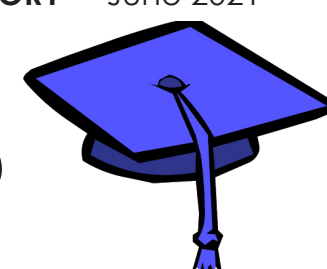




# Senior Memories

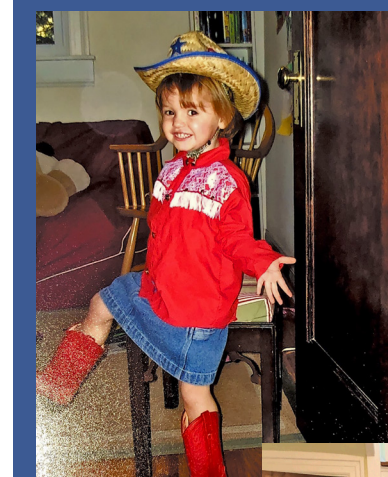


Pages by Lucy Edmunds, Senior

Pages by Lucy Edmunds, Senior

## Lucy Edmunds Editor-in-Chief

I have been an editor for *The Pel Mel* since my freshman year in high school, beginning as a Managing Editor and finishing my high school career as Editor-in-Chief. I credit my experience working on *The Pel Mel* with much of the growth and self-awareness that I have gained over these past four years. I went into the class thinking I would find it interesting and that it would help me to expand my writing abilities-- but came out with far more. My teacher and superior editors made the conscious choice to hold back on publishing my work until I demonstrated to them an ability to take criticism and appeal to my audience. I have discovered the value in other's advice and learned to provide constructive criticism. Alongside the essential people-skills I learned during my four years with the newspaper, I was taught the importance of dedication. My teacher, Mr. Neil Schleifer, was sure not to reward students for completing the bare minimum. As a solid student used to getting good grades for completing my work, this was a massive wake up call. I learned to make the paper something that I am proud to present to others. I would spend many hours after school and during free-periods helping to perfect pages of the upcoming publication. Not only was I rewarded with the marks that I desired, but the satisfaction of producing something with my own blood, sweat, and tears, and being able to look back at it and feel confident that it was my best.



## Nevan Malwana Editor-in-Chief



It's been four years since I started out as a nervous freshman, on my first assignment as a nervous club writer for the newspaper. In the time since I've covered many stories, reported on many people, and seen many different kinds of events. Yet, in all that I've witnessed over these past four years, my fondest memory, and the greatest story I have ever witnessed was one that featured not some unique talent or quirk, but the grit and determination of a mass of people, a community, our community. Returning back to school that first day with the cohort system dissolved was an odd trip down memory lane. Walking down the halls that day, the experience was reminiscent of the first day of high school: nervous glances across the hall, nervous chuckles with old friends, and a sense of timid anticipation. Of course this time there were also masks and portable barriers, but the feelings of relief and excitement of returning with a full class overpowered and sense of restriction. The energy I witnessed that day, not just in a few individuals, but the overwhelming buzz generated by the joy of a return, the gratefulness to others, and the possibilities now brought to us will be an environment and a memory I will never forget.

## Irene Beldiman News Editor

After four years at PMHS it is hard to pinpoint just one memory that stands out to me. From Olympics, Homecoming, Talent Shows, fundraisers such as Haunted House and Student Faculty Games, I could probably list out countless moments from these events that have brought me joy. But, my most fond memories are not just surface level. Saying just "Olympics" was my favorite thing throughout high school would be circumstantial because it is truly just so much more than that.

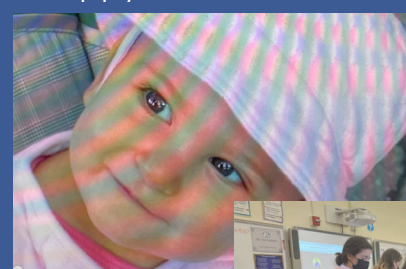
Though we could not have our traditional senior Olympics, I was still blown away by how similar this year's event was. But still, there are some aspects that were impossible to recreate. Starting January every year the Olympics mania begins. Not only decorations but with can drive. I remember the frenzy running to Costco in free periods piling in cans with money I grabbed from kids in the hall. I wasn't even with my close friends but that did not matter. Every person had all hands on deck with one thing on their mind, winning.

Reaching almost 9,000 cans, we absolutely crushed it, but can drive was only one of the affairs. Moving on to the weeks before Olympics, people piled up in Battema's room to start decorating. Seeing what people can create is absolutely insane.

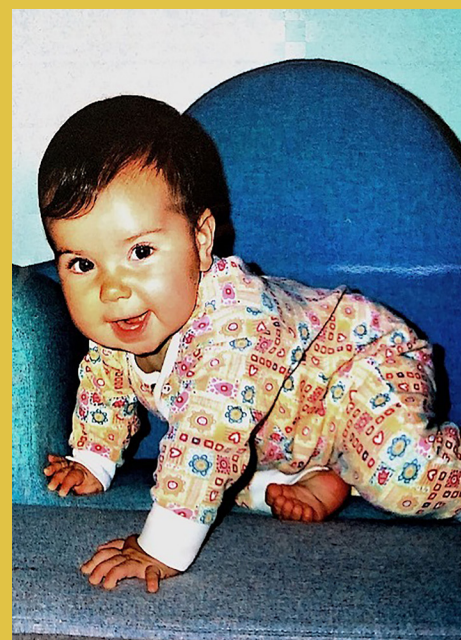
Getting our whole grade to work so hard on everything that goes into Olympics is a surreal experience. No matter who your friends are, what you are interested in, everyone comes together for this one thing.

I knew I had to find a way to admire the best way people come together. Trying my best to keep that traditional silly walk feel, we got as many kids as we could to dance at shore park, truly getting as many people involved as possible. Moreover, it only felt right to have a proper send off with a nostalgic montage with old clips and people saying their favorite memories.

Even with a modified Senior Year, I am so thankful for PMHS for helping me grow into the person I am today. It truly did go a lot faster than I could have imagined but am so happy I have so much to look back on.



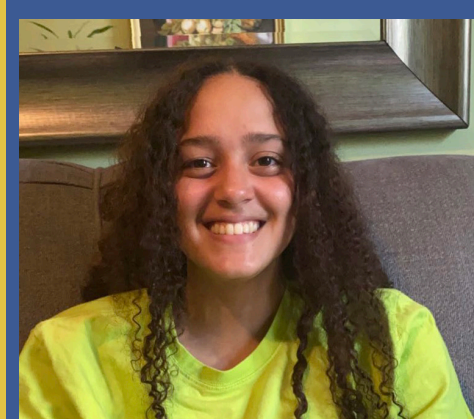
## Lila Caminiti Features Editor



I will never forget the feeling of walking into my Print Journalism class in sophomore year. I had quit the newspaper after two years on the staff of the *Colonial Times*, and was certain that journalism was not for me. However, after being pushed by my family and friends, I joined *The Pel Mel*. Although it was nerve-racking at first to step back into the world of journalism, especially at a high-school level rather than an elementary one, I quickly came to love *The Pel Mel*. Throughout my three years on *The Pel Mel* staff, I have learned so much about what it means to be a good journalist, and I'm even going to be studying journalism in college. Thank you Mr. Schleifer and *The Pel Mel* for everything!

## Sofia Cendeno Features Editor

My favorite high school memory has to be taking creative writing with Mrs. O'Brien my sophomore year. The class is really important to me as a writer because it was the first time I felt like I was truly good at something. A highlight from that class was when I wrote my first short story. We had spent weeks in class working on our own stories and I was having trouble figuring out what to do. The week the assignment was due, I had somehow come up with a story idea that would impact the rest of my life. That short story I wrote would go on to be recognized by the Pelham community, giving me the confidence to believe in my writing and keep working at it. That short story is what caused me to apply for college writing workshops, submit to contests in the school and even join the school newspaper. Without that creative writing class I wouldn't have figured out what I'm passionate about. It's crazy to think how one class in high school can change your whole perspective on the future I will always remember that class and that short story because it's a moment that has defined a part of who I am and I couldn't be more grateful for it.



## Asia Bertuccioli Sports Editor



\*Asia could not provide a baby photo. Pictured is a young FDR.



Being a member of the Girls Varsity Swim and Dive Team for five years has been a memory which I will continue to carry with me. When I started in the eighth grade it allowed me not to be scared of highschoolers and the idea of growing up. Starting from such a young age with the same coach, it became a very constant thing that I would look forward to. High School is all about time management and adjusting to different circumstances and swimming taught me just that. Being able to juggle practice 2-3 times a day and be a successful student was a challenge but I had the structure to do it. As people come and go and classes get harder, swimming was always something constant that I knew would be there. Obviously this year, something I thought would be constant, changed just like everything else. However, swimming taught me how to deal with the challenges and the anxiety of the unknown. Though I have had a love-hate journey throughout my swimming career, it will be something I carry on for many years to come.

## Chris Hartigan Sports Editor

One of my favorite memories of high school happened during my junior year Olympics in the basketball finals. My friend and I were the coaches and we were taking on the senior team. We definitely knew that we could win but we had almost lost to the freshman in the first round game so we were a little nervous. The other coach and I had dressed in suits and had come up with a whole game plan. The stands were packed and the game started off in the best way possible, the first basket was scored by the backup on our team who didn't even play basketball. The crowd erupted and the entire gym was shaking. From that point on our team had the momentum and we ran away with the game. We ended up winning by over 20 points and our team was making every shot. This is one of my favorite memories because looking back on it this is what I missed the most during quarantine, everyone in the school together and rooting and cheering for each other.

