



# Phoenix Press

We Bring News From FCS Lower School



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## FCS Presents...**FAMILY FEUD**

By Madison Williams and Grace Schlegel

Friends' Central Lower School teachers put on a **FAMILY FEUD GAME SHOW** on Friday, December 2nd. Our host was Steve Harvest (Mr. Warley), and our two competing families were the Mariposa family, and the Turista family. There were tons of questions like, "How did Winnie-the-Pooh get his name?", "What are the four layers of the rainforest?" and "What is the largest snake in the Amazon Rainforest called?"

While our host and guest stars took a break for commercials, three classes each performed a skit. Second graders sang the message "Come to Mount Olympus" with the Flintstones theme song as the tune. First graders looked adorable while singing and dancing to an early twentieth century song, *Pop goes the Weasel*, played by "Pa" in the series *Little House in the Big Woods*. Mr. Guindon came all the way from the Upper School to play the fiddle for the first grade. 4A sent a message from Korea containing cool facts about food, taekwondo, kings, athletes, music, holidays, animal and scientists.

As you may know, 5th graders have been studying Ancient Greece. In the game show, our host asked this question: "Which Greek God chased and tormented Odysseus on his journey home from the Trojan Wars?"

Is it **A: Pita Pan**; **B: Poseidon**; or **C: Philodendron**... Did you guess Poseidon? If you did then you got the answer right!

Later on, Astronaut Mr. Warley visited us from outer space by video to help answer the question "Why does the moon shine?" His little friends in Pre-KA are studying outer space. The **FAMILY FEUD** assembly was funny and awesome.



## 3B's Brazilian Feira\*

By Daphne Volpp and Hannah Lowry  
Photo Credit: Daphne

"Coffee, coffee, get your coffee here!" Where, you might ask? 3B's Brazilian Feira! On Thursday, November 17th, 3B showed the FCS community what they were studying the past few months. They have been studying Brazil, and the Amazon Rainforest.

When we entered the room, we were given three reals (Brazilian money) to spend on food and drinks in the market. There were foods like, mango, limeade, chocolate, coffee, gum, and there was free spice smelling. They suggested tasting at least one exotic food.

When we asked Mrs. Clough why she chose to teach the kids about Brazil, she told us that she used to live there. She also said she really wanted to read the book *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson with her class. The book is set in Brazil on the Amazon River.

The Brazilian Feira was a great opportunity for 3B to show us what they learned this fall.

\*Feira means "market" in Portuguese, the language of Brazil.



## Long Live *The Lion King Jr.*

By Noah Porter, Clara Behling and Emilio Ovalle (Photo credit: Emilio)

"The great kings of the past are in the stars, looking down on us," says King Mufasa in *The Lion King Jr.*, a play that was spectacularly put on by FCS middle schoolers, on Friday, November 18th, and Sunday, November 20th.

It started with a scene of animals gathered in the grasslands singing *The Circle Of Life*. A small lion cub with a big future was presented on the peak of a large rock, not knowing what fate had in store for him. But one shady lion avoided the presentation: King Mufasa's treacherous brother, Scar, who is plotting something very evil. Later, Mufasa and his cub, Simba, sit on the rock as he explains to his son that he will be king one day, and rule over all that he sees. The rest of the play is about Simba's journey after his father was betrayed by his uncle, Scar.



The costumes and scenery were amazingly colorful, and looked like they took a lot of work to make. The acting and singing were awesome, and we'd bet that one day the cast will be professional actors or singers.

On Sunday the 20th, there was an ice cream social outside of the auditorium after the play. People of all ages, from small babies to grandparents, hopped into the enormous line for treats. The cafeteria was filled with very satisfied people.

# Lessons from *The Odyssey*

Article by Quin Stovall and An Huynh  
Comics by Savina Copas and Sevren Fahr

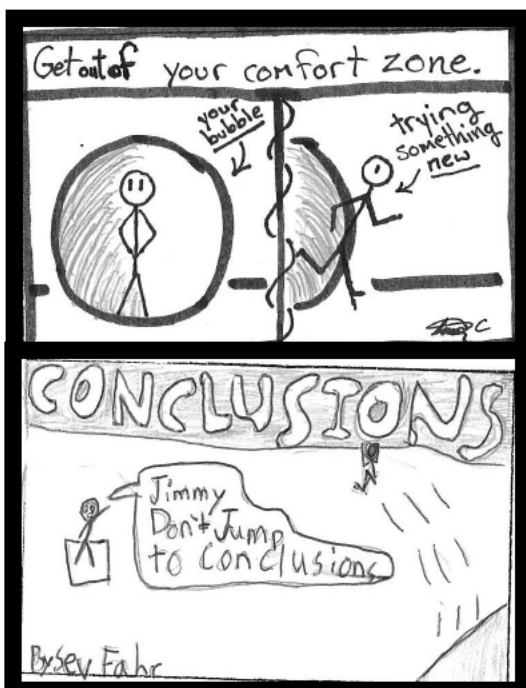
Odysseus' Journey can really teach you a thing or two about life and what it holds. You may think that the Ancient Greek hero is nothing more than a myth, but if you dig deeper, you can find some really cool lessons! This fall, the fifth grade took a look into life lessons from Homer's *Odyssey*. "We had such good discussions about this in both fifth grade classes," said Mr. Denton. "I learned from the observations that the kids made, and they gave me new insights into the story." Here are a few of the lessons we learned:

**Lesson number one:** STAY FOCUSED!!! Throughout his journey, Odysseus encountered many distractions that caused him a LOT of trouble. The same thing can happen to anybody at any time. Stay focused on your goals, and you are sure to succeed!

**Lesson number two:** Try to prepare for things that you wouldn't usually expect. In other words, be prepared for anything and everything, because you never know what could happen. For example, when you go to the supermarket, always bring a little extra money in case you need more items than you thought. This is a small comparison to what Odysseus had to go through, but bringing a little extra money could save you a trip home and back to the supermarket.

**Lesson number three:** Make sure others can understand what you are trying to communicate to them. Odysseus had A LOT of problems with communication during his journey, like when they were headed home with the bag of winds. Odysseus didn't want his crew to touch the bag for fear that they would blow away if it opened. So he told them NOT to touch it, but he didn't say why, or what was in it. His crew members thought he was trying to keep some precious gold or diamonds from them. When Odysseus went to sleep, they took a peek into the bag! Instantly, the winds escaped and the ship was blown away and almost destroyed! Luckily, Odysseus was able to save them, but now they were all the way back where they had started!!

Those are three of the many lessons you can learn from *Odysseus*. And here are two more by Savina and Sev:



# Young Kids with Big Voices

By Jey Brown, Jacques Pierre, Nora-Simone Thorne  
and Phoebe Davidson



Do you know what a sharing assembly is? Well, on Friday, November 18th, the whole school got together and many classes shared their journeys that they are learning about.

It was a great show, with eight classes sharing. KB and 3B made a life-sized anaconda out of paper and paint. They shared fun facts about anacondas. Did you know that anacondas can grow to a top length of 29 ft.? KB and 3B did! They shared facts about the habitat and attributes of the water snake. Ms. Kirk said, "I loved how they changed the word from the Shel Silverstein poem *I'm being eaten by a boa constrictor* to anaconda."

PKA sang a very cute song about traveling around the solar system. They had hand motions to go with the words. KA shared the poem *Clickety-Clack*, about a train. They wore conductor hats and held handmade stuffed bears.

The fifth grade did a skit based on the book they are reading, *The Odyssey*. It had costumes and props. In the skit, Athena the goddess of war tries to save Odysseus from being held captive by Calypso, daughter of Atlas. She talks to Zeus and he sends Hermes to tell Calypso to let him go. Calypso sadly helps build a ship for Odysseus to sail away.

4B is studying the journey of the Civil Rights Movement. They told us about it in songs and stories of people being mistreated, and how they overcame this dramatic experience. They sang the song *We Shall Overcome*, and read facts about all the famous people who fought against racism and led the civil rights movement.

3A is studying flight and the Wright Brothers. They made their own music video of the song *Big Old Jet Airliner* by the Steve Miller Band. They used a green screen to make the video and then used pictures the kids drew for their background. To make the video, first each kid made a recording of themselves singing a lyric, and then groups of kids were videoed dancing to the chorus. It was so creative.

The audience loved the many journeys that were shared. This assembly was a true great experience and another reason to LOVE Friends' Central!