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## **ASK KHALID**

If you need some advice, ask Khalid!

This is an opportunity for you to gain tips and advice from a fellow scholar. Khalid wants to help and support you.

Maybe you are having a difficult time with a sibling. Possibly you find your assignments challenging and do not know how to handle your workload.

Did you make your parents unhappy recently and are having a hard time smoothing things over? Need some help? Ask Khalid. He has the perfect advice for you!



# A WORD FROM OUR EDITOR...

## THE GHANAIAN CHOCOLATE TRADE

BY SAPHYR BROWN

Many of us enjoy the holiday known as Easter during the month of April. Maybe you've gotten together with your friends to search for hidden eggs with candy or stayed close to home for family activities which likely also included candy. Either way, if you celebrate Easter, then there is probably some candy involved. So, I have a question for you. What candy do you think is sold the most for this holiday? I'll tell you. It's chocolate! Chocolate is not just a big part of celebrating Easter but it is a huge part of Halloween as well.

Europe is the world's largest manufacturer and exporter market of processed chocolate. Along with Belgium, Switzerland is known for having the creamiest milk chocolate. Switzerland alone makes almost 2 billion in revenue per year from this industry. Switzerland perfected the production of chocolate with entrepreneurialism and experimentation. However, without raw materials production of anything is impossible.

Switzerland needs something very important to make their chocolate. They need the cacao plant. Most cacao is grown in Africa but cacao is now also cultivated in a tropical belt worldwide. The Ivory Coast and Ghana are the world's top two producers, followed by Indonesia, Nigeria and Cameroon. Four out of the five top producers of cacao are West African countries. Due to that, Ghana and Switzerland recently revisited their trade agreement.

Now, Ghana will trade Switzerland the cacao plant for other important supplies and resources that Ghana needs. Recently, the President of Ghana, Nana Akufo-Addo, and many others realized that the cacao plant is generating billions for Switzerland. Given that reason, the president discontinued the previous trade agreement which has lasted for decades. He said that he will stop serving as the, "step-child and supplier of natural resources." Nana also said that he intends to produce more cocoa beans in his country and produce more chocolate himself, rather than shipping their beans out to Switzerland.

# ASK KHALID

**What do you do when you see someone getting bullied but you are too scared to help them? You can be afraid that they will hurt your feelings, too.**

**-Brooklyn Amaya**



Brooklyn Amaya, even if you are afraid, you should try to help your friend. If you don't help your friend, you could cause your friend to be upset with you or possibly not want to be your friend anymore. The best thing to do if you are afraid is to get an adult to help you and your friend in this tough situation.

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**My little sister never wants to sit down to complete her schoolwork. What can I do to make her want to do it? -Saphyr**

Saphyr, to make your sister want to do her homework, I recommend giving a reward that she likes. If she does her homework, give her something that she wants. You could also ask her ahead of time what she wants if she does her homework.



"My Spring break was FUN because me and my sisters caught a huge turtle. It was so big and heavy that it took a lot of energy taking him back to the house. I also went to a baby shower for the first time. It was GREAT. I had so much fun. I got sick on Friday so that was a bummer." -Aiya

"For Spring Break, I went to Virginia. I stayed on a street called Elijah's Way. When I got to Virginia on Friday, it was nighttime. On Saturday, I went to mini golf. At mini golf, my mom said I went from trainee to master. I also went to the pool on Saturday." -Elijah

"Spring break wasn't too crazy. I mean all I did was wheelie, ride with no hands, stand up and ride with no hands, and get on the pegs and ride with no hands. I also played my game. But the craziest thing I did on spring break was go stimulus shopping." -Samir

"Me, Alan, and Dad were outside. Me and Alan were blowing bubbles. Then we saw a bee. It was crazy. I ran and yelled because I thought it was going to sting me. It lost us so we were fine and it didn't sting us so we did what we were doing before but unfortunately my boomerang didn't work." -Maurice

"On Tuesday my sister and I made chocolate chip cookies. When they were done, we had them at snack. They were very yummy. I got to have three, but usually I can only have 2. That was a special time during spring break.

I also played roblox every day of the week. It was fun doing that too. I played my most favorite game on roblox called Greenville. The game is made by a group called Greenville, Wisconsin. I also played a different game called Survival Island." -Kobi

## HAPPY 9TH BIRTHDAY JULIUS!

Julius takes "Superstar Student" to a whole new level. Not only is Julius an honor roll student and a leader in the classroom, take a look at the other ways he shines as well.



Above: "J Sauce" displays a championship ring he won during a flag football tournament in Florida earlier this year.

Below: Our buddy is on the set of "Cupids," a short film he recently taped that will be shown at the Tribeca Film Festival in June.



# AUTISM AWARENESS



## KIDS WITH AUTISM NEED A HAIRCUT TOO!

BY STARR LYNN ALLEN

My dad, Kevin, is a barber. When you're a barber you cut hair as a profession. He sometimes cuts people with autism. When he cuts people with autism, he has to take extra time. Here are more questions that I asked my dad:

- Was there ever an incident with an autistic child? Answer: Yes, there was a small incident that happened. One time there was a kid who didn't like the sound of the clippers so he cried until he threw up.
- Do you ask for a little more money when you finish depending on how difficult the client was to service? Answer: No, he does not ask for more money.
- What is your best moment doing kids or adults with autism? Answer: The best moment is when they get used to you because if they are used to you they are calm.
- Any advice you want to give to barbers out there? Answer: Try to be patient with them and find what their likes are so you can talk with them about it. For example, one of the kids liked firecrackers so my dad talked about firecrackers and the kid didn't think about the haircut because he was so interested in the firecrackers.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT AUTISM

BY BROOKLYN-AMAYA THOMPSON

Autism. You may have heard of this disorder on TV or maybe your friend or a family member has this. However, if you don't know what Autism is, then this is for you! Autism Spectrum Disorder is a condition related to brain development that impacts how a person becomes conscious and aware of others.

ASD causes social interaction and communication problems. They might repeat certain behaviors and might not want change in their daily activities. There is often nothing about how people with ASD look that sets them apart from other people and no two people with autism are the same.

There is currently no cure for ASD. However, research shows that early intervention treatment services can improve a child's development. It is important to talk to your child's doctor as soon as possible if you think your child has ASD or other developmental challenges.

## SAVING EARTH DAY

BY ANIYAH NELSON, KOBI OBENG, AND GARY JOHNSON

On a very quiet day, Aniyah, Gary, and Kobi were walking down the street and noticed something was off about the greenery around them. They kept walking and noticed all the dead trees, flowers, and grass. They wondered why it looked like this because it was Earth Day. "This is the day our town should NOT be looking like this!" Kobi said sounding upset.

While they continued to walk, they noticed a crowd full of at least 20 people holding up posters and banners that said things like "Earth Day" and "Help Earth Day." Gary walked over there first, then Aniyah, and finally Kobi joined them. "Come join us in helping the town celebrate!" Someone yelled over the chaos. It was Julius! He was holding a banner that said "Earth Day Time!"

"Hello, Julius! What's going on?" Aniyah asked, recognizing his face. "Hi guys!" said Julius with a big smile. "We all noticed the town was doing the exact opposite of what they were supposed to do for Earth Day, so we decided to bring a little magic to this place," he added. Aniyah, Gary, and Kobi all looked confused about what he said.

Julius opened his palm and revealed a hand full of green sparkling powder. "What's that?" Gary asked. "Why don't you throw it up in the air and see?" Julius asked with a wide grin on his face. Everyone that came to support Earth Day took out the same bag that Julius had and held it up to the sky. Gary did the same and in a flurry of green powder, the bags exploded and the greenery around them turned beautiful with full blooming trees and flowers. The grass was very green and the bees were buzzing around. "WE DID IT! WE SAVED EARTH DAY!" Everyone cheered with the biggest smiles and the fullest hearts.

