

School Success

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The answer to the meta is something that top students earn

ACROSS

- 1 * Backing for a photo
 6 "___ remind you...."
 11 Bigger than med.
 14 Piano technician
 15 ___ Marbles (British Museum attraction that Greece wants back)
 16 Coffee dispenser
 17 Attack from all sides
 18 Israeli desert
 19 Sun King's number
 20 "___ Eat Cake" (Gershwin musical)
 22 Money-saving, in brand names
 24 Nebraska native
 27 * Stimulate, as an appetite
 29 Not the least bit cool
 30 Rain garment
 32 Not fooled by
 34 * Greek island
 35 Alongside
 37 Uncover
 41 DSL provider
 42 She, reflexively
 45 Stain-remover prefix
 46 Philippa Pearce novel, "___ Midnight Garden"
 48 Goes bad
 49 * Shakespearean party
 51 Planet in an Anne McCaffrey book series involving dragonriders
 53 Cyclops feature (if the cyclops was also a giant)
 54 King Arthur's father
 57 * Lady's man
 60 Bullfight cheers
 61 Cost
 62 Put back to zero
 64 Animal's coat
- 65 Film ___ (moody movies)
 68 Lock of hair
 72 Poem of praise
 73 "Ready ____, here I come!"
 74 Former Mexican president, Enrique Pena ___
 75 Bread component, perhaps
 76 Dams in streams
 77 Grade for a top student, and a hint for what to do to the starred entries

DOWN

- 1 Peaks (abbr.)
 2 "Yes," said the Parisian
 3 "One," said the Parisian
 4 Pay no attention to
 5 If a ___ falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound? Certainly when it falls it causes the air to become repeatedly compressed and rarefied creating longitudinal waves. But for those waves to become "sound" one needs the hearing equivalent of an observer who has the ability to interpret those waves as sound. So the answer to the question is "no". This has nothing to do with the meta, by the way; I just wanted to contribute to the ongoing debate.
 6 Singer, ___ Cherry
 7 Indigenous people group of the Niger Delta (or most of an entry in the periodic table)

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- 8 Most important ingredient in an omelette
 9 Expire
 10 Devise
 11 City on the east bank of the Nile River that is the site of ancient Thebes (and also a hotel/casino in Las Vegas)
 12 Prepare coffee beans before making espresso
 13 Representative
 21 "___ of Us" (Beatles song covered beautifully by Aimee Mann and Michael Penn for the "I Am Sam" soundtrack)
 23 Corporate VIPs
 24 Footnote abbr. which means "in the work already cited"
 25 Upper body
 26 Early afternoon hr.
 28 Lugs around
 31 Chuckle sound
 33 Stanley Cup org.
 35 Not right
 36 Spider-man meme involving Norman Osborn: "I'm something of a scient___ myself"
 38 Miserable dwelling
 39 Type of daisy
 40 Beguiling behavior
 43 Mess up
 44 Part of TGIF
 47 Job detail, briefly
 50 Self-indulgent journey
 52 In the past, in poetry
 53 Band that joined Coldplay on "My Universe"
 54 "Once again, immunity is ___ grabs" (Survivor line)
 55 First name of the actress born Gertrude Madeline Marshall
 56 New employee
 58 Mistake (this is not a dupe of 43 down, is it?)
 59 "Jesus replied, 'Foxes have dens and birds have ____, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.'" (Matt. 8:20)
 63 1 across in Sicily that is also a volcano
 66 Mine material
 67 Pasta suffix (bucat___, capell___, stort___, agnol___, etc...)
 69 Snakelike fish
 70 Father of Tommy and Dil (obscure "Rugrats" reference)
 71 Distress signal at sea