

Bringing you stories about:

- The Hawthorn Academic Community
- The RCA House System
- Extracurricular Activities and STEM
- And YOU!

Volume 15, Issue 2

February/March
2025**Alice in Wonderland Junior**

By Nycki Szymanik

On March 22, 2025; at Hawthorn Academy



South Jordan. A school musical was held for fourth through ninth graders in the play, "Alice in Wonderland Junior". It was extremely funny and all of the characters were absolutely amazing! All of the characters were portrayed accurately, and the crew had a lot of talent. Backstage, before it began, Mrs. Bateman gave a gift to Ms. January the "Alice in Wonderland" book with all of the cast members that signed it. Rosalie (Medium Alice) had

made everyone tiny tea-cups with their initials on them. It was so adorable!

Once the first showing was over, I went backstage to interview

some of the cast members. Rosalie said that her favorite part of the show was getting to know the cast, she also said that the most



challenging part of the show was memorizing her lines. Next, I interviewed Skylie (Cheshire Cat 2) and she said what she enjoyed most about her character was working with Lucy, (Cheshire Cat 3), and Ari, (Cheshire Cat 1). She also said that the most challenging part of the show was staying in character while everyone was watching you. Lastly, I interviewed Makayla (Queen of Hearts) and she said that she wasn't nervous before the concert. She explained to me that she believed that she was better



than everyone as her character. Because she was the Queen of

Hearts, she always thinks she's better than everyone.

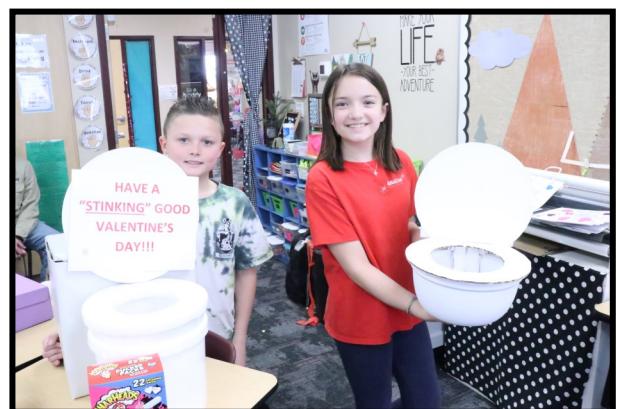


The History of Valentine's Day

By Nycki Szymanik

Saint Valentine was a kind priest who believed in helping people find love. At that time, the Roman emperor made a rule that young people couldn't get married, but Valentine secretly married couples that were in love. He was caught and thrown into prison. Before he was executed, he sent a note to the jailer's daughter, signing it "From your Valentine." This is said to be the reason we send cards to loved ones on Valentine's Day.

With all of this in mind, I've interviewed people from different grades to get their perspectives on Valentine's Day. One of the questions I asked was, "What does Valentine's Day mean to you?" Maverik said, "Love," Gavin said, "Celebrating with family," while Ivy said, "Free candy and crowded restaurants." Another question I asked was, "What do you do to celebrate?" Weasly said, "Hang out with family," Hadley said, "Give candy," and Malyki said, "Bring candy, and we get stuff in return."



Valentines Day Dance

By Marely Heredia

Middle school had their Valentine's Day dance. This year's theme was Queen of Hearts. Many students who attended said that they had a great night. Lizzy, in 7th grade, said that the Valentine's dance was really fun and she would rather be there instead of laying in bed. There were a lot of new couples that were dancing who looked amazing. TA Logan Kunz did three back-flips in a mosh pit while everyone was cheering him on.

All the students that attended wore their best outfits and looked amazing. Some middle schoolers had some opinions on the dance. Eva in 8th grade said, "It would be better if the end of the year dance has more people than this dance had." Another Student, Kaili in 9th grade said, "The Valentines dance was good, but it could've been better if there were more snacks." Students talked about how much they liked that there was a QR code so everyone can put music recommendations. Sidney in 7th grade said, "The QR code is a good idea and I'll be using it from now on at the next dances."

March Assembly:

A new champion

By Tegan Trujillo and Noah Steiner

Sollivare hosted the March assembly and hosted a challenge called the Ring of Fire. Nukumori is the new champion of the challenge, beating out last year's champ, Isibindi.



Ms. Tiff was the reigning champ from last

school year. However, Senior Emerick sold the BAG and lost. Lil bro was selling like he's Mike Tyson fighting Jake Paul. When Mrs. Bateman won, everyone cheered because she took down the champion. As well as the ring of fire, the music and everything else was good too.

Amistad Assembly

By Ian Warner and Tegan Trujillo

The middle school hosted an assembly by Amistad on February 7th. The assembly had a performance by the guitar class where they played a song called stutton stomped , boating on the Wharfe, and tad caster dance . Then they gave out awards to the people who represented their house the best. For example, Deegun won Amistad's choice for showing friendship to others.



To top off the assembly, they did a challenge where two members from each house had to make a handshake then they had to teach it to another two people who

had already done a three legged race,a wheelbarrow race and a selfie then topped it off with a basketball using a human hoop and whoever did it the fastest won. The houses of Protos, Revuer won, Protos spun the wheel, protos got 1 point and Isibindi got 1 point . and we had interviewed one of the amistad counsel members named Muli said, "Chase from the council came up with the basketball and Tyler came up with the relay race and they just put it together in the end".

A day in the Wonderland play.

By Gemma Howe & Ariel Alba.

This year, our school is putting on an exciting play based on the classic story "Alice in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll. The play follows the adventures of a young girl named Alice, who falls down a rabbit hole into a magical world filled with strange creatures and magical characters.

In this world, Alice meets the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter, and the



Queen of Hearts, among others. Each character adds their own unique twist to Alice's journey, making it both funny and a little confusing at times. The play will be performed by students from different grades, and rehearsals have already been happening for some time. Everyone involved is super excited to bring this imaginative story to life on stage.

Ms. January, the drama teacher, has been working on this play non-stop, and she has done quite the good job, from casting, and writing scripts to helping set up, lots will say she has done a phenomenal job.



Fifth Grade Field Trip: Where Did They Go/What Is It

By Jackson Kapler & Colin McShane

The fifth grade went to the Salt Lake Symphony orchestra on February 5, 2025 for a field trip. We interviewed some fifth graders about their thoughts on the field trip. Jay said, "My favorite part was the music and the acting in it." Jay's least favorite part was that it got a little boring. Ava said, "My favorite parts were the actors and their acting." Her least favorite part was sitting and not doing anything. Carlos said that his favorite part was the intro of the music. However, he also said that his least favorite part was the intro.



The Salt Lake Symphony is a volunteer orchestra that performs classical songs for audiences in the Salt Lake area. They are conducted by Robert Baldwin who has been conducting since 2005. The Salt Lake Symphony has roughly 75 non profit musicians who annually volunteer over 10,000 hours. They are best known for their Vienna Ball on Valentine's Day. The Vienna Ball goes back as far as the 18th century. This is a tradition where on Valentine's Day, people would go and dance, eat food, and listen to live music. The food consisted of cucumber salad, beef tenderloin and a chocolate glazed cake bar. Over all the Salt lake Symphony has a lot to offer for all ages.

8th Grade Hot Cocoa Lab

By Leah Thomas & Lizzy Lopez

Ms. Hunt's wonderful 8th grade class learns how heat transfers by doing a hot cocoa lab! During this lab students got to see and learn how the heat flows from a hot object to a cool object. The experiment helped students see that heat transfer is the transfer of energy through an object as it's getting conveyed from something hot to something cool.

What Ms. Hunt's 8th grade class did was they were using a hot

plate to heat up the water and pouring the water into the cooler cocoa.

The Hot cocoa lab was really fun for the 8th grade students to do and it was a great visual for the students to see thermal energy and kinetic energy transfer in action! We



interviewed students about their experiences in this lab and most said that hot cocoa labs are an amazing way to teach a student about these unfamiliar energies and get them more comfortable with these energies. In the end of the lab not only did students learn something new but they got delicious hot chocolate.

Protos House bad luck streak

By Marely Heredia and Sophie Slagowski

Although Protos means success in Greek, it has had it's streak of bad luck. Protos is also known for their wisdom, knowledge, and strength. Furthermore the bear's protos is their mascot and it stands for the powerful protector of the family.

The house system at Hawthorn Academy adopted the house system from Ron Clark Academy, located in Atlanta, GA. There are 8 houses in total and the house system divides students into different houses, each with its own unique name, color and set of values. These houses compete in various academic and extra-curricular activities, earning points for their house through achievements, good behavior and participation.

For the past six or so times Protos has spun the wheel after winning a challenge, they have spun one point. This statistical impossibility has frustrated members of Protos, but they haven't given up. Even after the sixth time they spun one point, they



still did their cheer loud and proud. It just goes to show that success comes in many forms and never give up! Keep it up Protos!

The Amazing Sister Paint Night And Soda Bar!

By Marley Smith

There was a sister paint night on March 7th at Hawthorn Academy West Jordan in the gym. It was so much fun! Mrs. S'ua was teaching students and parents how to paint an amazing lighthouse on the beach. It was so beautiful once it was finished. Mrs Su'a said, "If I hear anyone calling their painting ugly, I will have you come up on this table in front of everyone while holding up your painting yelling 'MY PAINTING IS BEAUTIFUL!' Ok, so no one calls their painting ugly!" That put a smile on everyone's face. There was a soda bar set up in the back where you could get a customized drink while you paint. They even made a drink in honor of the sister houses represented: Altruismo, Sollevare, Nukumori, and Amistad.

I was there with some friends who were also in the houses and we had so much fun. Each of our paintings turned out so well! Mrs. Su'a helped everyone with their painting and made sure everyone understood what to do. Mrs. Bateman, Mrs. Hitchcock, and Mrs. George were all helping make the drinks and they were so yummy. Altruismo's house leader, Gracie S, was filling up everyone's extra paint, getting paper towels, extra canvases, and anything extra we either needed help getting our wanted. She was so helpful



Spring music concert

By Ian Warner

The middle school held a music concert Wednesday, March 5th. Orchestra played Chasing the Storm, and The Cannoned. Band had performed and they played the songs the Dragon hold and Andalucia. There was a performance by the choir; they sang Doraji, Natsu No Yo Wa, Autumn Leaves, and Northern Lights. One student even came up with a short love story about the seasons that the songs represented. The metaphor of the seasons represented the two characters' love for each other. Anaiya, 8th grade, was a guest flutist for one of the choir songs. Guitar performed and they played the song The Anstysntea. Also side note did you know stage lights can catch fire?



We
con-

gratulate the music students for learning all the songs and practicing so they could play as well as they did. And we especially thank Ms Rodriguez for taking all her time to teach the students so they can even play the instrument and for planning and preparing for it.



Be in the Know!

This section highlights student articles all about what is happening in local, national, and world news

GROUNDHOG DAY

Delilah Pennington & Martina Alvarez

Groundhogs are small rodents that live underground but also wander around to find food outside of their burrows and begin to emerge from hibernation in February and go into hibernation by early November. Other than groundhogs being really cute. They also are known for predicting the future weather. Even though this is probably not true, people still celebrate the day and see the rodents come out of hibernation and see if they notice their shadow or not.

Groundhog day is a day where a groundhog comes out of their burrow from hibernation and if the groundhog sees their shadow then there are going to be six more weeks of winter. But if the groundhog doesn't see their shadow then that means Spring is on the way. The history behind groundhog day is related to the lore that clear weather on the Christian festival of Candlemas means a longer winter.

Groundhog Day, held in Punxsutawney in the western part of Pennsylvania, there is a mythical groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil. This groundhog has become the most frequently attended groundhog to this holaday "ceremony". This event is not international and is celebrated by the United States and Canada.

The results that we got were resealed on Sunday, February 2, 2025. After the famous groundhog Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, He predicted winter to be ex-

tended for 6 more weeks. Most groundhogs predicted an early Spring.

Five Years Since Covid

By Leah and Sophie

Five years since the world was at its down-fall; five years since the worldwide virus was reaching masses. What has happened since? People went back to their 9 to 5 jobs and things were returning to normal. Life was finally going back to the way it was before Covid and it has been a hot mess, so many people trying to crack what really went down during Covid, others just making conspiracy theories. One thing is certain: we now understand what Covid does to people and how the world crashed while it was happening so we now understand how to protect and reinstate ourselves after a pandemic.

Covid hit the world like a meteor, making countries go into a mandatory lockdown as officials furiously looked for a cure. Everyone tried to stay safe and away from this "terrifying" virus. According to the World Health Organization, "Estimates suggest the total number of global deaths attributable to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 is at least 3 million, representing 1.2 million more deaths than officially reported." Since then Covid has sprung to way less deadly variants and become nothing more than a cold. Since then we have all learned how to actually treat a virus similar to Covid and how we can protect ourselves from potential threats like illnesses.

Pi Day

By Ian Warner

March 14th was Pi Day and the math teachers all did something unique for it. For the 6th grade, their teacher Mrs. Caldwell had a challenge where they had to memorize the numbers of pi and whoever



from each homeroom got the most right would win a full pumpkin pie. For 7th grade, Mrs. Harbaugh had the students find the circumference (around the circle) and the area of the circle to win an oatmeal cream pie. The 8th and 9th grade teachers had done a game of jeopardy to test their students on what they know about pi.

Some other teachers also did something for it. For instance, science teacher Mr. Guy had his students do a word search and whoever finished it for a house point. Mrs. Bateman showed a Spongebob episode about pie after finishing a reading titled "Why Americans Love Pie".

What are the different clubs at Hawthorn Academy?

By Colin McShane and Jackson Kapler

There are many different clubs at hawthorn academy like lego, yo-yo, D&D etc. Also there are many different people who run the clubs Dr Cook, Mr Clawson and Ms Hunt; Ms Hunt runs the garden club.

Dr Cook and Clawson run the lego club and D&D club. In the lego

club they make creations of various colors and sizes. In the D&D club they roll dice and make characters to play the game they love.

In Ms Hunt's club they talk about the different types of plants. As well as how to properly plant them and take care of them and when to water them. In the yo-yo club they practice different yo-yo tricks. The different clubs all meet at different times but they are all in Dr Cook's room. Hawthorn has a very diverse and welcoming clubs around the school.



If you have any suggestions for the school newspaper, please email Mrs. Bateman:
cbateman@hawthornacademy.org



