



THE VIKING VOICE

April 2024

Welcome to The Viking Voice!

This student-driven newspaper will be published monthly, and will feature all sorts of fun spotlights on students, sports, and staff. If you have any ideas for stories, please reach out to 2027583as@students.whitehallschools.net

Fun Word of the Month

By Mathilda Morneau

Welcome to the word of the month section! This is where, every month, our team will find a word that we think is cool or interesting. If you have any suggestions for the word, leave it in the suggestions box, or email it to 2024937mc :)

April Word of the Month:

Accismus (noun)- A form of irony in which a person feigns indifference to or pretends to refuse something he or she desires.



Poem of the Month

By Mathilda Morneau

Mother to Son

By Langston Hughes

Well, son, I'll tell you:
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.
It's had tacks in it,
And splinters,
And boards torn up,
And places with no carpet on the floor—
Bare.
But all the time
I've been a-climbin' on,
And reachin' landin's,
And turnin' corners,
And sometimes goin' in the dark
Where there ain't been no light.
So boy, don't you turn back.
Don't you set down on the steps
'Cause you finds it's kinder hard.
Don't you fall now—
For I've still goin', honey,
I've still climbin',
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

Joke Time!

What is a flower's favorite kind of pickle?

Find the answer on the last page.

What does the Viking Voice team think about Taylor Swift?

By Ember Heidelberg and Mckaela Sohasky

We asked our Viking Voice team members what their opinion on Taylor Swift is, and here are our results:

- Four people who said they do not like her
- Five people said they maybe like her
- And *NINE* PEOPLE who said that they like her!!!

What do YOU think? Tell us in the Viking Voice suggestion box located in the commons!



Mr. Webb Teacher of the Month

By Taylor Underhill and Beatrice Lewis

Mr. Webb turns 41 on May 12th. He has a wife named Amanda, who is a teacher at Shoreline. He has three children with Amanda that go to Whitehall: Adriana in 8th grade, Briella in 5th grade, and Cecilia in 1st grade. His hobbies are: hunting, doing construction, and being outside. One of his most favorite memories as a child is spending time with his dad hunting, and building things with his father. A quote that means a lot to him is “the importance of working hard and being nice”

His favorite food is steak on the grill, and his favorite activity is traveling with his family because it is important to him. His favorite color is blue! A nickname he’s been called before is “Webb. ” When he was growing up it was that way as well. When he was growing up, Mr Webb said his favorite subject was geography. This is his 18th year of being a teacher. He's taught history and science, and he’s coached football, wrestling, and track. Also, he was an athletic director and Dean of Students in the past. In addition, Mr. Webb has also done construction for many years.

Big events throughout his life have been: going away to a university after highschool, running a marathon that was 26.2 miles, earning a CDL license, and building many things over the years. As he would say, “See ya next time!”

“Insightful” -Mr. Webb

“Historical” -Mrs. Reid

“Determined” -Mrs. Taranko



How Many Flamingos

By Aria Tindall

So, if you have ever walked down the 7th grade hallway and saw Mrs. Henderson's room, you may have seen an enormous amount of flamingos. That brings up a question, how many flamingos are there really in Mrs. Henderson's room?

This question inspired us to play a little game. We had students guess how many flamingos related objects are in Mrs. Henderson's room and our player with the closest guess was...

Logan Ambrose

His guess was 128 flamingo related objects, which is the closest guess made!

Actual Number:

Due to the fact that Mr.s Henderson is constantly getting more and more flamingos we cannot get an exact amount that stands. So the amount of flamingos that Mrs. Henderson has as of April 26th, 2024 is...



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How Many Days Until...?

- **May the 4th!** (May 4, 2024)- 8 days from April 26th, 2024
- **Memorial Day!** (May 27th, 2024)- 31 days from April 26th, 2024
- **Last Day of School** (June 7th, 2024)- 42 days from April 26th, 2024
- **4th of July** (July 4, 2024)- 69 days from April 26th, 2024
- **Danny DeVito's Birthday** (November 17th, 2024)- 205 days from April 26th, 2024
- **337th Anniversary of the Discovery of Gravity** (Said to be September 23rd, 1687)- 150 days from April 26th, 2024



Farewell to The Viking Voice

By Kenzie Cregg

Hi there, Viking Voice readers! My name is Kenzie Cregg, and I am one of the co-founders/advisors of the Viking Voice. I started the team back in 2020 (my 8th grade year) with my friend, McKayla Tyers. It started out very small, but it immediately made a positive impact on WMS. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we had to shut the team down that year and moved onto high school- but that wasn't the end. McKayla and I brainstormed one day for our National Honors Society legacy project, and we both knew exactly what we needed to do: continue our original legacy. It took a lot of work, especially since we weren't at the middle school anymore, but we were able to start the team back up full of bright new minds and ideas for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. We thank each and every teacher and staff member that has contributed to the middle school, every parent and/or guardian that has supported their children and our team, and most of all- our incredible students, past and present, (all 52 of them!) for their dedication to the team. We truly couldn't have done it without them.

McKayla and I are seniors now, and it is time for us to hand our legacy down to the next Viking Voice advisors- Avery Siemen & Morgen Gabriel, who have already done such an amazing job rising to the occasion. We will miss WDS, our middle school family, and especially our team, dearly, but we hope that our legacy of the Viking Voice continues for years to come. It is so much more than just a newsletter- it is a way to connect students, spread laughs, and solidify the family that the middle school is. We are *so* thankful for each and everyone of our Viking Voice students that we have had the pleasure of working with, each teacher of the month we were able to highlight, every learning opportunity given via the word, poem, phobia, and quote of the month, and every single laugh generated from the pages of the past nine editions of *The Viking Voice*. We hope the legacy continues to grow, and we encourage YOU to get involved in some way or another!

Farewell, WMS! Enjoy some photos from the past few years of The Viking Voice :))





A Teacher's Favorite Quote!

By Alexa DeCheney

The teacher this month is, Mr. Mienert! The quote he chose was "Everyday may not be good, but there is something good in EVERYDAY!"-by Alice Morse Earle.

Quote of the Month

The April quote of the month is: "A kind word is like a spring day." -Unknown

Other Upcoming Announcements/Events:

Plant Club:

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 1st after school until 4:00 in the STEM room. We will be planting microgreens with our guest presenter Mrs. Lundell (aka Farmer Lori). Anyone interested in learning more about plants is welcome to join us.

Lost and Found:

Are you missing glasses, jewelry, or other miscellaneous items? Come see Mrs. Sholty to collect your missing items.

Senior Parade:

The Seniors will be walking through all the schools Friday, May 17th!

Graduation:

Graduation will be Thursday, May 23rd at the VAC at 6:30 pm. Come support your upperclassmen!



Thank you for reading the April edition of The Viking Voice!

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or just want to get involved, please do not hesitate to reach out to someone on our team, or email 2027583as@students.whitehallschools.net

Answer to the joke on page 1:

A daffo-dill!

