



# The Viking Voice

Happy Valentine's day

A student run monthly Published news letter, we cover sports, students, teacher's, and much much more!! If you have any ideas feel free to reach out to our members or email us at

[2024937mc@students.whitehallschools.net](mailto:2024937mc@students.whitehallschools.net)



## Word of the Month

**Mathilda Morneau**

**Incandescent~ emitting light as a result of being heated**

**Sentence~Jonah was standing in the street with the street lamps incandescent light shining down**

## Poem of the month

**Mathilda Morneau**

Take this kiss upon the brow!  
And, in parting from you now,  
Thus much let me avow —  
You are not wrong, who deem  
That my days have been a  
dream; Yet if hope has flown  
away

In a night, or in a day,  
In a vision, or in none,  
Is it therefore the less gone? All  
that we see or seem  
Is but a dream within a dream.

I stand amid the roar  
Of a surf-tormented shore,  
And I hold within my hand  
Grains of the golden sand —  
How few! yet how they creep  
Through my fingers to the  
deep, While I weep — while I  
weep! O God! Can I not grasp  
Them with a tighter clasp?  
O God! can I not save  
One from the pitiless wave?  
Is all that we see or seem  
But a dream within a dream?

## Joke Time ~

**How do you  
keep a jewelry  
store safe on  
Valentine's  
Day?**





## Which is better? ~

Brayden Kelley

**Meat and Cheese Pizza tied for 1st over Pineapple Pizza with 29.4% of people while 35.3% of people said Meat Pizza or Cheese Pizza. 58.8% of people said that video games are better than TV shows and Movies. Tv shows were 23.5% while Movies were 17.6% of people.**

**35.2% of people said that English is better than Math and Science and History. Math was voted 2nd with 29.4% of people picking it. Science was voted 3rd with 23.5% of people picking it. History was picked 4th with only 11.8% of people picking it.**



## How Many Flamingos? ~

Aria Danielle

**You may at some point in your life walked down the seventh grade hallway and looked in Mrs. Henderson's room. Then you probably thought that this lady has a lot of flamingos. Its true, but the real question is how many. Thats why we created this competition. Your job is to count all of the flamingo objects in Mrs.**

**Henderson's room, not individual flamingos but objects containing the flamingos. This means that a painting containing 3 flamingos would only count as one flamingo object. You can use the pictures below to count the flamingos.**

**When you think that you have counted all the flamingo objects then you may go and write your answer down on a piece of paper and put your answer in the Viking Voice drop box that is located in the commons area. Make sure on your response that you not only put the number of flamingo objects but your name as well. You may also email me at [2029689at@student.whitehallschools.net](mailto:2029689at@student.whitehallschools.net) with your answer and name as well. Please submit your response by March 15.**

**The person who's guess is closest to the real amount of flamingo objects will be announced in the next issue of The Viking Voice.**







**Pictures for previous page...**

**Teacher of the Month Mr. Meinert**

The teacher of this month this week would be Mr. Meinert! He's a 47 year old husband and dad! He had a wife named Amanda and two boys with the name Noah (17) and Zach. (12) His parents names were Dale and Laurie, Unfortunately his mother passed away in 2013. (RIP) He also has a brother named Jeff. (44)

His favorite hobbie is when he's doing is Golf in the summertime !

Favorite place to eat is mexican! Especially san marcos!!!

Favorite activity is coaching football & LOVES true crime documentaries!

One of his favored memories in his childhood was playing outside and going to lake michigan, and the beach with his parents and friends! A quote from an anonymyas author is "Not everyday is good, but there's good in everyday." The quote from him himself is "Help me understand?" We've all heard that one! A nickname he had growing up would be Biggie, 5 foot in just fourth grade!

He had a couple past careers, did you know he was actually a construction worker? He mowed grass, Worked at the golf course, and as a teacher for 23 years! Truth be told, he didn't always work for seventh grade, he's taught 3rd grade for 15 years, 5th grade for 3 years, and 4 years in seventh! Aswell as being a long term sub for 6th grade. One time when he was in school himself he was tilted Best eyes in highschool! I agree on that!

A secret talent!! Who knew, that Mr. Meinert ate a FOUR POUND BURRITO!! I couldn't imagine!

Why does Mr. Meinert teach here? It's the answer for why all of our parents even enroll us here! Because this community is amazing, and he said he loves the staff! He's proud to be him, proud to say he can get up and WANT to go to his job get up and WANT to teach kids. Because, "I absolutely love teaching, even on the tough days, you can still make connections with kids" -Mr. Meinert.

As he says! "See you Tommory!" (In honor of a friend who was a teacher, who passed away a few years ago, he said that just so the kids would say he said it wrong the next day, as a conversation starter)





## The Origins of Valentines Day ~ Delainey Shepherd

You may wonder what Valentines day originates from or how it came to be; as of now I am here to tell you. Valentines day originated from a christian holiday made to celebrate a martyr named Valentine, or more commonly known as Saint Valentine. He was known for speaking the good word around rome during his time (the third century). This day was honored to him with a feast and festivities, in which many took part of. Some believe he challenged Emperor Claudius II's decree that men will make better soldiers when single; however, behind closed doors he saw lovers from all over and married in secret. He was killed for treason when the word got out about his "visitors". As the years went on this holiday morphed into a day for love mainly, while cupid got roped into this celebration, it paves way for children to enjoy it aswell. What do you believe? Was Saint Valentine true to his word, or a hypocrite menace to society?



## Who even is Cupid? Maddy Betz & Adriana Webb

I bet you're wondering how Cupid correlates to Valentine's Day or who Cupid even is. Cupid is an ancient Roman god who represents love in all different varieties. According to a myth Cupid was the son of Mercury who was a messenger of the gods and of Venus the goddesses of love which is why Cupid supposedly walks around shooting arrows making people fall in love on Valentines Day. He may look like a cherub but he is capable of much more. In ancient Rome Cupid was looked at as a handsome young man, but as the holiday got more popular the "handsome young man" became a winged cherub with tiny bow and arrows. He is the God of love, desire, and attraction. Another name for Cupid is Amor because it means love. Do you prefer a handsome young man or a tiny baby with bows and arrows?



## History of Whitehall Braiden Conklin

Up until 1943, this small area was not known as Whitehall, it was known as Mears, named after Charles Mears. It was renamed as Whitehall in 1943, it was called this because of the White Lake. A fun fact is the mouth of the white river at Lake Michigan. Whitehall was fully developed at this point in time. The whole whitelake area was coming together to be profoundly called a community. The community was underway and everybody in whitehall respected eachother, they had known each other very well since whitehall was just a very small town.





## National history day ~

Mathilda Morneau

National History Day (NHD) is a research competition. You might be asking, what do they have to research? Well, anything! As long as it relates to the annual theme, any topic works. Some examples of themes include Conflict and Compromise in History, Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas, or this years theme Turning Points in History. Even though the team is small, the topics have a wide range from sports, the interstate highways, World War II, the Great Chicago Fire, and mental health. People on the team have the choice to work in a group or individually. The season officially starts in November, but some of the students return start earlier in the year to get a head start. When competition time rolls around in March, students can present their research in a variety of ways. There are three levels of competition, districts (in March), states (in April), and nations (in June). Some competitors build a website, documentary, or an exhibit, others write a play or an essay for the judges. If you think you might be interested in joining the team next year, reach out to our wonderful teacher Mrs. Klco. We wish the best of luck to our NHD kids this year as competition roles around next month!

## Surprise interview with Mrs. Sholty ~

Macy Sikkenga

Mrs. Sholty is the Administrative Assistant and she works in the office, but since everyone knows that, let's talk about some stuff that you may or may not know about her... Mrs. Sholty started working at Whitehall Middle School in August of 2021. She attended school at Kuyper College for a year before she transferred to GRCC. She has one son named Finley, who is currently one year old. Growing up she had always wanted a job where she could help someone. She used to want to be a social worker or work in physical/occupational therapy, but now after working and doing what she does now, she loves every aspect of her job and she wouldn't change it. She said that she loves working with all the different students in the school, building relationships, and helping them however she can. She said that she feels very fortunate to be able to work in the office instead of working in a classroom because she gets to work with all the grades, whereas working in a classroom, she would only get to work with certain students. She enjoys the "business" side of her job and working with the staff. She said that she loves the environment that the middle school provides and how her job doesn't feel like "work" to her all the time. This is some stuff that you might not have known about Mrs. Sholty before you read this, but now you do. Thank you for everything you do Mrs. Sholty!







# History of Valentine's Day ~

**Mia Tolliver**

Every year on the 14th of February is Valentine's day. But why? We don't know much about the history of valentine's day but here's what we do know. Valentine's day originated from about the 14th century and its origins aren't quite as romantic as it is today. Valentine's Day is a fixed day on the calendar that got lumped into a mid-February holiday on the ancient Roman calendar called Lupercalia—which some historians believe is what led to Valentine's Day being all about love. At the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day and since then, February 14th has been a day of celebration—though it was generally more religious than romantic. Some people think Valentine's day gets its name from a priest named Valentine who would sign his letter "From your Valentine" to a girl that he liked, while others think it was named after St. Valentine. Around the 15th to 17th century the valentine's day we know today makes an appearance, like roses and hearts and other cutesy things. The holiday is still popular in many places like the USA, Canada and Australia. My personal opinion is I strongly dislike valentines day because it's gross but many people would disagree with that. Do you have a valentine?



**Phobia of the month ~**  
**Isaac Davis**

Claustrophobia is an irrational fear of tight and confined spaces. 12.5% of people have this fear with the majority being women. Put your fear in the suggestion box by the entrance of the building if you have any other fears!



**Our favorite animals**  
**Mckaela Sohasky**

We asked the Viking Voice authors what the best/what there favorite animal was and there was a tie between Orcas and Puppies.

**Joke answer :**  
**You locket 😂**