk, ask questions, and discuss issues facing Burbank Unified.

Walks are held every third Saturday of the month and begin at 9:10am at Chandler Bike Path at Mariposa. We will walk to Buena Vista and then return to Mariposa.

Steve Ferguson
President

Board of Education

Dr. Roberta Reynolds
Vice President

Dr. Armond Aghakhanian
Clerk

Steve Frintner
Member

Charlene Tabet
Member
Welcome back to another new school year. By now the students have settled into a routine and are focused on their academic goals.

In this issue, Superintendent Hill brings you up to date on Measure S. You'll read about positive behavior for safer schools, the importance of parents and community support, family science night, the eclipse, design-based learning and so much more...

On page 15 are two student book reviews and a fun contest on page 11. We have a podcast contest on our website www.schoolnewsrollcall.com - just listen to the podcast for the word to email to be entered in the drawing.

Thank you for continuing to include School News among your reading choices.

Our next issue is December 13.

Happy Halloween and Happy Thanksgiving

Be Part of the Largest Study on Brain Development and Child Health at UCLA!

¡Sea parte del Estudio más grande sobre el Desarrollo del Cerebro y Salud del Niño en UCLA!

The Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study will enroll 10,000+ healthy children and follow them for 10 years from ages 9 to 10 into early adulthood to understand how children's experiences affect brain development and other aspects of their lives - including academic achievement, social development, and behavioral and overall health.

Receive up to $300 for your time participating in the study. Kids can also get a picture of their brain!

What will participants do?
During the first year visit, you and your child will be asked to complete interviews and questionnaires, play iPad games, give saliva samples, and undergo a safe, non-invasive MRI scan.

If interested, contact us:
Phone: (310)794-0089
Email: abcdstudy@ucla.edu

For more info, visit: AbcdStudy.org
Students Keep Each Other Safe!

Student safety is of upmost importance at Walt Disney Elementary School. Students in fourth and fifth grade are provided with the unique opportunity to serve on our Safe Valet Team. This is one of many student leadership opportunities offered at Disney Elementary. These students keep their peers safe while arriving at school each day in our Safe Valet lane.

Students begin their safety journey by signing up to serve and attending a mandatory training led by Officer Munoz of the Burbank Police Department. It is during this training that students receive important information about procedures on what to wear, how to manage the Safe Valet lane, and what to do keep our students and themselves safe while serving in this role. Students are then scheduled on a rotating weekly basis throughout the year, and they are supervised under the direction of Safe Valet Coordinator, Ms. Ybarra. Students who keep their commitment the entire year are rewarded with the satisfaction of knowing they helped keep things moving safely at Disney along with a special recognition at the end of each school year.

Let’s keep our kids safe each morning with a few safety reminders: Leave your home a few minutes early to arrive at school safely and on time, obey the speed limit in school zones, do not use your cell phone for texting or talking while driving, never double park or drop off your precious cargo in the street, and finally be sure to use the crosswalk when walking across the street. Let’s all do our part to keep our Burbank students safe.
So grateful for Our community!

The beginning of September proved to be quite stressful to our city with wildfires threatening many homes in Burbank. All of our students wanted to let the Fire Department of Burbank (and the many others who gave support) how proud we are of all of them! They are heroes to us daily, but in trying situations like these, we are reminded of the hard work they do—even in 104° heat! We had each class write a book to give to all the Fire Stations in Burbank. A little light reading for their down time. We modeled this book after *The Important Book*, by Margaret Wise Brown. When the fire fighters join our school for “Read Across America Day” later this school year, they will have books to bring with them if they like!

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Emerson Elementary School
720 E. Cypress Ave., Burbank, CA 91501 • 818/558-5419

V is for Volunteers!

As the African proverb says it takes a village to raise a child, and that village at Emerson Elementary School not only includes teachers and staff, but also our amazing volunteer parents/guardians. The students and staff at Emerson are so fortunate to have these volunteers who consistently contribute their time, energy, and love to make our school shine its brightest.

For the 2017-2018 school year, Emerson volunteers began this year with handing out class assignments, collecting required paperwork, and recruiting more volunteers in August before school began. By the end of the first week, the Emerson auditorium was turned into a movie theater to host our first movie night providing families with a night full of pizza, popcorn and other goodies to enjoy while watching “Boss Baby.” Two weeks later, Emerson parent volunteers hosted and ran the Scholastic book fair for parents and students to purchase great books to promote literacy. Emerson teachers and staff were treated to a beautiful welcome back to school brunch to show their appreciation. Our annual back to school picnic included an outdoor movie screen and four food trucks all arranged by our parent volunteers. To raise funds for the school while promoting literacy, these same volunteers organized a successful and meaningful Read-A-Thon.

The dedication and commitment of Emerson volunteers is represented in our school every day in so many ways. At Emerson, true collaboration is evident with our parent volunteers.
### Drama Maniacs

Bret Harte Elementary School’s emphasis on the arts is never more alive than during theater class. Every grade and class has received five weekly sessions of theater class for the past five years. These theater classes have been generously co-funded by Burbank Arts for All and the Bret Harte PTA in support of the school's arts goals.

For the second year, “Drama Maniacs” is providing both in-school classes and an afterschool enrichment program for Harte students. Their focus is to develop confidence, creativity, and character through student-created projects. The Drama Maniacs in-school curriculum aligns with California Content Standards, and brings meaningful and educational arts experiences to our students. Workshops include rehearsals for short scenes, improvisation activities, lessons on drama skills (such as blocking/stage directions, characterization, improvisation, mime, and vocal techniques), theater games, music and movement activities, script reading, monologues, and children's literature.

Like Drama Maniacs, we at Bret Harte believe that students who are encouraged to take part in the creative process (writing, acting, and directing) will not only develop a lifelong love of drama, but will also use these skills to become successful in future school and career choices. Drama, practiced in a safe and stimulating environment, develops confident and resilient kids! The in-school Drama Maniacs program at Bret Harte will culminate in a presentation of student work for family and peers. We can't wait to share a few projects and activities we've been working on each week with the dynamic and creative students of Bret Harte Elementary School!

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### TROOPS

**Wednesdays**

6:00 – 7:30 pm

(Dinner at 5:00)

The Salvation Army offers a FREE Troop Program where kids complete different activities each week to earn emblems and gain life skills, all while earning and growing with others.

**Please call (818) 845–7214** for more information

**Burbank Corps Community Center**

300 E. Angeleno

Burbank, CA 91506

**Moonbeams**

PreK-K Grade Girls

**Explorers**

1st-4th Grade Boys

**Sunbeams**

1st-5th Grade Girls

**Rangers**

5th-8th Grade Boys

**Girl Guards**

6th-12 Grade Girls

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October / November 2017 7
Parents and Community Support

We were excited to start the new school year at McKinley Elementary and we are looking forward to continuing our work to enrich the education of our students. This year we are working to create an even stronger connection with our families and the surrounding community. We have designed a parent handbook to provide families with essential information about school policies and procedures. We are also launching a new school app which will be yet another way for parents to be informed, while also providing easy access to flyers, staff information, and push notifications.

Although our parent handbook and app are exciting additions, we are most proud to announce the addition of our community liaison, Janeth Moreno, to our school staff. Ms. Moreno will be working to support our families and strengthen our community relationships. Ms. Moreno will work with our parent groups such as ELAC, PTA, and the Booster Club to help facilitate parent involvement and school activities. She will also be working with our community groups to organize events such as Career Day, Community Read In Day, and our annual Community Fair. We are happy to have another member of our staff who can encourage more parent engagement and support our parents and community by providing translations and day-to-day school information.

Our mission cannot be accomplished without working closely with our families and the entire Burbank community. We are grateful for all of the support we receive and are committed to continually strengthening our relationships within the community.
Design-Based Learning

What if there was a way to get students excited about learning that could improve academic achievement at the same time? There is, and it’s called Design-Based Learning. The Summer Institute for Teachers is a five-day, intensive program with the goal of tapping students’ natural creativity to develop higher-level thinking and enhancing comprehension of the K–12 curriculum.

Teachers learn practical techniques they can immediately use to inspire, involve, and energize students and help them develop reasoning and problem-solving skills.

During the summer of 2016, Debra Baird, who teaches second grade at Miller, attended this workshop. During the fall of 2016, Ms. Baird implemented and integrated what she had learned with her students. The students worked in small groups in which they had the opportunity to explore and think critically. Students designed creatures and cities and developed policies and procedures to address issues such as shelter, jobs, transportation, renewable energy, government, and the environment.

Ms. Baird shared with me that one of the most powerful things about Design-Based Learning is that students own their learning, feel invested in what they are doing, and care about the outcomes.

We are excited to continue providing these types of experiences for all of our students at Miller in the upcoming school year.

Providencia Elementary School
1919 N. Ontario St., Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-5470

PBIS

Members of Providencia Elementary School’s Instructional Leadership Team worked hard over the summer to implement a new school-wide initiative called Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS). PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. It is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research-based, school-wide, and classroom behavior support systems. The process focuses on improving a school’s ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students.

PBIS includes school-wide procedures and processes intended for all students and all staff in all settings. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum. It is a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safer and more productive learning environment where teachers can teach and all students can learn.

Through the process of creating Providencia’s own PBIS plan, we adopted a unified set of school-wide positive expectations. These four statements define our expectations for behavior:

- Be respectful to People and property
- Be A responsible Peace Builder.
- Be safe with your Words and actions.
- Be a Scholar to help yourself and others learn.

Providencia’s PBIS plan was introduced to students and parents over the first few weeks of the new school year. Teachers conducted mini lessons and explicitly taught students what the four behavioral expectations look like in each area of the school—the playground, the cafeteria, the library, the lunch shelter, the bathroom, and of course the classroom. The positive approach of PBIS ensures that our students will be taught the behaviors we expect. They will be rewarded when they succeed and corrected when they make mistakes. We are excited to work together to make sure our school is a safe and respectful learning environment where all children thrive!
Great Learner Mural

Ask a student at Roosevelt Elementary School what it takes to be a good student and they will tell you about the qualities of a great learner. Qualities such as perseverance, curiosity, and resourcefulness are crucial to success in school and beyond. To help our youngest students learn the seven qualities of a great learner, a former Roosevelt parent worked with Dr. Meg to create characters that represent each of the qualities. There is a turtle for perseverance, a monkey for curiosity, an elephant who knows what he is learning and why, a resourceful chameleon, ants that collaborate, butterflies who learn from their mistakes, and a lion who seeks challenges. Each student participated in painting part of the mural and signed their name. If you'd like to see this amazing mural for yourself, drive down Clark Avenue by Teddy Bear Park and you can't miss it!

Every child has a Story Worth Telling

In 1997 a young group of film students created a volunteer-based program called Young Storytellers, a non-profit organization that offers creative arts programs to public schools at no cost. Stevenson Elementary has been a lucky participant in a wonderful mentorship program called “Script to Stage,” a 10-week workshop offered twice a year to 20 fifth-grade students. Employees from Disney Studios mentor the students in script writing. The culminating activity brings Disney actors to our school to act out each script on stage in front of our fourth and fifth grade students.

This year we were approached about piloting a new one-day program called “Day of Story” where 20 fourth graders work with a mentor on basic story structure, how to write an expanded version of a logline, and how to make a movie poster that visually represents their story. Employees from Disney Studios and ABC Studios provided this one-on-one mentorship. The interest in mentoring our students was so great that we were asked to add 21 additional students to the program!

The Stevenson staff and community are extremely thankful for this partnership. These programs encourage students to share a story, validate their words, and develop confidence. We are looking forward to starting our “Script to Stage” program this month. To find out more about Young Storytellers you can go to https://www.youngstorytellers.com/
Two Thumbs Up for Family Science Night

Washington Elementary School hosted a FREE Family Science Night last spring. Over 200 students and their family members participated in this amazing event. Scientists from Mad Science kicked off the two-hour program with a “Fire & Ice” show, which included fascinating science demonstrations with air pressure, fire, and bubbling potions. Students were invited to the stage to make observations and hypotheses. The Mad Scientists conducted experiments with Eggbert, an animated egg that could not fit into his house.

The Washington Community was on the edge of their seats when they saw how the magician made fire appear and disappear. The highlight of the show was when fog filled the entire auditorium stage. Students were excited when the magician walked around the audience displaying the “Bubbly Potion” and allowing them an opportunity to touch and hold the fog!

Immediately following the show, hands-on science stations were set up on the playground for students and families to become scientists through exploration and discovery. Students had an opportunity to learn about magnets, the exciting world of polymers, chemical reactions, electricity, and optical illusions. Everyone walked away with a great deal of interest and new knowledge. Family Science Night proved to be a highly interactive and action packed event for the entire Washington school community.

Contest!

BUSD School News readers are way too smart for me...so I have a new challenge for you. Here are two pictures from this issue. When you find them, write down the page numbers, then add all two pages to get the sum. Email me the sum of the two page numbers.

Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Please put BB in the subject line.

Your entry must be received by November 15, 2017. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a GAZUMP dice/card game - fun for all ages.
Gold Ribbon Designation

Luther Burbank Middle School and the Yellow Jacket Nation were honored last school year as one of 275 secondary schools designated a Gold Ribbon School. The Gold Ribbon Awards recognize California schools that have made gains in implementing the academic content and performance standards adopted by the State Board of Education. These include the California Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics, California English Language Development Standards, and Next Generation Science Standards.

On top of this distinction, Luther Burbank Middle School was fortunate to be a multiple winners for having an Exemplary Program in Arts Education and an Exemplary Program in Career Technical Education. We were also notified that we were the only middle school in the state of California that received a total of four awards: (1) Gold Ribbon, (2) Exemplary Arts Education, (3) Exemplary Career Technical Education, and (4) Title 1 Academic Achievement Award.

Our goal at Luther Burbank Middle School is to provide programs and experiences for all our learners to enable them to be engaged, connected, and on a path towards success.

Title I Coordinator Michael Concidine, Assistant Principal Isaac Huang, Teacher Stephanie Enokian, State Superintendent Tom Torlakson, Principal Oscar Macias, Teacher Heidi Vankooten, School Board Member Char Tabet, and Burbank Schools Superintendent Matt Hill at the Gold Ribbon Awards Ceremony.

Jordan Middle School

420 S. Mariposa St., Burbank, CA 91506 • 818/558-4622

“Eclipnic”

All students enjoyed the eclipse picnic (which we dubbed the “Eclipnic”) at Jordan Middle School during the recent and historic solar event. Jordan’s ASB purchased NASA certified glasses so all students could view the eclipse in a safe manner. Science teachers reviewed lessons and the science behind the eclipse. Classes brought out snack items for picnicking and students used all sorts of methods to view the eclipse from colanders to cereal boxes. Students and staff were amazed and awestruck by this scientific event and it was a memorable shared experience that all of our Jordan family will never forget. As the event coincided with the start of the school year, it gave students an opportunity to get to know one another better. Our parents contributed in a big way by donating funds to help cover the cost of the glasses. We are grateful for the support of our Jordan families as we continue to provide enriching and engaging learning activities for all students. In the words of one Jordan teacher, “Just think how many students could get hooked on science because of this!”

Stacy Cashman
Principal
5th Annual Japan Day with World Record

On September 21 the students and staff at John Muir Middle School celebrated their fifth annual Japan Day. During Japan Day, Muir welcomed 11 Japanese students and two teachers from our sister school in Rebun, the northernmost island in Japan.

This year, there was a cultural class for students in Japanese calligraphy led by Yasuji Matsuoka from LA’s leading Japanese calligraphy group, Beikoku Shodo Kenkyu-Kai. This was followed by an interactive assembly on Japanese anime presented by our Japan Day organizer, teacher Ted DeVirgilis, and the students from Rebun. The day culminated with John Muir successfully setting a new Guinness World Record for the Largest Japanese Fan Dance. Students learned the traditional Japanese dance through their P.E. classes and all wore hachimaki (Japanese headband). In addition to almost 1,500 students and staff dancing, there was also the largest yagura tower in Southern California and a corps of taiko drummers. The entire day was a truly great cultural exchange for all Muir students and our guests from Japan.

A New Beginning

For Burbank High School, August marked a new beginning as BHS graduated from National Academy of Finance’s (NAF’s) rigorous Year of Planning (YOP) program and officially opened its doors as a NAF Academy of Engineering and Academy of Health Sciences in the fall of 2017.

The Academy of Engineering answers an acute need for engineers in this country by educating high school students in the principles of engineering, and providing content in the fields of electronics, biotech, aerospace, civil engineering, computer science, and architecture. BUSD academies use curriculum from The STEM Academy.

The Academy of Health Sciences addresses the critical achievement gap in STEM fields and develops a pipeline of students prepared to pursue health-related degrees and professions in some of the fastest growing sectors of the economy, including biotechnology, genetics, nursing, therapeutics, and diagnostics.

The NAF Academy Foundation offers students the opportunity to not only be immersed in foundational knowledge in a project-based setting, but also enables students to network with professionals in career related fields.

NAF President, JD Hoye, said, “On behalf of the entire NAF network, I’d like to give a warm welcome to all of our new academies and look forward to the many contributions you make to the network as a whole. Best wishes for a successful first year and know that you have the continuous support of your NAF family every step of the way.”
Like Family

The city of Burbank is described as a small town in the middle of the media capital of the world. John Burroughs High School can be described similarly, because even with an enrollment of 2,600 students, it feels much smaller. Alumni often comment that though the school looks different, with new buildings and modernization, it still feels the same, like family. The students at John Burroughs treat each other like family, supporting and encouraging each other as they prepare for adulthood, which is what we do at John Burroughs. Our school continues to raise standards in academics, arts, and athletics. Our theater and music programs continue the tradition of winning national awards and recognition and this year our athletic teams won a Pacific League and CIF Championship. Why are students at John Burroughs so successful? Due to the high-quality support they receive from teachers, staff, and each other.

Deborah Madrigal
Principal

Burbank Adult School

3811 W. Allen Ave, Burbank, CA 91505 • 818/558-4611

Several New Programs

Burbank Adult School is debuting several new programs during the 2017-18 academic year. Three new computer courses will be introduced designed to provide students with the latest digital skills to help them stay current in technology. “Digital Darkroom: Lightroom Creative Cloud” will teach students to pre-process their images for a more effective digital imaging workflow.

In “Proshow Producer” students will learn how to turn their photos, videos, and music into professional quality slideshows. “Beginning Web Design” teaches students the basic requirements to develop their own website with the necessary elements.

A program making its return in the area of health occupations is Phlebotomy Technician Training. The six-week program includes 48 hours of classroom instruction and 40 hours of experience on the field via an internship. Students successfully completing the program earn a certificate. Burbank Adult School offers courses to meet many students’ needs, including academic classes to earn a high school diploma or equivalency, Career Technical Education (CTE) classes, English as a Second Language (ESL), Parent Education, and personal enrichment classes.

The FACTS program serves students who are 18-22 years of age and have an individual education plan (IEP). FACTS students learn critical academic, community access, and workplace readiness skills. Being a life-long learner is the key to success in the 21st century and it can all start with registration at Burbank Adult School.
Charging Up at CDS

During the 2017 fall semester at Burbank’s Community Day School something is charging up. This outburst of power resulted in a new elective class: electricity and basic electronics. Mr. Herrera will be leading a group of students in the hunt for new electricians. Students in this class will understand how electricity is produced from different natural sources and how we use electrons to power our cities. Students will also have an opportunity to develop blueprints and use basic electronic components to build electrical circuits. These simple concepts are essential for any student thinking of becoming an electrician or working with electronics.

During the first few weeks students will begin to explore subatomic particles and their effects in our lives. They will use a Van De Graaff to observe the electron flow. Once they understand the flow of electricity they will begin drawing schematics and building circuits.

As their progression continues they will understand how magnets and electricity work together to build simple motors.

For their final project, each student will construct a robot powered by either solar energy or batteries. Final projects will be displayed and presented to the entire school for a prize.

Book Review By Katrina

The Handmaid’s Tale by Margaret Atwood is a dystopian story where women have lost all their rights. They are now considered objects and being bought, owned and sold is simply the way the world works. Women are divided into a hierarchy of Marthas, Handmaids, Wives and discards, with men raining supreme. Fertile women are ranked Handmaids, much like Offred who can easily remember the days before the totalitarian system, back when she’d lived happily with her daughter. But now, living as a Handmaid to the Commander, she must stay alert. If she’s caught trying to escape or find her daughter, nothing short of a traitor’s death awaits her. Who can she trust, where can she go and, most importantly, what is she willing to do to survive and see her daughter again? A brilliant book, I recommend this book to everyone who enjoys dystopia books. This truly is a classic and I rate this book 5 out of 5 crescent moons.

Katrina is a tenth grader who loves reading books as much as writing her own stories and enjoys watching Anime. Katrina will rate her book reviews from 1 to 5 crescent moons with 5 being the best.

Lucy’s Book Review

The Only Road

Author: Alexandra Diaz

Life in Jaime’s small Guatemalan village is pretty peaceful, excluding one group: the Alphas. Drug dealers that ask for ‘favors’ and new recruits. If you refuse, you die. So when Jaime’s beloved cousin, Miguel, is murdered for that very reason, the whole family is devastated. And the death comes with something else: a request for Jamie and Miguel’s sister Angela to join them.

The only way Angela and Jamie can escape is to leave Guatemala, and that might be harder than it seems. Train hopping, refugee churches, immigration officials, and lost dogs are all part of their journey, and hopefully they can make it to the other side. The U.S. is promising safety, but the road to get there isn’t.

I really enjoyed this book. It talks about serious topics while still keeping the mood as light as possible. Five of five stars are well earned in this wonderful story.

Lucy is a 6th grade student. When she isn’t immersed in a book, she loves musical theater, ballet, and singing. She enjoys stretching her imagination by writing short stories of her own. Lucy will rate the books 1 to 5 bookworms with 5 being the best.
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