

WIZARDS OF WORDS 2012

Liberty Corner School is pleased to announce that Wizards of Words 2012 will take place March 20-23. Wizards of Words is a program designed to provide our students with the opportunity to meet and intimately converse with award-winning authors and illustrators. The children have the chance to hear directly from the authors about what inspires them to write; where they get their ideas for books; how they go about writing a book; and what it takes to get a book published. And, there's always time for Q&A!! It is a much anticipated component of the Liberty Corner School curriculum.

Tuesday, March 20, we will welcome Kate Feiffer to Liberty Corner School. Ms. Feiffer is the author of nine highly acclaimed books for children. Her books Which Puppy?, Henry the Dog with No Tail, and My Side of The Car are illustrated by her father, Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Jules Feiffer. Other books include President Pennybaker and My Mom is Trying to Ruin My Life, illustrated by Caldecott award honoree Diane Goode. Ms. Feiffer will be meeting with Kindergarteners and grades 1, 2 and 3. She has a wonderful website you should check out: <http://www.katefeiffer.com>.

On Thursday, March 22, students in Kindergarten and grades 4 and 5 will meet with author and illustrator Margie Palatini. Ms. Palatini is the author of many celebrated children's books, including Lousy Rotten Stinkin' Grapes, Hogg, Hogg, and Hog and Piggie Pie. We invite you to read more about her and her body of work on her website: <http://www.margiepalatini.com>.

And last but certainly not least, we are pleased to welcome Dan Gutman on Friday, March 23. Mr. Gutman is the author of the wildly popular Weird School series as well as The Kid Who Ran For President, The Million Dollar Shot, the Baseball Card Adventure series and many others. Mr. Gutman will be meeting with all Liberty Corner students. His website is <http://www.dangutman.com>.

The PTO is sponsoring a book sale of selected titles from each author. You can provide your child with a lasting memory of this special event by purchasing one or more books and having the book(s) personalized for your child by the author. Descriptions of the books being offered are provided in this handout and many of the books are available in the library for your review.

To place an order, please complete the attached order form (please use one order form per student) and return it to the office along with **one check per family** made out to Liberty Corner PTO in an envelope marked "PTO – Wizards of Words." Please place the one check and all order forms in the same envelope. **Orders must be returned no later than February 13, 2012. Due to ordering time constraints, late requests cannot be accommodated.**

Please use one order form per student. If your book is to be inscribed to more than one child, please indicate which student is to be presented with the book. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Feller at cmcfeller@hotmail.com or Mie Holmqvist at mg_holmqvist@yahoo.com.

BOOKS BY KATE FEIFFER

President Pennybaker. Even though Luke Pennybaker cleans his room, eats his lunch, brushes his teeth, and feeds the fish, he isn't allowed to watch TV. Life just isn't fair! Luke decides to do something about it—something big. He runs for President of the United States so he can make the rules. Luke's bid in the presidential race takes him and his dog (his running mate) across the country as he gathers support for his platform issues: Homework will be optional, bedtimes are no more, dessert time is anytime, and there will be a pet for every child. With overwhelming popular support, Luke takes office. But being President is a lot of work. How will President Pennybaker find a way to still have fun?

My Side of the Car. Sadie has wanted to go the zoo forever, but something always gets in the way. Not today! Today they are finally on their way, and nothing can stop them - not a broken arm or a lost dog or a surprise visit. Not even her dad's observation: "Sadie, it's raining." Because when Sadie looks out her window, not only is it not raining on her side of the car, the sun is shining and people are watering their lawns and wearing sunglasses. Even when the road on Dad's side starts looking more like a river, Sadie can barely see a raindrop fall on her side of the car. This warmhearted tale of a child's optimism and a father's loving patience is guaranteed to tickle the funny bone, no matter the weather.

Henry the Dog with No Tail. Henry wanted one thing in life. He wanted a tail. All the other dogs he knew had tails. Grady, a black Labrador, had a great big black tail. Pip, a pug, could do tricks with her tail. Larry had a big puffy ball tail....WHAT WAS HENRY TO DO?

Double Pink. Pink. PINK. PINK. Madison loved pink. Wholly, completely, deeply, truly pink. Is there any other color in the world? No -- never. What for? Did there ever need to be? Day by day, Madison begins to create a totally pink world. What could be more perfect? Perfectly pink! But something is missing.... Then Madison remembers her favorite brown bear, her red fire truck, her green balloon. Pink is nice -- it really is -- but it needs the other colors to shine, and so does Madison! What is she to do now? This delightful first picture book by Kate Feiffer illustrates the age-old adage -- be careful what you wish for, as it might come true. Complemented by Bruce Ingman's inspired artwork, *Double Pink* will charm enthusiasts of all colors of the rainbow.

Which Puppy? Calling all puppies! The White House is looking for a pet! When word spreads far and wide around the globe that the First Family is looking for a pet, animals of all sorts want the part: puppies from Egypt, India, and France; a Neapolitan mastiff from Maryland; and even a kitten, a guinea pig, skunks, turtles, and a raccoon. Which puppy will be chosen? Pulitzer prize winner Jules Feiffer teams up with his daughter Kate to tell a warmhearted tale of a worldwide competition to be the perfect pet!

My Mom is Trying to Ruin My Life. Everyone has only nice things to say about my mom. Everyone likes her. She looks nice. She bakes great cookies and makes me feel better when I have a bad day. But would a really nice mom do embarrassing things like kiss me in public and tell loud jokes that no one thinks are funny? Well, my mom does those *terrible* things and worse - that's why I am sure that I have the most embarrassing mom in the world and that my mom is trying to ruin my life... *Or is she?*

The Problem with the Puddles. Eight-and-a-half years ago, when their beautiful baby girl was born, Mr. and Mrs. Puddle couldn't agree on what to name her. So Mrs. Puddle calls her daughter Emily and Mr. Puddle calls her Ferdinanda. And everyone else? They call her Baby. Having parents who agree to disagree does mean twice as many presents on your birthday, but it can complicate your life! When Baby's parents can't agree on what kind of dog to get, they get two—both named Sally. And one summer day, when rushing back to the city from their country house, the Puddles leave the Sallys behind. Will the Puddles agree to go back? What will become of the Sallys? (Chapter book for grades 3-5)

BOOKS BY MARGIE PALATINI

Gone with the Wand. Can Edith the tooth fairy help Bernice the godmother of all fairies find her magical powers again, or is Bernice doomed to live out the rest of her fairy life wand-less? "If yours truly, Edith Molarnari, tooth fairy second class, hadn't seen it with my own two peepers, I wouldn't have believed it myself --- Bernice Sparklestein, once the best fairy godmother in the biz, having a bad wand day. A very bad wand day." Margie Palatini's heartwarming hilariously story about helping friends and finding your place in life along the way, and Brian Ajhar's beautifully fun illustrations will have both children and adults giggling out loud.

Bedhead. It was BIG. It was BAD. It was...BEDHEAD! No doubt about it, Oliver's having a very bad hair day. His parents and sister try to help. They push, they pull, they spritz and they spray; they goop, they glop, and they mousse. But Oliver's hair is still *way* out of control. And today's class picture day! What's a boy to do?

Bad Boys. Wally and Willy are on the lam again. But as Willimina and Wallanda, they're free and clear . . . or are they? These cleverly disguised wolves think they can fool an entire flock with their womanly wool-wear, but three savvy sheep expose their plan. It looks like another close shave for these baa-aad boys!

Sweet Tooth. Lots of kids have a sweet tooth. But not like Stewart's. His very loud sweet tooth wants what it wants, when it wants it...and lets everyone know about it. Stewart's sweet tooth screams for cake at weddings, for candy during class, and torments him at the movies. Stewart has had enough, and he's bringing out the big guns -- a carrot. Can he stand up to the most annoying sweet tooth in history?

Bad Boys Get Henpecked. Bad boys Willy and Wally are at it again. This time, those two famished wolves have got chicken on the brain. Yes, a delicious, delectable, finger-lickin' chicken dinner. When Mrs. Hen needs a little help around the coop, who's more perfect for the job than the Handy-Dandy Lupino Brothers? Watch out, little chickies, it's almost snack time. But who knew coop care was so much work? Will those mischievous, masked bad boys be able to clean up—and take-out—before Mrs. Hen returns to the roost?

The Perfect Pet. Elizabeth really, really, wants a pet. But her parents do not. Instead they give her a cactus. Even though Elizabeth's new plant proves to be a good listener, Elizabeth still really wants a pet. When Elizabeth campaigns to find the right pet, her family imagines some hair-raising possibilities, until Doug comes along—who is, without a doubt, the most unusual, perfect pet of all.

Moo Hoo. Hilda Mae Heifer has lost her melodic mi-mi-moo! A clunk on the head, and now Hilda's not sure if she should mew, oink, or honk. With the help of the animals on the farm, will Hilda once again be able to sing her sensational moo?

Lousy Rotten Stinkin' Grapes. The grapes are tantalizing and juicy—and high up the tree. But don't worry—Fox is sly and clever, and he has a plan. First, he'll get Bear to give him a boost. Then, he'll get Beaver to give him an oomph. He's sure to be eating grapes in no time at all. Margie Palatini brings us a hilarious twist on the classic Aesop's fable "The Fox and the Grapes," and Barry Moser's expressive illustrations are priceless.

Geek Chick: The Zoey Zone. Meet Zoey She's eleven. Well, *almost* eleven. Okay—*halfway* to eleven. And Zoey's got a few problems: She has the lowest possible score on the coolability meter, a bad hair situation, and growing earlobes. What Zoey needs is a fairy godmother who can give her a very chic makeover and a seat at the primo lunch table. Will Zoey be able to pull it all off? Tune in! (Grades 3-5)

Hogg, Hogg, and Hog. Hogg Hogg & Hog were the most famous, fabulous, successful Big Pigs to ever leave the farm and make it in the BIG CITY. These porcine princes are the hottest pigs on the block, and OINK is the biggest trend to hit the Big City. But what happens when people get tired of oinking? Hogg, Hogg, & Hog need to come up with another hit idea—and fast. But with a little help from their past, they may just have the solution... Margie Palatini brings her signature wit and sophisticated humor—as well her own distinctive illustration style—to a picture book that will have readers oinking for more.

BOOKS BY DAN GUTMAN

The Genius Files: Mission Unstoppable. Coke and Pepsi McDonald didn't want to jump off a cliff. They didn't want to get hit by poisoned darts from blowguns either. And they certainly don't want to get locked in their burning school, thrown into a pit at the top of a sand dune, or drowned in a vat of liquified SPAM. But what are you supposed to do when you're being chased across the country by your insane health teacher and two guys in bowler hats who are trying to kill you? One thing's for sure, it'll be a snap for Coke and Pep to write their essays on "How I Spent My Summer Vacation." Want to join in the fun? Fire up the old Google Maps and follow the McDonald twins as they get chased from the Pez museum to the largest ball of twine in the world. Watch out for the Frisbee grenades!

Johnny Hangtime. It's a bird, It's a plane--no, It's Johnny Hangtime! Jumping off the Empire State Building, fighting on the wing of a biplane, and parachuting onto the back of a horse are all in a day's work for 13-year-old Johnny Thyme, a stunt kid known in the movie business as Johnny Hangtime. But Johnny's phenomenal feats are a movie industry secret. Ricky Corvette, the superstar teen for whom Johnny doubles, wants his fans to think he does his own stunts. Johnny's devoted to repeating the career of his legendary stuntman father, but what's he going to do when his favorite director asks him to perform the super-dangerous stunt that killed his father? Will following in his daredevil; dad's footsteps take him over the edge?

The Million Dollar Shot. Eddie Ball has the chance of a lifetime: to win a million dollars by sinking a foul shot during halftime at the NBA finals, no less. But someone really wants Eddie to shoot an air ball on the big day, and will do anything to sabotage the million dollar shot...

The Homework Machine. Doing homework becomes a thing of the past! Meet the D Squad, a foursome of fifth graders at the Grand Canyon School made up of a geek, a class clown, a teacher's pet, and a slacker. They are bound together by one very big secret: the homework machine. Because the machine, code-named Belch, is doing their homework for them, they start spending a lot of time together, attracting a lot of attention. And attention is exactly what you don't want when you are keeping a secret. Before long, things start to get out of control, and Belch becomes much more powerful than they ever imagined. Now the kids are in a race against their own creation, and the loser could end up in jail...or worse!

The Kid Who Ran for President. Humor, adventure, and excitement will draw kids into the world of elections and politics. "Hi! My name is Judson Moon. I'm 12 years old and I'm running for President of the YOU-nited States." So begins this fast-paced, funny, and surprising account of a boy's run for the Oval Office in the year 2000. Under the tutelage of Lane, his brainy friend and self-appointed campaign manager, the affable sixth-grader from Madison, Wisconsin, takes on the Democrats and Republicans as a Third Party candidate who can make waves. "Grown-ups have had the last one thousand years to mess up the world," Judd tells a reporter. "Now it's our turn."

Race for the Sky. Johnny Moore lives in Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina at the turn of the twentieth century. He is there to witness the Wright brothers make history by becoming the first people to fly. But Johnny's life changes years before the dramatic first flight, when his mama gives him a blank book and tells him to write in it. At first, Johnny doesn't think he has anything interesting to write about in his journal. When he does put his pencil to the paper, his spelling and grammar are terrible. But pretty soon some "dingbatters" from Ohio, called the Wright brothers, breeze into town and Johnny starts to have more of a story to tell. Before he knows it, he is writing every day, telling about helping the Wrights build their flying machine. Over the course of three years, he forms a friendship with the odd brothers from Ohio, improves his writing and grammar quite a bit, and if he waits long enough, he might even get to fly!

Back in Time with Thomas Edison. Robert Edwards Stevens, nicknamed "Qwerty," likes digging in his backyard when he's in a bad mood. He doesn't dig for anything special -- he just digs to get his mind off things. One day, when he's really angry and has a lot on his mind, he starts digging...and THUNK! He hits something, a wooden box with a famous signature: *Thomas A. Edison* Is this a phonograph created by the famous inventor himself? Or is it something even more incredible -- something that could take Qwerty right to Thomas Edison's doorstep? Get ready for one remarkable time-travel adventure!

Baseball Card Adventure Series:

Honus and Me. Joe Stoshack lives for baseball. He knows everything there is to know about the game -- except how to play well. His specialty is striking out. Stosh feels like a real loser, and when he takes a low-paying job cleaning a bunch of junk out of his neighbor's attic, he feels even worse -- until he comes across a little piece of cardboard that takes his breath away. His heart is racing. His brain is racing. He can hardly believe his eyes. Stosh has stumbled upon a T-206 Honus Wagner -- the most valuable baseball card in the world! And he's about to find out that it's worth a lot more than money....

Shoeless Joe and Me. When Joe Stoshack hears about Shoeless Joe Jackson -- and the gambling scandal that destroyed the star player's career -- he knows what he has to do. If he travels back in time with a 1919 baseball card in his hand, he just might be able to prevent the infamous Black Sox Scandal from ever taking place. And if he could do that, Shoeless Joe Jackson would finally take his rightful place in the Baseball Hall of Fame. But can Stosh prevent that tempting envelope full of money from making its way to Shoeless Joe's hotel room before the big game?

Babe and Me. On October 1, 1932, during Game Three of the Chicago Cubs -- New York Yankees World Series, Babe Ruth belted a long home run to straightaway centerfield. According to legend, just before he hit, Babe pointed to the bleachers and boldly predicted he would slam the next pitch there. Did he call the shot or didn't he? Witnesses never agreed. Like other baseball fans, Joe Stoshack wants to know the truth. But unlike other fans, Joe has the astonishing ability to travel through time and solve one of baseball's greatest puzzles....

Jackie and Me. Like every other kid in his class, Joe Stoshack has to write a report on an African American who's made an important contribution to society. Unlike every other kid in his class, Joe has a special talent: with the help of old baseball cards, he can travel through time. So for his report, Joe decides to go back to meet one of the greatest baseball players ever, Jackie Robinson, to find out what it was like to be the man who broke baseball's color barrier. Joe plans on writing a prize-winning report. But he doesn't plan on a trip that will for a short time change the color of his skin--and forever change his view of history and his definition of courage.

For Younger Readers:

Casey Back at Bat. The mighty Casey is getting what any failed sports hero most desires: a second chance. He's got to prove himself after his last, disastrous game. All eyes are on Casey as he steps up to the plate. Will he finally bring joy to Mudville? It's a hilarious sequel to Ernest Lawrence Thayer's famous poem "Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic."

They Came From Center Field. A team of youngsters takes on a crew of extraterrestrials determined to learn the game of baseball.

My Weird School (first series):

Miss Daisy is Crazy. Never before has school been this mixed up—or this much fun! Miss Daisy, who teaches second grade, doesn't know how to add or subtract. Not only that, she doesn't know how to read or write, either. She is the dumbest teacher in the history of the world!

Mr. Klutz is Nuts. Principal Klutz was hanging upside down from the school flagpole! He kissed a pig on the lips and painted his bald head orange! And now he wants to bungee jump off the roof of the school dressed as Santa Claus!

My Weirder School (most recent series):

Miss Child Has Gone Wild. My Weirder School weirder than ever! The third grade has won a weird contest, so they get to go on a field trip to the zoo. That's how they meet Miss Child, the weirdest zookeeper in the history of the world. She thinks animals are smarter than people! She thinks elephants can paint pictures! She keeps snakes in her pockets for fun! Guess who's going to wind up in a cage with a lion?

Mr. Harrison is Embarrassin' Mr. Harrison, the tech guy at Ella Mentry School, can fix anything: computers, phones, pencil sharpeners. He can also build anything, like a solar-powered umbrella. What a nerd! But when the power goes out in the school, everyone is yelling and screaming and freaking out in the dark. Can Mr. Harrison save the day?