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# Brentwood Middle School Newspaper



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Valentine's Day edition

## Advice by Alora: Alora's Art Class

*In this issue, Alora Laur gives her thoughts on how to become an artist.*

Alright, so I'm just gonna start with saying **I began drawing in 4<sup>th</sup> grade**. Like... um... let me show you a picture from when I was 9-years-old.



This was a drawing of an old character of mine named **Shade**. She ate souls and was an emo and blah, blah, blah. Real boring. Really bad compared to what I draw today, that's **3 years old** now. OK, so, now that you're probably saying "But that's still better than I draw now

-!" Listen, back when I was 9, I was jealous of my dad and now I draw **far** better than him because I kept at it.

### Getting Started

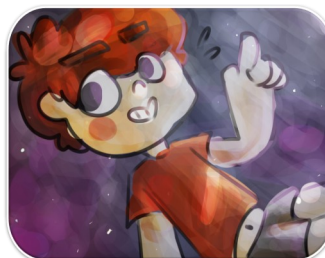
Alright, so we're gonna start out with two of artist's favorite/least favorite things. **Inspiration and finishing the project**. Oh, inspiration is a glorious thing when you get it – but when you get it at a bad time or when you get it and you have no ideas, it's **awful!** Finishing your project is also great and all – but sometimes you notice all your flaws right as you get into the excited "Yes, I'm finally done!" mindset. And if you're like me and you draw digitally – it's kind of hard to fix it.

### Becoming Famous

From experience, you don't get too famous by just drawing your characters.

You have to **first** find a blooming or already famous fandom. I draw mostly **Gravity Falls** and **FNAF** stuff. Why do you draw fandom stuff? People will be looking for stuff that they can **relate to** and enjoy. They don't relate to your characters – in fact, if you're a new artist, you'll most likely get looked over altogether! This is all for internet stuff, by the way. After you have a few fans, **50 or so** are a good starting point, start to introduce your characters! Make them interesting and original.

Have a Dipper Pines as you put this down and refocus on your almost-life as a magician artist.



## Top 10 Valentine's Day Gifts:

By: Maddie McBride

10. Roses
9. Chocolates
8. Teddy Bear
7. Gift cards for your bae's favorite place
6. Tickets to a movie
5. Candles
4. Jewelry
3. Coffee Mug
2. Handmade Gift
1. A BOY-FRIEND ;)

## Don't hibernate! Winter activities and where to try them by:Keara Torelli

Many people retreat to their houses and play video games all winter. But why do that when there are so many interesting winter activities you can try? Try one of these fun sports and you will forget that it is cold out!

**Ice skating:** Can be done for exercise, leisure, traveling, and various sports. You can ice skate indoors on a specially prepared floor, or outdoors on naturally occurring bodies of frozen water.

Some places to ice skate include: Ice Castle, PPG Place, South Park, North Park and Blade Runners.

**Skiing:** A recreational activity and competitive sport.

**Snowboarding:** Snowboarding was inspired by skateboarding, sledding, surfing, and skiing. When snowboarding, you slide down a snowy hill while standing on a snowboard attached to your feet with a spe-

cial boot. You can snowboard for fun or you can compete. There are many places in our vicinity to ski and snowboard. The closest ski facility is Boyce Park, which is out past Monroeville. You can also go to places like Seven Springs, Hidden Valley, or Mystic Mountain, all of which are about an hour's car ride from Pittsburgh. You can also cross country ski pretty much anywhere, if you have the ski equipment already.

**Sledding:** Sledding down a snowy hillside on a sled is a popular winter activity. There are also competitive forms of sledding such as bobsledding, skeleton, and luge. Going sledding is as easy as finding a hill-maybe even in your own backyard! Other popular places include Schenley Park in Pittsburgh and several places in South Park.

Go out and enjoy the winter!

## What To Do When Bae Breaks Up With You by: Ashley Klein and Savanna McCullough

Let's face it, love is not always happily ever after. Here are some important tips to get over that jerk you used to like.

### EAT

Chocolate and ice cream are usually best. Also sweet and salty items. Pizza is a must for every situation. Just snacks and foods that make you feel warm inside..and hey...the delivery guy



*Ice cream can help you banish those post-breakup blahs!!*

might be cute!

### SLEEP

It will distract you from whatever pain or suffering you are feeling.

### DELETE, DELETE, DELETE

If you are completely positive that you have no hope with this person, cut he/she out of any pictures you have. If you would like, burn the cutouts or the pictures.

Include the pictures on your social media and the album of photos on your phone.

### HELPFUL TIPS TO GET OVER IT

Be the bigger person. Don't let your ex know that you are hurting. But don't be a jerk about it. Just say a simple hello every once in a great while.

Hang out with your friends and do things you enjoy.

Remember there is somebody out there that is better for you.

## Relationship Questions and Answers by Kha'tya Harris

Q~ How do you know when you're getting too interested?

A~ If you start following them around a lot and you know their schedule better than they do.

Q~ How do you tell them that you like them?

A~ You can tell them in any way you want a song, a letter, or walking up to them...it's that simple.

Q~ How to get your crush to like you?

A~ Just be yourself and if they don't like you for you then tell them bye bye

Q~ How to know if your crush likes you?

A~ Go up to them and ask them it's pretty simple, not unless you're shy because if you are get to know them and then maybe ask them out when you two are comfortable.

Q~ Should I move on from a guy I really liked?

A~ It depends. I mean if they don't like you anymore as hard as it is you just have to try and get over it.

Q~ Why aren't people loyal in relationships?

A~ They might not be ready to be held down by someone just yet.

Q~ Why do people use you?

A~ They might like your friend and feel the best way to get closer to them is by dating you... depressing I know.

Q~Is there any way to be more attractive?

A~Being the best version of yourself is the most attractive thing of all.

## Valentine's Jokes Compiled by: Ethan Wright

Jokes found on [http://www.theholidayspot.com/valentine/jokes\\_and\\_humor/marriage\\_jokes.htm](http://www.theholidayspot.com/valentine/jokes_and_humor/marriage_jokes.htm)

Q) Why did the Banana go out with the prune? A) Because it couldn't get a date

Q) How can women tell when a man is happy? A) She doesn't care

Q) What did God say when he created man? A) "I can do better"

## How to Keep Warm

*A look at getting through the chilly winter by: Noah Kirchner*

1. Get a blanket.
2. Wrap yourself in it, realize you forgot to light a fire, and ruin your warm comfy position to go light it.
3. Build a fire starting with small pieces of wood, and then build a tepee like structure out of slightly larger pieces of wood until it looks suitable to burn.
4. If you're a wimp, put in gasoline, or light it like a real man/woman using a flint and steel or magnesium rod.
5. If you took the wimp way out, light it with a lighter or match, and go wrap yourself in your blanket again, and enjoy the warmth.
6. But wait, there's more!
7. Now, ruin your warmth once more by getting a warm meal, and become very cold in the process.
8. Now that you've endured what is obviously the worst hardship physically possible, get back under the covers, turn off your lamp, and be warm.



## Valentine's Day Poetry Contest Winners

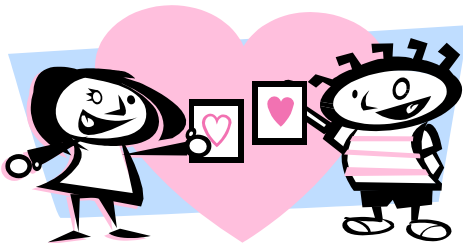
This year, the Middle School Newspaper sponsored a Poetry Contest. The following poems were submitted. All of the poets win a pizza lunch with Aleah Lattner and Keara Torelli, who designed the contest, and Ms. Casey. Congratulations to our winners!

### With You

I've been thinking about you daily  
Don't know why I need some time with  
you  
I need to take a breath and close my eyes  
And think about my times with you  
We've been working on a project that's a  
little over due  
But it's find as long as I'm with you  
When you left me sitting there you come  
back  
And know I'm with you I need someone to  
love but now I'm with you  
All I need is YOU!!!!!!  
~ Maddie McBride

### The Key to My Heart

When I looked in your eyes  
I can see love is still alive  
It just needs a flame to ignite.  
So, my dear, don't worry,  
Love is something you can't hurry  
I love you with all my heart  
~Madison Miller



### Valentine

Will you be my Valentine?  
my special someone  
who is always there for me?  
the someone who loves me  
and never lets me go  
the someone so special  
who takes my breath away?  
The person who cares about me  
more than anyone else  
who says "I love you!" and means it?  
So, will you be my Valentine  
who loves me for who I am?  
Who stays by my side  
for always  
and ever?  
~Jayden Snyder

## Zodiac Signs by: Kylie and Paige

How accurate are the traits associated with the signs of the Zodiac? Find your sign and figure it out. If you still aren't sure, find an honest person to give you their opinion.

### Aquarius (January 20<sup>th</sup> - February 18<sup>th</sup>):

Independent, Determined, Persistent, Witty  
Caring, Unique

### Pisces (February 19<sup>th</sup> - March 20<sup>th</sup>):

Imaginative, Helpful, Creative, Compassion-  
ate, Even-Tempered, Secretive

### Aries (March 21<sup>st</sup> - April 19<sup>th</sup>):

Good Leader, Courageous, Confident, Ener-  
getic, Strong-willed, Curious,

### Taurus (April 20<sup>th</sup> - May 20<sup>th</sup>):

Productive, Patient, Warm-hearted, Trust-  
worthy, Generous, Clever,

### Gemini (May 21<sup>st</sup> - June 21<sup>st</sup>):

Savvy, Charming, Adaptable, Communicative,  
Versatile, Affectionate,

### Cancer (June 22<sup>nd</sup> - July 22<sup>nd</sup>):

Intuitive, Perceptive, Supporting, Devoted,  
Protective, Encouraging

### Leo (July 23<sup>rd</sup> - August 22<sup>nd</sup>):

Confident, Encouraging, Loyal, Noble, Ener-  
getic, Romantic

### Virgo (August 23<sup>rd</sup> - September 22<sup>nd</sup>):

Sympathetic, Witty, Charming, Industrious,  
Efficient, Analytical

### Libra (September 23<sup>rd</sup> - October 22<sup>nd</sup>):

Gullible, Flirtatious, Impatient, Easy-going,  
Diplomatic, Sociable

### Scorpio (October 23<sup>rd</sup> - November 21<sup>st</sup>):

Protective, Resourceful, Brave, Passionate,  
Self reliant, Obsessive

### Sagittarius (November 22<sup>nd</sup> - December 21<sup>st</sup>):

Enthusiastic, Positive Thinker, Eager, Honest,  
Carefree, Impulsive,

### Capricorn (December 22<sup>nd</sup> - January 19<sup>th</sup>):

Cautious, Quick Learners, Tough, Responsi-  
ble, Thoughtful, Organized, Efficient, Analyti-  
cal

## Vacation

### By: Skylar Schmidt

I've interviewed two sixth grade students about their vacation trips. Whether they are going across the country or staying in Penn-  
sylvania, it's a vacation.

Kirsten G.: Q. Are you going on vacation?  
A. Yes

Q. Where are you going? A. Erie, PA

Q. When are you going? A. August 2015

Q. How long are you going? A. 4 days

Q. Is it a beach or landscape? A. Both

Q. Is it your first time going there? A. No

Q. Do you enjoy going there? A. Yes

Q. Do family members or anyone you know  
live there? A. No

Nick M.:

Q. Are you going on vacation? A. Yes

Q. Where are you going? A. New York

Q. How long are you going? A. 5 days

Q. Is it a beach or landscape? A. Both

Q. Is it your first time going there? A. Yes

Q. Do family members or anyone you know  
live there? A. NO.



## *Teacher in the Spotlight: Mr. Michael Henninger, 7th grade Math*

**Do you like teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade?**

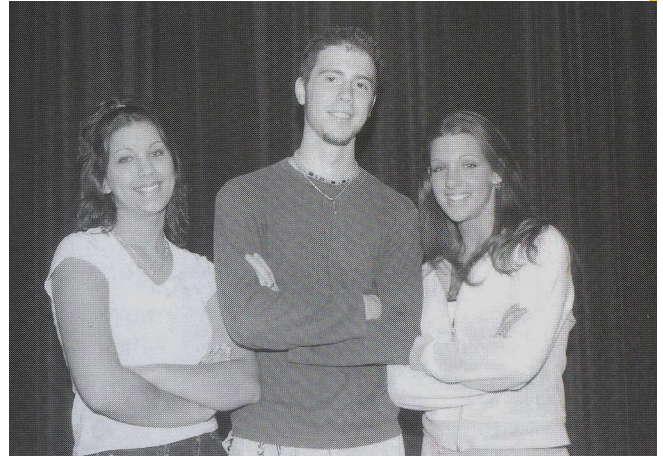
Yes. Of course.

**What made you want to teach at Brentwood?**

I grew up here. I enjoy the fact I am teaching where I came from. I feel like I'm giving back to Brentwood.

**How long have you been a teacher?**

7 years.



*Mr. Henninger as a senior here in 2003.*

**Why did you decide to teach math?**

I was always best at math.

**Interview by Ashley Klein**

**What grades have you taught in the past?**

Sixth through twelfth grade.

**What is your favorite topic to teach?**

Quadratics. (A branch of algebra that deals with quadratic equations)

## *Teacher in the Spotlight: Ms. Kristin Papariello, 7th grade Science*

**What's your favorite part of being a teacher in general?** When I know that my students have learned something new and can use it towards labs or activities - and of course having fun doing so.

**Is there anything you dislike about your job?** That I cannot use technology every day with each of my students - but that is my goal.

**How long have you been teaching?**

This is my 6th year teaching in school and my 4th in middle school science

**What's your favorite subject to teach?**

Science - how could you not love science?

**In science, what's your favorite topic to teach?**

As many of my students know, I love teaching astronomy and learning new things each year about it.



same rockets that took us to the moon.

**What's your favorite grade to teach?**

middle school students

**Where did you teach before this?**

Harrison Middle School in Baldwin school district

**When did you decide you wanted to be a teacher?**

When I was in college - I loved learning about science and decided I never wanted to stop learning and became a teacher.

**If you could choose any book for your class to read, what would it be?**

Rocket Boys - has the movie October Sky based on it - and portrays a high school student who dreams big and actually has ideas used towards creating the

