

# The Gallery

FALL EDITION 2013

DURHAM SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

## Teacher Superlatives!

**The first Spanish  
article in The Gallery's  
history!**

Look inside for an  
indepth look at ...

# relationships

## Being *Instagram* famous

BY ALEXANDRIA FERNANDO

Lying in bed, phone in hand, freshman Madison Carter scrolls through her Instagram feed. At the lower right hand corner, she sees a new notification - a single heart. She smiles with delight.

Instagram is one of the most used social media networks in the world. According to statistics, there are over 150 million people who use Instagram\*. Instagram allows people to share their life in pictures with others. Not only is Instagram used to share the daily bits of a user's life, but it also used by young people to feel popular.

Carter agrees with this statement. Carter believes that Instagram makes adolescents feel popular. Carter thinks that the amount of likes you get on Instagram photos matter as well as the number of followers you have.

Eighth grader, Kathleen Quimbo, agrees with this statement as well. "I guess people just want more likes on their pictures to get

more attention," said Quimbo.

One way students receive more followers is accepting follow requests from strangers. "I accept follow requests from strangers because I want a decent amount of followers on my Instagram and



**Instagram is used by millions of people everyday. Never has it been easier to share photos with friends and family.**

a lot of likes on my pictures," said Carter.

However, freshman Orlando Bailey disagrees with Carter. Bailey believes that amount of likes you receive on Instagram photos, and the number of followers, you have does not matter.

"It's not that important. They're just likes and half of the people you don't know," said Bailey.

Hashtagging is another way students gain more likes or followers. Phrases like tag for likes, follow for follow or spam for spam are put into hashtags to receive the desired number of likes or followers.

"Hashtags are just used to get more followers," said senior Brenda Flores.

"Some people try to bring themselves out there on Instagram because they don't know how to express themselves in real life," Flores added.

Like Carter, freshman Juliana Rella agreed that numbers matter to users. "They want to feel popular, and important, and they want to feel like they're good and they want to feel like they're getting approval... It's very materialistic. It's just a weird thing to want," Rella said.

## Melting together words and color: *synesthesia*

BY JUSTIN CHING

She hits the G-chord, and thinks of green. As the chords resonate through the wooden frame, various colors accompany it, finishing the sensual duet.

Leidy Monks, junior, has synesthesia, a neurological condition that affects how people perceive senses.

"All [guitar] chords have different colors [for me] which is really cool! It just so happened that the G chord was a summery, yellowish green, which makes it my favorite," Leidy said.

Synesthesia affects about 1 out of 2000 people. There are over 60 different kinds of synesthesia, one of the more common forms is "grapheme-color", which is associates colors with names, words, or letters.

"I can tag people in everyday life. I'll meet someone and I can tag that person's name with a color. I've met some bright people as well as some people who are dull. In more ways than one," Leidy joked.

Synesthesia can affect people in different ways. Junior Genevieve Rella sees numbers with unique personalities and genders. This form of synesthesia is called "ordinal-linguistic personification", or OLP.

"Two is a boy, and it is kind of sad, and nine is a girl, and it is really happy," Genevieve said.

Some might think that this would become a huge distraction doing math, but Genevieve has grown into it.

"It was a lot more prominent when I was little, sometimes I won't even notice it now," Genevieve said.

Synesthesia is usually genetic, and both Genevieve's sister and father

have it. Synesthesia is also more common in females and oddly enough, left-handed people. In fact there are more ambidextrous people with synesthesia than there are right-handed.

"My whole life I've just known that that's what color they are [numbers, letters, etc], but I never knew that people did not see them as well," freshman Juliana Rella said.

Leidy also had a similar experience with realizing she was different. Her synesthesia isn't genetic, called "adventitious" synesthesia, leaving even less people who understood what she was experiencing.

"When I was a child, I thought of colors with words and thought everyone did too, I asked my mom about it and when she didn't get it, I thought 'I guess I'm special!'" Leidy said.

Even simple things like months and years can be different to a person with synesthesia, forming shapes, patterns, or colors in their mind.

"Months of the year make a circle around me, and years sort of scroll down like a Star Wars movie," Juliana said.

Studies have shown that these extra-senses eventually become a normal part of peoples' lives, like the hum of a refrigerator or the smell of a person's house. Just like how a loud gunshot would frighten anyone, a person with synesthesia can be startled by sounds or images that create strong colors or feelings.

"Synesthesia has never been an obstacle. If anything, it enhances the things I do!" Leidy said.

Hobbies, music, and other things people love are all enhanced by synesthesia. The vibe the colors give off is enriching to people with synesthesia.

"Songs that I like or that I really get into have intense colors," Genevieve said.

Whether guitar playing or running, both Juliana and Leidy agree that this extra sense is something that they'd dearly miss.

"I'll really like an activity, but then I'd stop and say 'wait, I also really like the color the activity gives me too,'" Juliana said.

The "sixth sense" is an aspect of life that many people with synesthesia feel like others are missing out on.

"I can't really imagine what life would be without it [synesthesia]," Leidy said.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN CHING

**Leidy Monks studies for her AP English quiz. Synesthesia has never been an obstacle for her.**

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# Maturing relationships

BY FRANK KUO

Ever wonder why young guys and girls seem to be living on different planets? Maybe here's why. The male and female brain develops differently with differing biological maturation paths and in result, this affects their behavior during brain development.

One part of the brain, the hippocampus, is larger in older girls. Because of this growth, older females often perform better in social situations than younger girls; they also excel at being more emotionally supportive than younger girls and take part in more complicated relationships.

For males, the amygdala and the hypothalamus, two other parts of the brain, are larger in older man. Both the amygdala and the hypothalamus lead to males enjoying contact sports more as they grow older and make their behaviors become more assertive along their

thinking. All these factors contribute to the more complex and stable relationships in high school between males and females.

A smaller amygdala explains why boys and young men need to move around more while younger compared to girls, who tend to have a longer attention span that allows them to focus for longer periods of time. The developing amygdala contributes to the shortness of middle school dating and the males' aloofness in relationships while in the earlier stages of brain development.

"In high school, relationships are more intimate, whereas in middle school, they are more like friendship." Sophomore Gerald Jones said.

Although many teens are smart and have good reasoning skills, research has shown that human brain is not "mature" until the early 20s. This prolonged pro-

cess is often the root of immaturity in adolescent relationships.

Among the last connections to be fully established are the links between the prefrontal cortex, the seat of judgment and problem-solving and the emotional centers of the brain. These links are crucial to emotional learning and a higher level of self-control. When adolescents begin to develop and create bonds between the two, they start to shift from the detachment in relationships to more rational and complicated, more involved relationships. Even within adolescence, relationships start to mature from the middle school ages through high school.

In a survey, many older students expressed that high school relationships changed in complexity and involvement from middle school "game and play" learning stage to the ability to sustain more serious, complicated relationships



PHOTO BY: FRANK KUO

**Couple Junior Laurina Bird and Senior Chris Orange spend time with one another. They represent the maturity of high school relationships.**

that tend to become more stable and affect the involved parties more.

"I feel like in high school, relationships have become more intimate," Sophomore Diego Terron said, "And it helps you mature yourself."

# Looking beyond the lipstick:

## A closer look as to what is truly in your cosmetics.

BY MAURA SCROGGS

It's a daily ritual for most girls: makeup. They lightly brush pink hues of blush onto their cheeks, and run jet black liner around their eyes. They powder their eyelids with matte pigments and pucker up to the mirror as they gracefully apply lipstick.

This isn't an unusual task for teenage girls, and usually little thought goes into what they are putting into their faces. If they knew the truth, they may not be as eager to apply it to their skin.

"I have no idea, I seriously have no clue," sophomore, Kourtnei Ashmon said when asked what she thought was in her cosmetics. It is often very difficult to find out what the common ingredients in makeup are.

The FDA doesn't have the legal right to approve cosmetics before they go on the market. They also allow cosmetic companies to use any material as an ingredient, with the exception of a few color additives and carcinogens, which are possible cancer causing elements. Often times the companies use this to put synthetic materials and ingredients in their products, along with some carcinogens that are not banned in the US.\*

"I have heard that there is a lot of stuff that is unhealthy for your face in cosmetics," eighth grader, Alani Rouse said.

Though cosmetics are usually safe to use, they could have potentially dangerous ingredients. Many ingredients, such as some color pigments and BHA a makeup preserver, can cause allergies and in extreme cases cancer.

Perfumes with the term fragrance can contain over 200 ingredients. They label fragrances as secret ingredients, allowing



PHOTO BY MAURA SCROGGS

**Though cosmetics are usually safe to use, they could have potentially dangerous ingredients. Lead traces can be found in Maybelline, L'Oreal, Cover Girl, and over 400 lipsticks.**

them a loophole to the rules. One rather dangerous chemical, ethylene oxide, can sometimes lead to the occurrence of cancer. Though used in a chemical process to blend the fragrance, raw traces can slip through and enter the skin.

Lead traces can be found in over 400 lipsticks, with Maybelline, L'Oreal, and Cover girl containing the most particles of lead per million particles. Though these are usually minuscule amounts, studies have shown women who apply lipstick 2-3 times a day can ingest almost 20% of the daily amount that is considered safe.

Even supposed healthier, or more natural products, are not always what they seem. Often the words "herbal" and "natural" are not regulated so they do not have much meaning.\*

Recently certain brands of makeup have come under fire for their ingredients. E.L.F has been criticized for having synthetic materials which can cause irritation and for using materials that have not been properly tested to see if they cause cancer. Since it is very cheap, many buy their products without a second thought. Despite their possibly harmful ingredients, E.L.F does like

to share the fact that they do not participate in animal testing and are partners with PETA.

"This is horrible", said Ashmon.

Many students agreed and thought the public should have more knowledge

and control about what is in their cosmetics.

"It really does make you put in perspective what you are putting on your face", eighth grader, Maleah Harris, said.



PHOTO BY MAURA SCROGGS

**Makeup use is common among teenage girls. We begin to explore the world of cosmetics and separate the facts from fiction in makeup ingredients.**

# New Teachers

BY KAILEY MORGAN

## Ms. Elizabeth Strigle

Masters at Ohio State  
Teaches English I and Spanish I

*The Gallery apologizes for not having Ms. Strigle in the October Edition's New Teacher section.*

Ms. Strigle is new to the English and Foreign Language department and teaches high school students in English I and Spanish I. She is a valued addition to the faculty and staff. Again, the Gallery apologizes to Mrs. Strigle and is grateful for her understanding.

### Why did you choose to come to DSA?

It's a really good opportunity for me because I get to teach English and Spanish. It's a really great school and I'm lucky to be here.

### What makes you want to teach this subject?

Spanish - I took French and Spanish in high school and they were both my favorite classes.

English - I've always loved to read, so it was natural for me to want to teach English. Although I have more experience with Spanish, I really like both.

### What are your favorite activities?

I read too much, hang out with my dogs a lot, and I really like to cook, es-

pecially Mexican food even though my family is Italian.

### What animal do you think you are most like?

Dogs because I have two (Bumi and Alfonse), so I'm turning into a dog lady. Also, I'm a pretty loyal person.

### What are your favorite books?

Jane Austen's *Emma* and John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*

### Is teaching at DSA what you expected?

It's mostly been what I've expected. Although, I didn't realize how much support I'd get from my colleagues, but I think that is just the kind of school DSA is.

### Is there anything else you would like to add?

I really like my kids and I'm lucky to be in the department.



PHOTO BY: KAILEY MORGAN

**New teacher, Ms. Strigle, teaches English I and Spanish I. She loves her dogs, Ohio State, and reading a good book. She is glad to be at DSA.**

# Partially hydrogenated love: is it worth it?

BY IZZY SALAZAR

Red and pink M&Ms, candy bars with pink wrappers, boxes of chocolates tied with fancy red ribbons. At this time of year, those are the sugary foods people eat the most. But what are they really putting in their mouths? And should they care?

Last November, the Food and Drug Administration (F.D.A.) made a preliminary determination that partially hydrogenated oils (P.H.O.s), as used in some candies, are no longer generally recognized as safe. This means that companies cannot use P.H.O.s without approval from the F.D.A..

Partially hydrogenated oils are dangerous because they have trans fats, which increase the risk of heart disease. The Center for Disease Control (C.D.C.) estimates that if people stop eating trans fats from P.H.O.s, it could prevent up to 20,000 cases of coronary heart disease and up to 7,000 deaths annually.

This is important to middle and high school students because trans fats can cause obesity, and childhood obesity affects 17% of all children and adolescents in the USA. Childhood obesity is caused by eating too many calories, and not getting enough physical activity.

Students at D.S.A. appear to be aware of problems caused by eating foods with trans fats in them, but may not know exactly why they should care.

"I think that we all should pay attention to what we eat - not that I do, but eating unhealthy could cause bad stuff to happen eventually," Christina Boxberger, 7th grader said.

Evelyn Ritz, 8th grader, doesn't pay attention to what she eats because she says it doesn't matter.



PHOTO BY IZZY SALAZAR

**Valentines Day chocolates are among the most popular candies on February 14th. What is not popular is their ingredients.**



PHOTO BY IZZY SALAZAR

**Many department stores load up on candy come Valentines Day season. Sugar-based candy and chocolates have become a huge part of the holiday.**

"If people want to pay attention to what they eat, then they should. But it doesn't really matter to me if they don't," Ritz said.

According to the C.D.C., it's difficult for kids to make healthy food choices with sugary drinks and foods at school, and a lack of daily physical activity influencing them.

Other students care about what they eat for other reasons.

"I have dietary restrictions and can only eat candy that's vegan," said 8th grader Kati Redman.

In 2006, the Durham Public School system adopted a school wellness policy. This policy says that every school in the district has to make their own wellness plan. The policy is written to ensure that at school, kids are offered healthy food, get plenty of exercise, and are taught about maintaining a healthy life style.

As cards and sweets are exchanged in the hallways this Valentines Day those enjoying the tasty morsels may just be blinded by love and not be concerned about their health. Sometimes these sweet treats are not so sweet after all.

# BEING INTIMATE 101

## How to express affection

BY JUSTIN CHING

He rubs his sweaty palms together, the girl of his dreams five feet away.

"This is it," he tells himself.

"This is it."

This scenario is extremely common for almost every teenager. Expressing emotions can be hard enough, but showing affection can be like climbing Mt. Everest. No matter how social someone is, showing fondness well is a trait many people have to work on.

"[Showing affection] has been hard," Zoie Manderico, junior, said.

Showing appreciation for someone is especially difficult on special days, such as Valentine's or Christmas, but the everyday hurdle of affection can be just as hard.

That way if anything special or notable comes along, I will be ecstatic for it," Hall said.

One of the easiest ways to let someone know how important they are is by doing things for them on special days. Kyra Bynum-Patillo, junior, has a tradition on anniversaries with her boyfriend of sixteen months.

"On month anniversaries I always write on my arm the number of months we've been together and the date," Patillo said.

Patillo, a self-described introvert, came out of her shell for the people she truly loved.

"A lot of people felt like I didn't care [about them], and that hurt, because I did. I had to put aside my shyness to



PHOTO BY JUSTIN CHING

**Junior Kyra Bynum-Patillo and her boyfriend junior Freddie Feely have been dating for seventeen months. Showing appreciation can be one of the biggest things a person can do to let someone know how important they are.**

"I've had to work on it, talking more, being more assertive, and just trying to be more clear [in everyday conversation]," Manderico said.

Communication is essential to every relationship, whether it be intimate or not. Showing appreciation can be one of the biggest things a person can do to let someone know how important they are to them.

"I explain to [my loved ones] why I enjoy their company and talk about things that I look forward to doing with them, like going to the beach or seeing some bands," Khari Hall, senior, said.

Being affectionate also doesn't only have to be about looking out towards other people, in fact looking at oneself can help one appreciate and show love for others.

"I've improved [being affectionate] by being more appreciative for what I have.

show them that I cared about them," Patillo said.

Expressing affection doesn't have to be some big event. Patillo does something small and cute to show her love.

"I write small notes for Freddie (her boyfriend)," she said.

Affection also doesn't have to be all lovey-dovey, and can even be a bit quirky.

"I punch people to show them I love them," Manderico laughed.

As for those who are still unsure of how to approach a crush or someone they like, Patillo's advice is to just go for it.

"So many people just waste time waiting for someone to make the first move, while the other person is waiting for the same thing. You just have to think, 'maybe they're just as nervous as I am'," Patillo said.

## Exploring the dating game: Middle School versus High School Relationships

BY KAILEY MORGAN

Awakening to true love's kiss, Snow White, at age fourteen, found her Prince Charming, while Juliet, at only thirteen years old, dared death to be with her Romeo, and by seventeen, Noah, from *The Notebook*, found his soul mate.

The reality of dating in middle school and high school is far different from the images of teenage relationships present in the world's most iconic couples. As students celebrated Valentine's Day, the huge differences between 12 year olds and 18 year olds dating are explored.

Dating in middle school is a different experience from having a relationship in high school. As a preteen, one is still discovering who he or she is going to be. Many students agree that after discovering more about themselves, they are more likely to have a longer and more meaningful relationship.

"In middle school, I think relationships are not as serious as in high school," junior Nicholle Ramos said. "Mainly because when you're young, you're still trying to figure out things about yourself—what and who you like."

High schoolers generally have more independence and maturity than sixth graders: curfews are later, paychecks are received, and driver licenses are earned.

This leads to one of the biggest differences between seniors and sixth graders. "In high school, people have cars and their parents leave them home alone," senior Melissa Carrico said.

This freedom can lead to a different perception of older couples as "dating in high school has more suggestive implications," junior Jonathan White said.

These implications may not be wrong. In middle school, the relationship is often not very serious. Most students describe a typical sixth grade couple lasting from a week to a month, while high school relationships can last years.

The huge gap between how long a relationship lasts is because when you are twelve, "A month is like a really long time," sophomore Isabel Osborne said. "But in high school, it's usually between six months and one year."

With such short relationships in middle school, it begs the question, why date someone for two days or a week? One reason that there is so much emphasis on dating in middle school is the desire to seem older or more mature.

"Middle school relationships allow middle schoolers to feel like adults, but they are basically just holding hands in the hallway," junior Amanda Maxson said. "High school relationships focus on commitment and having someone that they can talk to about everything."

Eighth grader Lucas Mock agreed, saying, "in the end, [middle school] re-

lationships are just like their friendships and they get dissatisfied."

Asking someone out on a date is typically the first step in a relationship, but the ways middle and high school students ask each other out are drastically different.

"In middle school, people write a note or their friend will ask for them, but in high school, it's more likely that it'll be face to face," Carrico said.

In middle school, most couples go out with groups of people because it's usually the first time, which can make the date more awkward and uncomfortable. Many students say that dating in middle school is more of a social event or a way to be accepted, instead of looking for love.

"[A date is] more of an event in middle school because being alone with someone is a big deal, while the date means less in high school," White said.

As a preteen, not only is it more important how people perceive others' relationships, but the reactions towards



PHOTO BY KAILEY MORGAN

**The reality of dating in middle school and high school is far different from the images of teenage relationships present in the world's most iconic couples.**

couples also changes as students get older.

"It matters more what people think of you in middle school," junior Ardyn Flint said.

Overall, high school relationships generally contain more maturity and commitment than middle school relationships, but this does not mean the relationship will be a more positive experience or successful. As Ramos said, "When people see a couple in middle school we think, 'Aw how cute!' But in high school we question if they'll get married or how long they'll last."

# Padres aprenden sobre DSA

POR CLARE SZIGETHY

En el cuatro del febrero durante el periodo séptimo, muchos padres visitaron la biblioteca de DSA. Ellos estuvieron allí para el Circulo de Padres. El Circulo de Padres es una presentación informativa para los padres hispanohablantes sobre temas escolares.

Circulo de Padres es una manera

ayudar padres con estas dilemas. Al comienzo de este año escolar, Sra. Chambers y Sra. Ramirez creyeron que este grupo para mejorar o resolver unas de las problemas de los padres hispanohablantes. Es un grupo mensual, y al primero reunión los padres decidieron las temas discutir.

Hay otros voluntarios además de Sra. Chambers y Sra. Ramirez. El interno de Sr. Chambers, Graham Smith, ayudó

organizar el grupo.

El reunión más reciente fue sobre Powerschool. Powerschool es un sitio web para ver las notas y la tarea de los estudiantes. Es útil por el todo del los padres, pero es más difícil por los hispanohablantes porque las instrucciones en el sitio web son en inglés.



FOTO POR CICI CHENG/ PHOTO BY CICI CHENG

**Sr. Ramirez organizó Circulo de Padres y enseñó los padres sobre Powerschool.**

*Ms. Ramirez organized Circulo de Padres and taught the parents about Powerschool.*

Durante el Circulo de Padres, ellos crearon una cuenta de Powerschool con las computadoras en la biblioteca. Había varias personas ayudar con el proceso.

En todo, los padres quieren saber más sobre DSA para ayudar sus hijos. Una cuenta de Powerschool se deja estudiantes ver sus notas y cosas similares.

<< Quiero aprender como ayudarle a ella en sus clases >> :dijo una de los padres sobre su hija.

Ella tiene una hija en grado siete y a veces es difícil por ella ayudar con la tarea de su hija. Es porque la educación de la madre era en español y cosas como las problemas en matemáticas son diferentes entre las dos idiomas.

Cada reunión es sobre una tema diferente, y el lugar usual es a la



FOTO POR CICI CHENG/ PHOTO BY CICI CHENG

**Los padres crearon una cuenta para chequear las notas y la tarea de sus hijos.**

*The parents created an account to check their children's grades and homework.*

Trinidad Presbiteriana Iglesia. El reunión de febrero fue diferente porque ellos necesitaron las computadoras. El próximo reunión será en el martes 4 marzo.

*\* El articulo en inglés está abajo.*

# Parents learn about DSA

BY CLARE SZIGETHY

On the February 4 during seventh period, many parents visited DSA's library. They were there for Circulo de Padres. Circulo de Padres is an



FOTO POR CICI CHENG/ PHOTO BY CICI CHENG

**Volunteers, like Graham Smith, helped the parents with the information and computers.**

*Voluntarios, como Graham Smith ayudaron los padres con la información y las computadoras.*

informative presentation for Spanish speaking parents about subjects relating to school.

Circulo de Padres is a way to help parents with these issues. At the start of

the school year, Ms. Chambers and Ms. Ramirez created this group to improve or fix some of the Spanish-speaking parents' problems. It's a monthly group, and at

the first meeting the parents decided what topics to discuss.

There are other volunteers in addition to Ms. Chambers and Ms. Ramirez. Ms. Chambers' intern, Graham Smith, helped organize the group.

The most recent meeting was about Powerschool. Powerschool is a website to see student's grades and homework. It's useful for all parents, but it's more difficult

for the Spanish speakers because the instructions are in English.

During Circulo de Padres, they made a Powerschool account with the library computers. There were many people to

help with the process.

In all, the parents want to know more about DSA to help her children. A Powerschool account lets students see their grades and similar things.

"I want to learn how to help her with her classes," said one of the parents about her daughter.

She has a daughter in seventh grade, and at times it is difficult for her to help her daughter with her homework. The mother's education was in Spanish

and things like how math problems are written are different between the two languages.

Each meeting is about a different topic and the usual location is at the Trinity Presbyterian Church. February's meeting was different because they needed the computers. The next meeting is on Tuesday, March 4.

*\*The article in Spanish is above.*



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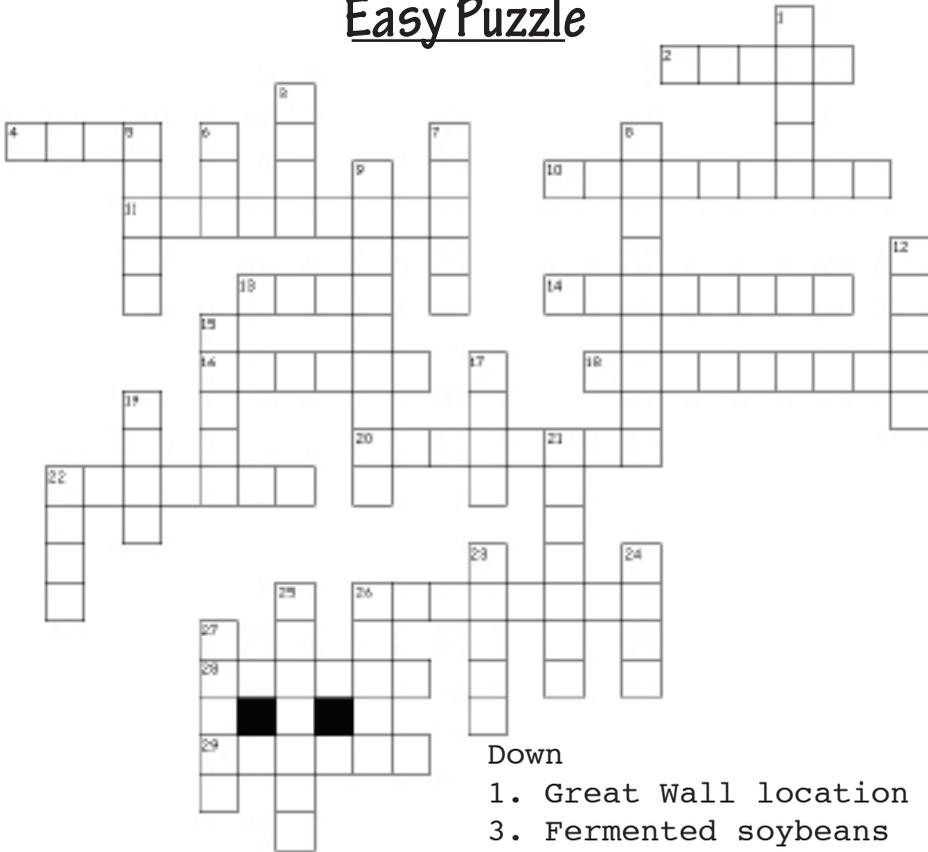
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# Jack's Fun Page!

## Easy Puzzle



**Across**

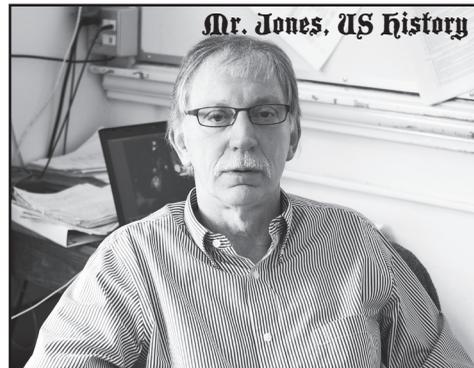
- 2. First Greek letter
- 4. Baseball maestro
- 10. Catalyst of WWI
- 11. e=\_\_\_\_\_
- 13. Sprinting champ
- 14. Greek God of partying
- 16. Noble gas
- 18. 3rd POTUS
- 20. Clark Kent
- 22. Pablo \_\_\_\_\_
- 26. UFla drink
- 28. Father of Peyton and Eli
- 29. US Grocer

**Down**

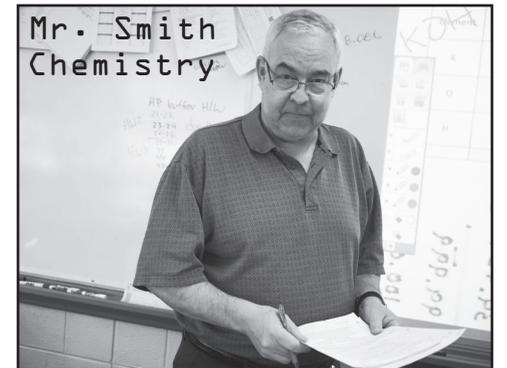
- 1. Great Wall location
- 3. Fermented soybeans
- 5. Told of Odysseus
- 6. Fleur de \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Hotter than \_\_\_\_\_
- 8. October fun day
- 9. German Sausage
- 12. New York Burrough
- 15. Massachusetts rebel
- 17. Graph lines
- 19. Fun page mastermind
- 21. "Big Sky" state
- 22. Ping\_\_\_\_\_
- 23. Loony Tunes swine
- 24. Hindu taboo
- 25. Jobs' computer
- 26. Show around
- 27. Principal or birds of prey

## Teacher Superlatives!

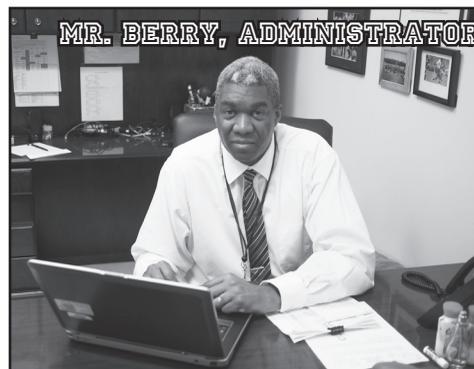
*Most likely to...*



**Terrify a sixth grader**



**Be a CIA agent**



**BE A BASKETBALL STAR**



**Be on a kids TV show**



**Have been at Woodstock**



**Write a joke book**



