

KMS PURPLE PAGES

*Kenai Middle School
Kenai, Alaska
December 2019*



Kenai River Brown Bears on the Ice

By Brooklyn Larsen



Brandon and Skylar with the Fabian family.



Kyle and Theo with Noah and Grace Hallam.

The Kenai River Brown Bears are a tier II junior ice hockey team in the North American Hockey League (NAHL). The Brown Bears joined the NAHL as an expansion team for the 2007-2008 season. In the NAHL there are 26 teams. Most NAHL players start at age 18 but can start at 16-17 and usually play until they're 21.

Last season the Bears didn't do so well, but this year they've been playing great. They were undefeated and in first place in our division and in the league until they played the Minnesota Magicians, who were in last

place in our division, the midwest division. They're still first in the division but third in the league, following after the Lone Star Brahmas and New Jersey Titans.

The Brown Bears have home games at the Soldotna Sports Center (SSC). Brown Bears games are on Friday and Saturday nights and start at 7:30, but sometimes they have games on Thursdays that start at 7:00. To get in you have to purchase tickets from the Bears Den located inside of Short Stop gas station on

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

Kenai River Brown Bears

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home game weeks for \$8.00 - \$12.00. If you don't have time to get them from Short Stop, you can get them from the front desk before you walk into the game for \$14.00, or \$10.00 for youth and senior tickets (kids 12 & under and seniors 60+). For more information about tickets and game dates, you can go to kenairiverbrownbears.com.

To play for the Brown Bears you have to be drafted, so there are a lot of players that come from different states, provinces, or different towns. Because of this they don't have a home to live in up here, so they get what's called a billet family or host family. The player will stay at their house for the season except for when they have away games. Some families at KMS that host a Brown Bear or multiple Brown Bears are Ava Fabian, Keagen Roumell, and Grace Hallam.

Ava Fabian's family hosts two players, Skylar Gutierrez and Brandon Lajoie. Skylar is #17 and plays right wing. He has been playing hockey for 11 years and just started playing for the Bears this season. Skylar is from Anchorage, Alaska. Brandon, Ava's other player, is #6 and plays left wing. He has been playing for 15 years and has been playing for the Brown Bears for 1 ½ years now. He is from Eagle River, Alaska. Ava says it's not much different having extra people at her house and that the players feel like older brothers to her. In support of their Brown Bears her family goes to every home game that they can make it to. Sometimes her mom makes signs. Ava's family hosted Brandon last year, and this is their first year hosting two players.

Keagen Roumell's family also hosts a Brown Bear, just one. Their player is #3, JJ Boucher. On the ice, he is often called JJ "Bad-Boy" Boucher. He has been playing for the Brown Bears for 1 ½ years now and plays left defense. JJ is from Ottawa, Canada. To Keagen, JJ feels like an older brother. Keagen says that oftentimes other players come over to play NHL19 with JJ and sometimes they come over for team dinners. In support of their player, his family buys his jerseys and goes to every home game and sometimes games in Fairbanks.

Grace Hallam's family hosts two Brown Bears just like Ava. Theo Thrun and Kyle Valiquette are both of their Brown Bears. The team calls Theo "Teo" and Kyle "Vali". Theo is #16 and plays forward. He has been playing for most of his life and has been playing for the Bears only this season. He's from Michigan. Kyle is #15 and also plays forward. He's been playing most of his life but for the Bears, only this season, and is from North Carolina. Grace says it's fun having two extra people at the house. In support of their Brown Bear, Grace's family goes to every home game. Grace's family has hosted Brown Bears before. They hosted Gavin Enright, the goalie from the past two years.

Opinion-8-ed

By Gabe Segura

Question: What are you looking forward to in 2020? Why?

Victor Santana- "King Kong vs Godzilla because I think it's going to be a good movie."

William Wilson- "Summer because it's hot."

Grace Beiser- "Going to Florida to spend Christmas there and to see all the hot beach babes."

Ashlyn Potton- "High school. I'm excited to get to take more advanced classes and be more independent."

Sam Sloan- "Playing soccer because it's fun."

Kylee Verkuilen- "High school hockey cause it's competitive and fun."

Robert Carson- "New movies coming out, particularly any new Marvel movies."

Lynnea Hack- "XC skiing starts!"

Hannah Autry- "My birthday because I want to get my permit."

Ethan Tree- "Eating Taco Bell because it's good."

Alex Barajas- "Getting a permit."

Charles Trickel- "Getting a computer because I've been wanting one for a long time so I can start on my YouTube channel."

Natalia Polanco- "Grape juice in a wine glass on New Years."

Josh Olsen- "Games. Doom is coming out."

Nathan Teates- "All the movies that are coming out."

Skylar Lyon- "Better memes."

Tabitha Kernan- "My birthday because I get my permit."

Izzie McClure- "Because it's gonna be lit."

Victoria Sargeant- "Food and to grow."

Yes, We “Can” and We Did!

By Mrs. Holmes



The canned food drive was a SUCCESS! Well done! Students brought in a total of 2,653 cans for the Canned Food Drive. The girls brought in 1,520 cans, and the boys brought in 1,109 cans! The 7th graders dominated by bringing in 1,134 cans, the 8th graders rallied with 868 cans, and the 6th graders contributed 627 cans! A whopping 50 KMS students contributed a minimum of 10 cans each to the KMS Canned Food Drive this season. This incredible participation is what made the drive so successful and we are grateful for the giving nature of our students and families!

Here are the awards for the top can collectors:

- The top 30 students who brought in the most cans will be the first to select their Clubs on Friday. In fact, there will be 31 as there was a tie for 30th.
- 25 students brought in a minimum of 20 cans to earn a math homework pass, which they can use in place of one homework assignment!
- 17 students brought in at least 30 cans and earned a priority lunch pass allowing them to jump to the front of the hot lunch line throughout the Canned Food Drive!
- 13 students earned the golden ticket advisory pass by bringing in 50 or more canned food items. These students earned the right to leave their advisory class and go to another advisory during the Canned Food Drive weeks!
- 7 students brought in 100 cans or more and earned the right to be in (or designate someone to be in) the Dunk Tank at the end of the year Celebration! Congratulations to Jason Johnson, Mya Taylor, Keri Lockwood, Avia Miller, Ava Gruber, Zane Tews, and Emma Beck.
- Lastly, we want to congratulate the two students who brought in the most cans overall. Emma Beck brought in 299 cans, and Zane Tews brought in 187 cans; they will both get to ride the fire truck over to Arby's for lunch on Friday!

November SOM's

By Keisha Connor

For the November Students of the Month there were 10 students. These students worked hard and participated in class. Student of the Month is not just getting good grades and paying attention in class. Student of the Month is for students who are willing to participate, work hard, help around the class, and learn from their mistakes.

8th grade



Chloe Moffett and Greg Fallon

7th grade



Rylee Novak, Jason Johnson, Dresden Reith, Tait Cooper, and Mya Taylor

6th grade



Kacey Cunningham and Tania Boonstra
(Lyna Percival not pictured)

December Celebrations

By McKenzie Koliba



Around the world there are many holidays that people celebrate in December.

St. Lucia Day is on December 13. It is also called the

Feast of Saint Lucy celebrated in Sweden and Norway, because it celebrates the life and death of St. Lucia. It's a feast day for Christians. One of the main traditions is one of their daughters (usually the eldest) dresses in a white dress with a red sash around her waist and has a crown of candles on her head, while serving coffee and baked goods to their family. Some people celebrate in different ways, throw a party, spend it at home in a traditional Swedish way, or celebrate by holding a St. Lucia procession.

On December 21 is Winter Solstice, which is the shortest day of the year. It occurs when one of the Earth's poles has its maximum tilt away from the Sun. This means that daylight will start increasing the next day. Usually only Alaskans and others that live in northern climates celebrate it. People celebrate differently, with festivals, spending time with loved ones, feasting, singing, dancing, bonfires, and skiing.

The festival of lights, Hanukkah (or Chanukah), is a Jewish festival, from Sunday, December 22 to Monday, December 30 in the evening. It's to honor their ancestors fighting the Greeks to keep practicing their Jewish religion. Some traditions are lighting the menorah, dreidel game, eating gelt and other foods, and giving Hanukkah gifts. Hanukkah gelt refers to chocolate coins traditionally given to Jewish children during the festival of Hanukkah. The most popular foods eaten on Hanukkah are latkes, which are fried potato pancakes. Some people eat them with applesauce, while others prefer them savory, served with sour cream. Usually the parents give the kids a dreidel as a present. A dreidel is a four-sided spinning top, to play with during Hanukkah.



The most celebrated holiday is Christmas, on December 25. People celebrate differently; some

people celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, while others celebrate Santa and him bringing gifts to the children, and some celebrate both. People put Christmas trees up and decorate with colorful ornaments and put up stockings. Some families like to decorate their house too. On Christmas Eve families leave cookies, milk for Santa, and sometime carrots for the reindeer. Then on Christmas Day families wake up and look through stockings and open presents.

On December 26 is Boxing Day, which originated in the United Kingdom and in other countries that formed part of the British Empire. Traditionally, servants got the day off and they would receive a "Christmas Box" from their master. The servants would go home to their families to give "Christmas Boxes" to them. They would spend time with family and friends that they didn't see on the day prior. Recently, the day is filled with lots of sporting events. Horse racing has been popular and lots of top football teams play on Boxing Day. They also do very silly activities, like swimming the icy cold English Channel, fun runs, and charity events.

Kwanzaa starts December 26 and ends on January 1. Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration to honor African heritage in African-American culture. On Kwanzaa people give gifts and have feasts. Lots of families celebrate Kwanzaa in different ways, such as singing and dancing, storytelling, poetry reading, African drumming, and feasting. During the week of Kwanzaa they discuss these seven core principles:

- Umoja: Unity
- Kujichagulia: Self-determination
- Ujima: Collective work and responsibility
- Ujamaa: Cooperative economics
- Nia : Purpose
- Kuumba: Creativity
- Imani: Faith



Holiday Wish List

By Natalia Polanco

The holidays have finally arrived and you know what that means, Christmas shopping! Don't worry if you don't have an idea of what you want at the moment, you probably do though, but still, I've got the perfect gifts for you!



To start off, one of the most popular gifts this year is the one and only AirPods, to be specific, Apple AirPods. AirPods were released in 2016 and have been a must-have item since then. The good thing about AirPods is that they're wireless headphones that can hook up to your phone so you can listen to all your favorite jams. Also, since the AirPods are small enough to fit in your whole ear, they're really good for secretly listening to music in class instead of actually paying attention.

The bad thing about AirPods is that they're kind of expensive. They cost \$159 in the US and \$294 in Australia. Like I said, AirPods are pretty small, so they're pretty easy to lose, unless you know how to keep things tidy.

The next item on the list is the Spotify gift card. Spotify is a pretty cool app that allows you to listen to whatever you want for free, plus you can listen to all your favorite celebrities' playlists. The thing is, you can only listen to all this cool music for a limited time. That's why you need to get the Spotify gift card for all your jamming needs. With this card you get unlimited access to your favorite songs. The other good thing about this card is that it lasts about 12 months, just enough time to party.

This next gift is the beauty mask. Now, this gift is usually for girls, but hey if you boys want to be glowing like the sun, go ahead. There are two good things about the beauty mask. One, if you are ever having a stressful day from school and all the drama, just put on a face mask and relax. Also, did you know that one of the causes of acne is stress? Two, beauty masks are really healthy for your skin, and they also help hydrate your skin. Now, as you can tell, these beauty masks are pretty cool but you can also get them in different colors, which is even better because the more colorful it is the more you're likely going to use it, since no one wants a bland beauty mask.

Finally, the last item on the list is, shoes! Shoes are super cool, like giving your feet royal treatment. When you don't wear shoes your feet are touching the disgusting ground and it's just horrible, but once you get your shoes on your feet are in paradise, unless you have stinky shoes. One of the most popular shoe brands right now is Nike, which are super stylish and can last for a very long time. Nike shoes are pretty expensive and they can cost around \$60 to \$200, but that just depends on the shoe. Another shoe that people like is Vans, which are pretty cool because some of them don't have any shoelaces. Then when you're walking with your friend down the street you don't



have to worry about falling on your face again when you forget to tie your shoes.

Hopefully you have a couple ideas to put on your wish list to show your parents, and here's a little tip if you really want your parents to get you something for Christmas, just do the dishes, easy peasy!

Purple Pages Art Contest

The *Purple Pages* sponsored a holiday art contest to celebrate winter break! The challenge was to turn the template, which only included a large letter "V" for Vacation, into an original piece of winter-themed art. Eight students submitted entries that creatively incorporated the V into their drawings. Thanks to these students for entering the contest: Dale Bryant, Aurora Cronk, Arianna Hensley, Serenity Hickman, Pyper Kartchener, Olivia Koppes, Emelia Malone, and Ellsi Miller.

The artwork will be judged on Thursday, and the overall winner(s) will be announced on Friday. Stop by the front office to check out their festive winter artwork!

Santa Sillies

Q: Which of Santa's reindeer has the worst manners?

A: RUDE-olph, of course!

Santa: Do these pants make my butt look big?

Mrs. Claus: No, but all the dang milk and cookies do!

Classic Holiday Movies

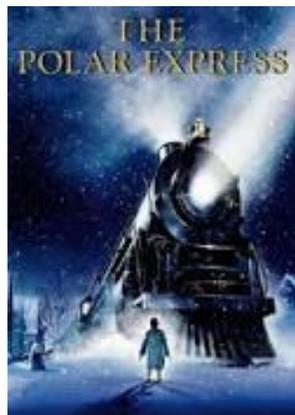
By Tyler J. Van Sky

What are some classic holiday movies? Well I am here to tell you, so pay attention. I hope that some of these movies might become your favorites.

A Christmas Carol (1984, rated PG) is about an old grumpy man (Ebenezer Scrooge) who was visited by the ghost of his former business partner Jacob Marley and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. After their visits, Scrooge decides to be a kinder man.

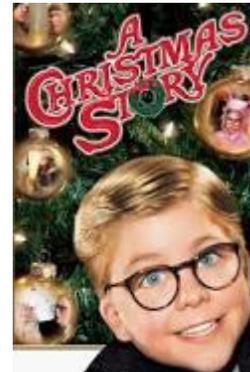
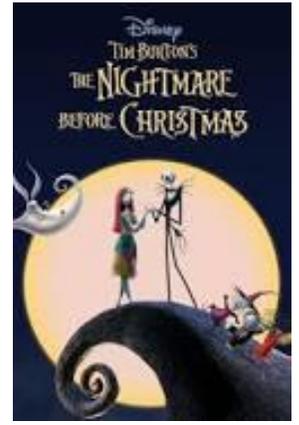


How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000, rated PG) is about the how the Grinch decides to ruin Christmas for the people of Whoville, but then he realizes the true meaning of Christmas.



The Polar Express (2004, rated G) is about a young boy who goes on a magical adventure to the North Pole on the Polar Express, while learning about the true meaning of Christmas.

The Nightmare before Christmas (1993, rated PG) is about Jack Skellington, Halloweentown's pumpkin king, who is starting to get bored of scaring people. When Jack accidentally ends up in Christmastown, he decides to make Christmas more to his liking by kidnapping Santa Claus and taking his spot.



A Christmas Story (1983, rated PG) is about a kid named Ralphie Parker who spends most of his time hiding from a bully and dreaming of the Christmas gift he wants, a Red Ryder air rifle. He struggles to make it to Christmas Day with his hopes still intact.

Home Alone (1990, rated PG) is about an eight-year-old troublemaker who must protect his house from two burglars after he is accidentally left home alone by his family during Christmas vacation.



Music Through the Ages

By Nathan Teates

This is sad, that so many people are coming to love music from this decade (2010 to 2020) and are beginning to forget about music before 2000. The oldies station of the Kenai, 93.3 FM, only goes back to 1985, and we are missing so much history in this great thing we call music. I know most people will disagree, but I think the synthesizers are annoying.

Now, on to the music! Starting off on a sad note in the 80's, John Lennon, you know, from the Beatles, was shot to death by a fan right when he was coming back into the public eye with a new album. Very sad. A moment of silence for John Lennon . . . ok, moving on now. In '81, MTV was launched on 300 cable TV channels, and in '83 MTV was available in more than 2,000 cable systems. Michael Jackson made a big break in the 80's, coming out with many great new songs, and AC/DC emerged as a successful rock band, along with the Rolling Stones, Whitesnake, Queen, Metallica, Anthrax, and Megadeth.

On to the 1990's! In the 90's, pop/hip hop and rock made a huge impact on teens all over the world, being that the birth of synthesized music (still not my favorite) was easily translated to other languages, like Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and German. Teens loved the rhythm, not to mention how popular it was to be into that kind of music. Rock bands made a humongous splash in the 90's; coming into the mix was Bon Jovi, Guns 'n' Roses, Ozzy Osborne, Van Halen, Creed, and Aerosmith.

Some top bands and singers from the early 2000s are as follows: Nickelback, Green Day, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Radiohead, Foo Fighters, The White Stripes, Jennifer Lopez, Missy Elliot, Mariah Carey, and Britney Spears. All of these bands and singers have made a huge impact on that era's youth.

All in all, music has aged incredibly well, and no one can deny it. We'll see how well music goes on into the later 2000s. I hope people don't mess up our groove and make weird music . . . with synthesizers.



Band Concert

By A. Wyatt Cole



On Wednesday, December 11th the KMS concert and intermediate bands played in a concert with the KCHS concert band and jazz band. The KMS concert bands played "African Bell Carol", "A Yiddish Lullaby", "Holiday Favorites", and "Silent Night". The intermediate band played "Candy Cane Clarinets", "Joyful Joyful", and "At The Feast of Stephen". The KCHS concert band played a beautiful piece of Russian Christmas music at the later part of the concert. The KMS concert band and the KCHS concert band played "Silent Night" together, and the KCHS band played in the aisles of the auditorium and up in the balcony. There were also many wonderful solos played by KCHS students.

Choir Concert

The KMS Holiday Choir Concert was held in the KCHS Auditorium on December 10th. The 6th grade music class joined the 7th and 8th grade choirs for parts of the performance. Mrs. Vollom-Matturro conducted the evening, and Maria Allison accompanied the choirs on piano.

Stella Selanoff sang as part of a trio for "The First Noel." She said that it was scary and fun at the same time. Ollie Boersma's favorite song was "In the Arms of Winter," because of the rhythm and the depressing mood.

Ashlyn Potton sang "Once Upon a December" as a solo. She chose the song, which is from the movie *Anastasia*, because it reminds her of her sister, whose favorite movie is *Anastasia*.

Many students, including Matthew Krol, Sam Brighton, and Claire Pellegrom, felt that their favorite song was "One Candle," because it sounded so amazing and all the candles and voices came together so beautifully.

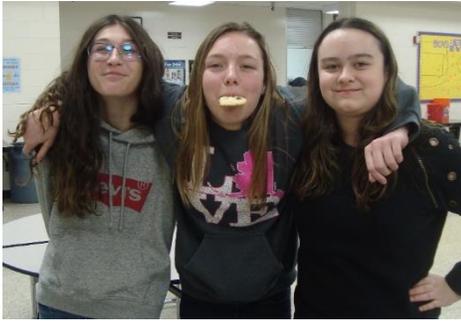
NaNoWriMo

By Samuel Brighton

Weird Talents

By Nathan Teates

So, some of you might not know what NaNoWriMo is. Well, it is an acronym for National Novel Writing Month. In NaNoWriMo you have to try to write a novel in one month! Specifically at our school, students could eat lunch in Mr. Lyke's room and work on their novel. If you finish your book before the month ends, you can get it posted on the official NaNoWriMo website and maybe even published.



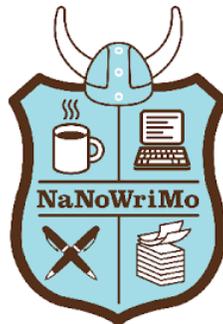
Several KMS students participated in NaNoWriMo, including Willow Patrick, Kenzie Keller, and Emaline Cruickshank.

Willow told me that the hardest part in writing her novel was the time constraints, due to having other school work to do. I asked Willow about her novel, and she told me that she did not finish it, but she did reach her word goal for the month. She is actually still writing the novel. She says it has been very fun. Willow loves to write, so she was very excited to participate in NaNoWriMo. She wrote a lot at home and worked on her novel at school every chance she got. She wrote an "urban sci-fi" novel. The main character is a girl named Orion who gets promoted to a higher position at her job and learns secrets about a cataclysmic event in history called the great blinding that made everyone on earth go blind.

Kenzie told me that the hardest part of writing was getting stuck on a really good part of the book. Kenzie was almost half done with her story at the end of November. She told me it was fun and that her favorite part was planning out the novel, which is a mystery novel. In her story some kids at an orphanage discover a secret room with a girl inside. She escapes from the room and they try to find her again. They eventually find her but a Swat crew comes to the orphanage. The kids find the girl and escape and run away into the woods. That is as far as she got.

Emaline did not get very far in her novel. She also wrote a book about an orphanage, where all the kids wear strange collars and none of them knew why. One day one of the kid's collars started to blink. The orphanage owner dragged him downstairs. That is how far she got.

NaNoWriMo takes a lot of work to do but also sounds to me like it could be very fun. So does NaNoWriMo sound fun to you? If the answer is yes, maybe you should participate next year!



Welcome back to the article where we pick all the weirdos out of the closet because they're too shy to do it themselves. And because Mr. Felchle wants more weirdos to show their talents in the paper. This article goes out to Mr. Felchle, who is our biggest fan. Because of that, we are doing only seventh graders. This is for you, Mr. Felchle!!! Speaking of Mr. Felchle, he has provided me with a few names to find and interrogate... I mean, uh, interview, our fellow talented students.

Starting us off, Gavin Hunt, the human pretzel! Most people think being double jointed is disgusting, and they would be wrong. It's cool to watch if you don't have a weak stomach. During my interview with Gavin, he informed me that he can wrap his arm around his head because, "I think it's double jointed or something." He was stretching in gym or something and someone told him that he was doing it weird. People usually react disgusted and/or confused, then worry about him.



Enrique Mercado is being strange, just like the rest of us, but he can wave his eyebrows better than the rest of us. Or anyone I've ever seen. Enrique says that he saw a guy in a movie (I didn't get the movie out of him) and kept trying and trying. His Grandma helped him practice because she knew how. People normally react by laughing confusedly, and then try to do it, only to fail.

* * *

"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style." -Maya Angelou

KMS Basketball

By Keisha Connor

The Basketball season is over! The B teams ended December 6th, and the girls ended their year with Samantha Avery making a 3 pointer at the very end of the game. However, the A teams played longer than that and got to play boroughs on December 14th. Here are all of the team photos and some players' thoughts about basketball.

Tait Cooper on the girls B team says that she really enjoys basketball. Her favorite part was her shoes because she said they made her have "jumping power". Her least favorite part was the refs. Her favorite game was the Homer game.

Matthew Krol played on the boys B team. He says he enjoys basketball. His favorite game was the Homer game but he doesn't like the refs.

Emilee Wilson, on girls A team, says she really enjoys basketball. She likes everything about it and is sad that the season is over. Her favorite game was also the Homer game.

On Tuesday the boys A team won against the Skyview 7th grade team, and on Saturday they placed 3rd overall. On Saturday, the girls won the borough championship!

Girls B team



Girls A team



Boys B team



Boys A team



A-team girls are the 2019 borough champions!

“What lies behind you and what lies in front of you,
pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.”

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Peninsula Midnight Sun Volleyball

By Jaycie Castillo



Midnight Sun Volleyball is competitive, which is way more intense than school volleyball. Midnight Sun is a volleyball team that support each other, work hard, and don't quit. We say, "It's ok to lose, but it's more fun to win."

Midnight Sun tryouts were December 12, from 7-9 pm. Volleyball practices are usually on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7-9 pm. Volleyball practices are in the KMS gym. Midnight Sun plays games once a month, but our games are only in Anchorage or Palmer. You would have to catch a ride to Anchorage, because we don't rent buses.

Remember, if you made a team the total player fee is \$350. Make sure your parents fill out the 2020 Player Medical Release Form. If you have further questions about money or the forms, I encourage you to ask Coach Heath. He will be coaching the Midnight Sun volleyball team the whole season.

Here are some thoughts and comments about Midnight Sun from players last year. Emma Beck said, "No comment." Ashlyn Potton said, "I'm really glad that we have the opportunity to play competitive volleyball outside of school for longer months and get the opportunity to improve our skills." Camilla Gonzalez said, "It's an amazing opportunity to grow and learn more. And it's great practice before school volleyball starts." Grace Beiser said, "I love Midnight Sun. I enjoy being with the coaches and the girls. I like how we don't have practice every day so we get little breaks in between. We travel to Anchorage the majority of the time for our tournaments. Last year was my first year of Midnight Sun. I love Midnight Sun and am excited it started again!"

In conclusion, I encourage you to join Midnight Sun. If you're not the best, I assure you that you will get better. Even if you've never touched a volleyball, I still think it's good to try new things.

H O O P S S H O O T

Congratulations are in order for two KMS athletes for their awesome performance in the recent Elks Hoop Shoot. Nevaeh Evans-John, a 6th grader, won first place for girls ages 10-11. Emma Beck, an 8th grader, won first place for girls ages 12-13. Both of them will get to move on to the state competition!



Winter Sports Preview

By Isabella Bond

There are many sports coming up after Christmas Break so you can go out and get involved, after a long break! The completed sports packet has to be in before Christmas break. Sports start the day Christmas Break is over. Students who try these sports do not have to know how to do the sports, but there will be people who have done the sports before multiple times.

The sports that will be starting up are Wrestling, coached by Mr. Schoessler, Mr. Steffensen, and Mr. Moss, Cross-Country skiing coached by Mrs. Boonstra, and Volleyball coached by Mrs. Beck, Ms. Stotz-Mason, Mrs. Vann, and Ms. Gann.

So go out and try the sport of your choice!



Otaku Nyusu

By Kai Adkins

Welcome back to Otaku Nyusu for the third article, and this time I have interviewed Ty Morris. Ty started watching anime because his cousin showed him *Fairy Tale*, and now he prefers anime over manga.

However, he does have a favorite manga known as *Attack on Titan* (finally someone mentions this). *Attack on Titan* is about a boy named Eren who lives in a massive city within a city within another city, and each wall has its own name. The outermost wall is called "Wall Maria," the second is called "Wall Rose," and the final wall is called "Wall Sheena." Life was peaceful until the Colossal Titan attacked Wall Maria and broke the door. The wall wasn't small, it was around 165 feet tall, and Eren could see this titan's head over the top. Then all the other small titans attacked and ravaged the city.

Anyways, back to the main story. As I said, a boy lived in the walls, and that boy's name was Eren. When the titans invaded, his mom got eaten. Yeah, they do that sometimes, ya know, eat people. It's anime, get used to it. Back to what I was saying. His mom was eaten and now he has a vendetta against titans and joins the army to kill them.

I'm not going to spoil anything else, so go watch the anime if you want to find out what happens. Here is Eren:

Ty's favorite anime, on the other hand, is *Sword Art Online*, which is about a teen named Kirito who goes into the newest stage of virtual reality tech. Sadly though, he gets trapped by the game creator in the game, and if he dies in the game he dies in real life by electrocution. Also, if anyone tries to remove the headset, it will kill the person playing. Kirito was a Beta tester, but the creator changed all the boss patterns so that no one had the upper hand against the normies. Kirito has a trench coat and is an edge lord, and here's a picture of him. See what I mean? The man literally has a trench coat.



Ten Things Students Want Teachers to Know

By Rylee Novak

Teachers are a great influence in kids' lives and help them improve every day; however, this doesn't mean that they're perfect. Here are ten things that students wish teachers understood. (Some quotes may not be exactly accurate, as my brain doesn't have a lot of storage.)

- "I wish teachers knew that sometimes I really can show the work on some math problems, like I'm not cheating, it's a test, but it's simple enough to not have to show work, so please don't mark it down as wrong."
- "Sometimes I really do have a headache. No, I'm not skipping class. Yes, it really does happen that often."
- "More interactive activities would be nice. Like maybe some afterschool things to get more involved in would be really fun."
- "Just because we're talking doesn't mean we're not listening. For all your know, we could be talking about what you're talking about. We are not always talking about some random other thing that happened. Only sometimes."
- "I'm a better student when I get no homework. It can be stressful."
- "Just because we disagree with you doesn't mean we're trying to talk back."
- "Family things happen often, and unfinished homework happens a lot, but we're not trying to fail."
- "I wish teachers knew what 'I don't know' means. Like, 'What happened to your homework?' I don't know! I meant what I said! Someone hit F12 and it's gone!"
- "Group projects are annoying most of the time. Some people don't pull their weight, and it's super frustrating."



Some students said more critical things like, "I wish teachers knew how to make school more interesting." However, I do think that the rest of the quotes are valid and make interesting points.

Thank you to Alyssa Walker, Kyrie Watson, Nathan Teates, Beverly Roney, Nino Stapp, Alice Ogden, Aurora Cronk, Lola McEwen, Vail Coots, and Isaac Potton for their great answers.

Mythological Creatures

By Kai Adkins

Welcome to this mythological creatures article, where I talk about things that go bump in the night and other spooky legends from around the world.

Wendigos are evil spirits from American Algonquian tribes based in the forests of Nova Scotia, and believe it or not, they start out as humans. When a person in the tribe is starving and greedy they start to crave human flesh (because they need to eat in order to survive and have no other food), eventually giving in and killing someone and eating them. After that they become less and less like a human, and more and more like a monster that kills everyone around them as the spirit takes over more of the body along with the insatiable hunger.



Wendigos can mimic voices and are pretty fast when they capture people, who they will keep alive in their home to eat later, kinda like putting food in the fridge except the “food” is people. By the way, they change from looking like a human to a thing with deer horns, and elongated legs and arms. Wendigos have also been in a few TV shows like *Supernatural* along with games like *Until Dawn*.

Another creature is the kappa, which is a Japanese legend that looks like a turtle with humanoid features and is about the size of a small child (think of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles). A divot filled with a clear liquid at the top of its head is supposedly where they draw their power from. With webbed hands and feet, along with a beak and a shell, they were aquatic creatures. Anyway, onto what they do. The kappa would sit at the bottom of lakes or rivers and wait for children to swim, then it would usually drown them and eat them. Sometimes they would also go after adults looking for the children.



Another creature is Cerberus from Greek mythology, which is a giant fluffy puppy. Anyway, Cerberus is a three-headed hound with a serpent’s tail and lion’s claws that guarded the doors of Hades (the god of the underworld) and made sure no souls escaped. Hercules also fought Cerberus in one of his 12 labors that Hera (the wife of Zeus) made him do. Also, did you know Hercules was only a demigod?



Tik Tok Talk

By Hannah Austry



Tik Tok is a social media app where you can create videos. It was originally called Musical.ly, and it was basically the same app before. You make a video like a slow mo, or a dance, or a funny one and then post it. Then your followers will like it. You can also save sounds that other people use, like Good Morning Tokyo.

Claire Pyfer has done Tik Tok since 2017. Her current favorite sound is Cocoa Butter Kisses, and the most popular dance on Tik Tok is the Candy dance. Her favorite thing to do on Tik Tok is to watch Tik Toks.

Keri Lockwood has been doing Tik Tok for six years. Her favorite sound is Go Demarcus. Her favorite thing to do on Tik Tok is to watch Tik Toks.

Makenzie Harden has done Tik Tok since the beginning of this summer. She makes funny Tik Toks and she likes to watch dance and funny Tik Toks.

Tik Tok is basically a fun social media app that you can use to communicate with your friends and make fun videos.

Snowman Sillies

Q: What do snowmen like to do on the weekend?

A: Just chill out.

Q: How does a snowman get to work?

A: By icicle!

January Birthdays

By Samuel Brighton



Lochlyn Roney, 1
Vanessa Curry, 2
Grace Kahn, 7
Ty Morris, 8
Peyton Cowie, 8
Daniel Burtram, 9
Captain Brogdon, 10
Kyla Freeman, 11
Jacobee Longan-Chapman, 13
Sophia Ensley, 15
Ms. Gamble, 16
Jacob Katzenberger, 16
Samuel Brighton, 16
Louis Forstner V, 18
Cadance Bitterich, 19
Nora Sonderland, 20
Brooklyn Larsen, 24
Kayani Whicker, 24
Wyatt Cole, 25
Romeo Prieto, 25
Alex Collet, 26
Landon Turner, 26
Kristofer Mertz, 26
Landon Dedrick, 27
Medalyn Jennings, 28
Isaiah Dirks, 28
Sophia Barajas, 29
Seybasstean Stacey, 30
Jaycie Castillo, 31
Greg Fallon, 31

January National Days

By Jaycie Castillo



- 1st- New Years Day. It's 2020!
3rd- National Drinking Straw Day. Sorry VSCO girls.
4th- National Spaghetti Day. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner!
5th- National Whipped Cream Day. Put whipped cream on your dinner.
11th- National Milk Day. I wish I had a cow.
11th- National Step in A Puddle and Splash Your Friend Day. Unless all the puddles are frozen.
13th- National Clean Off Your Desk Day. Or your locker.
13th- National Rubber Ducky Day. "Rubber ducky, you're the one, you make bath time so much fun."
14th- National Dress Up Your Pet Day. What kind of pet(s) do you have?
15th- National Bagel Day. Put the bagel in the cream cheese, instead of putting the cream cheese on the bagel.
16th- National Nothing Day. Literally, sit there and do nothing.
18th- National Peking Duck Day. Does this mean the duck pecks you, or you peck the duck?
18th- National Winnie the Pooh Day. Happy Birthday, Winnie!
20th- National Cheese Lover Day. I couldn't think of a joke for this one, they were too cheesy.
21st- National Hugging Day. Hug everybody you know!
25th- National Opposite Day. Say hi when you mean bye.
27th- National Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day. It's a good way to relieve stress.
28th- National Kazoo Day. Search up the Kazoo kid on YouTube (You'll love it, I promise).
31st- National Backwards Day. Conditioner first, then shampoo.
31st- National Hot Chocolate Day. "HOT! HOT! We got it!"
31st- National Big Wig Day. NO snatching wigs!



The *KMS Purple Pages* . . .

is brought to you by Kai Adkins, Hannah Autry, Isabella Bond, Sam Brighton, Jaycie Castillo, Wyatt Cole, Keisha Connor, McKenzie Koliba, Brooklyn Larsen, Emelia Malone, Rylee Novak, Natalia Polanco, Gabe Segura, Nathan Teates, and Tyler Van Sky, with support from Journalism advisor Mrs. Nabholz. Illustrators for this issue include Emelia and Rylee. Thanks also to the parents, teachers, and students who provided assistance with news and photos!



Anonymous Confessions

By Cookie Cannibal

“I see dead people.”

-Me

Me,

“Well, I see dead cows in my hamburgers.”

-Cookie Cannibal

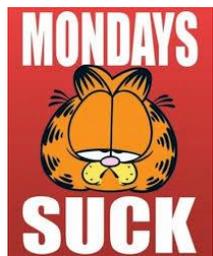
“We care about everyone except for one...”

-Obama Care

Obama Care,

“Student? Country? What was the last part?”

-Cookie Cannibal



“Thursdays are my favorite type of soup.”

-Pasta Man

Pasta Man,

“I hate Monday soup. I don't recommend it.”

-Cookie Cannibal

“Is it gross that I have a sister?”

-Macaroni Hands

Macaroni Hands,

“Of course, that's how I got so messed up.”

-Cookie Cannibal

“I think my veins are empty.”

-Empty Veins

Empty Veins,

“My veins are turning black.”

-Cookie Cannibal



#KMShashtags

By Keisha Connor

#dog

#santaisreal

#christmas

#cold

#winter

#snow

#polarbear

#tayloristhebestever

#tinysausages

#davidnumberman

#freepencilsonthefloor
ofthehallway

#calculator

#morningjoke

#activitynight

#choirconcert

#bandconcert

#studentsandstaff

basketballgame

#doordecorating

#suziesheep

#clubs

#cannedfooddrive

#summervacation

#gustkeysismatchedsocks

#gingersareawesome

#blondsarentdumb

#twohourdelay

#packers

#R.I.P.juicewrld

#december8

#basketball

#silasisadingleberry

Puddles

One day after school, 6th grader Silas Ferguson was seen carrying a fish around in a bag. He found the fish wiggling around in a small puddle over near the cross-country trails and put it into a bag that he had in his backpack.

Mr. Beck offered to help him find out more about the fish. They searched online and found out that it was a blackfish. Mr. Beck also checked with his friend Bruce King, who is a retired fish biologist. They confirmed that it was a blackfish, but they aren't sure if the species was indigenous to this area or introduced from somewhere else.

According to Mr. Beck, blackfish are very adaptable. This “tough critter” probably survived in the puddle for a while for this reason. Blackfish can even live in mud and also breathe directly from the air to get oxygen.

Silas kept Puddles in Mrs. Vann's fish tank for a few weeks, but now he has it in its own tank at his house, and he feeds it guppies from Petco.

(Editor's note: A special thanks to Aurora Cronk and Melissa Moffis for interviewing Silas.)

Thinking Outside Their “Boxes”

Mr. Lyke's 4th hour drama class recently presented the play “Boxes” in the KMS library. The entire cast dressed in black clothing, and each actor was holding a unique box, everything from a small music box to a huge shipping box.

The theme of the play was how often middle school students feel like they are trapped in “boxes” that they don't want to be in. Sometimes it's due to their own

thoughts and fears, but other times they are placed in these “boxes” by other students, by their parents, or by society's expectations for them. Some of the scenes dealt with issues such as popularity, bullying, rumors, school rules, safety, loneliness, and respect.

According to Mr. Lyke, the actors grew a lot over the semester. He stated, “Our play was a fitting end to a semester where so many students stepped out of their boxes and into the uncomfortable and exhilarating world of theatre.”

Searching for Santa

By Samuel Brighton

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

ADVENT CALENDAR
 BLITZEN
 CHRISTMAS
 CHRISTMAS HAM
 COMET
 CUPID
 DANCER
 DASHER
 DONNER
 ELF
 FAMILY
 GIFTS
 HANUKKAH
 HOCKEY
 JULENISSEN

MISTLETOE
 ORNAMENT
 PRANCER
 PRESENTS
 REINDEER
 RUDOLPH
 SANTA
 SNOWFLAKE
 STOCKINGS
 TREE
 UGLY SWEATERS
 VIXEN
 WINTER SOLSTICE
 WREATH
 YULE

Strange Stocking Stuffers

By McKenzie Koliba
 & Mrs. Nabholz

Have you ever wondered what would happen if “Santa” went weird and decided to fill your stocking with any or all of these strange surprises?

- Public Toilet Survival Kit
- Different flavors of candy canes: pickle, mac and cheese, pizza
- Nose-shaped pencil sharpener
- Dill pickle mints
- Giant human ear headband
- Emergency underpants
- Hot dog ear buds
- Nose flute – play it with your nose!
- Mini Nutella jars
- Different bandages: Shakespeare, bacon, taco, beef, and toast
- Cat butt fridge magnets
- Dozens of packets of your favorite condiments – mayo, ketchup, or Taco Bell fire sauce
- A stocking completely filled with tasty avocados



6th grader “Jolly” Hosmer-Cope,
 7th grader Dresden “Reith,”
 and our awesome lunch “Mary” Meyers
 would like to wish everyone a



Merry Christmas!

Overheard

By Isabella Bond



“Yorkshire pudding is eaten with gravy.”

“How do you creatively interpret a candy cane?”

“I am just being weird, get used to it.”



“Let’s go hide behind the chainsaws!”

“Maybe they want a shower speaker.”

Teacher: “What is the capital of Russia?”

Student: “France?”

“But Shrek is handsome!”

“I aim to cause chaos and discomfort.”

“Salmon is my favorite sport.”

“Did you know bologna is just a pancake hot dog?”

“I skinned two loraxes for this hat.”

“You polluted my poor old glue stick with glue!”

“Baby Yoda is trending more than the presidential candidates.”



“My mom said I have a science infection.”

“At home I glued together my mom’s pants.”

“I am wearing my purple dancing shoes.”

“Pen bounce good.”

“I kill bees for fun.”

“My nose is getting plugged with sugar.”

“Your username is your username and your password is just your password.”

“I was the one who detoured him around the school.”

“You are the human embodiment of a YouTube comment.”

“It’s my snock.”

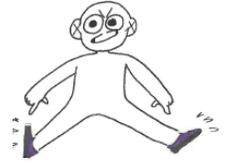
“I just figured out that the Easter Bunny is a Zodiac Killer.”

“Just shove the whole thing in your mouth and eat the plastic too. Pretend that you’re a turtle.”
to someone trying to eat a candy cane

“If you are gonna scold my Shrek sign you should have helped with it.”

Student: “I want to use a flint and steel.”

Teacher: “Not right now, dude.”



Just Some Jolly Jokes

Q: What kind of car does an elf drive?

A: A toy-yoda!

Q: What do you call an elf that just won the lottery?

A: Very welfy!



“Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened.

