

NARWHAL NEWS

Star Wars the rise of Skywalker

This is the movie everybody was talking about this month. The movie people anticipated to watch. I watched it, and it was a good conclusion to the Star Wars saga.

Reviews presents Review No.1.

The Rise of Skywalker is a great movie. It adds suspense and action together. In the movie, Rey and the gang try to stop a threat that emerged back from hiding, as Rey dives deeper into her real identity and when she learns about it, she tries to fight it. There are many plot twists, and that builds up excitement. The visual effects are cool too, as they really add up to the excitement. Overall, this movie is really awesome and worth the money, as it is very exciting and leaves the Skywalker series with a great end with a very good conclusion.

NARWHAL NEWS



Daily Coronavirus Updates :

<https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

Tens of thousands of coronavirus have been confirmed worldwide, with over 1,000 deaths. The coronavirus has been confirmed by WHO or World Health Organization as a health crisis. A vaccine or cure is set to come in the following months but you can help yourself by coughing into your elbow, wearing masks in places with confirmed cases, and washing your hands regularly. Streets of Wuhan, the city where coronavirus originated, are empty. Officials believe it started in Wuhan in a market. It is also believed that bats and snakes can cause this disease. So far thousands of people have successfully recovered.

There are many types of coronaviruses, and the current epidemic was caused by a coronavirus known as the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Below is a list of the seven known coronaviruses.

229E (alpha coronavirus)

NL63 (alpha coronavirus)

OC43 (beta coronavirus)

HKU1 (beta coronavirus)

MERS-CoV (the beta coronavirus that causes Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, or MERS)

SARS-CoV (the beta coronavirus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS)

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

“On February 11, 2020 the World Health Organization announced an official name for the disease that is causing the current outbreak of coronavirus

disease, COVID-19. CDC will be updating our website and other CDC materials to reflect the updated name.”

-Center for Disease Control

NARWHAL NEWS



All About the Month of February

By Emmalynn Holland

Birthstone: Amethyst

Flower: Primrose

Zodiac: Aquarius, Pisces

Season: Winter

February is:

National Dental Month

National Bird Feeding Month

Chocolate Lover's Month

American Heart Month

Black History Month:

Black History Month is mainly celebrated in schools. Students learn about African-Americans leaders and the history of the civil rights movement.

The Main Holidays of February Include:

National Freedom Day:

Saturday, February 1

Celebrates freedom from slavery. It was the day Abraham Lincoln signed the amendment outlawing slavery.

Groundhog Day:

Sunday, February 2

The day when Punxsutawney Phil the groundhog comes out to predict whether there will be an early spring. This year he predicted spring will come early.

Super Bowl LIV:

Sunday, February 2

This year's Super Bowl was hosted at the Hard Rock Stadium, featuring the Kansas City Chiefs and the San Francisco 49ers. The final score was 31 and 35 with the Chiefs as the champions.

Valentine's Day:

Friday, February 14

A day where you can express your appreciation/love for those close to you with candy and gifts.

President's Day:

Monday, February 17

A day to celebrate and honor past presidents who have served the United States.

National Pancake Day (IHOP):

Tuesday, February 25

A day where IHOP serves free pancakes from 7am to 7pm and raises money for charities.

Ash Wednesday:

Wednesday, February 26

This day represents the beginning of Lenten for Christians.

Check out <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-freedom-day-february-1/> for a complete list of national holidays.

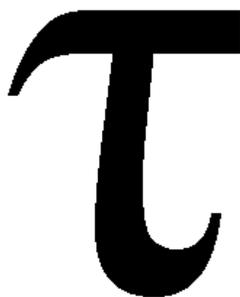
Bibliography:

https://www.ducksters.com/holidays/black_history_month.php

<https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-freedom-day-february-1/>

NARWHAL NEWS

Math Discussion 2: Pi and Tau



Many people have heard of pi before. Its value is 3.14159265... But... have you heard of **TAU?!**

Tau is 2 pi. Since pi is the circumference of a circle \square divided by its *diameter*, tau is the circumference of a circle divided by its *radius*.

Many people argue that tau is better than pi, since pi could be a confusing mathematical constant. For those who don't know what pi is (well you probably should know what it is), pi is 3.14. Well not really 3.14, the first three digits are those but pi has infinite digits. Like $\frac{1}{3}$ as a decimal, except pi's digits are random and $\frac{1}{3}$ is just never ending 3. Pi is used to find the circumference and area of a circle. The circumference is $(\pi)R$ (I couldn't find the symbol for pi). The area of a circle is $(\pi)R^2$. R stands for radius, so circumference is pi X radius and are is pi X two radius. Tau is basically 2 pi, so 6.28 and so on. Is tau really a better constant then pi? Comment in the wise owl box.

For more info, check out The Tau Manifesto by Michael Hartl. The link is below.

<https://tauday.com/tau-manifesto>

NARWHAL NEWS

The Ultimate Unneeded Cure For Boredom

By Emmalynn Holland

Alex ran off the bus, barging through the door, excited that it was finally the weekend. She had had a boring week filled with homework, but now she could finally have time for a more important assignment. She burst into her room and threw her backpack on the floor of her already messy room and sat down at her desk. She rolled her eyes as she looked at the disaster of a room, her piles of junk suffocating the floor. She had not wanted to clean it up but she could hardly walk without stepping on any of her belongings. Her fun would have to wait. Looking around the room, her eyes fell on her bed which was piled with laundry. She carefully walked over to it, deciding that she would start there. She started to pick all of the shirts and other clothing up off the bed and put them into their rightful places. After awhile, she had cleared off the top of her comforter, yet a bump still remained in the center underneath it, almost a foot tall. Alex poked it, confused on what it could be and to her surprise it moved. Alex jumped off the bed and grabbed the nearest object, a baseball bat. She walked back to the bed, holding the bat in front of her in one hand and her other hand ready to take off the sheet. She picked up one of the sides and slowly lifted it up, but it was completely barren. She put it back down, but the lump was still there. She lifted it up again but it looked just as it did before. Putting the comforter back down she swung the baseball bat and whacked the bump right on the head. It fell over onto the floor. Alex heard it falling but still could not see it, so she decided to continue to whack it with the bat. She saw its footprints on the carpet as it jumped from one place to the next until finally she cornered it and it started to become visible.

It was covered with black fur and had a ruby heart on its forehead. It had gray horns on top of its head and a long red tail. It sat shaking in the corner.

It screamed when it saw her and she screamed right back. Alex pointed her bat at the creature ready to strike.

"Please don't hurt me." the creature said, "I just need to deliver a message."

"From who?" Alex said, not releasing her weapon.

"The King." it responded rolling its eyes, "Who else would it be from? Can't you tell by my ruby, I'm one of the King's guards."

"Well actually I couldn't." Alex said, "and I have no clue what you're talking about."

"Look, I'm Eve. I was sent here to deliver a message to the first creature I see in this dimension, and guess what, that's you." she held out a little piece of paper that she had been holding. Alex reached out and took the paper. "Great, my work here is done. Good day to you all." And with that, Eve headed back to Alex's bed.

"What! I can't do that!" Alex said, finishing the note. She ran over and stopped Eve.

"What do you mean, it's not that hard all you have to do is go to the King so he can see if you're worthy." Eve told her, rereading the note.

"But there aren't any kings in New York, and I wouldn't be able to go there anyway. Not to mention I can't drive yet." Alex reminded her.

"Don't you have a portal opener?" Eve said, continuing to walk over to the bed.

Alex stopped her again. "No, actually I don't, because there is no such device."

Eve rolled her eyes. "Come with me." she said, now dragging Alex by her shirt with her back to the bed.

"But—" Alex started.

"No buts, do you want to come or not?" Eve said.

"Fine." Alex decided, "Why are we going to my bed though?"

"Because, that's where the portal is." She responded trying to lift up the comforter. Alex helped her and it revealed a little hole which she assumed would take her to wherever Eve was talking about.

"Are you sure I can fit in there?" Alex realized, seeing as that the portal was only about right inches wide.

"Good point." Eve said climbing into the hole, "I guess I'll just have to leave without you. "

"But what about your mission?" Alex asked, grabbing Eve back out of the hole.

"Look, I was asked to deliver a message to the first living creature I saw. That's it. That's all I was asked to do. You were just supposed to follow me, which you obviously can't do so I'll tell her just that. I would still be paid either way." Eve said still being held by Alex.

"So you're just going to leave me here." said Alex.

"Pretty much." she said.

"Come on there has to be another way." Alex said hopefully.

"Well, there is one." She remembered.

"Can we do it?" Alex pleaded.

Eve rolled her eyes "I guess."

"Yay!" Alex said, squeezing the life out of Eve with her hug, "What should I do first!"

"Well, first you should put me down," she said.

Alex set Eve down. "Good point." she said.

"Now I'm going to need a map." Eve decided.

"Don't worry we can just use the GPS on my phone." Alex said, "just type the address in." She reached into her backpack and pulled out her jet black phone. She handed it to Eve, who looked at it, confused.

Eve poked at it, "Hmmm, interesting so you just tap the screen and ..." There was a loud zapping noise and the phone burst into pieces that scattered across the room. "Oops, wrong button." she said, handing her a nearby piece.

"No!" Alex said, putting her hands in her palms, "Mom's going to kill me."

"Well, that seems a little violent, but you were the one who said you wanted to go." Eve reminded her, hopping onto her shoulder. "Now let's go find me a real map!"

Alex sighed and ran out of her room, into her basement, holding her in one hand. Alex set Eve down on a nearby pile of junk and started looking through a different one. After several minutes, Alex found a map.

"Well, we're not going to be able to reach it on foot." Eve realized pointing to the Statue of Liberty.

"I have a bike." Alex suggested, looking over her shoulder.

“That will have to do.” She said, rolling up the map.

Alex brought Eve up to the garage and hopped on her bike, placing her in the front basket, “Point the way.” she said, opening the garage door.

Eve held up the map and started to yell directions at her and after about a hour of what Eve called “short cuts” they made it to the Statue of Liberty.

There were more stairs than she had ever imagined and Alex was struggling to reach the top. Eve on the other hand, was doing just fine sitting on top of Alex’s head and counting each stair as Alex climbed. After the full 354 stairs they reached the top and Alex collapsed on the floor.

“We finally made it!” she said still laying on the burning hot crown of the statue. “So where is the portal opener you were talking about?” She stood up beside Eve. Eve walked over to one of the curved walls and pressed her forehead with the jewel on it to the wall and a little compartment popped out, containing a single sapphire. Eve squeezed it in her hand and closed her eyes. Alex saw the jewel glow inside her hands and a hole that looked almost identical to the one on her bed, appeared on the floor. The hole grew until it was large enough to fit both of them. Eve opened her eyes and motioned for Alex to jump inside the portal with her.

They traveled through the portal into Eve’s world. It looked the same as on Earth but it had creatures crawling around everywhere, such as a two-headed squirrel with a bright blue tail and a bird that lit up in flames if anyone tried to touch it or come near it. But Alex’s personal favorite was a little pink snake that slithered right onto her head as soon as it saw her. Naturally, Alex was afraid of snakes but this one was so sweet that she didn’t seem to mind it staying there.

“Can we keep her?” She asked Eve, as it slid into her hands.

“Whatever you want, kid.” Eve told her.

“I’m going to name you Pearl.” Alex decided, placing it back onto her head happily.

They continued to make their way through the forest until they finally came across a clearing where a giant white castle stood in front of them.

Alex ran up to it immediately. “Wow this is amazing!” she said, climbing the stairs to a grand door that led into the castle, Eve following close behind. The door was protected by two guards that looked almost exactly like Eve except they were much taller. The guards were all wearing the same blue uniform on top of their fur coat. They opened the door as soon as they saw her and they both walked inside whispering to each other as Alex looked around in awe.

They walked through another set of doors into a long room with a tall throne at the end of it. Sitting at the top must have been the king. He was wearing a long red cape and a shiny gold crown sat upon his head. He looked just like Eve and the other guards except for the ruby which was much larger and looked more like an emerald.

The king looked down at us and laughed, “You brought me a girl? I thought I said that we needed a new guard, not a maid. Take her out and go back to the kitchens, I should have never trusted you.”

”What do you mean back to the kitchens?” Alex asked, ”Why would you send your guard to the kitchen.”

”She’s a maid, not a guard.” He said rolling his eyes ”We would never want a girl on the team, they’re too weak.” Eve looked down at her feet guiltily.

”I’m just as good as any boy.” Alex told him, starting to become mad. She had noticed a certain indolence about him that made him seem very unfit for a King.

The King laughed, ”Sure you are. Guards, take her out.” he said in a condescending tone.

”No. I’m not leaving until you at least give me a chance!” Alex said.

"Fine." the King told her.

"Really?" Alex said, wondering why he gave in so easily.

"Sure." He answered, "All you have to do is retrieve the healing stone from the woods." One of the guards handed her a map. There were many tears, the corner barely held on. It looked very old as if it had been used many times, although those times had not been very recent, for there was a thick layer of dust coating almost the whole surface.

Alex held it in her hand confidently and walked out. "I want it to me in the next 24 hours, or else it won't count." He told her and pointed at Eve, "And you, don't you dare burn my dinner again." Eve hurried off to the kitchens, looking first at Alex and mouthed a message to her, unfortunately, Alex was horrible at reading lips and couldn't understand what she had said. She waved to her instead and walked outside.

When Alex came outside, she stared at the map, trying to figure out where to begin. She looked up from the map to see a statue of a golden tree that looked exactly like the one on the map. For hours she looked for the landmarks marked on the map, each one leading her closer to the jewel. The sun had set and Alex saw the moon creep into the sky she laid down on the soft pine needles that had fallen off a nearby tree. She saw Pearl coil around her arm as she fell asleep.

The next morning she woke to the feeling of rain falling on her face. She forced herself to stand up and tried to prevent the map from becoming soaked too.

The skies cleared and Alex continued her journey until she came to the last landmark on the map, a cave filled with jewels of all colors. She looked around for the healing stone but she could not tell which one it was. The map didn't have a picture of it and the King did not tell her either, she had no clue which stone it was. Alex chose a handful of stones, carefully examining each one. Alex repeated that process many times but had no luck. "If I were a healing stone where would I be?" she asked herself, until finally it hit her. The healing stone wouldn't work unless it had a wound to heal and she would have no way of determining which one is the right stone otherwise. In order to find the stone she would have to give it what it wants. She broke off a piece of stone from one of the walls and braced herself as she dug it into her skin and cut the palm of her hand. She held back her screams of pain, and focused on finding the stone. She held her wounded hand up to each stone trying to find one to heal it but it didn't work. She saw the light at the end of the tunnel begin to dim as the moon came out once more. She knew her time was up, she had failed. Alex laid on the floor of the cave and started to cry, holding her hurt hand close to her. She realized how stupid she had been. She had come so wound up in proving him wrong that she was willing to hurt herself and she had failed. She remembered why she had followed Eve here in the first place. She had just wanted to accomplish a more important task than homework, but that was it in the least bit what happened. All she was left with now was a bleeding hand, a reminder of failure. Her eyelids grew heavy as she cried herself to sleep.

When Alex finally woke up, it was almost past noon. She lay with her eyes open, staring at the jewels surrounding her. She saw Eve standing in the entrance of the cave. "It's going to be okay." Eve said. Alex was excited at first but soon realized she was hallucinating and rolled her eyes.

"Go away." Alex said, "I don't need a stupid dream to make me feel better." but her hallucination wouldn't go away, she rolled over so she didn't have to look at it.

"Well, fine if you really want me to go," Eve said, starting to walk out. "I was just trying to help."

Alex jumped up with surprise and hugged Eve, "Oh! It really is you!"

"What happened to your hand?" She asked, spotting the blood.

Alex rolled her eyes, "It doesn't matter anymore. I'm just going to go home and try to forget this ever happened."

"Let me fix it first." She suggested, taking a closer look at her palm.

Alex held out her hand, to let her examine it, "Wait!" she realised, "How did you know where I was?"

"Well, I've tried to do this before, all of the girls in the kingdom who have wanted to be a guard have. But not the boys, all they had to do was fit into their uniform." She said, rolling her eyes "I memorized the path because I always thought this cave was so pretty."

"Yeah I guess it is." Alex said admiring all of the jewels.

"I believe you took the challenge a little too far though." Eve told her, "You have cut yourself pretty deeply. I tried to warn you that it wasn't real."

Alex looked confused, "What do you mean it's not real?"

"The healing stone." Eve answered, "It doesn't exist."

"Why don't you call him out for it then." Alex asked, mad that he had tricked her but at the same time happy that she couldn't have failed if it was impossible in the first place.

"Well he's the king so he would probably send us to the dungeons forever." Eve said tying a couple strands of her long fur around Alex's hand, "We would need the whole kingdom to be against him in order for that to work."

"So why don't we?" Alex said.

"I don't think that's a very good idea." Eve told her.

"Come on, do you really want that idiot to be king?" Alex said. She grabbed Eve and ran off into the kingdom.

The kingdom was in the shape of a circle, with the castle standing at the edge. There was a perfect little clearing in the center with little grocery stands and cottages surrounding it. The townsfolk didn't look very happy. They all walked with their heads down, watching their feet as they slowly trudged forward, as if they would be punished if they made a sound.

Alex dragged Eve into the center with her and called all the townsfolk around her, "Hey!" she said, "Listen to me! The king has been lying to you, there isn't a healing stone. He precluded it so no girl could ever find it." They looked up at her and didn't make a sound except for one standing in the front.

"Yeah." They said, "We've known that for a while." All the townsfolk agreed and went back to whatever they had been doing before Alex had interrupted them.

Alex yelled after them, "No, wait! Come back!" but they ignored her. Eve started running after them, "It's no use, they're not going to listen. It was a stupid idea anyway." Alex told her.

"Come on! You're the one who wanted to do it in the first place, you literally dragged me here. So, we're going to finish it!" Eve said grabbing her hand.

Together they ran to stop the crowd of people. Eve stepped out in front of them, "Aren't you guys tired of being poor and letting our lazy king have whatever he wants from us. We give him all we have and receive zero in return! We need to change that, and we can't do it without your help!"

There were whispers among the crowd and people nodded their heads. Then, after a couple of minutes, they decided to help. They ran inside and grabbed all of their most dangerous objects and followed Alex up to the castle. They burst through the doors and into the room where the king sat, being fanned by two of his maids.

"What are you doing here? It is far past your given 24 hours." He said, laughing.

"We've come to take back what's ours!" Eve said, answering for Alex. "It is not fair for you to be living the dream, while your people suffer! We want more in return!"

The King smirked, "Well I'm sorry to disappoint, but life's not fair. Guards, bring them back where they belong." The guards came running out but did not realize what they were up against. The townsfolk waved their weapons in the air and attacked the guards. "Fight back you idiots!" yelled the king, watching from his chair but he was answered only with screams and a slam of a door as they retreated. After the last guard left they dragged the king to the dungeons and started to cheer. Although they were happy that they had stopped the king, they realised they still needed someone to lead them.

"Who will lead us?" One asked

"Well in my dimension, we vote for our leader, but first we would need some volunteers. Who would like to be the leader?" Alex looked around, everyone's hand was up, "Oh. Put your hands down for now. The rules are simple, you write on a piece of paper who you would like to be the leader and no voting for yourself! First, we need paper. Does anyone have paper?" Alex saw a hand that went up, which she called on. They ran off to their home to grab as much paper as they could find and came back several minutes later and dropped it at her feet. Alex instructed them to make a line and one by one they placed their vote in front of her until there were only a couple papers left. Alex picked up the pile and started to sort them. Once she reached the last few, the results were clear. She ran over to Eve, bursting with excitement.

"You won!" Alex told her, so that only she could hear. "You're their new Queen!"

"Me?" She said, confused. "But I didn't even put my hand up!"

"It doesn't matter, " Alex reassured her, "they chose you! I think they made a great decision."

Alex announced it to the rest of the kingdom, who broke out in cheers as soon as they heard. Eve stood next to Alex, her confused expression now replaced with a bright smile.

After a while, the cheering died down and Alex followed Eve up to the castle. "You should probably head home." Eve said.

"Oh no!" Alex realized, "My mother must be worried sick!" Eve laughed, "Don't worry, time works differently here. So, it's probably only been about an hour in your dimension." Alex sighed with relief. "But before you leave I wanted to give you this. It's a portal opener so you can come and visit me anytime you want" Even pulled out a necklace with a piece of a jewel attached to it that looked like the one on her forehead only smaller.

"Thank you so much!" Alex said, hugging Eve, "I'll come back as soon as possible!" She opened her portal and waved goodbye.

Alex returned through the portal and looked around her still messy room. She heard her mom in the other room calling for her. She tucked her necklace under her shirt and smiled, "Coming!"

THE END

NARWHAL NEWS

Science talk no.1

The universe

The universe is very vast and large. To put its size in a scale, the Earth's diameter is 7917.5 miles. The sun is more than a 100 Earth's, but it is still very small. 3.69 billion suns can fit into UY Scuti, the biggest star. The diameter of TON 618 (a supermassive black hole) can fit more than 10 UY Scuti, way more. IC 1101, the biggest galaxy, is about 2,000,000 light years. That means, it takes 2 million years for light to reach across the galaxy. The speed of light is $299\,792\,458\text{ m/s}$, so the galaxy is huge. Overall, the observable universe is 93,000,000,000 light years! The universe is huge.

The universe is filled up with matter. Stars and galaxies all occupy the universe. Between those cracks is "dark matter."

Scientists are still arguing on whether dark matter is real or not, but nobody knows yet. The universe has many stars, which are hidden away in places. Stars can be in galaxies, or they can be in nebulas. Stars can be anywhere. Following those stars are planets, tons and tons.

The universe is very big. There are stuff in the universe, like stars and galaxies. Scientists are searching for life like us, or are we really the only one out there? You never know.

Sources: Wikipedia.

Questions and comments in wise owl box!

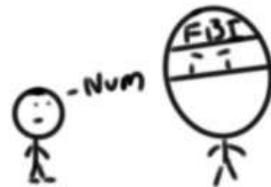
NARWHAL NEWS



Pet Peeves
By: Strang
One



1 Hawaiian
Pi-



Idea by
Adopted

Pet
Peeves
by: Strang
One





HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Question- " I think I am addicted to my iPad. Help!"

Answer- Try spending more time with your family and keep your iPad away from you..

Question- “ I have the hardest time picking a book for SSR. What would you suggest for someone who doesn't like to read?”

Answer- I would suggest Wolf Hollow, Whispers, Restart, The War That Saved my Life, The war I finally won, No Fixed Address, and Fever 1793

NARWHAL NEWS



Thank you to all the readers and writers for this month's February edition!

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