

WHMS *Times* a student newspaper

Spelling Bee by Grace Bossolini

Can you spell Competition?

On Tuesday, January 26th, 2010 WHMS held its 4th Annual Spelling Bee. Twenty of my classmates and I participated. The spellers faced the judges, Maggie and Terry, not knowing what words they would be given by the reader, Diane McGinn. One by one the spellers were called up to the microphone as the reader gave them a word to spell. Every speller was jittery anticipating the possibility of misspelling the word, thereby being eliminated by the bell. I felt nervous and excited at the same time. First up, Vama her word: coffee.

Success!! Vama made it to the next round. I was happy for her. I hoped my word was as easy as coffee!

After that, the words grew progressively more difficult. Each speller did their best, but, regrettably, there could only be one winner.

This year's winner was Tea Mottolese.



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. The Team

Editor: Téa Mottolese

Reporters: Mairin Kelly, Jonathan Crowell, Téa Mottolese, Grace Bossolini

Chief Photographer: Jon Crowell

The spellers were:

Jeremy, Lucas, Jaxon, Nick, Chris, Silas, Grace B., Tori, Julie, Tea, Cara, Caroline, Christine, Isabella, Samantha, Aminah, Sage, Grace C., Lindsey Mairin and Vama

Valentine's Day Lunch Exchange by Téa Mottolese



The Valentine's Day Lunch Exchange has been a tradition at WHMS since the early 1990's. On Valentine's Day or the week of Valentine's Day, the excitement builds because everyone wants to know who is making their lunch.

A week before the big day, everyone in your class, including yourself, fills out a sheet of questions like: What do you want to drink? What vegetable would you like? What fruit would you like? etc. So when everyone is finished filling out their requests, they hand them into the teachers. On Friday, the forms

are handed out in your WHMS folders. When kids get home, they check to see whose lunch they will make. Then they start making an awesome lunchbox to bring to school on the day of the exchange. On the big day, everyone guesses who made their lunch; like a game. When they are finished guessing, they sit down and eat their specially prepared lunch. In the middle of lunch, kids who want to, hand out their Valentines'.

This special day was full of fun and sweets.



WHMS Book Swap by Téa Mottolese

On January 23rd, our school held a book swap. A book swap is when you bring in books that you don't

want, or you already have. The books you hand in you swap for other books that other people handed in. However many books you handed in, you get to pick off



The Bright Red Bookshelf

the tables of books. You can hand in all different types of books; mystery, children's, adult books, cooks books, nonfiction, fiction, well, all genres in short. This year there were twenty-nine families who brought in books and eighteen families who came to swap. In the end there were 1,082 books donated to the Bright Red Bookshelf. The Bright Red Bookshelf is a community service based program. It rakes gently used books and gives them to families for free.

"The Bright Red Bookshelf of Albany thanks you all. We are getting ready to add three new bookshelves and we really need the books! The books donated by WHMS parents are large really beautiful, well-kept books that will make kids feel good about reading!" says Rachel Eveleth, a WHMS parent and Bright Red Bookshelf volunteer. To learn more about the Bright Red Bookshelf visit: <http://www.familyreading.org/p->



Editorial

Hello! I hope you all had a great week off and a fun snow day this week! However, time and Mother Nature did not cooperate with our deadlines, so this issue is later than we would have liked.

This issue of the *WHMS Times* has been much easier to put together since Grace Bossolini has made our team tremendous. She has helped write some awesome articles, such as her Spelling Bee article. Jon worked on getting some good pictures of different things going on around school and Mairin? Well, what can I say? She does a great job with her stories. She's got really good ideas for How-To projects and a couple of health-related issues you'll find interesting.

As for me, I've worked on a few articles- but not many. I am currently writing a very large article for the Schenectady Student Gazette. Jonathan has taken some great pictures to submit to the Schenectady Student Gazette. They are really great pictures and we hope that the Schenectady Student Gazette judges like them as much as we do.

Thank you for reading this issue of the *WHMS Times!*

Releasing the Inner Nerd by Téa Mottolese.

If you want to release your inner nerd, you need to try out Gymnastics with our new P.E. teacher, Jake. When the UE went to gym class on Tuesday, February 2, 2010 they had a great time.

They had started to do handstands up against the wall when several of the boys' shirts fell down. Jake said, "You guys need to release the inner nerd." Then he tucked his shirt into his pants and pulled his pants way up. Everyone laughed. Then the boys released the inner nerd for the rest of the day. It seemed really easy for them. The girls– not so much. Ladies will be ladies and we don't want to be nerds.

On Wednesday, February 4, 2010, a bunch of the boys decided to continue expressing their inner nerd. They put on Harry Potter glasses, pulled their pants up to

their stomachs, tucked their socks in and tucked their shirts in. They walked around looking like fools, but, that's okay! It's always good to have fun.



Q & A with Jake By Grace Bossolini

I interviewed the new gym teacher, Jake. I asked him what kind of games and activities we will be doing in gym class, and other questions that will help us get to know him.

Grace- What is your full name?

Jake- Steven Jacob Colwell.

Grace- Did you always want to be a teacher?

Jake- No.

Grace- How long have you been teaching?

Jake- I just graduated. This is my first full time job.

Grace- Who did you want to win in the super bowl?

Jake- The Colts.

Grace- Will UE do more dancing in gym class?

Jake- If you guys want to.

Grace- Will you continue doing scooter city?

Jake- Yes.

Grace- Will the UE do scooter city? Jake- Maybe, for one day.

Grace- What activities will we do outside?

Jake- For UE we might do archery, Frisbee golf, ultimate Frisbee, orienteering, and track and field.

Grace- What activities will we be doing inside?

Jake- Volleyball and gymnastics.

We will all have an opportunity to get to know Jake and welcome him to the WHMS community.



Calling all Poets!

This is your chance to be published in the WHMS *Times*.

The Poetry Contest!

We have decided to have a poetry contest to see how many poets we have at our school.

Here are the rules:

You can send us any type of poem whether it's a Haiku, Alphabetical Poem, Rhyming Poem, or any other poem you choose.

When you write the poem, please write it clearly. Please write your name and what class you are in. Then put it in our mailbox in the office.

Please participate! We'd love to hear from you!

Here's an example:

2010

By Téa Mottolese, Sherrie's Class

A new year has come about,
Another good one, I have no doubt.
It's a time for new resolutions,
And solving problems with solutions
Like having peace instead of war,
Please you soldiers, fight no more
For this year is 2010
And we would like you home again