

# The Howling Echo

Issue 2

Newsletter Date: Spring 2009

Winnisquam Regional Middle School, Tilton, New Hampshire

## An Enchanting Performance



On March 27-30, the WRMS Drama club performed the Pioneer Drama Company's version of **The Enchantment of Beauty and the Beast** by Vera Morris. The crew had been working for three months. It was three months of hard work, excitement, and of course acting.

I am sure you have all heard the classic tale of **Beauty and the Beast**. Well, this version may be a bit different. Long ago, there lived a selfish prince. One day an old woman came to his castle and turned him into

a beast. Many years later, Madame Rondeau, mother of Isabel, Marguerite, and Beauty, ended up in his castle. She took a rose and was condemned to death. Beauty volunteered to take her mother's place, and instead of death, she found love.

**The cast and crew were as follows:** Mariah Gardner (Young Girl), Clarissa Macdonald (Princess), Emily Lowery (Princess), Olivia Martinson (Princess), Elise Maxwell (Princess), Alyssa Clogston (Princess), Erica Doubleday (Princess), Natasha Jacobs (Princess), Gerry Craig (Captain), Carissa Mullen (Prince), Igor Markelic (Jester), Alissa Hill (Chair), Nyasia Lewis (Clock), Hannah Livernois (Painting), Liz Davis (Looking Glass), Chris-

tina Crandall (Helen), Kristen Dupuis (Louise), Megan Yandian (Wolf), Joe Carberry (Beast), Ali Yandian (Beauty), Morgan Johnston (MM Rondeau), Lexie D'Abbraccio (Brutus), Abbi Sleeper (Marguerite), Barron Clogston (Graspo), Taylor Cavanaugh (Isabel), Jonah Crandall (Greedo), Mariah Crooker (Techie) and Mrs. D'Agnese (Director)

By Barron Clogston



### Calendar of Events:

- NO SCHOOL— Memorial Day
- 5th Grade Step Up Day
- Class Field Trips
- 8th Grade Celebration
- Summer Break

### Inside this issue:

- School News
- Technology in the Classroom
- News and Opinions
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- Comics
- Weather

## Celebrating Cinco de Mayo

On May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> the Spanish classes went over to the high school for a Cinco de Mayo fiesta. They went to Mrs. Trowsdale's advanced food class who prepared a Mexican meal consisting of chicken lime tacos, Mexican rice, churros, and kid sangria. The food tasted superb and was very well prepared. The Spanish

students also made projects. The options for the projects were a piñata, woven table mats, and giant flowers. These projects were used to decorate the room. The fiesta was very fun, and should definitely happen again next year.

By: Hannah Livernois



## Saying Goodbye to Drama's Finest



This year six girls completed their third year of drama. The girls were Abbi Sleeper, Ali Yandian, Kristen Dupuis, Christina Crandall, Taylor Cavanaugh, and Morgan Johnston. I interviewed Abbi, Ali, Taylor and Kristen. The interview is below.

**What was your favorite part of drama?** Abbi- hanging out, making friends, and just everything

about drama.

**What was your favorite play you did?** Taylor- Wild Wild Wild-est West.

**What was your favorite part of drama?** Kristen- making new friends and the dinner theater night.

**What is your favorite drama memory?** Ali- When Tom jumped on Robby's back and knocked

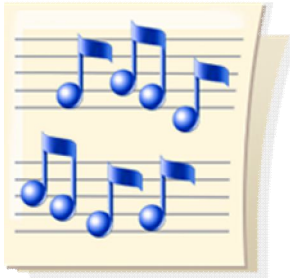
him over.

**What is your favorite drama memory?** Kristen- when Tom broke a table.

**Should people join drama?** Abbi- definitely, you'll get so caught up in having fun.

By: Hannah Livernois

## Spring Pops Concert



The WRMS band and chorus members performed their spring concert on May 20, 2009. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade chorus sang songs called Fun Fun Fun, Under the Sea, and Don't Worry Be Happy (With solos by Mary Santos, Tessa Gagnon, Sable Muzzey, Hannah Smith, Olivia Martinson, Erin McNamara, Abby Ward, and Haylee Chapman. Spoken solos were said by Megan Yandian, Catie Craig, and Sable Muzzey.)

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade chorus sang The Lion King (with solos by Keith Bernier, Steven Hanser, Taylor Cavanaugh, Taylor Chavanelle, and Mariah Crooker), You're The One That I Want, and The Pink Panther. 6<sup>th</sup> grade band played Blue Suede Shoes, New Orleans Strut, William Tell Overture, Overture 1812, and BB Rock. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band played Alleluia, Selections From Fiddler on the Roof, Song Without

Words, Cartoon Symphony, and Marches of the Armed Forces. There were solos by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students: Renee Boudreau, Joe Kehr, Peyton Vaillencourt, Keith Bernier, Ali Keith, Amanda Morris, Ali Yandian, and Morgan Johnston.

By: Barron Clogston

SCHOOL  
NEWS

## Commemorating Ms. Large's Many Years of Service

I am very sad to inform you that a treasured member of our eight grade staff will be leaving us at the end of this year. Ms. Large has been with our school for thirty years. She's spent three years in eight grade and twenty-seven years teaching sixth grade. Before coming to our school, she taught one year in Exeter and the Monadnock Region.

Ms. Large grew up in South California, just outside of Los Angeles. In the late seventies Ms. Large moved here to get her masters in environmental science and teaching at

Antioch University. The reason she became a teacher was not because both of her parents were teachers but because of her love of science and wanting to share it.

Her favorite parts of teaching are Life Science, NPR, and sharing her knowledge in science. NPR is her way of doing Open Response Questions and her way of making it fun. A few headlines for her Open Responses are: "Exploding Pumpkins-What a Mess", "Mice Smell Fear Studies Show", and "Eel's Second Set of Teeth".

Ms. Large has always had pets in her room and has a jungle of plants in there now.

Ms. Large is not only a teacher. On career day she goes to Union Sanborn or Southwick Schools and shows off the skills of her dogs in agility and obedience. For two weeks she went behind the scenes of WMUR channel 9 and her arm was caught in a dry cleaning commercial. Ms. Large's fish have been featured in a Fish Magazine.

Goodbye Ms. Large, we will all miss you!

By: Megan Yandian

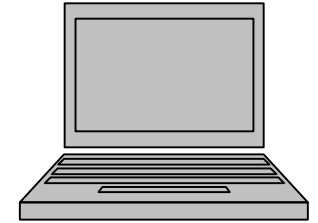
## Clickers

In each grade, students have their own piece of technology in at least one of their classes: The eighth grade has the White Board, the seventh grade has the Laptops, and the sixth grade has the "Clickers" (or Personal Response System) in Mrs. Marcottes's Social Studies Class (although, as of April, Mr. Hampe's Science Class got its own set of clickers). The clickers are each given a specific number and assigned to a certain student in each block (ordered alphabetically). They are plain and simply, an easier way to get answers into Mrs. Marcotte's computer.

Instead of having to correct each student's paper, as she *does* teach every single kid in the entire sixth grade in her class sooner or later, then finding his/her grade and entering it into her computer; one by one, by one, by one, by one clickers can do that for her. Also, the kids get to have a fun way of doing practice work, giving answers to homework, and even taking tests. The reason this is all so simple is because you log into the class using your student ID number, await a question she puts up on the board using a projector, and type in your answer. That way, the an-

swers you choose go straight into her computer, and she doesn't have to correct every single kid's paper. And, at the same time, it benefits you because you get to learn your score faster and, it gives the results of each question when that particular question is finished. You automatically know which ones you do and/or don't have to work on. So, for everybody, the "Clickers" are absolutely great.

By: Kaylie Glynn



Technology  
in the  
Classroom

## Laptops

All throughout the school kids are using technology in the classroom. In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, we are using laptops. In my opinion, using the laptops is good for the students. The laptops enable students to learn the class material, while also learning how to correctly

use the laptops. Also, the laptops allow the students to use the tools such as Microsoft Word and Microsoft PowerPoint. The internet capability lets people do research and find pictures for reports. Without the laptops, school work would be a lot harder. The

laptops also allow us to type things instead of always writing thing out. Laptops are very useful to every one.

By: Hannah Livernois



## Smart Boards

Technology over the years in different grades has changed dramatically. In 8<sup>th</sup> grade, (and some 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes) this year, we are using Smart Boards, which projects an image from a computer on to a huge "white board" from a projector hanging from the

ceiling. With the Smart Board technology, we are able to use it as a touch screen with a pen that can be used to write, and click on anything that shows up on the screen. Smart Boards can also serve as a study unit, creating study guides for certain topics and for review

games, such as Jeopardy, before a test. In my opinion, I think the Smart Boards are a good learning tool and give teachers a different approach to teaching material than just standing in front of the class or explaining it and then giving out a worksheet to do. Last year in

a math class, we had a Smart Board, but it wasn't ready to be used at the time, so, it just sat there for the whole year. I'm glad that we were able to use the Smart Boards this year!

By: Renee Boudreau

## Pep Points, Gotchas and Activities

This year instead of doing pep points and pep activities we have Gotchas and Gotcha activities. Last year, the pep points were collected and used to go to places such as the Mall of New Hampshire, Hampton Beach, and Santa's Village. This year's

Gotcha activities are games, breakfast, and snacks. Gotchas are earned through stacking chairs, being prepared, good behavior, being helpful, and a few other ways. The way pep points were earned was through good grades, and good behavior. Al-

though there were less ways to earn pep points, and more ways to earn the Gotchas, which in your mind is better?

By: Megan Yandian

## Clubs, Clubs, Clubs

This year, we have more clubs than probably any other year before.

Homework clubs, guitar club, book clubs, Friday night intensive study, art clubs, drama clubs, computer clubs, newspaper clubs, and so many more offered to kids as extra-curricular activities; normally after school. And the good part of these clubs; most can help you both academically and socially, and all you need is usually a permission slip and a ride home. But other than

that, clubs are a great way to get involved with your school.

Homework clubs can help you with academic achievement. Newspaper club can help you get involved with the school's going-ons, and it's a great way to tell other of the events that have happened throughout the school year. Book clubs can help you, especially in reading class, and you normally get to read really good books. If you don't prefer those sort of things, there's still guitar club, scrapbooking club,

website design club, art club, drama club, sewing club, science club, recycling club, veterans club, Intramurals, memory book club, woodworking club, Arts & Crafts, chess club, cooking club, knitting club, and many more you can join for the pure fun of it. For years before, the school has offered some of these clubs, but certainly not this many. Which just makes having them this year all the more fun.

By: Kaylie Glynn

IN THE NEWS

## Behavior Challenges

The behavior of sixth grade has been better, but we can still improve it. The following article consists of the point of views of some of the staff at WRMS. The questions asked were: **Why is sixth grade a tough year behaviorally? What are the best and worst behaviors in the sixth grade?**

This article is not criticism, but the staff and your fellow students simply asking for your help.

In various interviews I have reached the conclusion that the behaviors are worst in the halls. Most of the behavior problems

are verbal, but there have been some things taken, and a few physical problems. It can be hard for us being moved to a new school, and we mixed with kids from either Sanbornton or Southwick Schools. The worst behaviors seem to be verbal confrontations. We need to take more care by not teasing, bullying, or picking on our peers.

Not all of our behavior is bad, fewer write-ups have been written in class rooms and Mrs. Kruger says that students are showing positive learning behaviors. A good reminder that we

are not all misbehaving, is that sixty-three percent of our school's students have never had a write up.

Please keep in mind that acting out not only affects you, but it takes away the good reputation of this school. Do not pick on your fellow students because it hurts feelings. You are almost seventh graders and the sixth graders next year will look up to you. Please be considerate of the time wasted by our terrific staff members and Assistant Principal, Dr. Cadarette when they have to look into problems that we could solve ourselves.

## Say "YES" to Spirit Week and Pep Rallies

Should we still have pep rallies at W.R.M.S.? Some people say "NO" and some people (like me) say "YES". Pep rallies are very important for students. They help students to have a break from class and just relax. Pep rallies give us all a chance to show all of our school spirit and

pride. Pep rallies also give us something to look forward to and make us strive to earn them. If pep rallies were offered as a reward, more people would try very hard to earn that reward. At sports award pep rallies, the athletes have a chance to get congratulated for their hard work all season

long. Without pep rallies, students cannot have their well earned breaks. I know a lot of students would be happy if we had our pep rallies back; I hope that we do.

### No Thank You to School Spirit

I don't think we should have spirit week. Why? Well because people take it too far. They act way too out of control and it's a distraction to what we're really here for..... SCHOOL WORK! Students loose focus and can't do their best on their work. Not to mention that it could be dangerous. In a fire drill clothes could get caught on a door, or something worse could happen which slows them down from getting to safety. I think it's just a waste of time. In conclusion, I don't think we should have a spirit week.



By: Joanna Walsh

### A New U. A. ?

At WRMS unified arts are classes that are designed to give students knowledge of basic life skills. Home economics are life skills that every responsible individual should know. A question has been raised as to whether or not home economics should be included in the U.A. program at W.R.M.S. A home economics course would teach students cooking and sewing, skills that every independent adult should know.

The home economics course wouldn't require that another U.A. course was shortened or cut from the U.A. program. One solution would be to hold the home economics course during accelerated learning or accelerated reading. Every student could take the course once a week, giving students the basic skills involved with cooking meals and making repairs to clothes for his/herself. This course would help the students become more independent. What's your opinion?

Just a Thought

## Pick Up a Good Book and READ!!

### Trickster's Choice

*Trickster's Choice*, by author Tamora Pierce, is about a girl of seventeen, Aly, and her life as a spy protecting a family. Aly is an extraordinary woman who is daughter to Alanna, the Champion of Tortal. Her dad and grandfather are Tortal's spymasters, her godmother and godfather are the King and Queen of

Tortal, and she has a twin training as a Knight, and a brother training to be a mage. She is suddenly taken from a ship and sold as a slave. Now she is working for the Trickster so she can get home.

By: Megan Yandian

### Trickster's Queen

*Trickster's Queen* is the sequel to *Trickster's Choice* and in this story Aly must use her spy skills to change the cruel rulers. The prophecy that a queen coming of two races would change the rule of the Isles. That is all that kept the Raka going for the past hundreds of years, but now the prophecy is coming true. Being a spymaster for adults isn't easy but 17 year old, Aly, is just the person to do it. She must

find a way to replace the rulers on the throne with Dove, a half Raka girl. But, it's not as easy as it sounds. She will have to get rid of the cunning spymaster for the crown. The cruel rulers on the throne, and Aly will have to get past the other obstacles that arise. The question is, will they pull it off? If they do, will everyone survive the trial or will they lose people?

By: Megan Yandian

## The Long Tail Monkeys

On Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> The Long Tail Monkeys came to WRMS. The band included four kids from Andover; Sam Barrett (bass guitar), Max Barrett (drums and singing), Logan Marcus (lead guitar), and Tyler Holman (keyboard). The band formed in 2007, and has been together ever since. The LTMs performed for all grades during their lunch period. The group performed Superstition, Evil Ways, and a Led Zeppelin Medley. The band was phenomenal. It surprised a lot of students to see such young kids perform so well. It was amazing.

On Thursday, there was a special monkey-themed lunch. Staff and students wore yellow and brought in stuffed monkeys. The stage also had toy monkeys hanging on vines running across it. It was a very good setup and performance. But just remember, Dr. Miller and Dr. Cadarette setup the concert because of our good test scores. So if you want more spectacular things, like The Long Tail Monkeys performance, keep up the good work.

By: Hannah Livernois

## Softball

As of May 19, 2009 the WRMS girls' softball team played nine games. They won six games and lost three games. The girls have played well both offensively and defensively. They are improving everyday and gaining confidence with new and old skills. There are still six games to go and they hope to win them all to finish 12-3. Mr. McNutt is very proud of the team and the way they are playing. I think I speak for all of the students when I say that we are confident in the team. Go Wolves!

## A Little Bit About Sergeant Camp

Sergeant Camp is a place where you can learn things about ecology, kind of like Ecology School. If you went to Southwick or Sanbornton Schools you'll know what I'm talking about when I say Ecology School. If you went to another school you may have gone to a temporary school where you learned about ecology. Sergeant Camp was chaperoned by Mrs. Smith and by Mr. Howard. Officer Pinault, our school officer, went as well. Anyone from any grade could go. If you were unable to pay to go there was financial help. It was held for three days in April during the school week so you did miss some of your schoolwork but you were still responsible for the work you missed. It was a fun experience for all who went. It may or may not be held next year so if you're interested check it out.

By: Kaidee Keyser

In Other  
News

## Understanding the Swine Influenza

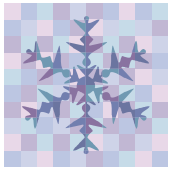
There have been 8800 recorded cases of the Swine Flu in the whole world. The cases have been recorded in 40 countries. Even with the vast amount of outbreaks there have only been 6 deaths in the United States. The most recent death was on May 18, 2009. An assistant principal in New York City died of the Swine Flu. There was a meeting of over 200 health officials from 193 countries met for the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland. During the assembly Mexico's Minister of Health, Dr. Jose Angel Cordova

gave a wonderful speech saying that since the outbreaks started in Mexico he felt it was his duty to warn the rest of the world. 95% of the outbreaks are in Mexico, Canada, and the United States. Dr. Margaret Chan, the Director-General of the World Health Organization, has said that because of the first outbreaks we have been expecting an epidemic and that not only left us prepared but scared also. From the number of outbreaks in the country we have been able to predict where the epidemic has been going. Many medical researchers

have been working to develop a vaccine and hope to develop one before the flu becomes more serious.

Make sure to take care of yourself, stay away from those affected especially if you have a virus that's lowering your immune system, wash your hands before eating and after you go to the bathroom, cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, and you should be fine.

By: Megan Yandian



# WEATHER



Sunday 5/24— AM Clouds, PM Sun—High 75

Monday 5/25— Mostly Sunny—High 73

Tuesday 5/26— Mostly Cloudy—High 72

Wednesday—5/27— Showers—High 68

Thursday 5/28— AM Clouds, PM Sun—High 71

Friday 5/29— Mostly Cloudy—High 74

Saturday 5/30—Sunny—High 73



## WE ARE RUNNING DOWN THE HOMESTRETCH

Make sure you keep trying your very best and work to your fullest potential!

Look forward to a great summer!!

### Quote of the Month:

“Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with wrong mental attitude.”  
~Thomas Jefferson

This paper was written, designed, and edited by Winnisquam Regional Middle School students.

## A Year in Review Through Pictures

