

# Students Sound Off

**Newspaper in Education 2026 • Spencer County Leader • Section C**

cats and dogs, Lailynn, Miss. Holder 5 grad

School: Luce Elementary



**Across**

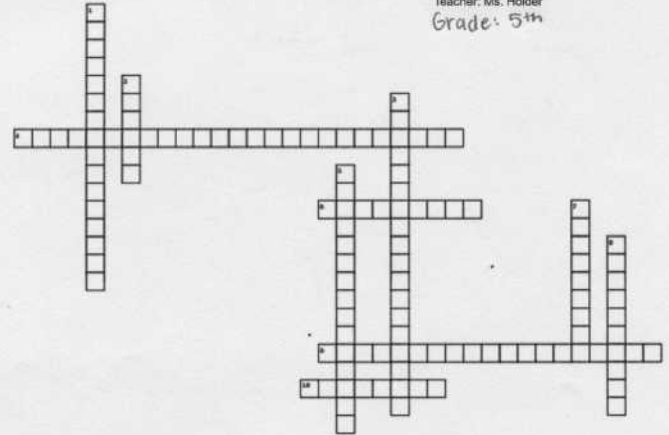
**Down**

3. fluffy hunting dog  
6. dog that has a long body  
8. big fluffy cat  
10. medium size dog and is aggressive sometimes  
11. cat that looks like a tiger

1. cat with no fur  
2. small dog and can be aggressive  
4. cat with little fur  
5. cat that looks like a lion  
7. cat that is small  
9. dog with short Carolyn fur

U.S.A History

By Aiden and Ivan  
School: Luce Elementary  
Teacher: Ms. Holder  
Grade: 5th



**Across**

**Down**

4. U.S.A was officially a country when \_\_\_\_\_ was made.  
6. \_\_\_\_\_ was the 2nd president of the United States of America.  
9. The battle of \_\_\_\_\_ was the start of the revolutionary war.  
10. \_\_\_\_\_ are German soldiers that worked for Great Britain

1. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first president of the United States of America.  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ is mostly what caused the Boston Tea Party  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ was also called the Seven Years' War.  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ was the main creator of the Declaration of Independence.  
7. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first permanent settlement in the United States of America.  
8. \_\_\_\_\_ was King of Great Britain during the Revolutionary war.

Word Bank

- Hessians
- Lexington/Concord
- John Adams
- Declaration/Independence
- King George
- Jamestown
- George Washington
- Teaser
- Thomas Jefferson
- French and Indian War

## Indiana University

Caroline  
Grade 5, Luce  
Elementary  
Ms. Holder

Did you know that about 805,000 people graduate from IU each year? Yes, researchers say that 805,000

people graduate from IU each year, but what does IU mean well it doesn't mean anything but it stands for Indiana University. They hold a football game against Purdue (their rivals) each year. Researchers say more than 7,891 IU

fans watch the game each year. The school is cool too the IU university web site says that it has 1,954 archers of land and says that it is the heart of the state capital. Now who wouldn't want to go to school there.

## Why Our Next Field Trip Should Be to Washington, D.C.

Owen Stephens  
4th Grade  
David Turnham

Imagine going on a field trip where you can explore history, sports, and even the government, all in one place! That's why I think our class should go to Washington, D.C. It would be one of the best days ever. There's even a movie about a museum there, which makes it seem even more exciting!

First, we could visit the Holocaust Museum. It has more than 16,000 artifacts, including concentration camp uniforms, cattle cars, and personal diaries. Many students in our class are interested in learning about real stories from the past, and this museum would help us understand history in a powerful way.

Next, we could see the Capitol Building, where important decisions are made for our country. We might get to see lawmakers at work or learn how new laws are created. It would be amazing to visit a place where the government meets and makes choices that affect everyone in the United States.

Finally, we could go to the Smithsonian museums. They have incredible exhibits, like fossils and historical figures. One of the coolest parts is walking through the entrance and seeing a giant dinosaur skeleton. There are so many interesting things to explore, and we could learn a lot while having fun.

A field trip to Washington, D.C. would help us learn more about our country, its history, and how our government works. It would be an unforgettable experience that we would always remember!

## Do Your Homework!

Lincoln Belt  
4th Grade  
David Turnham

Why should students do homework? Homework helps your brain in many important ways.

First, it's educating your brain and helping you learn even after school is over. It gives your brain extra practice so you can understand lessons better. The more you practice, the easier it is to remember what you learned in class.

Second, homework helps improve your skills. When you repeat and practice the same things, they start to "stick" in your brain.

Homework is an opportunity to improve the skills you struggle with in any type of academics! This makes you stronger in subjects you may struggle with, like math or reading.

Homework also improves your memory keeping all the academic school work in your mind so you are more likely to remember it later. This can help you do better on tests and feel more confident in school.

Homework is not just extra work—it is an opportunity to grow and become a better learner. If we take it seriously and try our best, homework can help us succeed now and in the future.

## Graduation day

by Mabel Kemper  
Nancy Hanks Elementary  
6th Grade, Mrs. Eye

Have you ever wondered what it is like to graduate 6th grade? Most people think that the only time you would ever graduate is your preschool or senior year of high school, but for our school everybody in the 6th grade and years to come will get to graduate! When 6th grade graduates, it's like a "Goodbye" to the grade school and "Hello" to the middle school.

This year I am in the 6th grade so I haven't graduated just yet but my older brother Henry has. Whenever I was watching him graduate it seemed super fun and like you accomplished something that would stay with you forever, because of this I am super excited for 6th grade graduation but nervous at the same time because I only ever graduated preschool and that was really fun!

I'm also a little nervous about the middle school because it's a brand new adventure and we'll be switching classes a lot more than when we did at the grade school. But even though I am a little nervous, there are some positive outcomes from moving up to the middle school which is you make way more friends, you get your own locker, and more!

Even though all of this stuff that we'll get to do next year I am going to miss Nancy Hanks and all the fun memories that us as 6th graders had there, but I get to have one last memory there before I get to move up to the middle school and that is 6th grade graduation. I've never graduated 6th grade before but when I do I'm going to be super excited and it's going to feel like an accomplishment for me. Congratulations to everyone in the 6th grade!

## Fun things to do in the summer

Ella Braun  
6th Grade, Mrs. Zollman  
Lincoln Trail Elementary

Imagine it's the summer and you're just on your couch watching tv, your mom comes into the room. What are you doing? She's right, what are you doing! You should be outside or at least doing something rather than being a bum. If you're not sure what you should be doing, this is the perfect article for you! Here are some activities to do when you're bored: first of all you could go outside and play with your friends or even with your siblings, you could go and play basketball, volleyball, or softball really anything.

Another thing that's really fun to do is bake a cake with your mom or friends and you can decorate it however you like! Other things to do are going shopping, swimming, trying new fun activities you have never tried before, building a fort with your friends, and you can even try camping outdoors. So when your parents walk in on you they're not going to see you on the couch they'll see you doing one of these amazing activities and they won't be disappointed but happy. So do you really want an angry mom, I don't think you do. Now I'm not sure about you but watching tv on the couch doing nothing sounds kinda boring. What do you think?

## A theatrical experience

Julia Hall  
6th Grade, Ms. Wead  
Lincoln Trail Elementary School

The Aladdin Jr. play is when the 4 elementary schools come together to form a play to perform. The dates will be on May 1st & 2nd at Heritage Hills High School. In plays there are lots of background things that happen, like back stage crew who help with props and costumes. The art crew helps make the props, as

well. There are the teachers that make the show happen and do the dancing. The actors, no matter if they are mains, apart of a posse, ensemble, or extras they are still part of the play so they are important to the show and to the people who are in it. We come in early before the play to put on costumes and get ready for the show to start. Even people who were not in plays in school still like watching them to support their kids or grandkids. Thank you for your time!

## Thrown Through History

Gabe Deom  
Grade 5, Mrs. Tempel's Class  
Lincoln Trail

Strike 1! Strike 2! Strike 3! You're out! Have you ever played baseball? Because if you haven't, you're missing out. It is the best sport that has ever been invented! Baseball was invented in 1839, so it is an older sport, but is still amazing! Now, I would say it wasn't that good, until 1845, when the New York Knickerbocker Base Ball Club was formed. It established the first "real rules", known as the Knickerbocker Rules, or, the 20 Original Rules. It also had a new design for the field. The new field invented was a diamond-shaped field, and still kept the outfield (a large green grass

area, farther out than the diamond) in the game.

The time that baseball blew up, was in the 1920s, around the end of World War II, called the golden era of baseball. It was when Babe Ruth went to the New York Yankees, and did a tremendous job playing. He broke over 50 world records through his career, but a lot of those were on the same records. Like the on-base plus slugging percentage (OPS) 11 times. In the years 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1923, 1924, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1930, and 1931. And there are a lot more records of his like that.

Now swinging into the modern era, we can see that about 3 years ago from today, the rules changed again. To where there was a pitch clock.

And that means that the pitcher has only 15 seconds to pitch if no one is on base. But if there was at least one person on base, then they have 20 seconds to pitch. Another thing that was changed in the modern era, was bigger bases for the runners to stand on. That was a huge advantage for them, because when they are coming in for a slide, they have more room that they can hit. But it was also bad for the runners, and good for the fielders, because when they have to tag the bag to get the runner out, they have more room to do so.

So now that you know about how baseball became what it is now, you might want to pick-up a bat, and... SWING!

## My Favorite Nancy Hanks Staff Member: Mrs. Nikki

Jayce Schaeffer  
Nancy Hanks Elementary  
School  
6th Grade, Mrs. Eye

Let me introduce myself. I'm Jayce Schaefer. I'm in Mrs. Eye's sixth grade class at Nancy Hanks Elementary School and my goal is to recognize Mrs. Nikki. She is a student counselor at Nancy Hanks Elementary School and a friend to all. She has been a counselor at this school for 6 years. She has made projects for us kids to do including, raising money for disabled people who need assistance, as well as she even has groups to help people who

struggle with divorced parents (GAP).

I picked Mrs. Nikki because she is nice. When I first moved to Nancy Hanks Elementary she helped me settle in and showed me around so I wouldn't get lost. She also runs a group called Fish. Fish is a group of around 12 kids in the school that either don't live with their biological parents or they are in foster homes. Another thing Mrs. Nikki brings around 10 kids (I'm one of them) to a horse ranch called Stir N Up Hope where we learn how to ride horses, learn how to be a team and how to listen.

Mrs. Nikki said sometimes, her

job can be stressful when she has several activities like cooking for her family and going on a walk to relieve her stress. Another reason I picked her is because it helps kids love themselves and boost kids' confidence levels, which is some of the reasons she wanted to be a counselor. Mrs. Nikki also likes to build strong relationships with students and staff by being honest, understanding, and a good collaborator.

Mrs. Nikki says she plans on continuing helping kids build character. Nancy Hanks Elementary School would not be the same without Mrs. Nikki.

## Police keep us safe

Kolby Gogel, 4th Grade  
Mrs. Collignon

The police safely save this county. Beau Anderson keeps us

safe at Lincoln Trail. He talks to us about being safe and making good choices. He is my best friend. Beau Anderson is the police at the Santa

Claus police station. He talks to us about stranger danger and about safety first and about emergency, calling 911.