

The **Franklin Phoenix**

Volume 2023-2024 ♦ Issue 2

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Foreword:

Composing this issue, I was very pleased at all the amazing readers who looked through and enjoyed both prior issues in the Franklin Phoenix. I'm glad the Franklin Phoenix was able to showcase some amazing works by many different students in Franklin.

This issue's theme is treasure. I chose this theme because treasure has many different meanings, so separate people will interpret it in creative ways, and write a wide range of stories. Also, spring is beginning, and treasure can be found almost anywhere; for example, in the cherry blossom trees!

To me, the greatest treasure is a book. There are some kids in the world who don't have any books because their parents can't afford to buy them. However, Sophia's Bookstand addresses that issue. It gives books to children in need. For more information, read the promoted content section.

I would still be happy to get submissions from anyone! If you would like to create anything, you can type it and send it to my email: naomig@kidsemail.org. Please be aware that the theme of the next issue is nature, so stories, poems, book reviews, and drawings should have a natural theme.

I hope that everyone continues to read these issues, and continues to enjoy them. 🦋

Poems:

Hidden Treasure

By Naomi Galil

An ancient treasure
Hidden in a lost temple
Who will seek it out?

A hero from abroad
Seeking money, finding treasure
He will take the quest!

He finds the temple
Looking through the gates he sees
An ugly, brown scroll.

In fury he leaves
Not bothering to read it
Wanting to be rich.

The ugly scroll read
"Knowledge is also treasure,
If you seek it out." 🦋

Precious

By Naomi Galil

Pearls and coins,
Rare and beautiful.
Early morning light,
Created by Mother Nature
Is much prettier.
Only fools believe,
Sapphires to be worth more than flowers.



The Best Food

By Naomi Galil

A fly seems good to a frog,
And a bone is loved by a dog,
A mouse would scorn these,
For a bite of some cheese?
And a beaver would prefer a log. 🦋

Stories:

Diary of a Wimpy Leprechaun

By Naomi Galil

Hi. I'm a leprechaun, and my name is John. John Smith. Very original, right? So, anyways, I live at the end of rainbow number 201, and it's Pa Trick's Day. Pa Trick was super important in leprechaun history. I think they mentioned him in class once... But it's my turn to ruin everyone's houses this year!

In the first house, there was some lame trap made of tissues, string, and cardboard. Did they think they could capture me with that? I painted the trap green, put green sparkles and green footprints all over, turned over the chairs, and turned on the lights. The second house had already been messed up. The third house left me sweets. That's so nice!

In the fourth house, though, I actually got caught. How embarrassing! A little boy stared at me for a little and asked for gold. I gave him green-tinted sunglasses and told him they were leprechaun goggles. He was showing his parents when I left. Next year, he'll be waiting with another trap. Well, I can't wait to come back! 🍀

The Smithing Tournament

By Naomi Galil

In the hidden tunnels of Kieorn, the smithing tournament was about to begin. A large, ornate, bronze bell in the corner of the room was rung for silence, and the esteemed dwarf Brazl opened a dusty, ancient scroll and read out the rules in a booming voice, "One: the contestants may not engage in battle with one another unless they are testing their creations, in which case they must both come before me and ask for permission. Two: Magic is not allowed in the crafting of the following items: Harps, swords, crowns, slings, and..."

"Oh, shut your big mouth and get on with it!" bawled Yali from the contestants table.

Yali was a lazy, dishonest dwarf who was used to getting his way. He had won every tournament so far, but he was conceited, and everyone knew that he cheated. Most of the audience were rooting for Bagi, a young, inexperienced dwarf, but a master smith.

When the competition started, Bagi saw Yali slip something round into his forge, and watched as the fires grew hotter. Bagi was sure it was cheating magic, but he said nothing. Instead, he pumped on the bellows until his forge was the perfect temperature, and began crafting his submission. He focused hard on his job, and finished after everyone else.

It was time to score. Yali pulled out a dazzling mirror. The frame was gold and studded with precious stones, and the image in the mirror was crystal-clear. There were an array of crowns, goblets, and jewelry. Finally, Bagi pulled out his item, and all the judges gasped. It was an axe, with metal that would never dull, chip, rust, or break, and a haft of polished, sanded wood, with a special silver decoration on it that was designed to make a comfortable grip. Pure gold had been carefully drizzled, creating an axe both beautiful and useful.

The judges picked Bagi as the winner. The victory party lasted all night, with fireworks, food, drink, dance, and song, as Yali trudged home in defeat. Yali did not compete in any more of the competitions, but Bagi did, and won, for many years, until his beard grew down to the floor, when he turned his attention to teaching young dwarves the art of smithing. 🦊

Three Kids

By Tami Dinstein

Once there was 3 kids: Roni, Sharon and Ilan. They loved finding treasure. Their teacher said there are secret clues leading to a treasure. They immediately started looking. They found the first clue it said "field." They ran to the school field and started looking. They found another clue that said "trees."

They looked at the trees and saw a clue, but it was high in a branch. So Roni went on Ilan's shoulders and Sharon went on Roni's shoulders "Got it." Sharon said and got down. Ilan and Roni listened and the clue said "Congratulations you found the last clue, come back to the class and I will give you the treasure." They were sad that it was over, they liked finding clues together.

The End 🦅

שלושה ילדים

מאת תמר דינשטיין
תרגמה נעמי גליל

פעם אחת היו שלושה ילדים: רוני, שרון, ואילן. הם אהבו למצוא אוצרות. המורה אמרה שהיו רמזים סודיים. הם מיד התחילו לחפש.

הם מצאו את הרמז הראשון שאמר, "שדה". הם רצו לשדה של בית הספר והתחילו לחפש. הם מצאו רמז אחר שאמר, "עצים". הם הסתכלו בעצים וראו רמז שהיה גבוה מאוד. רוני עמד על אילן, ושרון עמדה על רוני. "יש לי", אמרה שרון.

הרמז אמר, "טוב מאוד, מצאתם את הרמז האחרון. חזרו לכיתה ואני אתן לכם את האוצר."

הם היו עצובים כי זה נגמר; הם אהבו למצוא רמזים ביחד. 🦅

Book Reviews:

The Grey Fairy Book by Andrew Lang
(Reviewed by Naomi Galil)

The Grey Fairy Book is part of a series of collections of fairy tales. Each book has a unique color, like The Purple Fairy Book and The Red Fairy Book.

These books include common stories such as “Jack and the Beanstalk”, and rarer stories, such as “The Believing Husbands”, about three silly husbands and how their wives play tricks on them. These stories come from all different cultures and places around the world.

Each book is full of funny, thrilling, and sometimes violent stories. I suggest this series to anyone who likes fantasy, adventure, or suspense. 🐉

Eragon by Christopher Paolini
(Reviewed by Naomi Galil)

Eragon is a fantasy series set in a place called Alagaesia, where elves, dwarves, and dragons are real. He can do magic and bonds with a dragon, making him a dragon Rider.

Not to spoil the story too much, he makes enemies with some monsters called Urgals, shelters in the headquarters of a rebellion, and kills and invincible, everlasting king. He helps the dwarves choose a dwarven king and trains with the elves.

I would suggest this series to anyone who likes fantasy, adventure, sword-fighting, and/or magic. There are four books in the series. 🐉

Visual Art:

Heart Girl

By Emma Wang

By: Emma Wang 4S



The Franklin Phoenix

Hello World
By Emma Wang



Promoted Content:

Collecting New and Like-New Children's Books

Send in new and like-new elementary and middle school age books to be donated to Sophia's Bookstand. Sophia Parekh, a 4th grader at Franklin, loves reading and started this organization to make sure families that can't afford to buy books have the opportunity to love reading as much as she does. She will donate the books to families and teachers in need, and organizations like CASA of Union County and Boys & Girls Club of Newark. Questions? You can send a message on Facebook or Instagram to [@sophiasbookstand](#).



The Last Word:

Quaint (adjective) – interesting,
old-fashioned, unusual.

*/It was a quaint neighbourhood,
with houses shaped like mushrooms,
and a strange smell in the air./*

This is a word that is a synonym for
“weird” or “strange”, but in a kind of
old-fashioned, rustic way.

I would suggest to use this word for
nonhuman neighborhoods, or for
objects created by nonhumans. 🦋