New Classes Coming Soon to Taft!

**Garbage Patch Dissection**

Come discover what albatross eat and learn about the impact that plastic is having on the planet. Students will get to look through an albatross bolus and sort the contents to find out what an albatross has consumed.

Students will discuss the Pacific trash patch and its impact on wildlife. They will also come up with solutions to reduce pollution and participate in a riverside trash clean up.

**Archery**

Archery is a fun, recreational activity for students and is quickly growing in popularity. In this class students will get hands on experience using a bow in a safe setting. They will learn the parts of the bow and be introduced to the basic techniques of archery.
Get to Know the Taft Staff

We asked the Taft education staff to answer some questions to help get to know them.

1. What animal would you be?
2. What is your favorite candy?
3. What super power would you want?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ashley</th>
<th>Bethany</th>
<th>Amy</th>
<th>Alyssa</th>
<th>Will</th>
<th>Katie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Control over time</td>
<td>3. Definitely super speed like Flash!</td>
<td>3. The ability to fly</td>
<td>3. Teleportation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jacci</th>
<th>Melanie</th>
<th>Teairra</th>
<th>Cher</th>
<th>Katie</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Chameleon because they have a long tongue for catching their food and change color to fit their mood</td>
<td>1. Otter because I like to swim, play, and enjoy shell fish</td>
<td>1. Tiger</td>
<td>1. Black jaguar</td>
<td>1. Bear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Strawberry sour patch or peanut butter M&amp;Ms</td>
<td>2. Dark Chocolate</td>
<td>2. Caramels or Tootie Fruities</td>
<td>2. Twix</td>
<td>2. Kit Kat bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Teleportation so I could go everywhere!</td>
<td>3. Telepathy - sometimes talking seems so draining, and it would be nice to just transmit my thoughts without speaking</td>
<td>3. The ability to control the elements</td>
<td>3. Flying</td>
<td>3. Taking energy from other things</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Order left to right: Megan, Teairra, Katie, Jacci, Anne, Ashley, Alyssa, Cher, Melanie
Front row: Bethany, Will, Amy
Poison Ivy Facts
While walking through the woods many people are concerned about poison ivy. Here are a few tips and facts to help you identify this plant and ease your mind the next time you are out.

• The old saying “leaves of three, let it be” is a great way to identify poison ivy, but there are lots of other plants in the forest that also have three leaves. Look for dark green leaves that are sometimes shiny, especially when the plant is young. Where the leaves (actually leaflets of a compound leaf) come together, the stem is often reddish brown. It is a vine, so it will sometimes be found climbing trees or covering the forest floor.

• Skin irritation will most often occur 24-48 hours after contact with the plant - not right away. If you have been walking in the woods and think you have touched poison ivy, make sure to take a good shower and wash your clothes to get rid of any of the oils.

• The only way to spread poison ivy is by touching the oils from the plant. Coming into contact with the rash will not spread it.

Nature Riddle Challenge
Here are a few riddles to try and stump you. The answers can be found on the next page

A
I climb trees, but I'm not a cat.
I hibernate, but I'm not a bear.
I eat nuts, but I'm not a bird.
I'm a type of rodent, but I'm not a rat.
I have a bushy tail, but I'm not a fox.

What am I?

B
I'm sometimes seen when bowling, but I'm not a ball.
I'm something that gets roasted, but I'm not coffee.
I'm a food that sounds like I'm named after a country, but I'm not Chile.
I can be made into bacon, but I'm not a pig.
I'm eaten at Thanksgiving, but I'm not candied yams.

What am I?

C
People come and watch, from far away to see.
Burning brightly, almost catching fire.
The colder it is, the hotter I'll be.
Then I die.

What am I?
Congratulations to all of our schools who got zero ort for at least one meal while at Lorado Taft! Many schools were very close, and we know the students worked really hard to achieve their goals. We hope that the idea of zero ort is something your students take with them back to school to share with their families and friends.

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**THE ZERO ORT REPORT!!!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIU STEM Camp (1)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIU STEM Camp (2)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elgin Academy 6th grade</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLMCA</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Ridge</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Thomas of Villanova</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity Lutheran</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Riddle Answers:
A. Squirrel
B. Turkey
C. Leaves Changing Color

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Fax: (815) 732-4242

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Follow us on Instagram to find out what else is going on.

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Nature Riddles—Bethany Kautz