Every year, around the middle of April, people from all over Massachusetts compete in the Boston Marathon. After watching the Olympic Marathon, US Olympic Team Manager John Graham was inspired to organize his own marathon in the Boston area. On April 19, 1897, John Graham was one of the fifteen men to participate in the very first Boston Marathon. The Boston Marathon has changed since 1897, and continues to change. It was originally 24.5 miles, but in 1924, it was moved to 26.2 miles to conform to the Olympic standards. The marathon continues to be the World’s oldest annual marathon, and this year will be the one year anniversary of the bombings.

Team Hoyt was formed in 1977 when Rick asked his father if he could participate in a 5 mile race that was going on at school to help a Lacrosse player who had been paralyzed in an accident. Dick agreed to push Rick in his wheelchair. Later that same day, Rick told his father that when he was pushing him, it felt like he wasn’t handicapped. These realizations lead to the start of Team Hoyt.

Team Hoyt has participated in marathons, biathlons, 5Ks, 10Ks, and plenty of triathlons. Team Hoyt has participated in over 70 marathons; over 30 of them were Boston Marathons. This year’s Boston Marathon will be their last. Last year’s Boston Marathon was supposed to be their last, but they couldn’t get past the finish line. There were police officers everywhere because of the bombings, so they couldn’t finish. Team Hoyt isn’t planning to retire any time soon.
Interviews

Interview with Mrs. Gleason

By: Ava Farnan, Nicolette McCarthy, and Sam Zapolski Grade 6

Q: How long have you been working at Annie Sullivan?  
A: 10 years.

Q: How did you decide you wanted to be a Special Education teacher?  
A: When I was in 4th grade a girl in my neighborhood was autistic, so I was her mother's helper, that made me want to study it in college.

Q: How many Boston Marathons have you run?  
A: 10

Q: What's your favorite restaurant?  
A: Strega (Italian restaurant in Boston)

Q: What's your favorite book?  
A: The Giving Tree

Q: Did you have a job before working here at ASMS?  
A: I took 10 years off to take care of my kids.

Q: Do you have any pets? What are their names?  
A: I have a cat and his name is Mr. Mittens.

Q: Do you like salty or sweet snacks?  
A: Salty

Interview with Mrs. Nelson

By: Nicolette McCarthy, Sam Zapolski, and Ava Farnan Grade 6

Q: How long have you been working at Annie Sullivan?  
A: I’ve been working here since it opened.

Q: Why did you decide you wanted to be a School Adjustment Counselor?  
A: I wanted to help people.

Q: Do you run in the Boston Marathon?  
A: No, I watch it every year with my family though.

Q: What’s your favorite movie?  
A: Dolphin Tale

Q: What is your favorite book?  
A: The Art of Racing in the Rain

Q: What’s your favorite animal?  
A: A dog

Q: What’s your favorite type of dessert?  
A: Tiramisu

Q: What’s your favorite color?  
A: Green
Dear Annie,

It is last term and I haven’t gotten honor roll all year. I think that it is because of my test grades. I am never well prepared and the highest test grade that I’ve gotten all year is an 81%. What do I do?!?
-Worried Grade Getter

Dear 100% Test Grade Getter,

It is okay about the whole no-honor roll thing. My advice is to get in the habit of note cards. Just study them and have someone quiz you every night. It sure helps me and it definitely will for you too! Don’t worry though. Everyone has bad times where they aren’t focused on studying and it is okay. Hope you do well on the third term report card!
-Annie 😊

Dear Annie,

Last term I didn’t do so good on my report card and I think it was because I didn’t have very great focus. What can I do to keep on task so I can raise my grades for this term? HELP!!!
-Focus Trouble

Dear No Longer Focus Trouble,

I understand what you’re going through. But here’s a tip, when you are doing classroom work try not to sit with your friends. I know that its fun to sit with you’re friends and all but if you sit away from them then u can get more work done and get better grades!
-Annie 😊

thINK (Creative Corner)

Sports
Sarah Spanek Grade 6

Sports
Intense, excitement
Playing, laughing, running
Different sports for everyone
Basketball
When Spring Comes…

By Juliana Pulselli Grade 6

When the winter ends
And the snow melts away
All of the children go out and play.
Instead of snow gear and gloves with a hat
Everyone uses a ball and a baseball bat.
When green is shown and trees are alive
Bees go buzz in their beehive.
When the trees aren’t bare and the wind doesn’t blow
All the beautiful flowers will grow.
When the winter ends
And the snow melts away
SPRING is here and we all shout
Hurray!

STRONG

By Kelsey MacCallum Grade 6

When you think of the flower
Blossoming in spring
So small and frail
So delicate
It seems a miracle
It can even survive
Through the chill
Through the wind
That blows
Against its soft pale petals
Pulling
But the flower grows
Persistent and strong
In its own way
Pushing through the soil
Standing tall against the wind
Fighting through the chill of spring

It grows
The flower is a warrior
That no one ever notices
The flower has the strength
That we all underestimate
The flower is beautiful
And inspiring
And perfect
And relentless
The flower is
Strong
BELIEVE
By Kelsey MacCallum

It's sometimes easy to forget
What's most important to us all
We get so caught up in the noise
That beats too loud and too consistent
We listen and to it more than we should
Because it's all we can hear
It drowns out everything else
And fills our head
It clouds our eyes and ears and soul
And we just need
To
Turn
It
Off
Because the negative has latched
Itsself deep inside of us
So severely ingrained
It almost can't go away
Almost
It takes believing and letting go
To finally
Be able to breath
Free
With our heads above the water
And the noise turned off
Into silence
We hear the voice
Of our heart
And we find a desire
That tugs at our entire
Existence
Then we see it
It's just a flicker in the distance
So faint we think it's not there
But it is there
And we know it
Because our hearts tell us so
And for once in our life we
Believe it's there
So we pick ourselves up
Dust off the dirt
And put one foot in front of the other
Never stopping
At first uncertain if we'll ever make it
But we put our heart above our head
And just go
We want to quit because
It's
Just
So
Hard
And many do quit
They drop back
But not us
Because we have done something
The others haven't
We Believe
And we have let go
Of what imprisoned our minds and hearts
For so long
We can see the light at the
End of the tunnel
Because the noise has been
Darkened and silenced
So that all we see and feel is the
Light of our dream
And we laugh
Because it seemed so small at first
And so far away
Just a speck in the distance
But now it is steadily growing brighter and
larger
We see it clearly now
Because the noise is gone
And we won't ever let it back
So we push our tears from our eyes
Wipe the sweat from our forehead
Grit our teeth and
Just
Keep
Going
We listen only to our heartbeat
Still, the others
Try to tear us down
They throw everything at us
And they try to make us
Weak
And
Afraid
But we won't ever
Give up our dream
And even though
They try to scare us
And tell us we won't ever make it
We aren't frightened
Because we hold more bravery inside of us
Than blood
We can't really hear them
They are muffled by our
Determination
And the sounds
Of hope
And love
And success
That pounds to beat of our footsteps
A steady rhythm
Strong and sure
And it doesn't stop beating
Even when we fall
It just keeps going
And so do we
We move
Bit by bit
Towards the light
Toward our dream
Which no one else
Had the courage to work for
Because no one else
Had enough heart to
Let go
And
Believe
Stars
By Kelsey MacCallum, Grade 6

When stars glisten
In the inky black night
I wish for nothing more
Than to pluck one right out of the sky
And hold it in my palm
And I wonder what
It would feel like
To hold a star in my hand
Would it be sharp and jagged
Cold as ice or
Smooth and round or soft
Would it want to float away
And tug right out
Of my hand or would it feel

Heavy like a rock
And slip right from my fingers
Then tumble to the ground
Would it whisper sounds of forgotten
wishes
Or sing a lovely tune
Would it shine with a blinding light
Or pulse with a soft warm glow
I wonder what it would feel like
To hold a star in my hand
It’s something I will wonder
But never ever
Know

Melt Away
By Kelsey MacCallum, Grade 6

When the snow melts away
I am torn in two
One part of me yearns for it to stay
To see one more soft glittering snowflake
Ride free on the wind
To feel the cold breeze nip at my nose
And turn my checks a soft rosy pink
One more time
To hear the quiet hush that sweeps
Over me as the world seems to sleep
Just one more
Time
But the other part of me
Rejoices at the sound
Of the finch’s song
That floats on the thin strand
Of spring which has been threaded
Through the sharp bitter cold
And I swell with pride
Knowing I live in this world
When I see the small flowers bloom

Through the ice
Defiant
A part of me wants to freeze time
Because the moment is so perfect
When the songbird sings
And the sunlight shines down
Embracing the world
Seeming to say
Everything will be all right
Rest now and
Dream
And I listen
And I let my mind fall to peace
I let my thoughts wander free
I go where I want
And I forget about the snow
I let the world awaken
And come alive
And I come alive too
I let myself bloom
With the flowers of
Spring

Winter Poem
Anonymous

“I want to go out in the snow” I cried
I decided to sled when I finally got to go outside
As I slid down the hill it was quite a joy ride
So when I went into my house, I was very satisfied

Then the very next day, we got to ice skate
And the instructor asked for me to demonstrate
In front of all of my classmates

But the very last day that the ground was filled with snow
I was stuck inside the house working on my science slideshow
Are you Smarter than a Teacher?
By: Sarah Spanek, Hanna Richardson, and Emily Vinson (6)

The activity Are you Smarter than a Teacher took place on Wednesday, April 9, 2014. All three grades came to this event and it was free unless you were competing. Some activities that were done last year were trivia, minute to win it games and trivia. Some of the trivia categories were movies, music, sports, academics, and about the teachers. Are You Smarter Than a Teacher? was run by the Student Council. In addition, there was a bake sale. It was so much fun to participate with our peers along with watching the teachers involved in fun games and relays! The karaoke was hysterical! It was amusing to see our teachers pictures displayed from when they were younger too! The best part of all, was the pie in the face event; where else can you watch students pie their teachers! It was a successful afternoon, thank you Student Council!
A Glimpse of Our World
(photography)

In this issue of Students’ Voice the theme is Spring and the Boston Marathon. We have many magnificent photos taken by students and staff, representing the season of Spring...
**Critics Corner**

CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE WINTER SOLDIER!
By Skylar Deloia, Grade 6

The movie is in theaters April 4th, 2014 and is directed by Anthony Russo and Joe Russo. Stan Lee is the creator of Captain America. Before the movie, Captain America was a comic book series.

Captain America is the world's first super soldier and he was in the military. He had to crash a plane in the Arctic and he was frozen for a long time. Shield (a top secret agency) found him many years later. Captain America’s powers kept him alive in the ice and he wakes up in this new modern world.

Steve Rogers (aka: Captain America) tries to get used to the new modern world and he battles a new threat from old history, the Soviet agent known as the Winter Soldier.

The cast is:
- Steve Rogers/Captain America-Chris Evans
- Nick Fury-Samuel L. Jackson
- Black Widow-Scarlet Johansson.

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**Mr. Peabody and Sherman Review**

By: Lindsey Wyner and Sarah Spanek Grade 6

Characters: Mr. Peabody, Sherman, Penny

This is a movie that came out in late February 2014. It all starts when a very smart dog named Mr. Peabody gets to adopt a child. This is not a regular dog though. He has gone to college and graduated with honors and degrees. The child that he adopted is named Sherman. When Sherman finally gets to go to kindergarten, he gets in a fight with a girl named Penny because she calls him a dog. Sherman bites her and gets into big trouble with the possibility of getting taken away from Mr. Peabody. Mr. Peabody tries to resolve it by having Penny and her parents come over for dinner. The two kids have to play while the adults become friendly with each other. What Penny doesn’t know is that Mr. Peabody and Sherman have gone on many adventures in a time machine that Mr. Peabody made called the Wabac (WAYBACK) Sherman is told not to tell her about it, but still does. She gets trapped in ancient Egypt and Mr. Peabody must use a power to freeze Penny’s parents while he and Sherman go find her and return home.

Throughout the movie, the three of them go on many adventures to historical places in order to get home.

We would rate this movie four out of five stars because it is very funny and suspenseful at times. This movie should be for all ages because it has good jokes for adults and humor for kids. It also has a good message.

Hope you watch it!
Divergent: Veronica Roth
By: Ava Farnan and Hanna Richardson Grade 6

This futuristic world is divided into 5 different factions: Dauntless, Abnegation, Candor, Amity, and Erudite. The main character Beatrice Prior is born into the faction Abnegation. This faction values selflessness. In this city when you turn 16 there is an aptitude test that is a simulation that will help you decide which faction to choose. After that there is a choosing ceremony where you will choose a faction to live in for the rest of your life. Each 16 year old will go through an initiation and if you fail will become Factionless. Divergent, the movie came out on Friday the 21st of March and it is very similar to the book.

We rated both the book and the movie a 5 out of 5 stars. They were suspenseful and exciting, keeping the viewer at the edge of their seat!