

EAR BUDDS



**DURHAM CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**
Learning and Living in Faith

May 2026 Issue

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What is Speech and Hearing Awareness Month	1
All About Jordan	2-3
All About Alex	3-4
Fascinating Facts About Hearing	5
Dear DHH Diaries	6
All About Robin	7-8
Laughing Zone	9
All about Gabriella	10-11
All About Hearing Aids	12
All About Ayden	13-14
Self-Advocacy Spotlight	15
Famous D/HH People	16

What is Speech and Hearing Awareness Month?



Each year, we take time in May to learn more about the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. This month is about building awareness, understanding different ways people communicate, and recognizing the challenges that students with hearing loss may experience in their daily lives.

This magazine was created together with students as a way to share their voices, their learning, and their experiences. Through this work, students are building self-awareness, learning how to advocate for their needs, and helping others better understand how to support them.

Our goal is not only to raise awareness, but also to build a more inclusive, respectful, and supportive community where all students can succeed.



ALL ABOUT JORDAN

JORDAN'S FAVES

Languages

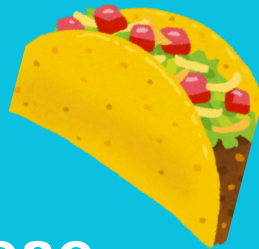
- English
- French

Movie

- Avatar

Foods

- Taco
- Mac & cheese
- Pizza



Games

- Minecraft
- Roblox
- Super Mario Odyssey



Sports

- Soccer
- Track and field
- Tchoukball
- Biking



All About Jordan

Hi, I'm Jordan! I am 11 and in grade 6. I like to play soccer, board games, and ride my bike. I also enjoy cooking.

ALL ABOUT JORDAN

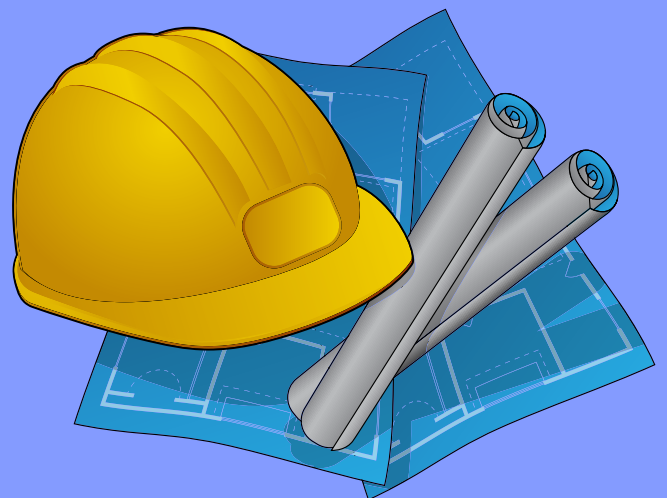
Hearing My Way:



I have a sensorineural moderately-severe hearing loss in my left ear. I also have a severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss in my right ear. I wear hearing aids. I received my hearing aids when I was 3 years old.

#Goals

I want to be an engineer when I grow up. I also want to travel to Hawaii and other countries.



all about alex

ALEX'S FAV

Languages

- French
- Filipino
- English



Movie

- Goat
- Jumanji



Foods

- Popeyes
- Jollibee



Games

- Pokémon
- One Piece
- Roblox
- Super Smash Ultimate

Sports

- Soccer
- Basketball



All About Alex

Hi! I am Alex and I am 10 years old and in grade 5. I like to make and watch YouTube videos, play sports, video games, and I love going to the beach.



ALL ABOUT ALEX

Hearing My Way:



I have a mild sensorineural hearing loss in my right ear and a moderate sensorineural hearing loss in my left ear.

I wear hearing aids. My hearing aids are green and my ear molds are orange. I received my hearing aids when I was 3 years old.

#Goals

When I grow up I want to work at Walmart. I also want to make a good game on Roblox, so people can have fun playing it. I want to learn coding and enter coding tournaments in the future. I also want to graduate high school and college.



Fascinating Facts About Hearing



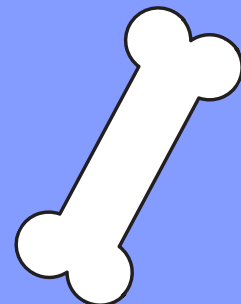
The middle ear is the size of an M&M!

Your outer ear keeps growing your whole life!



Cats have 32 muscles in their outer ear, while humans only have 6!

The smallest bones in the body are found in the ear!



Dear DHH Diaries

By: **Gabriella**

Dear D/HH Diaries,

I'm going into Grade 7 next year and I'm really nervous. Intermediate grades seem harder, and I'm worried that people will notice my hearing aids more. I don't want to feel different or get asked questions all the time.

How can i feel more confident?

Sincerely,
Nervous Reader



**Submit your
questions to Dear
D/HH Diaries!**

Dear Nervous Reader,

It is okay to feel nervous about Grade 7. Something that helped me feel more confident about going into grade 7 was talking to someone I trust and talking about how/what I was feeling.

My advice for you is to not think too much about what other people/students think. I wear hearing aids and I am not afraid of what others think of me.

Something else that helped me feel more confident about my hearing aids, was doing a little presentation. It helped me explain them to my class and feel more comfortable.

Now I am almost done grade 7, and I am not afraid anymore.

Sincerely,
Gabriella

ALL ABOUT ROBIN



ROBIN'S FAVES

Languages:

- French
- English

Activites:

- Baseball
- Pickleball
- Volleyball

Music:

- Hampster Dance

Movies:

- Turning Red
- Elio
- Zootopia 2

Games:

- Fortnite
- Minecraft
- Stumbleguys



Foods:

- Sushi
- Pizza
- Taco



All About Me:

Hi, I'm Robin and I am 11 years old and in grade 6. I like to play sports like baseball, pickleball, and volleyball. I also like to draw and paint art. My art about hearing loss and hearing aids was featured in an Art Gallery. I also to play video games like Fortnite and Minecraft. One hobby I like to do is to build miniature things.

Hearing My Way:

I have a normal sloping, to severe profound hearing loss in my right ear and left ear. I wear hearing aids. My hearing aids are blue. I received my hearing aids when I was 4 years old.



#Goals

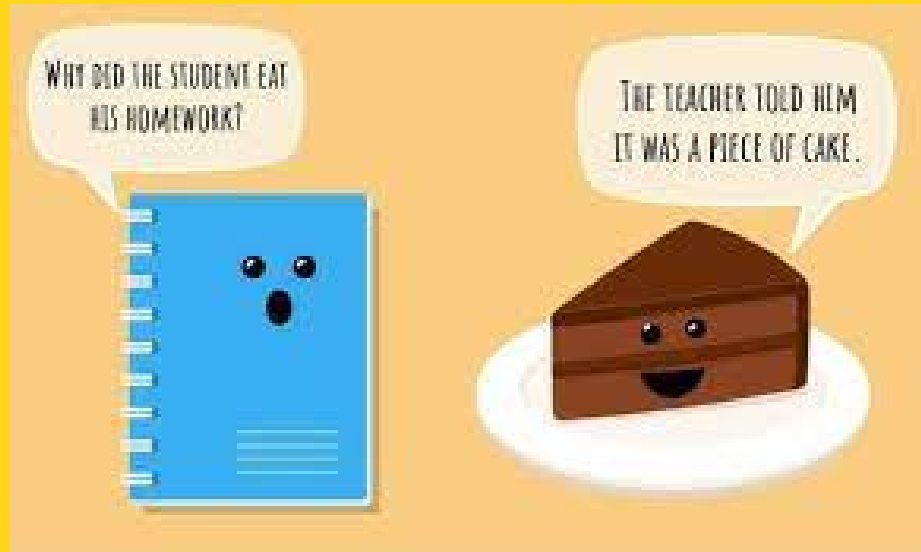
When I grow up I want to be a professional baseball player for the LA Dodgers, paint a famous picture and travel to Tokyo. I also want to get a scholarship to a University to play baseball.



LAUGHING ZONE

Why do bicycles fall over?

Because they're too tired!



What did the ocean say to the beach?

Nothing is just waved!

What do you call a Boomerang that won't come back?

A stick!



What did one traffic light say to the other?

Stop looking! I'm changing.

All About Gabriella

Languages:

- Spanish
- Italian
- English



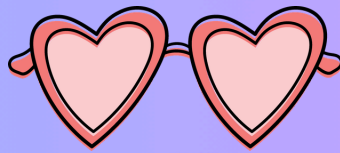
Music:

- Taylor Swift
- Ariana Grande
- Karol G
- Becky G
- Bad Bunny
- Daddy Yankee



Movies:

- The Taylor Swift Movie
- zoopita 2



Games:

- Roblox
- stumble guys



Foods:

- pizza
- mac & cheese
- burger
- pasta
- butternut squash soup

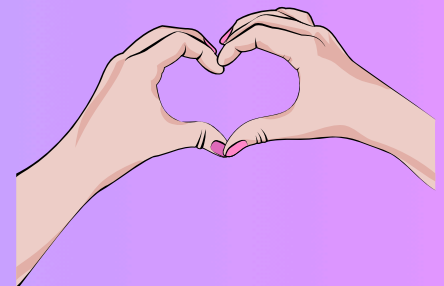


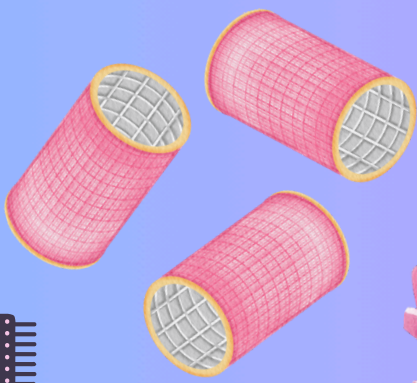
All About Me:

Hi, I'm Gabriella and I am in grade 7. I like to dance, sing, cook/bake.

Hearing My Way:

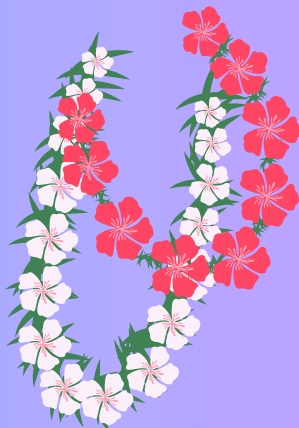
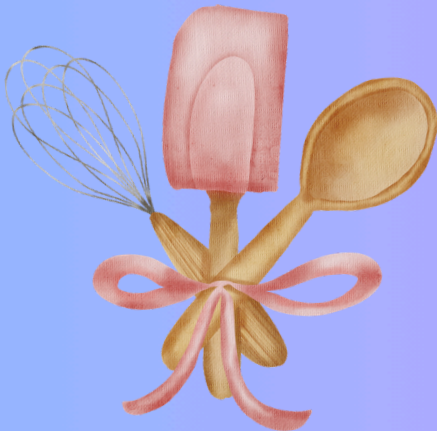
I have a bilateral moderate rising to mild mixed hearing loss. I wear hearing aids. My hearing aids are pink. I received my hearing aids when I was 9.





#Goals:

When I grow up, I want to be a hairstylist. I want to go to cosmetology school to learn about hairstyling. I also want to get better at baking/cooking. In the future, I want to travel to Maui, Hawaii, Italy, Los Angeles, and Malibu.



By: Alex

ALL ABOUT HEARING AIDS



What is a hearing aid?

A hearing aid is an electronic device that you wear behind your ear. It makes sound louder so that a person with a hearing loss can hear at a normal to almost normal level.

How does it work?

Hearing aids convert sound waves to numerical codes before they are amplified. They are specifically programmed to the person's hearing loss, amplifying some frequencies more than others.

What colours do they come in?

Hearing aids can come in many different colours from black, white, blue, pink, red, even clear and much more!

How much do they cost?

The cost of hearing aids is around \$1000 to \$4000 for each one.

ALL ABOUT AYDEN

Ayden's Faves

Languages:

- English



Movies:

- Sing 1
- Sing 2
- Into the Spiderverse
- No Way Home

Games:

- Fortnite
- Roblox

Sports:

- Soccer
- Basketball

Foods:

- Pizza
- Pasta



All About Me:

Hi, I'm Ayden and I am 10 years old and I'm in grade 4. I like to play video games, watch Youtube and play sports. I also like to go to my cousin's house to play with my cousin and sister.

2K



GAMEPLAY



Hearing My Way:

I have a mild sensorineural hearing loss in my right ear and a moderate loss in my left ear. I wear hearing aids. My hearing aids are brown. I received my hearing aids when I was a baby.



#Goals:

When I grow up, I want to be a soccer player. I also want to help my mom financially and take care of her when she gets old.



Self-Advocacy Spotlight

Understanding My Hearing Needs And Speaking Up for Myself

By: Robin

Why is understanding your hearing needs important?

Understanding my hearing needs is important because I need to tell people, like my audiologist, my teachers, and my friends, what helps me hear and learn best.

What are accommodations?

Accommodations are things that help me in class because of my hearing loss. They help me hear, learn, and communicate better.

Why is it important to advocate for your accommodations?

It's important to speak up for my accommodations because I have a hearing loss and I learn differently. Other kids do not have hearing loss, so they learn in different ways.

I need to make sure people are using my accommodations so I can be successful in class.

FAMOUS DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PEOPLE

By: Jordan

Being Deaf or Hard of Hearing doesn't limit what you can do, it just makes your journey unique! Check out these inspiring D/HH individuals who have achieved incredible things around the world!



Millie Bobby Brown
Actress with a profound
unilateral hearing loss



Derrick Coleman
First legally deaf NFL player



Dr. King Jordan
First deaf president of
Gallaudet University



D.J. Demers
Stand up comedian who has
worn hearing aids since he
was 4