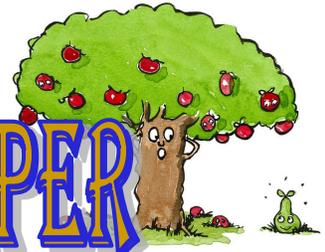




THE LION'S ROAR NEWSPAPER



September

CHRISTIAN HILLS SCHOOL
A MINISTRY OF
CHRISTIAN HILLS CHURCH

Getting to Know...

Ms. Lapinski

by Zoie Balaskas & Jori Lambert, 8th Grade



This is Ms. (Connie) Lapinski's first year here at CHS. She knew she wanted to be a teacher in her junior year of high school. She first taught second grade in a public school. She has one sibling, a brother named Joseph (Joey). She was saved when she was just three years old. When she was watching a video about Jesus, she wanted to know why they killed Him. Her mom explained to her why and she gave her heart to Jesus right there and then. When she is not teaching, she is an umpire, singer/songwriter, and a freelance writer. She recorded an album called "The Road" in 2016 while in Tennessee. The album is on iTunes and Google Play. She also enjoys exercising, playing softball, listening to music, and going shopping.

Ms. Lapinski's favorite part about teaching is having interactions with students, building relationships with them, and watching them reach their full potential. Her favorite subject is reading (ELA) because she loves doing book studies and learning about the characters and plots. Her favorite Bible verse is Galatians 2:20-21 which reads: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness comes by the law, then Christ died in vain." KJV

Ms. Lapinski is energetic, fun, and she looks forward to the rest of a great year.

BOTTLE CAP UPDATE



Hello students, parents, and teachers. I am here to inform you about our bottle cap update. We started collecting bottle caps last year on September 15th. We have now come full circle. It was a lot of work, but with all of us kids, teachers, and you parents helping out and pitching in, we were able to collect 650 pounds of caps! We only needed 200 pounds, but we kept getting more and more caps. This is also a great way to help out the environment! Sorting these caps was a lot of work. But again, thanks for all your hard work to get this task done! From these caps, we were hoping to get just one bench for our school. But since we had more than we needed, we were able to get two, 4-foot benches and two, 6-foot benches! Our principal, Mrs. Bergstrand, was wanting a picnic table, but we were 50 pounds short of getting one. We have been waiting a while for these benches to come in; now they are almost here! To match our school colors, we chose blue and gold. We have yet to decide where these new benches are going to go. Some of our fellow students have already made suggestions about where to put them. When we get the benches, Principal Bergstrand is going to hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony. To complete the job of getting a picnic table, our school will probably, and most likely do something like this again. Thanks for all your support, hard work, and caps. We hope that everyone enjoys these benches as much as the students will!

by Jadyn Gillies, 7th Grade

Presented by Grace Wallace, 8th Grade

Verse of the Month

Titus 3:4-8

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

Boys' Soccer

The CHS Boys' Soccer Team has a lot of great players this year. They are: Nathan Abiona, Gianni Balaskas, Caden Blohm, Joseph Borkowsky, Joshua Jakes, Keagan Krestel, Malachi Krestel, Cole Leary, Jacob Leary, Nathan Majchrzak, Ethan Vinson, TJ Vinson, Tristin Vinson, Blake Walters, and Terrence Ware. The CHS Lions won their first game against the Trinity Eagles 6-0. Two soccer games have been canceled; one on September 12th and one on September 17th. The soccer team had another game on September 19th against the Trinity Eagles again and won again, 2-1. They had two more games after that; one on September 23rd against Deer Creek that they won 9-0, and one on September 24th against Homeschool that they lost 4-0. The soccer team usually has one game a week. They have the final ICC tournament on October 17th through 19th. Last year they won the ICC tournament against Trinity. The CHS soccer team's coach is Mrs. Pavoni. She is a very good coach. She has played soccer her entire life. In a game, Mrs. Pavoni expects the team to be running the whole time and to try their best. On the sidelines they have to drink a lot of water on hot days. There are really good players on the soccer team. The best goalie is Jacob. He can block the balls from the goal and he has a good punt. Gianni and Joseph are talented defenders; hardly anyone can get by them. Gianni is also good at forward. TJ and Blake are really fast midfielders. Terrence and Tristin are really good at forward. Terrence even had a hat trick in one game! A hat trick means he scored 3 goals in a row. The team appreciates how the fans are very supportive of all of the soccer players.

by Malachi Krestel & Jacob Leary, 7th Grade



Girls' Volleyball



by Gabriela Huisman & Jazmyn Nelson, 8th Grade



The CHS girls' volleyball 2019 season has officially started. We have a junior varsity and varsity team again. In 4th grade, we have Olivia Gillies, Abbey Kosloskus, Natalie Pavoni, Gwen Stiles, Kayla Walters, and Kylie Walters. In 5th grade, we have Kendall Blohm and Alison Pavoni. In 6th grade, there is Annie Bergeron, Kennedy Brooks, and Daniela Dodge. In 7th grade, there is Chelsea Brooks, Jadyn Gilles, Angelina Heath, Joely MacRitchie, and Shama Patel. And last but not least, in 8th grade, we have Zoie Balaskas, Gabriela Huisman, Jori Lambert, Jazmyn Nelson, and Karalyn White.

The first game for both teams was against TCS at home on August 26th. The elementary team won, but the varsity team lost. Then, on September 5th, the elementary team went away to Calvary. On September 6th and 7th, the varsity team had a tournament at Calumet Christian in Indiana. The girls got 4th place and Chelsea Brooks got the All-Tournament Award. On September 9th, both teams faced KTA at home. The elementary team did win, but the varsity did not. On September 11th, the varsity team faced Deer



Creek and won. On September 12th, the varsity girls faced the Calumet Christian Patriots and also won. Then, on September 17th, both teams faced Cornerstone at home and won. Both teams then went away, on September 19th, to face TCS, but both teams lost. The next day, September 20th, both teams faced LCA Blaze. Both teams won. The season is going well so far. Keep up the good work, girls!

PACHS Events

PACHS stands for Parents At Christian Hills School. PACHS is a group of parents that help plan and run events and fundraisers for the school. This year, PACHS has a bunch of stuff planned. Fundraising is important because it keeps the school going and also allows for extra things to be done around the school. They are doing a LaBraid fundraiser right now. This is an important event for parents because part of what you sell gets taken off of your fundraising fee. We are selling coffee cake, popcorn, and cookies. You might be thinking that we didn't sell cookies last year. Well, your right, we didn't sell cookies last year. The PACHS team is trying something new this year. They will also be selling different kinds of coupon books. They also plan social events. They do the Daddy/Daughter Dance and Mother/Son Night. The recess equipment and gaga pit were some of the extra things that we were able to buy last year from PACHS fundraising. The people on PACHS this year are Mrs. Blohm, Mrs. Goss, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Kosloskus, Mrs. Stiles, and Mrs. Walters. PACHS loves getting suggestions. If you have one, you could always write something down and put it in the envelope on the bulletin board in the lobby. Caden also was wondering if the 7th and 8th graders could be Samson, the school mascot, if they like. They didn't have an answer to that question yet. The PACHS committee is always looking for parents who would like to volunteer. Anyone who is interested in helping can speak with the office staff. Even if you can't join the committee, they are always looking for people who can help with events. That is what PACHS is all about.



by Caden Blohm & Blake Walters, 7th Grade

For many years, Christian Hills School has presented an annual Christmas production. They all bring love and the true meaning of Christmas. All of them consist of amazing casts and songs. But you can't have an amazing play without a new and refreshing concept. We recently interviewed Pastor Tiffany, Mr. Tabor, and some of the cast to see what this year's play is about.

The play is called *It's Christmas Eve Again*. It's about Christmas Eve repeating again and again! This year, the play has been written once again, by Mrs. Disser. It is a sequel to the Christmas play she wrote last year. The cast consists of different kinds of "beings". We have angels, humans, and animals.

Now, here are some details about the Christmas play. We asked Pastor Tiffany who some of the main characters are. "The main characters are Gideon Brood, Michelle Angel, Andrew, the Narrator, Hannah Brood, Andrew, Faith, Grace Brood, and Cassie." We then asked Shama, one of the cast members, to describe what it is like to be in the main cast again. Shama said, "It is very exciting and fun. As usual, it brings joy to me that I get to be in a Christmas play that has the true meaning of Christmas." We also asked Shama what is the play like from her perspective. She replied, "The play is a lot of work, but the end product is good." Since we interviewed Pastor Tiffany, and one of the amazing people of the cast, of course we had to question Mr. Tabor. We know it is only the beginning of the year, but did he have any idea if we are going to have an ensemble this year? Mr. Tabor said, "Not yet. I still have to discuss it with Pastor Tiffany." We also asked him what kind of instruments would there be if we were having an ensemble "There would be a piano, drums, guitar, and hand drums." was his reply. Well, that is the Christmas play information we have so far. It's still early in the school year, but you have to start early to have a great production!

by Joely MacRitchie and Angelina Heath, 7th Grade



County Line Orchard

by Karalyn White, 8th Grade



This year, the Kindergarteners took their annual field trip to County Line Orchard. There, they learned about pollination and bees, and how apples are turned into cider. Everybody

picked one bag of apples to take home and share with their family. The following day, the Kindergarteners made applesauce together in class. While they were at the orchard, they visited the petting zoo, which had lots of farm animals like goats and baby chicks. As well as petting the animals, the class had the opportunity to feed the goats. After picking the apples, the class enjoyed the play area, maze, and the play farm. A lot of the students' favorite part of the field trip was riding on the big yellow school bus. When they arrived back at school, the class enjoyed apple cider and apple donuts. I know the Kindergarteners will cherish the memories of this fun time for years to come.



Junior High Garden

Armani Daniels, 8th Grade

For the Junior High Garden, the students study plants that they will plant in their garden. While they are learning about the plants, they also learn how to prepare and work on a garden. To start the garden, they first pull all the weeds out of the soil, then they rake the soil to make it even; and last but not least, they plant whatever plants they are learning about in the soil. Some of the plants that they planted in the garden are milkweed, cornflowers, prairie grass, and mint. The Junior High Garden shows the students how to take care of the earth and it shows the students what a natural environment looks like. The garden is very good for the school because it enhances the playground area and anyone can come up to and enjoy it. A lot of parents and students come and take some of the vegetable plants home to eat, after they are fully grown. The garden also helps the knowledge of the students' minds because it teaches them about plants and how to plant and take care of a garden. The junior high classes have been

working on the garden with Mrs. White for the past four years. They were able to buy the plants through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Division of Education with a Schoolyard Habitat Action Grant. They also had a butterfly garden. The type of plants that were in that part of the garden are pale, purple cornflower, black-eyed Susan, little bluestem, lavender hyssop, smooth penstemon, poke, and red milkweed. The main reason why they have included milkweed plants is because they attract monarch butterflies to make their homes because a lot of their habitats are being destroyed, so they need another way to get their nutrients.

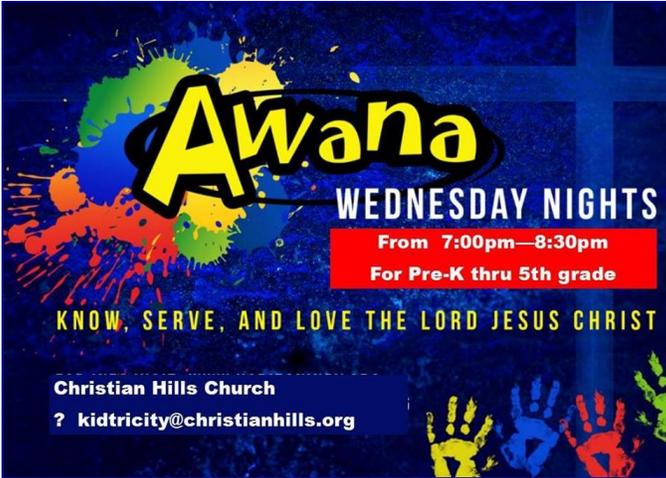


Restaurant Fundraisers

by Ben Gomez, 8th Grade

Each year, the 8th graders host restaurant fundraisers. The restaurant will donate a percent of the money gained back to the school. On September 18th, our first restaurant fundraiser was at Blaze Pizza in Orland Park. October's fundraiser will be at Simply Slices in Mokena. On average, these fundraisers give us between \$100 to \$200 for each event. So, these fundraisers bring in a lot of money for the school to be able to send the 8th graders to Washington, DC. There is normally one each month, so make sure you go each time to support your school and you might just get a homework pass if you go too!

Awana is an after school-activity where kids can hang out and play games to learn about God. It starts at 7:00 and ends at 8:30. It takes place every Wednesday night. It is in the gym at Christian Hills Church. Awana is \$20 per child and for kids from ages 3 to 11. There are different groups for different ages in Awana. The first group is called Cubbies for preschoolers. The next group is Sparks for Kindergarten through second grade. The last, and final group, is T&T for third through fifth grade. In Awana, you will play games, learn about God, and get a snack. You can memorize memory verses to get



candy. There will be parties sometimes during Awana throughout the year. For more information, contact Pastor Tiffany.

by Chelsea Brooks,
7th Grade

U-Turn is a place where students, 6th through 8th grade, can come and worship God and also explore their faith here at Christian Hills Church. Students can feel safe to worship God at U-Turn. They learn how God impacts their everyday lives. At U-Turn, you can focus more on who God is and what He has done for you. You can also learn how to build godly relationships and, of course, have fun. This is great for anyone who wants to get closer to God. U-Turn is every Wednesday night from 7:00 to 8:30. Pastor Brennan is the youth pastor and he likes to teach kids about

God. On Wednesday, September 4th, U-turn had its kickoff with a food tent, a giant soccer dart, and glow wars. There will be many more cool events throughout the year. There are going to be some hangout events in October. U-Turn is fun and exciting, so we hope to see you out there!

by Shama Patel,
7th Grade



Friday the 13th

It was finally here, Friday the 13th. People say it is the unluckiest day of the year. Every single kid at CHS was having a terrible day. Some kids failed tests. Other kids got detentions or suspended. Some kids even got expelled! Except for one kid. His name was Henry Jones. For this kid, today was the opposite for him. Instead of him having bad luck, he had the best luck ever. Later that day, the entire school had come together for a school assembly to announce the winner of a brand new iPhone 11. Everyone was excited thinking that their bad luck might go away, but nothing changed. The principal went up on stage and announced the winner. Everyone had gone silent hoping and praying it would be them. Before the principal had announced the winner, Henry had gotten up and went to the bathroom. While Henry was in the bathroom, something terrible had happened. Henry looked in the mirror, then all of a sudden, it shattered into a million pieces. Henry screamed in terror knowing that he had just been cursed with bad luck. Henry ran out of the bathroom, into the gym to see if they had announced the winner. When he looked in the gym, he saw another student holding the phone. Henry ran to his teacher saying that he should have won. The teacher did not like the way he was talking to her. So she gave Henry a detention. After school in detention, Henry could not stop crying. When detention was over, Henry went home, fell asleep right away so the day would be over. The next morning Henry ran straight to the bathroom, looked in the mirror to see if it would crack. Out of nowhere the mirror shattered in pieces. Henry knew that something was wrong. So Henry got on his knees and prayed. When he was finished, the mirror started to regroup its pieces. Henry looked in the mirror hoping it wouldn't crack. He was so happy because it didn't. He was back to being a lucky person. Henry got on his knees again and said, "Thank you, God".

An original short story by Kameron Cleveland, 7th Grade

MR. CHEN AND THE LEGEND OF HIS APPLE-SPLITTING HAND

The story you are about to read is from the scrolls of Mr. Chen, translated from the Chinese language.

One day, wise Mr. Chen was telling his Kung-fu scholars of *The Legend of His Apple-Splitting Hand*. Mr. Chen started with a prayer. He prayed to God when he was young, "O God, please help me pick the red, ripe apples. Amen." The students chortled before he continued. Then he said, "We went on a field trip on this day in September, when the apples blossom in the Wang Zhe Apple and Cherry Blossom Garden, not far from here, on the Sensei Yu boulevard. Going in the beautiful, 'pink-cropped' garden, as I call it, my group started picking the green apples. Not knowing the difference between red and green, we went back to the school with full bags of apples, to make Apple Pie Dumplings. The recipe in the ancient scrolls specifically said red apples." The students chortled again, this time louder. He continued, slightly offended, "and when the teacher came to my table, oh this is where I get the title of my story, I remember the exact words I said to her: 'I can help chop your apples, Hiya!', and I did. The teacher approved of my apple-splitting skill, but she didn't approve of the color of my apples. It showed with a tiny frown on her face. She told us she would only approve of my apples, for now, probably knowing that five year old kids like me couldn't tell the difference between red and green. This is how apples became one of my favorite fruits." The students clapped and laughed so hard, the room was filled with noise and echo. Mr. Chen commanded the students after his story, "Get back to work and start punching the punching bags! More stories will come later!" To be continued...

A continuing story by Anthony Espano, 7th Grade



Christian Music Reviews

ELEVATION WORSHIP

Elevation Worship is the worship ministry of Elevation Church based in Charlotte, North Carolina, which was formed in 2007. The band's main members are Chris Brown, Anna Sailors, Jonsal and Jenna Barrientes, Davide Mutendji, and Tiffany Hammer. Their new album, *At Midnight*, came out on August 30. It was inspired by the story of how Paul and Silas were kept in prison. *Elevation Worship* received a 2018 Grammy nomination for their album, *Hallelujah Here Below*, and a 2019 K-Love Fan Award nomination for the Group/Duo of the Year. They also received a nomination for the Worship Song of the Year for *Resurrecting*. They released two Spanish albums, *Aleluya (En La Tierra)* and *Lo Harás Otra Vez*. The group received a Billboard Music Award 2018 nomination for their album, *There is a Cloud*, and top song, *O Come to the Altar*. They released other albums, such as *Paradoxology*, *Here as in Heaven*, *Wake up the Wonder*, *Only King Forever*, *Nothing is Wasted*, and *For the Honor*. They will be going on a fall tour with *Casting Crowns* and *Hillsong Worship* in November. You can follow them @elevationworship on social media. Overall, I like their songs because they speak to my heart and have meaning to something in my life. I recommend you to listen to their songs. I pray that these songs speak to your heart and that they will mean something in your life.

by Alyssa Espano, 7th Grade



Christian music is one of the ways we Christians worship God. Just this past month, at least 68 percent of Americans listened to Christian music. So, as Christian music is getting more popular, here are some of the most popular songs and my review of them.

The most popular song right now in the Christian charts is *Raise a Hallelujah* by Johnathan David & Melissa Hester and Bethel Music. This song is well known at Christian Hills School since we sang it at the CHS Spring Concert and many of the CHS chapels. I give this song 5 out of 5 stars because it is a beautiful song and a simple, yet meaningful song anyone can sing.

Another song that is in the top 20 songs on the Christian Billboard charts, and is one of my personal favorites, is *Love Theory* by Kirk Franklin. It was released in 2019 and can be heard on Kirk Franklin Praise radio. I also rate this a 5 out of 5 stars because it's an upbeat song and talks about the wonderful love God has for us.

The last song is *Dead Man Walking* by Jeremy Camp. It was also released in 2019 and has been played numerous times on the K-Love radio station.

Jeremy was inspired to write the song after God completely changed him. He states "there was a time when I was emotionally and spiritually dead, but God radically changed me". The song tells about how Jesus rescued him and how he was before he was saved (a dead man walking). It can be found on the album *The Story's Not Over*. I give this song a 5 out of 5 stars because I like its content and it tells an amazing story.

I love Christian music and I believe it's the best way to spread the Gospel.
by Jeremiah Johns, 7th Grade

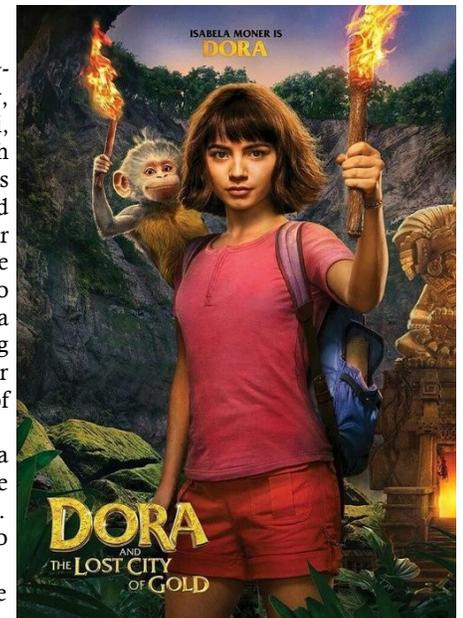
Movie Reviews

DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD

Dora and The Lost City of Gold is a PG-rated movie. The genre is comedy, drama, action, adventure, Sci-Fi, fantasy, and appropriate for kids with some parental supervision. It all starts like this: Dora and her parents have lived in the Amazon in the jungle all their lives. Later, when she turns sixteen, she goes to the city to attend school and to see what life is like in the city. Dora stays with Diego and his family during this time. While Dora is in the city, her parents set out to find The Lost City of Gold.

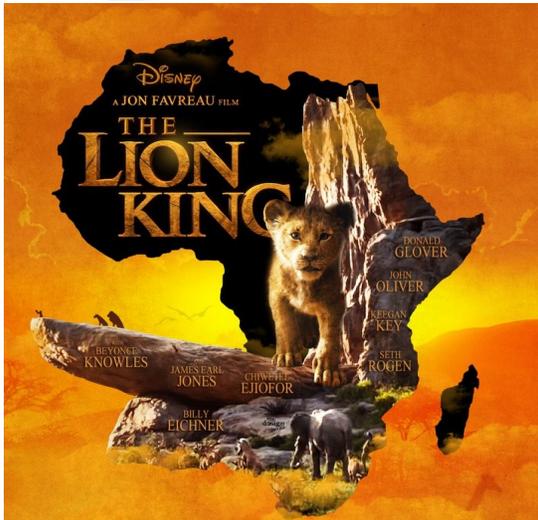
Since Dora is so perky and sings songs, a lot of people do not really want to be around her. Especially Diego, because he does not want to be embarrassed. Dora meets friends and gets kidnapped. They escape and Dora then tries to find her parents. In conclusion, Dora and her friends escape the kidnappers and find out her parents' friend was a spy also trying to kidnap her. In the end, they finally find Dora's parents and find the Lost City of Gold.

by Dinum Watkins, 7th Grade





Mare Movie Reviews

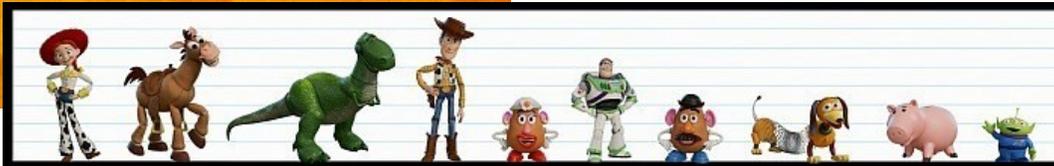


Disney THE LION KING

by Terrence Ware,
8th Grade

The Lion King is a very good movie that is rated PG. It's plot is the same as the first version but live-action! Everything was just better looking and the

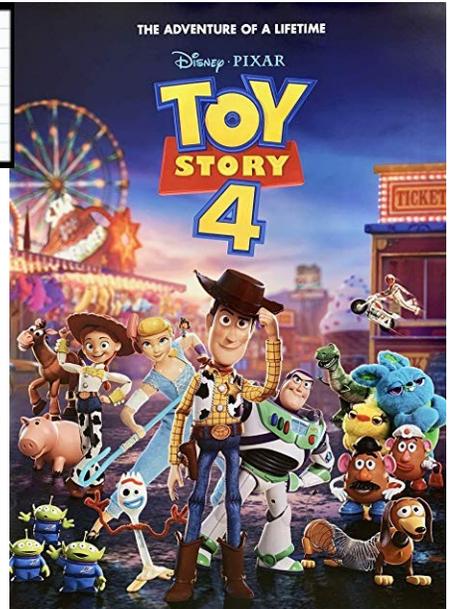
voiceover acting was better. The movie is about a baby lion that loses his father because of a jealous uncle. Simba, the baby lion, is the only hope of getting his land back from his uncle and the hyenas. He grows up with a hog and some other animals and is found by one of the lionesses in his tribe. She tries to get him to come back, but he doesn't want to. There is then a monkey that shows him that his father is still looking over him. The monkey is the reason that Simba decides to go back. After Simba goes back and fights off the uncle and hyenas, he is then the king. He has children with the lioness that initially tried to get him to come back. His land is healthy again and they aren't over-eating. I would rate this movie 5 out of 5 stars.



Toy Story 4

by Todd Vinson, 8th Grade

Toy Story 4 is a really good movie. The rating of the movie is PG. The three biggest main characters are Woody, Buzz, and Forky. The movie is about one hour and forty minutes long. The evil character of the movie was Gabby Gabby and her goons. What Gabby Gabby wanted was Woody's voice box. So she pretended to be friends with Woody so she can just take his voice box. She wanted his voice box because hers was "defective" and his was working. Gabby Gabby just wanted to go back to her old owner. Her old owner threw her out because of her voice box. But then at the end of the movie, she became friends with everyone. Gabby Gabby will never be alone again; now she is happy. I recommend all ages go to see *Toy Story 4*. It is appropriate for all ages. My opinion is, it was a really good movie. It was very adventurous.



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The articles written in this paper are written primarily by the students of Christian Hills School and don't necessarily express the views of CHC or CHS.

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