

KMS PURPLE PAGES

*Kenai Middle School
Kenai, Alaska
December 2022*



Fabulous Families

By Saylor Huntsman-Norman & Mrs. Nabholz

Mr. Dosko likes to brag about our school being a family, but there are some *literal* family members here at KMS. Keep reading to find out how some KMS teachers and students feel about being at school all day with their mom, dad, sister, brother, daughter, son, wife, or husband, or even more than one of these!



Mr. Carson teaches 6th grade math and science, plus home ec for 7th and 8th grade. He said, “It’s one of the reasons I wanted to be here, so I can be part of her education.” His daughter Lucia, an 8th grader, said, “In his science class in 6th grade, he wanted me to call him ‘Mr. Dad.’ I have to get up really early to ride to school with him, but it’s nice during ski season to store stuff in his room.”



Mr. Felchle is the assistant principal, and he teaches outdoor education & hunter safety. He said, “It’s really fun to come to the same school as my child. It’s fun to be part of his education and I try not to embarrass him too much.” His son Carter, an 8th grader, said, “It’s good but also bad. There’s advantages but also disadvantages. If I need something personal, I can see my dad, but he embarrasses me a lot.”



Mrs. Smith, our school’s head secretary and mom to 8th grader Eli, said, “I think it’s awesome that I get to be involved in his everyday school experience!” Eli said, “It’s equal parts good and bad. I know she’s always there. If I do something wrong she’ll know about it, but it’s good because my mom has snacks.”

(continued on pages 2-3)

**Check out the full-color version of the *Purple Pages* online:
KMS Facebook, KMS website, and in your school g-mail!**

Fabulous Families

(continued from page 1)



Mrs. Crouse is the library aide and has two daughters at our school. She said, "It's a lot of fun and it's good to see them during the day." Isla, an 8th grader, said, "I enjoy having her here. I get to see her daily and if I need help I can just go to the library." Kailey, a 6th grader, said, "It's actually kinda nice because I get to see them all day and I don't have to wait until I go home. And since it's my first year, they can help me a lot."



Mrs. Taylor is the counseling secretary and a teacher's aide. She said, "It's fun to work at a place where I get to see my daughter every day." Emily, an 8th grader, said, "I like my mom working here, but I have to wait here until 3:30, but if I need help with something I can just go to the front office."



Mrs. Tews teaches 6th grade reading, language arts, and geography. She also has two daughters at this school. She said, "I love it. It's fun to see them from time to time. It's fun to come with them each day." Olivia, a 7th grader, said, "It's pretty good having my mom here. I like talking to her a lot, and I liked having her as my teacher last year." Sofia, a 6th grader, said, "It's a good thing. I get to go to her classroom after school too."



Mr. Tilly is the head custodian, and his daughter also works at our school. He said, "I like it because it's fun to see your family at work in your job field and being colleagues." Ms. Shawna Tilly, an intensive needs aide, said, "I love working at KMS with my dad. As a custodian, I only saw him for a brief 30 minutes to an hour. I want to keep tabs on my dad. I'm pretty sure that he thinks that he's keeping tabs on me!"



Nurse Dixie is our awesome school nurse whose daughter is in 8th grade. She said, "I love it! I love being able to see her at lunch every day, bring her to school with me, and touch base with her teachers to keep her on track." Monica St John said, "It's fun and I have many advantages, like popcorn and seeing the teachers every day."



Mrs. Cruickshank is the Intensive Needs teacher. She has worked or volunteered at the same school as her stepson Tyler since he was in kindergarten. She said, "It is great to be in the same school as he is. I get to be the first contact if a parent is needed and get to wave at him in the halls. I think it will be weird when he goes to high school and I won't be there." Tyler, an 8th grader, said, "Well, I'd say that there are some good things and bad things. I can't get away with anything, but if I forget something, she can bring it to me."

Wow, that's a lot of KMS families so far . . . keep reading on page 3 for even more fabulous families!



Mr. Songer teaches 7th/8th grade boys PE and algebra. He has four children, and two of them go to KMS. He said, “It’s super fun. On the drive home after school we get to talk about our day.” Hallie, his 7th grade daughter, said, “It’s cool but weird at the same time. He teases me more in school.” She also said, “I tease my brother in the hallways.” Her brother Jay is a 6th grader, and he said, “Sometimes it’s annoying because my sister and my dad embarrass me on purpose.”



Mrs. Newton teaches 7th grade math, and she has been a teacher here longer than her husband. She said, “It’s the best, he takes care of me. He makes me lunch every day. I also love that we get to haunt students because they’ll have Mr. Newton for math then they’ll come to my math. They’ll get us for two years in a row!” Mr. Newton teaches 6th grade math, science, and boys’ P.E. He said, “It’s awesome! We get to have lunch together. We get to carpool and debrief in the car after work. Also we get to help each other with our classrooms.”



Ms. Johnson is our school counselor. She likes working at the same school as her younger brother and said, “It’s so fun to get to spend family time together and to see him find his way as a grownup.” Mr. Johnson, who works as a special education aide, said, “I feel lucky, it’s really cool to work with my older sister. We get to spend family time.”



The Johnsons – Incredible Hulk and Elsa!

November Students of the Month

By Caden Miller



8th grade: Emily Taylor, Nik Bezdecny, Annemarie Lacy, Dani Bennett, Levi Battiest (not pictured)



7th grade: Elloree Smith, Carson Cramer, Oscar Marcou, Jordyn Sandback (not pictured)



6th grade: David Kala-De La Cruz, Melody Pfile, Lily Teates

Opinion-8-ed

By Isla Crouse



What is your favorite outdoor winter activity and memory?

Lily Langham— “Skating on a pond.”

Lexi Somers— “Ice skating on the lakes in Wyoming.”

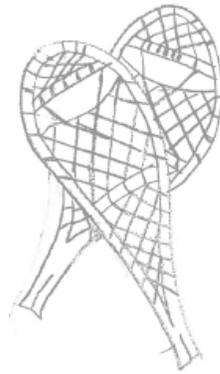
Kimber Moore— “My favorite thing to do is make snowmen with my friends.”

Mrs. Crouse— “Building snowmen and snow animals with my daughters. I also like to ski and snowshoe . . . when it’s not too cold.”

Shauna Koch— “Building a snowman family.”

Jenica Anderson— “Belly flopping in fluffy snow.”

Nik Bezdecny— “My favorite winter outdoor activity is just sitting in snow and thinking about life.”



Lucia Carson— “Sledding at my friend’s house. We tied the sleds together and ended up on a frozen lake.”

Pepper Noel— “Sledding with my friends.”

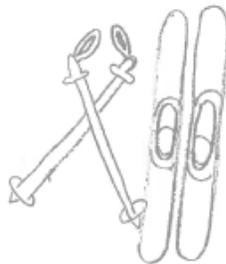
Schyler Johnson— “Going sledding at Skyview.”

Teresa Fallon— “Downhill ski.”

Savannah Hershberger— “My favorite activity to do in the winter is snow-machining and getting pulled in a sled by the snow-machines! It’s a lot of fun and that’s probably one of my favorite winter memories from every year.”

Eli Smith— “Snow-machining with a sled behind it around our house.”

Mr. Songer— “Since I was a kid, I have always loved pulling sleds behind 4-wheelers and snow-machines. My kids also love this activity so we do it every chance we get . . . (Be safe and wear a helmet!)”



Break Buffoonery

By Enormous Mustard

We all know doing nothing over Christmas break isn’t any fun. So why not think of some things to do? These recommendations are from some people I know, so here are the activities!

1. We all know sledding is fun, so why not? The best hill to sled down is Mt. Everest in my opinion.
2. Stay in. Not the most active one, but hey, food, video games, and movies do sound good!
3. Go skating! Not on a lake though, a bit dangerous. Go to the rink near the high school for free close to school skating.
4. Winter camping. While it may sound cold (and it is) it is a good reason to get out and feed the bears.
5. Go out, just walk or drive. Winter at night may be cold, but it’s prettier than your ceiling, and it gives a really pretty view off of the bluffs.
6. Draw! Drawing pictures can often release emotions, and coloring is stress relieving (spiritual stuff).
7. Maybe make a snow fort, and you and your friends could hang out in it! Just ignore the fact it could collapse on you.
8. Have a slumber party! I usually summon Cthulhu at my slumber parties, but doing nails is fun too.
9. Organize your space. Over the school year you may have gotten careless with your room, maybe clean it up, add a bit of sparkle to your area.
10. Help your parents more around the house. Your parents must be tired from work, and may not have time to work at the house. The least you could do is the dishes.
11. Go shopping with friends, maybe buy some new clothes for the yearly Christmas ritual.
12. Throw a Christmas party! Invite all your friends, maybe do a Secret Santa gift exchange.

Have fun over the break and don’t forget to get presents for your family!

Christmas Door Wars!

By Keira Forstner

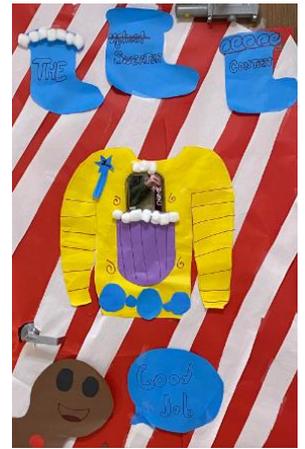
Every year at KMS we have a door decorating contest. This contest started the Monday after Thanksgiving and was judged by two top secret agent elves on December 9th.

The KMS door decorating contest takes place in every advisory class. Mr. Dosko thought this was a good idea so all the kids can participate in school spirit and holiday spirit. Mr. Dosko thought of doing this because in his K-12 school in Saskatchewan, Canada they would do door decorating every year.

KMS is very competitive when it comes to holidays. In the 7th grade, Mrs. Newton and Mr. Rose are very very competitive; both those teachers like to win everything whenever there's a competition. Mr. Rose said that the door decorating mirrors his philosophy in life, that if you're gonna do something be great at it! Mrs. Newton said, "I don't like it this year. Last year I did, this year I don't. I mean, have you seen my door? Last year I had a good group of girls."

If you win the door decorating contest, you get to have a party in your classroom. If you don't win because you're a loser, you don't get any prize, it's just effort. The door decorating contest was judged by Mayor Brian Gabriel and his wife Lisa. The first place winner was Ms. Vollom, with an ugly sweater with a mirror on it, and the second place winner was Mrs. Sullens' door with Charlie Brown. Mrs. Rininger's door had the most votes on Facebook, it is a giant sun with lots of pictures of Mr. Summer. Mrs. Bressler's Grinch door won second place on Facebook.

"The best Christmas gifts are those given from the heart. On the other hand, cash and gift cards are effective too."



* * *

"Santa Claus has the right idea, he visits people only once a year."

* * *

"Be naughty, save Santa the trip."

This issue of the **KMS Purple Pages** . . . is brought to you by reporters Amelia Adams, Blu Christensen, Isla Crouse, Kaia Dale-Johnson, Keira Forstner, Adalic Hernandez, Saylor Huntsman-Norman, River Kruzick, Oscar Marcou, Mady Martin, Caden Miller, Effie Muster, Payton Ricks, Delila Roberts, Emily Taylor, and LeRoy Tomrdle, with support from Journalism advisor Mrs. Nabholz. Illustrators include Emily, Isla, Effie, and Mady, plus guest illustrator Lucia Carson. Thanks to Hector "Mr. T" Teran for sponsoring the T-shirt contest (which is taking a break this month), and to all the students, teachers, staff, and parents who provided assistance with news and photos.

Winter Wonderland

By Blu Christensen

C S I S A Z I N D E R B E S F C J K T C Y T K M T
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 K R I S K R I N G L E G M K N T Q M W O L L O B Y

Blitzen
 Candy Canes
 Celebration
 Christmas
 Christmas Music
 Christmas Tree
 Cold
 Comet
 Cupid
 Dancer
 Dasher
 Decorations
 Donner
 Elves
 Fireplace
 Fireworks
 Frosty the Snowman
 Gingerbread
 Cookies
 Hot Chocolate
 Ice
 Icy
 Kris Kringle
 Lights
 Mrs. Claus
 New Years
 Ornaments
 Prancer
 Presents
 Reindeer
 Rudolph
 Saint Nicholas
 Santa Claus
 Dasher
 Sledding
 Sleigh
 Snow
 Snow Angels
 Snowball Fights
 Snowflakes
 Snowman
 Stockings
 Vixen
 Winter
 Wish List

The Best Christmas Playlists . . . (ever) . . . (possibly) . . . By LeRoy Tomrdle

Twelve Days of Christmas Music!!!

1. This Christmas -Donny Hathaway
2. It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas - Perry Como
3. Jingle Bells- Frank Sinatra
4. Little Saint Nick- The Beach Boys
5. White Christmas- Bing Crosby
6. The Most Wonderful Time of the Year- Andy Williams
7. The Little Drummer Boy- Bing Crosby
8. Let It Snow- Dean Martin
9. A Holly Jolly Christmas- Burl Ives
10. Here Comes Santa Claus- Gene Autry
11. Christmas- Darlene Love
12. The Christmas Song- Nat King Cole

Twelve MORE days of Christmas music!!!

1. Run Rudolph- Chuck Berry
2. Christmas Time Is Here- Vince Guaraldi Trio
3. Happy Holidays-Andy Williams
4. Silver Bells- Bing Crosby
5. Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree- Brenda Lee
6. Sleigh Ride- The Ronettes
7. There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays- Perry Como
8. Linus and Lucy- Vine
9. Christmas - Bing Cosby
10. Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town- Frank Sinatra
11. Frosty the Snowman- The Ronettes
12. God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen- Bing Crosby

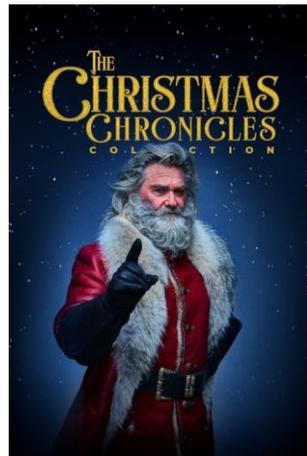
"Santa has it great; I buy all the toys, he gets all the credit."

~Christmas Movies~

By Blu Christensen

Just like the twelve days of Christmas,
we have twelve movies to binge!

1. *The Princess Switch 1 & 2*
2. *The Grinch*
3. *Christmas Chronicles 1 & 2*
4. *The Polar Express*
5. *A Bad Mom's Christmas*
6. *Home Alone 1, 2, 3 & 4*
7. *A Christmas Story*
8. *The Nutcracker & the Four Realms*
9. *Elf*
10. *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*
11. *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*
12. *The Santa Clauses*



*"I've been watching you all year
and you're not naughty...
you're mentally disturbed."*

Handsome Hank

By Delila Roberts

Hank Jones will be coming to KMS after Christmas, but not full time. He has already visited the school a few times but he still needs to learn a lot before he can spend more time here.

Hank Jones is a 7-month-old black lab puppy. Most people just call him Hank. He has about 4 more months until he can come here full time to help Mrs. Adair's classroom.

Mrs. Adair has had one other dog here at school named Benson. She taught over fifty dogs before she became a teacher. She started teaching and training service dogs because she likes helping people and she loves dogs.



Hank had to pass a Canine Good Citizen class. For that test he had to be able to sit in public for three minutes without moving. He also had to be able to lie down in public and not move for three minutes. He wears a purple service dog vest so people know to not interact with him without permission.

Hank is going to help students by letting them read out loud to him. It is going to help them because the dog can't talk, so the student doesn't feel judged reading out loud to him. The main part of having a dog in the room is to create a relaxed environment and allow the students to feel safe when reading out loud. This helps the students to be able to read because they are relaxed, and it improves their skills because they are practicing and building self-esteem.

Kids in the Hall

By Caden Miller



Would you rather have your stocking filled with peanut butter or jelly? Why?

Stella Drobnick, 6th grade: "Jelly because I think it is delicious."



Would you rather get a present from Mr. Gustkey or Mr. Rose? Why?

Noah Anding, 7th grade: "Mr. Rose because he is a basketball coach and he would get me something good."



Would you rather date an elf or Mr. or Mrs. Claus? Why?

Kimber Moore, 8th grade: "Santa because I would get all the presents."

Notable Noelle

By Isla Crouse



From the flashing lights and busy streets of Las Vegas, to the small town of Kenai, life in Alaska is certainly a whole new experience, but Noelle Anding, an eleven-year-old sixth grader here at Kenai Middle School, takes it all in with open eyes and enjoys every opportunity that may cross her path. Noelle was born in Las Vegas and moved to Washington for a couple years, so she has encountered a plethora of lifestyle changes, but she has lived in Alaska for roughly seven to eight years now.

Noelle lives with her mom Heather and her brothers Noah, Jackson, Ethan, Oliver, and Prescott. They travel down to Washington to visit their grandparents, which Noelle loves very much. Her dad and her two half-siblings, Island and Vincent, live in Oklahoma. Of course, her family also includes the most important members: Pedro and Wardemer, their two faithful hounds. The Anding family just hopes the dogs don't get into their large supply of chickens . . .

"I dance for Forever Dance Alaska and I love it," Noelle explains. "I've been dancing since

I was three." Dancing is one of Noelle's favorite pastimes, and Forever Dance is lucky it is. Along with her talents on the dance floor, Noelle runs her own small business that she calls *Little Baker's Bake Shop*. The money she makes goes almost entirely to funding dance competitions, mostly traveling to out-of-state tournaments, such as the one they are competing in next April in California.

Noelle's friends are a big part of her life, and she doesn't just have them here at KMS. During intermission and in between dancing at performances, Noelle spends time with her "dance friends," sometimes just hanging out and having fun, and sometimes going out to eat or other enjoyable activities. With her friends at school, Noelle says she mostly just hangs out and talks with them.

Moving from elementary school to middle school has definitely been a big jump, but so far Noelle enjoys the change. She says that she likes KMS better than her old school, because it has more activities to participate in, and they "take you away to where you are still at school, but it doesn't feel like you are. They make you want to come back." Noelle says she also enjoys art, and wishes she were in an art class.

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way. On Christmas, Noelle and her family have a little "tradition" where they stay up late, eat cookies, and sing, filling their house with the merry noise



of holiday fun. And just like on Christmas, Noelle is going to bring her fun and lively personality here to KMS!

Nice Nang

By Adalic Hernandez



Nang Bell is a 7th grader at KMS. She is 12 years old, and she was born in Anchorage, Alaska. She lived in Chevak for most of her life. She said that Chevak was more fun than Kenai because she got to go on the bluffs.

She has five siblings whose names are Adrienne, Tristian, Harmony, Taryn, and Clifftan. When she's with her siblings she likes to play games with them. Some of her friends are Ashauntea, Payton, and Amelia, and when she's with her friends she likes to go to stores and do makeup.

She likes to play basketball, mostly because of the running. She was on the basketball and cross-country teams, and she liked that because she got to run on the school grounds. She's going to try out for wrestling because she can pretend to fight. Her favorite subject in school is P.E. because she likes playing games with her friends.

Things she likes to do outside of school are going on drives with her sister, and she likes driving around Bridge Access and to Soldotna. She also likes to stay at home with her family.

Crazy Caroline!

Kaia Dale-Johnson



Caroline Karpik is an 8th grader here at KMS. She was born in 2009 in Fairbanks, Alaska. She moved to Kenai when she was five. She has one younger brother in 7th grade named Luke, and both of their parents are optometrists. She also has one golden retriever named Mango.

Some of Caroline's friends are... Kaia, Lexi, Emma, Teresa, Lucia, Shauna, Ruby, Lily, Isla, Emily, and Annemarie. She likes hanging out with them because "they are fun to be around."

Caroline's electives are woodshop and art. She likes woodshop because "Wood feels like blankets when it's smooth." Caroline's favorite teacher is her American History teacher, Mr. Summer, because "He's funny and he knows how to make the class laugh." One of her favorite KMS memories is from last year's 8th grade farewell, because "We got to sit in class all day and play Apples to Apples." Caroline's favorite school subject is math because "there is structure to it." (Also, she's in 10th grade math.)

Some things Caroline enjoys doing are going to the Brown Bears games, and baking, but her absolute favorite thing to do is to talk to Kaia.

#KMShashtags

- #Roblox
- #turtles
- #spiderlashes
- #pickme
- #playingfootsies
- #applejuiceoverorangejuice
- #orangewater
- #mommykaia
- #popcornforbreakfast
- #basketball
- #friendzoned
- #idunno
- #writingwithfood
- #furry4life
- #pillowsandblankets
- #christmas
- #shoorl
- #christmasmovies
- #grinch
- #birthdays
- #NO!
- #explodingkittensgames
- #poetryforneanderthals
- #baseballbat
- #music
- #purplepages
- #schoolbreak
- #weirdo
- #omigosh
- #grandpagusgus
- #wemissava
- #loveyouava
- #teamdahlman
- #PPreporters
- #mathcounts
- #activitynight

January

Birthdays

By Adalic Hernandez

- 01 Kennah Gregory
- 03 Leighton Wilshusen
- 03 Max Modigh
- 03 KeiralyN Madsen
- 11 Faera Wozniak
- 12 Landon Baze
- 12 Tyler Morris
- 13 Effie Muster
- 13 Riley Cramer
- 13 Nang Bell
- 14 River Kruzick
- 14 Dianna Wright
- 14 Clayton Brown
- 15 Alex Lehmborg
- 15 Kailey Crouse
- 16 Daniel Agayar
- 16 Ava Haugstad
- 16 Mrs. Sullens
- 21 Josh Freeman
- 21 Sawyer Graham
- 22 Morgan Koenig
- 23 Nathan Hamm
- 23 Uriah Smith
- 24 Ari Imlay
- 24 Ryder Jewell
- 24 Rory Rang
- 25 Jacob Cole
- 26 Zoe Cole
- 28 Kenzie Chivers
- 28 Sierra Hunt
- 29 Alex Grundberg
- 29 Marley Mesa



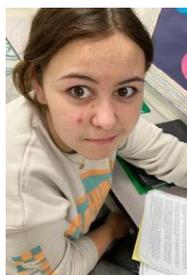
"I Dunno"

By Kaia Dale-Johnson



What's your favorite color of the alphabet?

"I dunno." - Avery Munter



What fruit do you write with when you're shopping?

"I dunno."
- Savannah Sparks



What's your favorite flavor of crayon?

"I dunno."
- Kimber Moore



What color are your toes when you fall or trip?

"I dunno."
- Roman Campanella

A-Teams Are Awesome!

By Payton Ricks

Basketball has been going on for a couple of months now and recently ended. Their last games were on Saturday, December 10th, and the boys won the tournament with the girls coming in second place! The girls won five out of seven games, and the boys won six out of seven games.

One of the girls said, “I enjoy playing basketball because I played last year, and my dad has played his whole life! I also really like the trips we go on.”

Coach Songer, who coaches the A-team boys, loves basketball as much as he loves his family, and that’s a lot! “My favorite part of watching their games is seeing improvement,” he said. Coach Songer has been coaching for 11 years, five years at KCHS and six years at KMS. He has been playing since 1993, which takes him back to 3rd grade.



Hallie Songer is on the girls’ A-team, and she has a lot to say about basketball. “I have been playing basketball since 3rd grade. I would say being able to yell is one of my favorite things to do. If I’m still playing basketball in college then I could probably see myself coaching middle school basketball.” Hallie and Coach Songer have both been playing since 3rd grade!

A-Team Girls

Jenica Anderson
Dani Bennett
Lily Buffington
Selah Coots
Ruby Davis
Gracee Every
Teresa Fallon
Savannah Hershberger
Harper Kruzick
Kimber Moore
Hallie Songer
Bryleigh Williams

A-Team Boys

Riel Castillo
Carson Cramer
Carter Felchle
Gage Ivy
Schyler Johnson
Miles Metteer
Korbyn Phillips
Eli Smith
Brett Sturman
Reid Titus
Mason Tunseth



B-Team Ballers

By River Kruzick

The boys B team won four out of seven games this season. The girls B team won three out of seven games this season. The teams took two out-of-town road trips, one to Chapman and the other one to Seward. Most teammates liked the Seward trip more because of the long bus ride and that they got to stop at Safeway for snacks.

Both B teams played a few tough teams, but the teams they said were the best they played against were the CIA teams. The players I interviewed said that the best players on their team were always the best dribblers, shooters, defenders, and the best teammates. The team that Blake Morris and Katalla Tomrdle said was the most fun team to play was Nikiski because both KMS teams destroyed them in their game. Eli Pancoast said that this year’s season was very fun and he wants to play again next year.

Cornhole Chaos!

At the activity night on December 9th, Mr. Felchle and Caroline Karpik teamed up to compete against Lucia Carson and Isla Crouse at cornhole . . . Mr. Felchle was getting *super* competitive and stated, “Caroline and I are hands down the KMS Cornhole Champions dominating the entire night! Mic drop!”

After Mr. Felchle and Caroline won twice, Lucia is begging for a rematch!



Winter Sports

By Emily Taylor

At KMS, there are three options for winter sports: XC Skiing, Volleyball, and Wrestling. All of these sports start in January, after Christmas break. They are all competitive sports that travel for games and meets, which means you go on road trips with your friends!

If you choose to do one of these sports, you can't do any of the other winter sports, since all three overlap on the schedule. You have to attend all of your classes on game or meet days, and you can't be late. If you have done XC running, soccer, or basketball earlier in the year, you have to change your sports packet over to the new sport. Trying one of these winter sports would be a great way to spend your third quarter and stay active.

Cross Country Skiing

Skiing is an energetic sport that requires time and practice. The season runs from January 4th to March 4th. Any 6th, 7th, or 8th graders can join this sport. There are no "B" or "C" teams, so no one will be kicked off the team if they're not as good at skiing.

The coaches will teach you how to ski, if you don't know how to, and help you become better, if you already know how. Each day after school you will dress in your ski gear, wax your skis, then head outside to do laps around the field. You can keep your skis in the downstairs wax room all week, but you should take your skis home over the weekend to go skiing.

The main coach is Mr. Carson and the assistant coach is Mr. Lewis. Most days you ski over to the Kenai Golf Course and ski on the trails. Some days for practice you will be classic skiing, and other days you will be skate skiing. You need to buy your own skis and winter gear, gloves, hats, buffs, ski pants, and a coat. The school has wax and irons for getting your skis ready in the wax room. Make sure you wear a couple of layers to keep warm. You do get warm when you ski, but sometimes it's negative degrees and very cold. In skiing you can't go outside if it's negative 10 degrees or colder.

You will have a race almost every Friday, which includes a girls' race and a boys' race. They compete separately, against four other schools; some meets might have more schools there than others, some might have less. You will feel tired when you're racing but excited after you finish!

Volleyball

Volleyball is a lively sport that requires teamwork. It is very popular, and most years there are lots of people who participate. Girls in 7th and 8th grade can do this sport (6th graders can do intramural volleyball in March). This sport is split into "A" and "B" teams, with 8th grade "A" coached by Mrs. Beck, and 7th grade "A" coached by Ms. Gann. The B-team for both 7th and 8th is coached by Mrs. Samples.



Intramural volleyball starts January 4th and ends January 20th. Competitive volleyball runs January 23 to February 25. Practice ends at about 4:30 every day.

Every day after school, you get ready in the locker room then start practice with warm ups. During practice you learn the fundamentals, like serving, passing, setting, and hitting. For practice you need to have comfortable clothes, and you can have knee pads but they're not required. You will get your uniform before your first game.

You have games at schools around the Kenai Peninsula against other 7th and 8th graders. The first "game" is the Jamboree; each person plays for about 15 minutes with the coach on the sideline figuring out plays and offense, based on their strengths and weaknesses. For the games, you will play against Seward, Homer, Skyview, Nikiski, and the other KMS team. Mrs. Beck states, "We will play normally two games per week. There is one week we might play three." Volleyball is a dynamic sport, with lots of plays to score on the other team!

Wrestling

Wrestling is a tireless sport that requires determination. Pinning someone to the ground or breaking past someone's attack both require time to learn. In wrestling, girls and boys in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade can participate.

The season runs January 4th to March 4th, the same as XC skiing. The wrestling coach is Mr. Navarre, who will help you learn as many wrestling skills as possible.

During practice athletes dress in their gear. You need to have shoes and headgear; practice gear can be a t-shirt and some shorts or sweatpants. You can't have any buckles or buttons on your clothes. During practice

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Winter Sports

(continued from page 11)

you start with warm-ups and cardio, then you learn moves and techniques. Some days you will do weightlifting in the weight room. Wrestling practice starts right after school and ends at 4:15.

The school provides uniforms for meets. Students wrestle athletes in the same weight class, based on their body weight. They compete against Homer, Seward, Chapman, Soldotna, Nikiski, and sometimes Kodiak. Mr. Navarre said, "Kodiak comes every couple years to challenge the teams."

Mr. Navarre started wrestling when he was six years old and wrestled all through school, including college. He won 4th place in All American Wrestling and competed for KCHS at the state championship in 1979. Mr. Navarre has been wrestling for a while and knows all the moves, so if you want to learn you should try wrestling!



Pencil Preferences

By Oscar Marcou

Have you ever wondered what the best type of pencil is? In this article, I will compare wood pencils to mechanical pencils using the following categories: longest lasting, easiest to use, and best eraser.

Category One: Longest Lasting

For the longest lasting, I'm comparing the life of the graphite before needing to sharpen or put more lead into it. Wooden pencils need to be sharpened about every 10-20 minutes. Mechanical pencils have a lot of graphite in them and all you need to do is press a button on the side or press down the eraser to get more graphite, so these can last hours without being refilled. Mechanical pencils are the clear winner for this.

Category Two: Easiest to Use

For easiest to use, I'm comparing the grip and comfort of each. The wooden pencil has no grip on it. The mechanical pencil has a very small grip near the point but this may vary depending on the brand. Since the wooden pencil doesn't have a comfortable grip, the mechanical pencil wins this category.

Category Three: Best Eraser

For the best eraser, I'm comparing the eraser of a wooden pencil to a mechanical pencil's eraser. The wooden pencil has a pink eraser, and the mechanical pencil has a gray eraser, which also might be a different color depending on the brand. The wooden pencil does a great job erasing anything drawn with a pencil. The mechanical pencil however, isn't very good and smears some of the graphite on the page.

Overall, the mechanical pencil wins with two out of three categories. The mechanical pencil is easy to use and lasts longer, but it did lose to wooden pencils when it comes to the best eraser. Even though the mechanical pencil won, it is actually up to you to decide which is better!



Humble Horses

By Amelia Adams

Horses are some of the strongest and most beautiful animals in the world. They come in many shapes, sizes, breeds, and colors, but all of them are beautiful! I myself have a pony, and my family owns two other horses, all of them Appaloosas.

The Basic Colors

- Bay: Black mane and tail; black stripe called a dorsal stripe along back.
- Chestnut/Sorrel: Reddish-to-brown coat with a mane and tail the same or lighter in color than the coat.
- Dappled Grey: Light-grey to dark-grey colors with faint grey-ish spots.
- Black: Black or close-to-black.
- Blue Roan: Mix of white and black hairs in their coat that can sometimes look a little blue.
- Red Roan: A sort of chestnut color with hints of red.
- Palomino: A gold-ish color with white or creamy mane and tail.
- Buckskin: Tan or gold-colored coat with black points (mane, tail, and lower legs).
- Dun: Usually have lighter coat; main color can vary.
- Pinto: Large patches of white and almost any other color.
- Appaloosa: Spotted; almost any color.

Little vs. Small

Horses are measured differently from most things. They are measured by “hands,” which is four inches. The smallest horse breed in the world, standing at around 6-7 hands, is the Falabella pony. They are my personal favorite and are very cute. They have a few different colors, but the most common is bay or black. Some of the less-seen colors are pintos and something sort of like Appaloosas. Their price can range from \$1,500-12,000. The biggest horse breed in the world, standing slightly



higher than 17 hands, is the Shire horse. They can be black, gray, bay, or roan (roan is only mares). Shires are a little bit more expensive, ranging from \$2,000-20,000. My horses are 13-16 hands, which is a more average size.



Unique Breeds

There are a few breeds that are very unique because of their looks or skills. One of the most unique horse breeds is the Akhal Teke. Shades of black, bay, and red are the most seen for their coloring. They usually have a beautiful shine to their coats that can look like a coat of gold. Another unique breed is the Peruvian Paso. They are found as bay, buckskin, palomino, gray and roan. Bashkir is another unique breed. They come in all colors and



sizes, and can be very beautiful. They can also be *very* curly! Marwaris are also very unique. Instead of their ears being straight, they make almost a circle over their heads! They are usually found in bay or brown.

Almost Extinct

Sadly, a few horse breeds are going extinct, including one of my favorite breeds. The reason for the number of horses going down was mostly because of the First World War and the Second World War, because some breeds were used in battle. The Exmoors are bay, dun, or brown. The Nokota horse is another almost extinct breed, and they are often found as a blue roan color, but black and gray are also common. Another one is the Cleveland Bay, which are always a bay color with black points. There's also the Galiceno horse, whose colors can vary from bay to black or chestnut, and there isn't a way to be sure about why they're endangered. For the Colonial Spanish horse, whose main colors are chestnut and buckskin, the main reason they're going extinct is because of environmental destruction.

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Humble Horses

(continued from page 13)



Riding a Horse

Horses are really fun to ride, and there are many things you can do, like rodeos, shows, jumping, and just relaxing trail riding! My favorite things to do are trail riding, jumping, and barrels. For shows and jumping, you might want to take a few lessons before entering...well, maybe more than just a few. You can take riding lessons at places like Solid Rock. Barrel racing and poles are a couple of the events at rodeos; you have to follow specific patterns for them. Trail riding is, well, riding on trails. You can ride on hiking trails, four wheeler trails, forest trails, and the beach. I like to ride on hiking trails in the mountains.



Well, I hoped you enjoyed learning about the most magnificent animals in the world!

Powerful Prometheans

By Oscar Marcou



Have you been wondering what the new TVs in some classrooms are? They are Promethean boards, and I'm going to tell you all about them.

What is a Promethean board?

A Promethean board is a type of Smart TV. They are basically the next generation of Smart Boards, but different. They use an LCD screen. An LCD is a type of screen that uses a voltage to change the color of crystals, LCD stands for liquid crystal display.

What's the difference between a Promethean board and a Smart Board?

The Smart Boards and Promethean boards are very different, but they are for the same overall purpose, helping our amazing teachers teach us. The main difference between the two is that a Smart Board has a projector, and the Promethean Board has a built-in display. Another difference is the resolution. The Smart Board has an HD projector with a resolution of 1280*800 pixels. The Promethean board has a 4k UHD screen with a resolution of 3840*2160 pixels. A similarity is the refresh rate. A refresh rate is how many times a screen refreshes in a second. Both the Promethean Board and the Smart Board have a refresh rate of 60.

Why are we getting Promethean boards?

Kenai Middle is getting Promethean boards because the Smart Boards here are very old. In fact, Smart Boards have been around since the early '90s. Some of the Smart Boards here have issues like small dots covering parts of the screen. The new Promethean boards are more powerful and should last longer than the Smart Boards. In total, we have 22 Promethean Boards installed in classrooms. Currently, some of the staff are being trained on how to use the new boards by Amanda Adams, the school district's virtual learning & professional development coordinator.

What do the teachers think?

Mr. Rose is really excited about the Promethean boards, "It's like going from a Volkswagen Beetle to the Star Trek Enterprise." Mr. Newton made a nice comparison about them, but put an example that more people would understand, "Really nice, clear picture, and very useful, kinda like how an iPhone and an Android do the same thing."

Editor's note: Most teachers at KMS will also be getting new magnetic, dry-erase whiteboards installed soon. The Promethean boards also have functions that includes a whiteboard with multiple touch-points for writing, as well as options for screen-capture, screen recording, screen-sharing, split-screen viewing, and many more useful features!

Vicious Vaping

By LeRoy Tomrdle

In this article, I want to inform you about vaping, and the negativity it can bring to adolescents. Vaping is an extreme problem among youth in our community. More and more minors are getting addicted to vapes and it's not slowing down. You may think that using a vape once is harmless, but it can bring a life of addiction.

Why shouldn't I vape?

Large companies target kids by using actors that look young and happy in their ads, so this looks more appealing to kids. In the ads, the people usually look happy and excited. This is not the case. Some people think vaping can relieve stress and put you in a better mood, but really, it just brings stress, anxiety, depression, and negativity. Some people have experienced a disease called bronchitis, also known as popcorn lung, which causes mucus to be coughed up from the lungs.

Why does vaping even exist?

Some electric nicotine products were created as an alternative to cigarettes and tobacco. They were advertised as harmless relaxation products that simulated cigarettes and other products, but they are not much better than them. Vapes are made to look sleek and appealing. They also have flavors, such as sour patch and raspberry, that may sound tasty, but are harmful.

What's in a vape?

Some ingredients include nicotine, carcinogens, Acrolein, Diacetyl, diethylene, and much more. If you can't even pronounce the name of the stuff you're inhaling, that can't be good. Acrolein is used to kill weeds, nicotine can stop the brain from developing correctly, diacetyl can cause bronchitis, and carcinogens cause cancer.

Vaping in school

Some people are so addicted to their vapes that they use them in school. There are vape detectors in every bathroom. The detectors detect fragrances, tampering with the detectors, and high frequency noises. If you do set them off, they sound an alarm and the hallway cameras record the time and alert the office. The vape detectors were put in at the beginning of the year, and they are not intended to be taken out. If you are caught with a vape, it is an immediate call home and most likely a suspension.

NOTE: If you or anyone you know is struggling with addiction, we urge you to go to Nurse Dixie. All it takes is a call home and she has resources that can help with in-school urges.

Advice? Absolutely!

By Kaia Dale-Johnson

I have once again turned to our counselor Ms. Johnson to tackle some important topics, including an 8th grade transition program, teen pregnancies, and vaping.

Transitioning into a new school can be scary. To help ease the transition, the counselors at KCHS visit our school to talk to our 8th graders about what the expectations are for high school. Personally, I would be most worried about stepping on the Kardinal. The thought of high school is intimidating, since it's a whole new experience. So if you are having any extra anxiety come May about leaving the comfort of KMS, please talk to Ms. Johnson.

It probably isn't something most 11, 12, 13, or 14 year olds are thinking about, but teen pregnancies are becoming more and more common, even in our school. If you are struggling with a pregnancy, you have to tell your parents. Ms. Johnson or almost any adult in the building can help you with the conversation, but it is a conversation that must happen if you find yourself in this situation. Please do everything you can to help prevent teen pregnancies!

We all know about the vape detectors in the bathrooms and locker rooms, but that isn't the only place you could find somebody vaping. If you see anybody vaping on school property, immediately tell an adult. If you yourself are struggling with a vaping addiction, Nurse Dixie runs several programs to help. Kids are more worried about getting in trouble than about actually getting help.



This school is more focused on getting kids the help they need to live happy, healthy lives, than on punishing them!

Majestic Moths & Beautiful Butterflies

By Blu Christensen

Moths

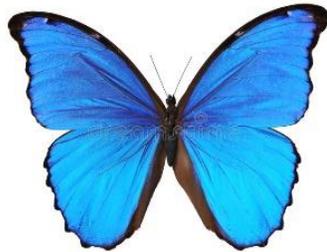
There are about 160,000 species of moths in the whole world, with nearly 11,000 in the United States. Some people may be scared of moths or think they are useless, but they are generally harmless to humans and some, like bees, are pollinators. Although moths are accidental pollinators, they are still helpful.



Humans also might not like moths because they are a symbol of the darker things in life, such as death, change, transformation, endings, and the mystery of the night. They are not as bright and cheerful as butterflies, since they are usually plain brown, gray, and black.

Butterflies

Even though butterflies are more popular than moths, there are only 20,000 species in the world, with only 750 species in the United States. Like moths, they are also pollinators. When they drink the nectar from a flower, pollen attaches to them, spreading as they move from flower to flower. A little fun fact about butterflies: they are just day-flying moths.



Across the globe, some people see butterflies as symbols of rebirth, change, hope, comfort, and transformation. This could be another reason why people like butterflies more than our night-time flying moth friends.

Differences between moths and butterflies

Butterflies are generally larger and have more color in their wings, while moths are smaller and have blander colors. Another difference between butterflies and moths are their antennae (an-ten-nuh). Butterfly antennae are club-tipped, while moth antennae are more thread-like. Moths like to rest with their wings open, while butterflies rest with their wings closed.

Another difference is a butterfly develops inside a chrysalis, while a moth develops inside a cocoon. The difference between a cocoon and a chrysalis is that butterflies take the form of a cocoon when it is their time to turn into a butterfly, while moths spin silk around themselves and molt inside.



Similarities between moths and butterflies

Moths and butterflies may be different, but they also have similarities, especially with their physical features. They both have their taste buds in their feet. They land on their food and taste the dissolving sugars within. That only works for a few things they eat, such as flower nectar, other fluid from sap flowers on trees, and rotting fruit. Both moths and butterflies have four wings with thousands of small scales on them, which help them protect themselves from predators. Their scales also give them their amazing patterns!

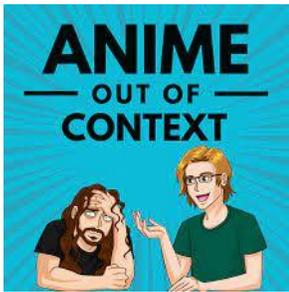
Most common butterfly and moth in the world

You are probably thinking that the most common butterfly would be the Monarch butterfly because everyone seems to know it. You are correct; the Monarch butterfly is the most popular butterfly in the world, known for its flashy orange-red color and beautiful design. The most common moth in the world is the brown house moth. Even though brown is in its name, it's actually a golden color that resembles bronze; they also have tiny little black spots on their wings.



アニメレビュー

(Anime Review)
By Mady Martin



and *actually* like them!

This podcast has two hosts, Shaun and Remington. They are overall hilarious and can make you feel like your stomach will explode from laughter. I feel like the podcast always has something new to laugh at, even if it doesn't make sense.

Shaun is basically the mastermind behind the podcasts. He finds all the anime they watch for the podcast videos. Some are terrible, like Vampire Knight, but some are good, like Sk8 the Infinity. Either way, Shaun gets to torture Rem with anime. Also, the intro for every episode refers to him as a basement dweller, so that's when you know he's hilarious.

Remington (Rem) is the poor soul who has to watch these sometimes terrible and sometimes great anime. The one mistake he has ever made was watching the sequel series of an anime before the anime he was supposed to watch. Then again, Rem is what brings most of the laughter to the show.

Rem and Shaun have done 233 episodes so far. One of my favorite episodes was *Haven't You Heard? I'm Skamoto*. I found this episode funny because it had some awesome jokes and some laughable quotes about the show. This episode was all around hilarious and even made me burst out laughing in the car. There are other hilarious episodes, but this was my favorite.

I would rate this podcast 14+, because this podcast contains foul language and humor. If you are younger than 14, please get permission from a parent or guardian. *Anime Out of Context* can be found on Amazon Music, Spotify, or anywhere you get your podcasts/music from. My hope for my last article is that people actually go and listen to their podcast. I also hope that someone next semester continues to write anime reviews. I believe that if you actually like my articles, you would also like this podcast.

Goodbye, Purple Pages! <3

No-Bake & Easy to Make!

By Amelia Adams

No-bake cookies are an easy to make family treat. They are my favorite type of cookies, and also one of my Dad's favorites. I hope you try to make them yourself, 'cause if you do, you'll never regret it!

Ingredients:

- 1 stick of butter
- 3 Tbsp cocoa
- ½ cup milk
- 2 cups sugar
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 3 cups quick oats

Instructions:

Combine butter, cocoa, milk, and sugar in a large pan. Place on medium heat until melted. Boil for 1 minute. Remove from heat. Add peanut butter and quick oats into the pan and mix well. Spoon out clumps onto parchment paper. Eat and enjoy!

Quotes:

"They taste really soft and nutty like the end of a rainbow." -Keira Forstner

"Taste the rainbow."

-Kaia Dale-Johnson

"I thought that it was splendidous."

-Payton Ricks



*"Christmas has been canceled.
Apparently you told Santa
you were good this year...
he died laughing."*

Anonymous Confessions

By Himiko Toga, Cookie Monster & Joe Bartolozzi



“What sort of confessions?”
-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,
You can submit any type of confession. It can go from something wacky to something serious. Or you can just ask questions, like which type of blood tastes best. For each question, each answer is original.

For example, if I was answering the sample question, I would say AB negative since it's rare and delicious.
-Himiko Toga

“I confess! It was me! I ate the glue sticks in -5.001 x 10⁻⁴⁰⁰ grade!!”
-Peachykeen

Dear Peachykeen,
I do not speak MathCounts, please refrain from using too advanced language so the rest of our potato brains can comprehend in the slightest what you are saying.
-Joe Bartolozzi

Dear Peachykeen,
I have to say, I have never even heard of someone eating glue sticks. I've heard of eating liquid glue, chapstick, and even glass, but never a glue stick. I guess keep on eating what your stomach desires. Also your grade is undefined according to Google.
-Himiko Toga



“I heard Mr. Rose singing on the day ‘Mr. Rose Knows’ Ended” -Silent Singer

Dear Silent Singer,
What's wrong with singing? He's probably sad he can't tell his cookielicious jokes.
-Cookie Monster

“One time I killed a worm and put it in My grandmas garden. I also used to [Scribbled Out] 4” -Rainbow
“P.S I used to hide boogers in my grandmas carpet.”



Dear Rainbow,
You are disgusting! Stay away from my cookies! (And my Grandma's cookies)
-Cookie Monster

“Dost thou knowth where my purpose lieth.”
-Strange

Dear Strange,
I'm sorry, I don't speak Romeo and Juliet, but I can speak Japanese, English, and gibberish.
-Himiko Toga

Dear Strange,
Yourth poupeth in life ith to write more anonymouth conffethins. -Joe Bartolozzi



WHEN THE GOLD
PRINTER PRINTS
REAL GOLD



The resemblance
is



Uncanny

12 Clues of Christmas!!!

By Emily Taylor & Isla Crouse

Can you solve riddles and track them down to certain places?
Do you have the motivation to pick up clues and follow the trail to earn yourself a surprise prize?
If you can, this game is perfect for you. Solve the puzzle, and the prize is yours!

How to Find the Clues

To start your hunt through the school for clues, you must read the first clue here in the Purple Pages. Follow the instructions carefully. They will lead you to the next clue . . . if you solve them correctly. There you will find the next clue, which will lead you to yet another clue, and so on, until you complete the 12 Clues of Christmas. Be quick, or you might be beat to the prize!

How to Complete the Puzzle

Once you are confident that you have gathered all the clues, look back at your work. Do you have all the numbers you collected? If you do, add all the numbers together, not separating double-digit numbers. (For example, if you are adding rooms 23 and 17 together, you would solve it by adding 23+17, not 2+3+1+7.) With all of your numbers written out, show Mrs. Nabholz your answers. If your final answer is correct, you will win a prize. May the best clue-solvers win!

Numbers: ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ + ____ = ____ **Final Answer**

First Clue

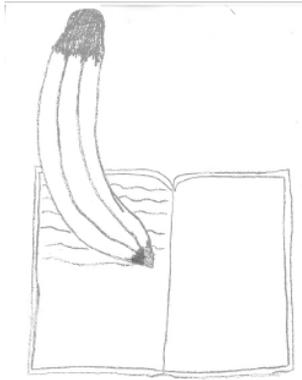
1. HOLLY – ELF HAT – STAR – GIFT – SNOWFLAKE
2. GIFT – STOCKING – CANDY CANE – SNOWMAN – WREATH – ORNAMENT
3. SNOWFLAKE – WREATH – SNOWMAN – ELF HAT – CHRISTMAS TREE – HOLLY



Overheard

Payton Ricks

I like writing with fruit.
Last year Mrs. Tews told me
I was on her list.
Grandma Bryleigh! Kiss my
booboo, please.
Student 1: Dogs are cute.
Student 2: Yes, Keira is cute.



This candy cane was hit by a bus!
They were following me in Walmart.
Quit dinkin' around.
When you eat mac and cheese do you
write with your toes or climb a
mountain?
You were talking really quietly so I
looked at my Chromebook and tried
to turn the volume up!
My popcorn is too buttery, maybe I
should add more butter.
Anything can be a burger.
Battle of the Books is intoxicating.



Give... me... the... JUICE
BOX! *gets tackled to the
ground*

Student 1: How does it feel to
be short?
Student 2: How does it feel to
look like a single BBQ dad?

Student 1: The legal drinking

age in Irish is 14.

Student 2: I'm going to Irish.

Teacher: Maybe they will shave your hair off.

Student: EWW, I'd rather go bald!

Maybe Santa just needs to be a little bit more girly.

Stop it you little ginger elf!

OK, Mr. Gusgus!

Is Kermit the frog a ginger?

We're getting married right here, now!

Student 1: Fix my hair.

Student 2: Well, I can't dye it right here but I could
try.

Teacher: Now is the time to go pee.

Student: *whispering* You should say tinkle and
boom-boom.

Student 1: YOU STUPID HEAD!

Student 2: Ma'am, we do NOT use that kind of
LANGUAGE in this facility!

Student 1: I don't think Santa is real.

Student 2: Why do you say that?



Student 1: Because,
Santa's hair is white and
the person I saw had long,
blonde hair, was skinny,
was wearing lipstick, and
she wasn't holding
presents.

Student 2: *Pauses for a
long time thinking about
what to say* ... That was
Samantha Clause. :)

Student 1: There is gum under my desk.

Student 2: I thought you said chum.

Grandpa Gus-Gus and Grandma Rose!

No human being creature would be moaning like that.

This chicken is my husband.

There's that banana from first quarter!

You must be patient with the carpet grippers.

Student 1: *Falls out of his chair*

Student 2: Bro just disassembled.

My hand smells like ramen.

Dude, you erased part of my foot.

Oh, I love sophisticated 3's!

I can't believe our naked mole rat Santa didn't place.



Q: What is a Christmas tree's
favorite candy?

A: Orna-mints

Q: How do you help someone who
has lost their Christmas spirit?

A: You nurse them back to elf



Q: What kind of motorcycle
does Santa drive?

A: Holly Davidson

Q: What video game do
they play in igloos?

A: Snow Fortnite

