

The Harbinger Chronicles

February 2022

Volume 1, Edition 2

Your Voice Matters!



www.harbinger.org.uk

Welcome to the second edition of the Harbinger Primary School newspaper. Written by the children, for the school community; our newspaper is published every half term.



Harbinger Takes Third in Football Tournament

By Oma and Anja

On February 1, George Green's Secondary School hosted a football tournament for local primary school students and a talented group from Harbinger Primary drove the ball to a third place win. Amazing job!

Football, cont'd p 3

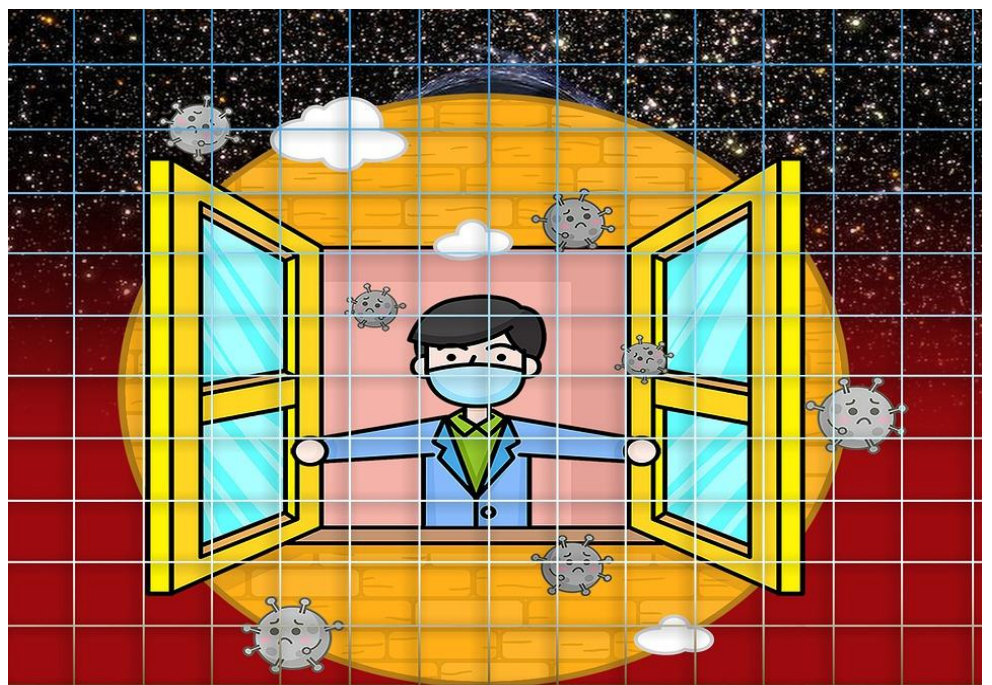
Early Years Unit Receives Message From the King... With His Demands by Hana, p. 4

First Person **Covid-19 Daily** **Dispatch from** **Isolation**

By Eadie

The first thing I do when I see my positive test result is to burst into tears. I feel very sad and scared.

Covid-19, Cont'd on p 6



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Create Video to Educate

By Toure and Adyan

Harbinger School anti bullying ambassadors have been hard at work this year. Their mission is to help reduce and eliminate bullying. Currently they are tackling online bullying.

The anti-bullying ambassadors are students in keystage 2, two ambassadors per class, who were chosen by Nimesha after an application process. They had to be considered vigilant, good communicators and listeners, and team players.

Their goal is making sure no bullying is happening online and around chatting websites.

Thankfully, our Anti Bullying ambassadors meetings occur around the computer room or for short the ICT room

One of our local ambassadors Sumaya shared the group's progress; "we have made a nice informative video about bullying and how to prevent any type of situation involving it." Another ambassador, Yusraa explained that the video is currently being edited and will soon be shown at sharing assembly.

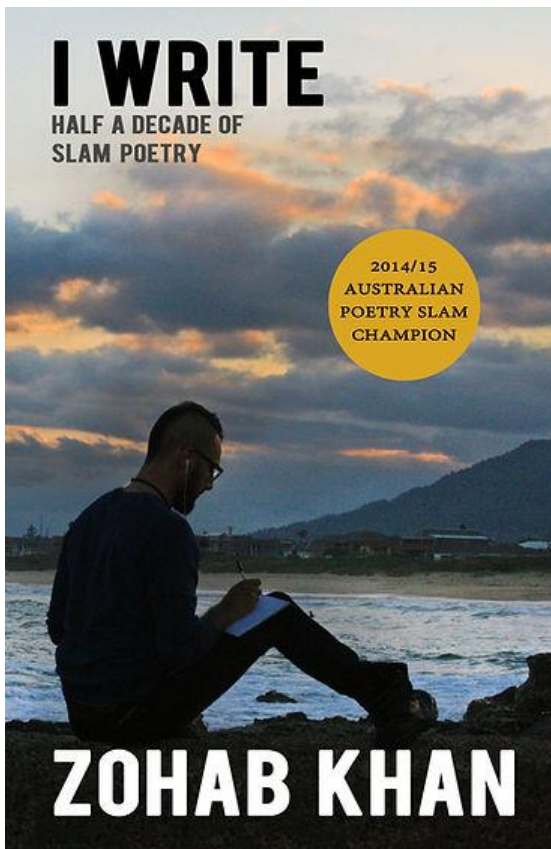


From Oma's winning poem in last year's competition:

"say my name in a hundred different ways"
 "I am black, I am white, a million shades"
 "I am me and that is enough"

It's Poetry Slam Time

By Musa and Adyan



Finally, poetry slam is here. As a former competitor, I have been waiting for this competition since it ended last year.

The junior poetry slam competition is an event for Year 5 schools in Tower Hamlets. Run by the Schools Library Service and The Poetry Society, it places poets-in-residence within schools to coach pupils not just in writing poetry, but in group and solo performances as well.

Only ten pupils will be chosen to perform by Zohab Zee Khan, an Australian Poetry Slam Champion and famous poet known world-wide.

Khan recently spent a day at Harbinger working with the year 5 classes. He will be back to tutor the selected ten children for a whole day of school.

What did last year's competitors think about the experience? Oma, the 2021 winner of best poem said, "It was fun, very tense, but overall amazing."

"I was in a group and it was amazing; we all screamed to death when we found Oma won," says Musa, the author of this article and a former competitor.

"It was a once in a lifetime experience" says Adyan, another former competitor.

We hope the winners will be from Harbinger.

Sport



Clubs Are Back! Something For Everyone in Multi-Sport Club

By Gaia and Zara



Starting after the winter holiday break, Shantalle and Matthew decided to create a new multi-sports club, and to open it to pupils in Year 1 through to Year 6.

Hosted inside the school's Football Pitch, the club is held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Club members will play a different sport every week. Every Monday and Friday, Matthew coaches the group. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Shantalle is in charge.

The different sports being offered include Football, Tennis, Rugby, basketball, netball, badminton, among others.

"We started the first Tuesday lesson a tiny bit wet, because it rained, but in the end, we were able to continue the lesson!" says Shantalle.

Should Harbinger Ban Football?

By Adyan and Musa

This is a recurring problem in Harbinger and we want to know what your opinion of this problem is. If you don't understand the problem, here's a hint: it's arguing, cheating and aggression. If you do understand the problem then vote.

Children disagree and want the redemption of other ball games such as netball. Year 6 Amber class currently are trying to resolve this problem by playing other games. What can you do to protect football? Schools work better when children are happy. But at what cost?



Football, cont'd from p 1

Led by Matthew, they won two matches and lost two, an even split between failure and victory.

"It was extremely hard, we went against exceptional teams from other schools," one of the players, Adyan, said. His teammate, Sumaya, focused on the exciting aspect of the tournament, "It was very fun and overall, we had a good time," she said.

Schools all around the Isle of Dogs attended, making the competition even more difficult than it already was. Schools including Arnhem Wharf Primary, George Greens', St Luke's, and Cubitt Town attended the football tournament. Well done, Harbinger! 3rd place!



VOTE

Ban Football,
Play _____ instead

Keep Football



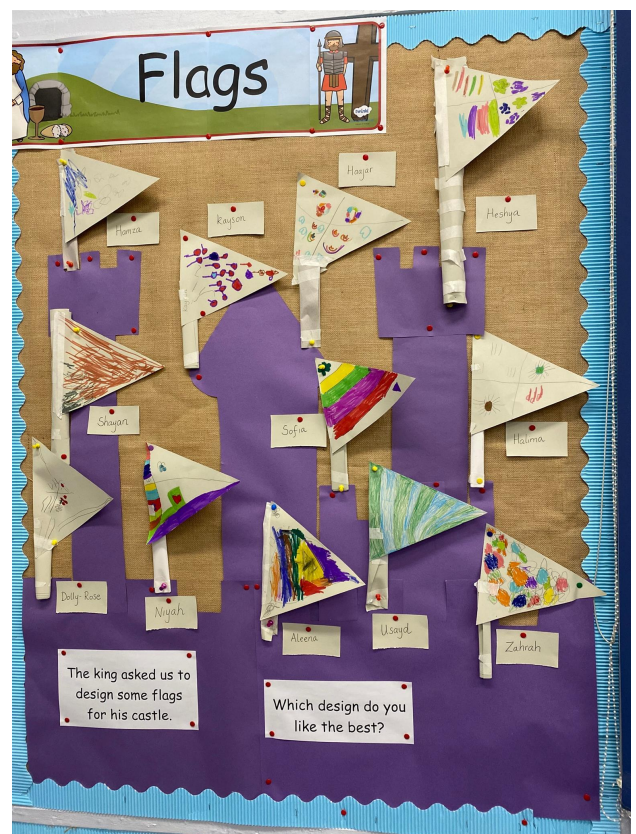
Early Years Unit Receives Message From the King ... With Demands

By Hana

This half term, pupils in the Early Years Unit (EYU), received an exceptionally long letter from a great king who requested – or maybe demanded is more accurate – that they make him a castle claiming he does not have one.

He specifically requested a castle with a long, stable drawbridge, a beautiful flag, and a big party boat. Can you believe it? The little EYU children had to spend this whole half term making all of that for the self-indulged royal! What a ridiculous waste of time for the smallest, most innocent, and youngest children at Harbinger. Imagine what the Department of Education would say about Harbinger School if they heard about that: or, even worse, OFSTED!

Nevertheless, the students worked very diligently to ensure the king's needs were met.



Children designed flags for the king's castle

As it turned out, the EYU isn't just fit for a king, but also a greedy, grey mouse.

As Jackie was carefully picking up the Lego box, a cheeky mouse came out of nowhere. Superhero George, our school premises manager, tried to get the disgusting beast out but it squeaked its way under the heater. Jackie was screaming! George's plan failed. Where could the little mouse have gone?

Our Favorite Fairy Tales

Reported by Hana



- ❖ *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* is Year 5 teacher Sultana's favorite.
- ❖ Eadie from Opal class loves *Cinderella*. She thinks it is so inspirational how she persevered! And Cinderella is so strong!
- ❖ There are two reasons why Gaia from Opal Class appreciates *Little Red Riding Hood*. First, red is a vibrant colour. Secondly, the wolf ate the grandma!
- ❖ Oma from Amber class prefers *Rumplestiltskin* because it is creepy when the elf wants to eat the queen's baby!
- ❖ Anja, also of Amber class, enjoys the gory details in *The Juniper Tree*. She lists them: the boy's flesh becomes a stew which his dad eats, his sister accidentally knocks his head off because he is already dead (he had been murdered by his stepmother), he becomes a bird who sings and drops a three tonne object on his stepmother's head and she dies, then he comes back to life.



Castles made by students in the EYU



Fiction

Hope

By Gaia

I didn't mean to do it. I'm telling you I didn't! But now there's only one thing left fluttering inside.

Hope.

It all started a few weeks ago when I was born. I guess this is like my creation story.

Well, when I was in Olympus, my birthplace, I was only a deformed lump of mud.

It was Hephaestus who moulded me out of clay.

Aphrodite gave me the gift of beauty and taught me how to love, Athena gave me the gift of strategic thinking, Ares gave me the gift of rage, Hermes gave me the gift of curiosity and cunning.

Lord Zeus though, he gave me the only tangible gift, and therefore the most interesting one. Lord Zeus gave me a tightly sealed plinthos.

Personally, I have no idea how this box thing happened



It was always Pandora's Plinthos, never Pandora's box.

Anyway, as I made my way down the solar stream, I heard Lord Zeus whisper in my ear;

"Don't open the box, okay girl. It would be a shame if the first woman on Gaea disappointed the All-Father." As you probably know, Zeus is the all-father, father of all gods and humans.

I opened one hazy eye. I was sitting inside a small tent next to a temple of worship to Lord Zeus.

The sky was pitch black and the moon smiled wickedly on the mother goddess.

"Pandora? PANDORA?" came a gruff voice from outside the tent.

There was a stumbling silhouette that opens the leather doorway. More light trickled through the open door and I could barely make out what it was.

The shadowy silhouette was rattered and tattered with eagle pecks at its liver.

The thing glowed faintly and sometimes faded in and out. I knew he wasn't there.

I couldn't hear mountain goats clomping around and grazing

around the grass.

The man cursed in Ancient Greek while I stared at him in confusion.

"I came to talk to you. I want you, Pandora, to go and find my son. Tell him that Prometheus sent you there to ask for his hand in marriage."

...to be continued in the next edition of the Harbinger Chronicle

Books

Read the *Land of Stories* series by Chris Colfer

Review by Eadie

The Land of Stories is a series of six books written by Chris Colfer. They're very good and they're based on fantasy and the fairy tale world.

The main characters are Alex and Connor Bailey, who are 12-year old boy-girl twins.

They travel into the fairy tale world, by first falling into an old book which turns out to be a portal. To get back to their world, they are faced with many challenges.

Land of Stories, cont'd p. 8



Word Search

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

togetherness

mindfulness

attendance

curriculum

inclusive

diversity

learning

football

teams

harbinger



Get Involved!

If you have ideas for our next wordsearch, talk to our team. We need between 10 and 15 words. Possible themes could include Harry Potter, the Premier League, capital cities, movie titles, and Harbinger School.

We also accept news tips, stories, photos, and story ideas as well as recipes, book recommendations or letters.

Covid Dispatch, cont'd

“Why are you crying?” my mom asks.

“I really wanted to go to school!” I tell her. “What do you feel?” she asks me. “Angry,” I say calmly. I took the covid test because my brother had Covid. He was quarantining in his room and so far none of us had caught it until I woke up with a sore throat and a headache and told my mom I needed to take another test.

Day 2: I feel horrible. “I really want to go to SCHOOL!” I shout. During the rest of the day I feel so bad. I have a headache and a stomachache.

Day 3: I wake up and I am amazing! During the afternoon and evening I feel like I can not move. My mom comes downstairs and I am lying on the rug. At the end of the day she asks me, “Did you get more used to having covid-19?” “Yes!” I say angrily.

Day 5: “Today is the second to last day of Covid so today you will test to determine whether you might be able to go to school on Monday,” my mom says. “How do you feel?” she asks me, “Terrific! I feel much better than I have.” I test negative. Yay!

Day 6: “Today we are waiting for your last covid-19 result!” my mom announces at breakfast, “Do you think you'll get negative?” “YES.” “Do you feel good?” “Yes.” I test negative and I return to school.



Me on day three. I woke up feeling great and then suddenly I felt like I couldn't move.

Year Fives Swim at Renovated Tiller Leisure Center

By Anja and Oma

Oma: Welcome to the new and improved Tiller Leisure Centre, where a talented Year Five class has been brushing up on the art of swimming!

Anja: Yes, welcome, and as we all guessed this is an article about how half a Year 5 class managed to drown and the other half were too scared to use the showers.

Meanwhile the teacher was having a serious discussion with the reception people about children seeing people not using their towels in the changing rooms. Don't call me pessimistic, but this article has no future, Oma.

O: Ignore my partner, she's being a bit, you know.

A: I thought we had more of a 'I'm the awesome one you're my sidekick' relationship.

O: ...Enough with the digressing, here are the facts.

A: Fine.

Terrence the Tiger Goes for a Swim

By Eadie and Yusraa



Earlier this term, Terrence the Tiger was voted *Naughtiest Tiger at Harbinger* thanks to his absolutely ridiculous behaviour, though admittedly there are no other tigers currently attending the school.

Unfortunately, Terrence has been causing chaos at Harbinger this term. Not only has he climbed on the roof during learning time but he can often be found distracting his classmates during learning.

His classmates were genuinely very concerned. Finally, they sat down for a serious talk about his behavior in circle time. They all wondered why he was acting like this. Do you know why he was acting like this?

Terrence, cont'd p 9



Dive in the Deep End

By Anja and Oma

For the first time since 2019, Harbinger students are learning to swim at the newly refurbished Isle of Dogs Gym and Swimming Pool, Tiller Leisure Centre.

Every Tuesday this half term, Turquoise Class have been enjoying swimming in the 25m five lane pool. Covid restrictions kept them out of the pool in Year 4.

"I enjoyed how I could learn," said Zara to newspaper club. "The teacher seemed a lot like a military teacher but they helped us a lot. It was exciting as people could learn how to swim when they never could. The pool area was exceptionally clean and looked very new. I liked it a lot."

"I've had my share of good lessons at Tiller. I love Tiller... and swimming," Anja said. (I actually meant that).

"And I'm happy it's been reopened," Oma responded.

The centre isn't only for swimming. Its fully equipped, air-conditioned gym offers cardio, strength and functional training zones. Classes include Zumba, HIIT, and yoga.

"They have really enjoyed it and they have worked really well within their groups. I have seen children put in a lot of effort trying to learn the new skills," said Sultana, Year 5 Turquoise class teacher about her students.

"But the new changing rooms, toilets and showers are the real stars; so much cleaner than before!"

"I find that refreshing personally," 7
said Anja.

Land of Stories, cont'd from p. 2

The fairytale world is where Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella and many more are. The twins grew up listening to these fairy tales because of the stories their parents read to them when they were little. I liked the different settings including the dwarfs' forest, all of the different kingdoms, and New York City.

This is the kind of series you start reading and can't stop. When I started this series, I read about 20-50 pages a day. But as I got deeper in, I started bringing the books to school and would read chapters and chapters a day.

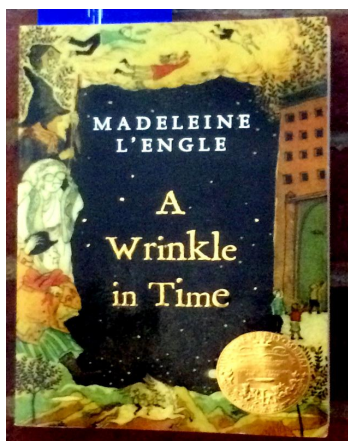
My favorite book is the second, *An Enchantress Returns*. Alex and Connor enter the fairytale world a second time and they have to fight a terrible enchantress and they face a lot of different challenges with witches and queens.

In the fourth book, *A Grimm Warning*, the twins are led into a trap and end up stuck in different stories, Alex is trapped in the world of King Arthur while Connor is trapped in Robin Hood.

People who love fairy tales should read these books. The series I read before this was *Percy Jackson & The Olympians*. The two series are similar in that they both have a lot of battles and they both take place in known kingdoms.

In this series, you can find: a harp that talks, a magic mirror, Jack and the Beanstalk, fairies, kings and queens, Neverland, Wonderland, polar bears with long claws, and even Medusa.

Next, I will read *A Wrinkle in Time*.



"I love the cover art. I do judge a book by its cover."



If its a boring cover, I won't read the book. There is a palace on the front cover of the first book. Connor and Alex are on every cover. The sixth has Medusa and a frog and the frog is stuck in a mirror.

Spinning wheels, glass slippers – there are so many hints about the worlds in the book covers. The best cover is probably the second cover. It has two witches; the background of it is gorgeous. It's purple. There is a kid in my class who loves purple.

Each of the books has these little maps and things that also work as bookmarks. In the third book, it's a timeline that includes the dragon age, the middle age, the renaissance, the age of magic, the industrial age, the modern age and the golden age.

Amber Class Gets Caught in the Act

By Musa

On Thursday, February 3rd at 12:00 noon, Fiona, the Amber Year 6 teacher gave her class a test. "Do you guys want leftover Cheerios' from the science experiment?" she asked.

The students all said yes. And the crunchy snacks were handed out. But then suddenly, it was the last person and Oma jinxed it by saying, "what if Nimesha comes in?" Suddenly, Nimesha strode in the classroom while we were all eating.

"Don't worry we are not eating Cheerios' during a test?" Anja said, with her mouth full.

Fiona froze at that moment and tried to solve the dilemma.

Hopefully, Fiona is not fired and if she is she could always blame Anja.



Call to Action

Help Deliah With Her Jealousy of Terrence

By Gaia and Sumaya

Since the beginning of this term, Deliah has been feeling jealous, very jealous of Terrence the tiger!

Deliah, who is one of Emerald classes fellow comrades, is a dinosaur. And if you know anything about dinosaurs, you know how emotional they can get.

Right now, Deliah is feeling spiteful. Terrence has been getting all the attention, he has been lost, he has been on the roof, he did some amazing English work and he has even been swimming.

Meanwhile, Deliah sits in a corner on top of the worry box behind the class white board feeling sad and spiteful. (Even though she is excellent and awesome, just the way she is!) Poor her! Could somebody go and cheer her up?



Deliah, on a visit to Amber class, sits facing the wall. She's feeling sad.



Terrence, cont'd from p 7

After the serious talk, Tom announced that it was time for english lessons. To everyone's shock Terrence did his English work so beautifully that they had to reward him.

They decided on a fun swimming afternoon, though of course Terrence opted not to go in and instead chilled out on a float. When asked for his thoughts on the matter, Terrence said, "ROAR!"

Breaking News

Deliah to Visit the Queen

Emerald Class is taking Deliah when they go to Buckingham Palace on a school trip. And she might help the class design new stamps of the Queen to bring along.

Even though Terrence has already been to the Palace, Deliah is very excited for her first visit there.

Terrence outside Buckingham Palace

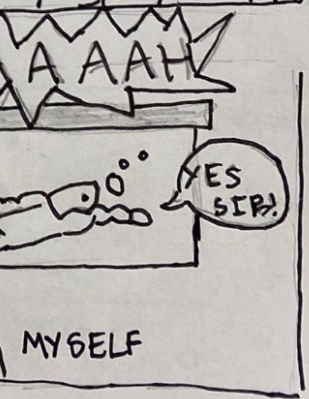
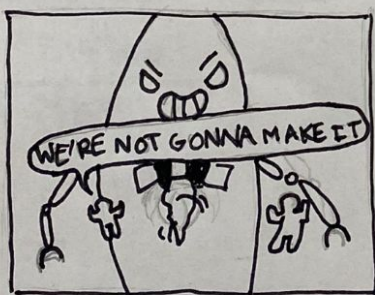
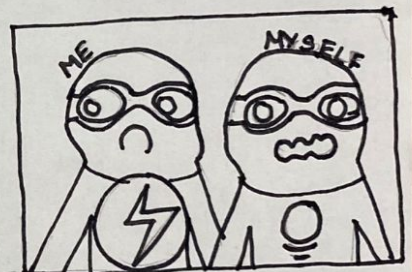
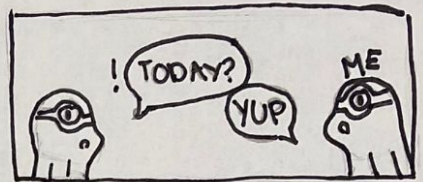
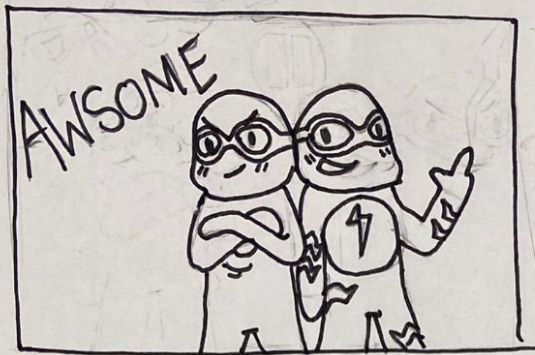


The Funnies

BY ANJA AND OMA



BY ANJA KULLOLLI



BY ANJA KULLOLLI