

Shining a light on the latest hot topics!

**in-can-des-cent:**

Adjective

1. emitting light as a result of being heated.
2. Passionate or brilliant

# EDISON INCANDESCENT

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 5

FEBRUARY 2016

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- Behind-the-Scene Staff Spotlights
- Election Info
- Favorite Dance Move - Survey Results

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## Celebrating

by Niyah Ramos, Zaria-Rodgers Tomlinson, and Joy Watson

*In honor of Black History Month, a few of our writers submitted biographical snapshots of some prominent leaders in Black History.*

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**Frederick Douglass** was a former



slave who was brave enough to run away to the northern states and convince Abraham Lincoln to free slaves during the Civil War. Lincoln was running out of people to fight in his army, and Fredrick Douglass explained to him that if you let the slaves free they can fight for him.

**Harriet Tubman** escaped from slavery in the South and became a leading abolitionist before the American Civil War. She was born in Maryland in 1820, and successfully escaped in 1849, yet she returned many times to rescue both family members and non-relatives from the plantation system. She led hundreds to freedom in the North as the most famous "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, an elaborate secret net-



work of safe houses organized for that purpose.

Born in Delaware in 1930,

**Clifford Brown** began exhibiting extraordinary expertise on the trumpet in



his early teens. His rich tone, virtuoso technique and graceful style kept Brown continually working and growing in popularity. He was especially noted for his ability to improvise in long, melodic phrases. The jazz standard "Joy Spring" (1954) is one of his best-known songs. Tragically killed in a car accident in 1956, at age 25, Brown has been praised as the "greatest trumpeter that ever lived" by musicians such as Herb Alpert and Quincy Jones.

**Claudette Colvin** was born on September 5, 1939, in Montgomery, Alabama. On March 2, 1955, she refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. Some say that she was the first Rosa Parks. She was arrested and became one of four plaintiffs in *Browder v. Gayle*, which ruled that Montgomery's segregated bus system was unconstitutional. Colvin moved to New York City and worked as a nurse's aide. She retired in 2004.



## EDISON LEGEND - Ja'Quan Lacy

by Ronajah Anderson

**Ronajah:** Do you think that you have changed since being here at Thomas Edison? If yes, how so?

**Ja'Quan:** Yeah, I think I changed a lot in my time being here from going through different experiences.

**RA:** Who is your favorite teacher at TECS?

**JL:** My favorite teacher is Mr. Till.

**RA:** How has the school

changed since you've been here at TECS?

**JL:** As I've moved up through grades it seems like we have a little bit more freedom.

**RA:** Do you think that this year at TECS is more challenging than your other years?

**JL:** Yes, because I've had to apply for high schools. Mr. Arya will help you with this process, so make sure you work hard and show him a good work ethic or he might question helping you.

**RA:** What high schools have you applied to?

**JL:** I've applied to Cab Callo-way, St. Georges, and Freire.



Ja'Quan, kindergarten

### 7 Habits Advice: How to Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood

1. Listen with empathy.
2. Avoid interrupting the person who is speaking.
3. Avoid criticism, evaluations or solution to the problem.
4. Validate the speaker's feelings even if you don't agree with their perspective.
5. Reflect back what you have heard to ensure accuracy.



## Recap of Super Bowl 50 & Entertainment

by Maddy Yates

The super bowl is the most televised event of the year. Some people watch the game for the football and others watch for the entertainment, and the commercials.

This year the Broncos played the Panthers. As most of us know, the Broncos won. The score was 24-10. In the half time show we had a performance by Beyonce, Coldplay, and Bruno Mars.

Coldplay started out with 3 of their most famous songs: *Viva La Vida*, *Adventure of a Life Time*, and *Paradise*. Bruno mars performed *Up-town Funk* and Beyoncé performed *Crazy in Love*. It was a very colorful and exciting performance by all three wonderful artists.

Coldplay was originally supposed to play alone, but then he invited Beyoncé and Bruno Mars to join them. Chris Martin, the lead singer of Coldplay was married to Gwyneth Paltrow. The couple used to hang out with Beyoncé and Jay-Z. That's how Chris knew Beyoncé

and why he asked her to perform. Lady Gaga also sang the national anthem, wearing a red sparkly suit with matching eye shadow.

According to USA Today the top 3 commercials were...

- 1) **Hyundai's First Date** - Starring Kevin Hart, this commercial was about a daughter going on a first date and her dad let her date use his car (Hyundai). The over-protective dad used his car finder to watch over the two in hilarious ways.
- 2) **Doritos Dogs**- This was about dogs trying to get into a store to buy Doritos.
- 3) **Doritos Ultrasound**- This commercial was about a woman getting her ultrasound and the dad was eating Dorito's. As the dad waved the Dorito's around, the baby moved to follow him. Annoyed, the mom snatched the Dorito and...well you should just watch it to see what happens!



# Black History Poem

## Caged

by Maya Angelou (submitted by Derrill Stewart)

The free bird leaps  
on the back of the wind  
and floats downstream  
till the current ends  
and dips his wings  
in the orange sun rays  
and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks  
down his narrow cage

can seldom see through  
his bars of rage  
his wings are clipped and  
his feet are tied  
so he opens his throat to  
sing.

The caged bird sings  
with fearful trill  
of the things unknown  
but longed for still  
and his tune is heard  
on the distant hill for the  
caged bird  
sings of freedom.

The free bird thinks of  
another breeze  
and the trade winds soft  
through the sighing trees  
and the fat worms waiting  
on a dawn-bright lawn  
and he names the sky his  
own.

But a caged bird stands on  
the grave of dreams  
his shadow shouts on a  
nightmare scream  
his wings are clipped and  
his feet are tied

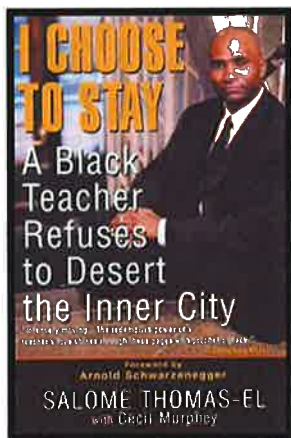
so he opens his  
throat to sing

The caged bird  
sings  
with a fearful  
trill  
of things un-  
known  
but longed for  
still  
and his tune is heard  
on the distant hill  
for the caged bird  
sings of freedom.



## Author's Corner with Principal EL - Part One

by Kiara McManus



Did you know our principal is also an author? Read on to learn about Principal EL's books. Part Two of this interview will be printed in our next issue.

**Kiara:** *What inspired you to write your books?*

**Principal EL:** I wanted teachers to know that they made a difference and I wanted students to know that their teachers were proud of them.

**KM:** *Who helped you write your book?*

**P.EL:** I had a co-author named Cecil Murphy. I asked him to help me, so he recorded over 18 hours of me, my family and my students talking. He typed it up and I edited it.

**KM:** *Do you have any favorite quotes from your book?*

**P.EL:** "Every teacher is not a parent, but every parent is a teacher."

**KM:** *How did you come up with the title of your books?*

**P.EL:** My students inspired *I Choose to Stay*. When I was offered another principal job and more money, I turned it down and stayed at my current school. My students thought that it was pretty cool that I stayed.

**KM:** *What was your purpose for writing the book?*

**P.EL:** The purpose was to get a message out to teachers and parents...that they are important and influential.

**KM:** *When were you featured on C-SPAN, CNN, Oprah Radio, Dr. Oz, or NPR Radio?*

**P.EL:** Those are all shows that feature guests at different times. I'm not on regularly, but some of the videos are available online.

**Mr. Manuel's Spanish Phrase of the Month**

*Yo soy alumna en TECS.*

*"I am a student at TECS."*



All you need is  
love, but a little  
chocolate now  
and then  
doesn't hurt!

Charles M.  
Schulz



Principal EL's  
Words of Wisdom:  
Don't wait to be  
greater later...  
**Be Great  
TODAY!**

## 8th Graders Battling Senioritis

By Aniah Crippen

The 3rd trimester has started and the countdown to graduation has begun. As some of the 8th grade class starts to find out about high school acceptances, it's hard to think about what's going on RIGHT NOW when you're so excited about what's to come. I asked a few 8th graders how they were feeling.

**Aniah:** *What 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities are you most looking forward to for this last trimester?*

**Kylah Arnold:** The 8<sup>th</sup> grade

party.

**Taelynn Brooks:** The formal.

**AC:** *How have your years been here? Are you ready to leave?*

**Mari Smallwood:** To be honest, I feel that my years here have been great! But it's cool...I'll be back to see y'all. I'm going out with a bang!

**India Salaam:** I'm ready to leave. I've been here too long!

**AC:** *Are you ready to go to*

*high school, or has senioritis kicked in?*

**Joy Watson:** I'm focused because I'm trying to get through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and get good grades! One of my favorite quotes is "You gotta crawl before you walk!"

**Ronajah Anderson:** Both because I want to experience new things, but it's going to be weird going to a new school since I've been here for so long.

## Behind-the-Scenes: Mrs. Winder

by Ronajah Anderson

**Ronajah:** *What brought you to Thomas Edison?*

**Ms. Winder:** I felt with my skills and experience I could make a big contribution to Thomas Edison. I felt it was a perfect fit for me.

**RA:** *How long have you been here at TECS?*

**MW:** It will be six years on March 29th.

**RA:** *What is your job title, and what are your responsibilities?*

**MW:** My job title is Chief Financial Officer (CFO). I am responsible for the school finances - I make sure that the school finances are in line with the state's rules. I am also

responsible for overseeing the cafeteria area, facility management, and office staff.

**RA:** *How does your job help keep the school running?*

**MW:** I make sure that funds are spent wisely on things we need.

**RA:** *Where did you work before coming here? Did you have the same job?*

**MW:** I worked for a non-profit organization called Turning Points for Children. I was the Accounting Manager and a lot of my duties were the same as my job here.

**RA:** *What's the best part about your job?*

**MW:** The best part of my job is the variety of responsibilities I have. I never get bored!

**RA:** *What is the hardest part*

*about your job?*

**MW:** The hardest part about my job is meeting many deadlines.



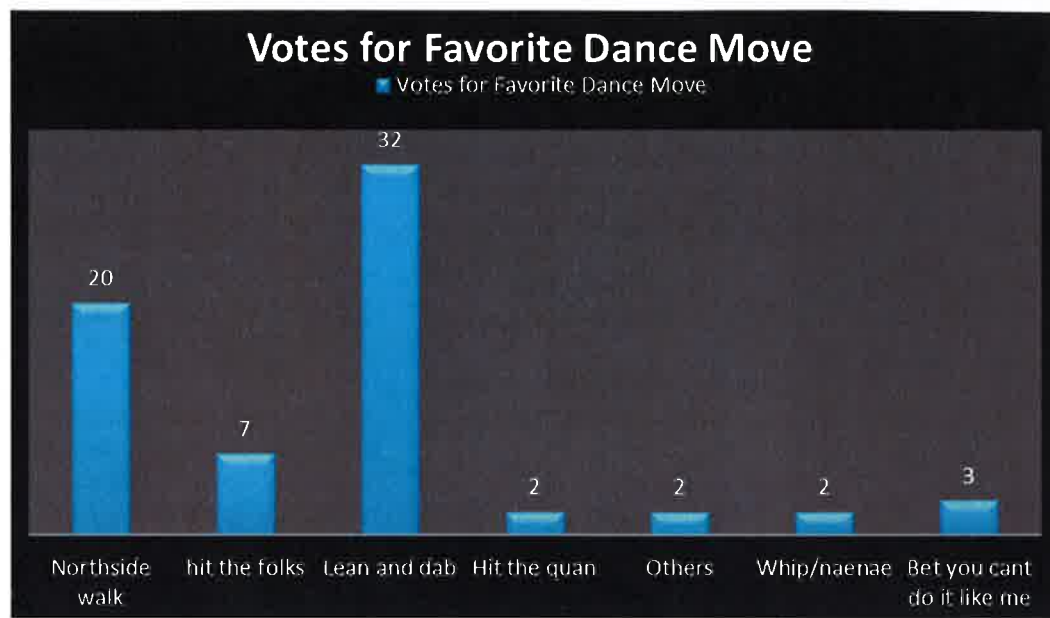
**RA:** *If you could do it all over again, would you have chosen the same career? If not, what would you have chosen?*

**MW:** I absolutely love this career. Unless I was married to Bruno Mars...then I would be a housewife!

# Best Dance Move - Student Survey

by Anaeja Farrell

For this issue, we decided to poll Junior Academy students to see which popular dance move is their favorite. I asked 86 students for their opinion. As you can see, the **Lean and Dab** is the favorite, with the **Northside Walk** coming behind in a close 2nd place.



## What is Leap Year?

By Niyah Ramos



Leap Year occurs once every four years, giving that year 366 days. We add a day to February, giving it 29 days instead of the usual 28. We will have another Leap Year in 2020.

Why add leap years? Leap years are needed to keep our modern day Gregorian calendar in alignment with the Earth's revolutions around the sun. It actually takes the Earth 365.25 days to revolve around the sun, which is why we add a day every four years.

Did you know that Antoinae Priest's birthday is actually on Leap Day? I asked her a few

questions about this:

**Niyah:** *How does it feel to have your birthday on Leap Day?*

**Antoinae:** *It is good and crazy! When I was younger my parents kept trying to tell me my birthday was on a Leap Year I was confused. Even when they explained it to me I was still confused because I did not know what a leap year was!*

**NR:** *What day do you celebrate your birthday when it's NOT a leap year?*

**AP:** February 28<sup>th</sup>

**NR:** *So how old are you technically?*

**AP:** 3 years old!

**NR:** *What is the greatest or craziest thing that happened on your birthday?*

**AP:** *When everyone kept saying I am 2 years old I was confused!*



**NR:** *Do you like having your birthday on a Leap Day?*

**AP:** *Yes, because it is not a normal birthday.*



## Why I Can't Wait to Vote

By Joy Watson

Your vote is your voice as an American citizen. It's your opportunity to be heard, to hold elected officials accountable for their decisions and to have a say in important issues that affect your community. On Election Day, every vote matters.



## Behind-the-Scenes: Mr. Jesse

By Aa'khai Hollis

**Aa'khai:** *What made you want to come to Thomas Edison Charter School?*

**Mr. Jesse:** I previously had a job at Berkely College in NJ. When I got the job offer to work as the Facilities Manager, I took it because it was something I wanted to do.

**AH:** *Please explain to me what a Facilities Manager does.*

**MJ:** One of the things I do is maintain the building. I also make sure my staff are doing their jobs, and that the

school meets fire code, such as working sprinkler systems.

**AH:** *What's the hardest part about job?*

**MJ:** The hardest part about the job is trying to keep the school clean and fixing everything that needs fixing.

**AH:** *What's the most rewarding part of your job?*

**MJ:** The most rewarding part about my job is seeing the kids, seeing the school clean, and seeing my staff work hard to succeed. By the way, TECS has some of the best teachers ever.

**AH:** *Do have a message you*

*would like to send to the staff or students?*

**MJ:** From my perspective, this is my house and this is your house, too. You would not trash your house, so why do it here?



## National School Breakfast Week - March 7-11

By Rebecca Williams

March 7th-11th is **National School Breakfast Week**. Since breakfast is the most important meal of the day, I decided to look up some healthy breakfast options. See below!

### **Blueberry-Maple Muffins**

Whole-wheat flour and flax-seeds give these maple syrup-sweetened blueberry muffins a delicious, nutty flavor. Compared to a traditional version of the recipe, they have four times the dietary fiber and substitute healthful monounsaturated fat (canola oil) for saturated fat (butter).

### **Breakfast Parfait**

A little low-fat dairy and some vitamin-rich fruit and you've just started your day right, nutritionally speaking

### **Orange Polentina**

Italians enjoy cornmeal or polenta in countless preparations. Polentina is a creamier, porridge-like version, often served for breakfast. An orange-infused dollop of tangy mascarpone cheese and yogurt is a rich, delicious topping. But feel free to skip the mascarpone and double the yogurt to save calories. To keep it quick, we use instant polenta or regular fine

cornmeal. If you have time, the recipe will work with stone-ground cornmeal. It will take longer to cook, 15 to 20 minutes, but will reward you with rich texture.

### **Almond-Honey Power Bar**

Great for breakfast on the go! Golden roasted nuts, seeds and oats are enveloped by flavorful almond butter in these delectably chewy, no-fuss energy bars. Unrefined turbinado sugar adds a deep caramelly undertone. Feel free to use light brown sugar instead. Bars stored at room temperature will be softer than those that are refrigerated.



# Election Time - Get Educated!

By Derrill Stewart

Your vote is your voice as an American citizen. It's your opportunity to be heard, to hold elected officials accountable for their decisions, and to have a say in important issues that affect your community. We aren't old enough to vote just yet, but that doesn't mean we are excused from paying attention to what's going on. Soon, it'll be our turn.

There are two political parties, the Democratic Party and the Republi-

can Party. Each party has very different views as to how the country should be run. Here are some key election vocabulary terms you should know:

**Primary** - a preliminary election to appoint delegates to a party conference or to select the candidates for a principal, especially presidential, election.

**Caucus** - a meeting of the members of a legislative body who are members of a particular political

party, to select candidates or decide policy.

Right now, the main Republican candidates still left in the running are **Donald Trump, Ted Cruz, John Kasich,** and **Marco Rubio**. The main Democratic candidates still left in the running are **Hillary Clinton** and **Bernie Sanders**.

Stay tuned to the news to see what happens!



# History of Valentines Day



By Aryana Coursey

Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is an annual holiday celebrated on February 14th. It originated as a Western Christian liturgical feast day honoring one or more early saints named *Valentinus*, and is recognized as a significant cultural and commercial celebration in many regions around the world, although it is not a public holiday in any country.

# Behind-the-Scenes: Mr. Jonathan

By Rebecca Williams

**Rebecca:** *What is your role at Thomas Edison?*

**Mr. Jonathan:** Security Officer

**RW:** *What are some of your day to day tasks?*

**MJ:** Hallway safety, egress, Ingress, monitoring the building, escort

staff, and monitor staff and students.

**RW:** *What made you want to work at a school?*

**MJ:** The experience of teaching and helping others. That's who I am and that's what I do.

**RW:** *What motivates you to do a good job?*

**MJ:** The community is a place for improvement and I feel I can make a difference and

help as much as possible.

The kids need guidance and positive influence to make the right decision.

**RW:** *What do you like best about your job?*

**MJ:** Interacting with the kids, learning about them everyday and discovering all of their different personalities. I actually learn from them.



## Bragging Rights

Congratulations to the 4Youth students who visited the White House on Saturday, March 12th.



Good luck to the Chess Team as they prepare to take on the best chess teams in the country in Indianapolis, Indiana in April.



Congratulations to all of the 8th grade students who have been accepted into high schools! We are so proud of you!



# Behind-the-Scenes: Ms. Cortes

By Kiara McManus

**Kiara:** *Have you always lived in Delaware? If not, where are you from? What brought you here?*

**Ms. Cortes:** **No, I moved here in 2001. I grow up in New York. I was offered a position through a former colleague.**

**KM:** *What role does your job play in keeping the school running?*

**MC:** **I work very closely with the CFO, Mrs. Winder. I am responsible for human resources, account's payable and accounts receivable.**

**KM:** *Do you like what you do?*

**MC:** **Yes, I do...and I like the people I work with.**

**KM:** *What do you like best about your job?*

**MC:** **The people I work with**

**and seeing all of the students.**

**KM:** *How long have you been working here?*

**MC:** **It will be 11 years in May.**



# History of Presidents' Day

by Aa'khai Hollis

Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called "Washington's Birthday" by the federal government. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's actual day of birth—the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the na-

tion's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present.

By the way .....President's Day never falls on the actual birthday of any American president. Four chief executives—George Washington, William Henry Harrison, Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan were born in February, but their birthdays all come either too early or late

to coincide with Presidents' Day, which is always celebrated on the third Monday of the month.





# History of St. Patrick's Day

by Derrill Stewart

Saint Patrick's Day is actually one of the world's most religious holidays next to Christmas. Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated to honor the great Saint himself - Saint Patrick of course! Maewyn Succat, the original name of Saint Patrick, was originally from Great Britain but was taken from his

mother and father to be a slave in Ireland. Saint Patrick turned to his religion for support. When Saint Patrick escaped he began to preach to the people of Ireland and soon persuaded them to change their religion. In no time at all, Saint Patrick became a bishop at his church. One of the many things he did as bishop was provide supplies to schools and

churches in Ireland. Saint Patrick took his last breath on March 17 which is why we honor him on that day.



© Dana Jones

## What is the Zika Virus?

By Aa'khai Hollis

Zika virus is an emerging mosquito-borne virus that was first identified in Uganda in 1947 in rhesus monkeys through a monitoring network of sylvatic yellow fever. It was subsequently identified in humans in 1952 in Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Outbreaks of Zika virus disease have been recorded in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific.

### Key Facts

- Zika virus disease is caused by a virus transmitted by *Aedes* mosquitoes.
- People with Zika virus disease usually have symptoms that can include mild fever, skin rashes, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, malaise or headache. These symptoms normally

last for 2-7 days.

- There is no specific treatment or vaccine currently available.
- The best form of prevention is protection against mosquito bites.

The virus is known to circulate in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific.

### Signs and Symptoms

The incubation period (the time from exposure to symptoms) of Zika virus disease is not clear, but is likely to be a few days. The symptoms include fever, skin rashes, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, illness, and headache. These symptoms are usually mild and last for 2-7 days.

### Prevention

Mosquitoes and their breeding

sites pose a significant risk factor for Zika virus infection. Prevention and control relies on reducing mosquitoes through source reduction (removal and modification of breeding sites) and reducing contact between mosquitoes and people.

This can be done by using insect repellent regularly; wearing clothes (preferably light-coloured) that cover as much of the body as possible; using physical barriers such as window screens, closed doors and windows; and if needed, additional personal protection, such as sleeping under mosquito nets during the day. It is extremely important to empty, clean or cover containers regularly that can store water, such as buckets, drums, pots etc. Other mosquito breeding sites should be cleaned or removed including flower pots, used tires and roof gutters. Communities must support the efforts of the local government to reduce the density of mosquitoes in their locality.

# Race to the Top! 2ND TRIMESTER FINAL RESULTS



FINAL  
HOMEBASE  
STANDINGS FOR  
THE 2nd TRIMESTER:

#1. Mr. Till



#2. Binghamton



#3. Mr. Arya



#4. Mr. Durant



## Top 7th Graders:

1. A'Cora Hickson
2. Maddy Yates
3. Marie Horne
4. Corri Hickson
5. Emani Cooks
6. Johana Melendez
7. Andrea Lloyd
8. Briana Washington
10. Jazmin Marshall
10. Braheem Wilson

## Top 8th Graders:

1. D'Jireh Williams
2. Shanea Higgin
3. Destiny Smith
4. Khalia Hart
5. Hughroy Johnson
6. Jahkai Al-Amin
7. Elijah Jones
8. Ariyan Smith
9. Ky-Aira Williams
10. Albert Kamara

# TECS Teacher & Staff Birthdays

## February:

- 3rd - Mrs. Matos
- 4th - Ms. Davis
- 14th - Mr. Manuel
- 26th - Ms. Romano



# Upcoming Events!

- March 11th - Race Movie Field Trip
- March 12th - Saturday School
- March 18th - Half day, 11:30am dismissal
- March 18th - Parent-Teacher Conferences (afternoon)
- March 19th - Saturday School
- March 24th - Half day, 11:30am dismissal
- March 25th-April 1st - SPRING BREAK!



**Don't miss out on any upcoming events! Mark your calendars TODAY!**

# Popular Song Emoji Challenge

By Zaria Rodgers-Tomlinson

Can you crack the emoji code? If so, write the title of the song in the boxes below. Submit your answers to Ms. Johnson. Students who answer all 5 questions correctly will be put into a raffle for a prize! Winner will be drawn on Wednesday, March 23rd!



Can you name the song?



Can you name the song?



Can you name the song?



Can you name the song?



Can you name the song?

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_



## Edison Incandescent

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Wilmington, DE 19802

Phone: 302-778-1101 x 1109



*Shining a light on the latest hot topics!*

The Edison Incandescent staff is made up of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students of Thomas Edison Charter School. In addition to going the distance to find the latest stories, the newspaper staff also meets every day to make sure they bring you nothing but the truth regarding the latest events happening in our school.

### Newspaper Staff:

Ronajah Anderson	Kiara McManus
Aniah Crippen	Niyah Ramos
Aryana Coursey	Zaria Rodgers-Tomlinson
Anaeja Ferrell	Derrill Stewart
Aa'khai Hollis	Maddy Yates
Joy Watson	Rebecca Williams



## MONTHLY SUDOKU

1				3	6			
3						6	8	
			4			3		1
	5		1		8			
	7						6	
			2		4		7	
2		4			5			
	8	5						9
			3	2				5



## T-Shirts for Sale!

\$10: **Red** and **Navy** available

Eligible students will be allowed to wear their TECS T-shirt on Fridays for OCBA!

See Ms. Yates to purchase one!

First person to get this Sudoku right (no lies!)...see Principal EL...for a prize!