



Paw Prints

Volume 1, Issue 2
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What's going on in KMS?



Mrs. Hunziker's Journalism Class learns how to write *Dear Gabby* advice columns.



Ms. Shimoji's B5 culture class practices their daily language routines.

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Young artists from KMS win awards

By Aliyah Northington
KADENA YOUTH CENTER—
On April 18, 2008, Joanna Racine and Chris Carlson, both Kadena Middle School students in House 7S, won recognition in an art contest at the Boys and Girls Club at the Youth Center.

Joanna's oil painting is a picture of a famous beagle named Shiloh. Joanna explained why she chose to draw Shiloh. "I saw it in a magazine and I really didn't have any ideas."

Chris made a collage ti-

tled "Summer Vacation Seine." Chris got the idea from his grandparents' house where he visited last



Joanna Racine's art entry has been forwarded to the national level competition in San Francisco.

summer.

One would think that a person would be worried about a contest like this but Joanna explained, "I really didn't know, because after a while, I forgot about it!"

For Joanna, art is a passion. She also designed the House KMS-7S t-shirt.

Chris added, "I really like all the possibilities for art where you can kind of make anything you really want."

KMS can expect to see these two in more art contests in the future.

School store opens at KMS

By Bailey King
KMS-Christine Geist is currently sponsoring the KMS school store which was initiated by the Student Council. The portable store is in the courtyard by the ramp leading into the office building.

Mrs. Geist opened the school store the week before spring break.

It was opened to help with the cost of equipment in the Family Consumer Science classes. Some of the equipment is worn out, old, and unusable. She cannot teach her students to cook with

damaged, old equipment and replacement costs are needed. The money is also going to help buy perishable items like eggs and milk so her classes can cook.

The store offers snacks, fresh cakes and school supplies.

School supplies can be bought with reading club point cards; however, cash must be used for food.

"It depends on the day," said Mrs. Geist. Sometimes the store has too much food and it does not all sell. Other times, they do not

have enough food and run out.

The school store will be open all mornings unless it is raining.

"I have noticed that a lot of students eat breakfast, which is good for them but not for me because it causes less students to buy snacks from the school store," stated Mrs. Geist.

Students who are hungry in the morning can stop by the school store and buy fresh snacks to keep them going through

Students claim second place in eCybermission contest

By **Ahdriana Stiefel and Crystal Shelton**

KMS—Mrs. Linda Connelly, principal at KMS, informed Kenny Tobish, Jonathan Pickens, and Alex Wilson, on April 21, that they won second place in a national eCybermission contest. Each student will receive a three thousand dollar savings bond. The announcement was made in Mr. Gouldman's B5 science class at 12:00 p.m.

All three team members are in House 7S.

The team's award winning project was based on driving safety. To research the project, the three went to the BX on Kadena and had people take a survey on driving. They also looked up information on the internet and recorded driving speeds at Gate 2.

They worked for three months on their project. Kenny Tobish commented, "I learned that people do drink and drive while drowsy."

The whole team also learned that people get scared when somebody is recording speeds and so they slow down.

Before Alex, Jonathan and Kenny started their project, they had to figure out what to do. At the beginning of the year, the students were in a table group, and they decided to work together on their long-term science project that Mr. Jim Weaver assigned. At first, they talked about people smoking, but later they de-

replied, "My mom because she gave us the idea for the project." They thought about the commercials on AFN only having to do with drinking and driving, not speeding.

"The Bad Boys" is what Kenny, Jonathan, and Alex came up with for their team name.

Kenny and Alex did research

for the team. "I just entered the data into the computer," Alex commented.

Jonathan took the pictures. He remarked that the favorite part of his role was when he got to take pictures with a pink car.

One of the stu-

dents added that, not only did he enjoy doing the project, he really likes getting the money.



Kenny Tobish, Alex Wilson, and Jonathan Pickens not only earned a grade for their eCybermission science project, they also received savings bonds totaling \$9,000.

cided on driving safety as their topic.

When asked who to thank for assisting them, Jonathan Pickens

KMS prepares for talent

CHOIR ROOM—Mrs. Amy Black announced that KMS will host a talent show on May 30 in the school cafeteria.

Two performances will be offered, a "teaser" during seminar and an evening performance the same day.

The evening performance includes a dinner followed with entertainment that is expected to last about one hour. The meal includes spaghetti, garlic toast, salad and dessert.

Tickets purchased in advance cost three dollars while the price at the door rises to five.

Interested participants must

audition. All kinds of talent will be featured. The organizers hope to include as many students as express interest.

Talent shows are not new to KMS. However, it has been several years since the last event. Student Council wants to bring the popular activity back for students to enjoy.

Staff members have volunteered to assist students in preparing for their routines. Mrs. Black, choral director, and Mrs. Tiffany Madison, drama teacher, both serve as Student Council sponsors, as well.



**Mark your calendar.
Family Night Luau
slated for May 16.**

Mr. Terry Knowles will tutor musicians who wish to showcase talents.

Student Council plans to have three judges for the event. Dr. Bryce Leavitt will represent faculty. The judging committee will also include one parent and one community representative from the military.

More information can be found on posters mounted around the

Morning Announcements could benefit from changes

By Logan Kregness

“Have a Great Wolverine Day” is spoken clearly in a dull way by students every single day on the morning announcements. The morning announcements are sadly boring. I think that we need something to be interested in to actually start off a “Great Wolverine Day.”

First of all, more fun should be included. Students get told by teachers to be quiet when they ignore the announcements and talk to their friends. Students also moan about the fact that they have to even pay

attention. So, students announcing must show more excitement to influence all of us who watch.

The same boring speech is given each and every day about lockers, book bags, and other things of that sort. If the message needs repeating, reword it for a change.

Lastly, the music and slideshow have not only the same photos, but music that really is not that good. New music can be substituted.

To improve the announcements, I think that we students should have our own segment for whatever we want. When asked for his opinion

about this, Mr. Taylor responded, “I think a student generated segment is a great idea.” However, it would take a lot of time to do this. Some people might actually like the announcements the way they are and news staff might not even want the extra segment in the announcements.

In conclusion, I think that Morning Announcements need a little more pizzazz, should have students add their own ideas, and have the person in charge of the slideshows rotate them. We need a fresh outlook as the year ends. This is the best way to have a “Great Wolverine Day.”

Students need to take care of school supplies

By Crystal Shelton

You are flipping through the pages of your textbook looking for page 119, and you cannot find it. It’s been torn out! Then you pick up another book and turn to the page. The corner is torn off and the word “Hi” is scrawled on a spot in pen. Students should really start to take better care of these books if the materials are going to last any longer.

A lot of other books are in the

same condition. Desks are starting to become drawing pads, as well.

If students take responsibility to take care of and not waste supplies, the school will not have to spend more money on replacing required items. If the school has more funds, then there might be a better chance for more study trips.

We cannot have an unlimited supply of new things like textbooks

and paper.

For those with a different point of view, I’ll give you one argument. Taking care of supplies is not enforced. So why do it?

Why? I think students should take into consideration other students who do not want to see words and sketches scattered around a page or desk. Take care because you will be fair to other kids.

Giving seminar a second thought

By Mackenzie Loney

Imagine having tons of assignments to complete as well as some tests to make-up. Now, imagine having *no* time to get any of it done. Pretty stressful, and, this is without mentioning how much work would pile up and how far you would fall behind. Is seminar truly helpful to KMS students?

Yes. First of all, seminar is a perfect place to make-up late work. When students are absent for a day or so, the work piles up. Because school gets out at two o’clock and many ride busses home, most students only have about five hours before they need to sleep. Of course,

when one counts the after school activities, evenings can be tighter.

Students know about the 25 book requirement. Most complain that 25

books are too much to read, and they simply do not have enough time in the day to read a 200 page novel. Why worry about not having enough time to read when you can simply get a head start during seminar?

**Is seminar truly helpful
to KMS students?**

Lastly, on occasion, students need to visit other teachers for various reasons. You may have to find out what you missed in class while you were away or you might have a question on the homework assignment. Either way, going after school or before school starts may not be an option due to transportation issues.

Chris Eastman, 8M math teacher, commented, “Yes, I think it’s necessary for students because it gives them time to come in instead of during lunch or before school.”

Of necessity, seminar deserves its place in our school schedule. The advantages outweigh any drawbacks.

Keep the cameras up

"BANG! BANG! BANG!" is what you might hear from a gun if you take down the cameras. I totally disagree with the article, "Take the cameras down," in which the writer argues that our privacy is invaded because cameras are installed around KMS.

The cameras are not here so the staff members can keep tabs on us at all times during the school day. I mean, sure, they can watch us and all but it is not like they sit in front of the screen all day with their eyes wide open, staring.

No, the cameras need to stay. They are here for security reasons. They help make sure we kids are safe while at school. School is supposed to be one of those places where you come and should not have to worry about what might happen. Right?

If they take the cameras down, that is what it might come to, having to be worried about what might happen throughout the day. All day, every day. I feel safer knowing that there are cameras watching over us. It makes it so there is just one less thing I have to worry about.

As a compromise, instead of taking all cameras down, maybe just have one or two taken down. Most, however, should remain.

So, let us not "Take the cameras down." I am sure people will feel much safer with them.

—Hunter Frost
House 8K

Do we have time?

In "KMS kids missing breakfast," the writer suggests Kadena Middle School provide school breakfast meals. But, do we have the time?

Some parents cannot afford to pay for breakfast in addition to lunch. This is simply a waste of money.

How would the school accommodate time to serve breakfast anyway? We have a busy enough schedule as it is. School starts at 7:25. If the school started serving breakfast, we would have to go to school much earlier. Are we not tired enough as it is?

The *mama-sans* do not begin cleaning until lunch time. Who is there to clean up

after breakfast? You would not expect your average middle-school student to swipe every crumb off the floor.

I encourage readers to disregard the article "KMS kids missing breakfast." Why not just grab a snack on the go?

—Denise Hill
House 8M

iPods are not necessary

In the article "Are iPods really necessary?" the author believes that we should be able to have iPods during SSR, Sustained Silent Reading, in seminar. I disagree.

To me, iPods are a complete distraction. People would blast the volume and would be more concerned on what song they are listening to than their book. In reality, they soon would just be listening, not reading.

Then there will be the people who want to sing along with the songs; they could be very annoying to readers.

Having iPods or MP3 players may make others feel bad because they do not own one. Competition of whose music is the best will invariably develop.

We must keep things the way they are.

—Samantha DeTavernier
House 8M



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These articles express the opinions of the authors, not necessarily the views of Kadena Middle School or DoDDS-Okinawa.

Student submissions are welcomed. All Letters to Editor must be signed.

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What's up KMS?

DID YOU KNOW?

1. Our school colors, **red** and **black**, were selected by the student body in 1991.
2. *Déjà vu!* Years ago, KMS had grades 6, 7 and 8. Alas, space was limited, so 6th graders reverted to elementary schools in 1995. In school year 2008-09, KMS will again include 6th, 7th, and 8th graders.
3. At one point, students could learn French at KMS with *Professor Paul LeMire*.
4. Chorus originally held class behind the stage.
5. KMS opened its doors at this site in 1990. Before that, the middle school was located at Kadena High School.
6. The Memorial Rock Garden began as a vegetable garden; eighth graders raised vegetables as part of a unit reading *Hatchet*. Then, they harvested and ate the cucumbers and tomatoes!

7. In 2000, House 8M included Ms. Luckenbough, Mr. Rick Stanford, & Mrs. Hunziker.
8. Mr. Larvick has been in his shop room for all the years KMS has existed.
9. The IC, formerly called the library, has a time capsule box. Check it out!
10. Ten KMS kids are learning Chinese language for high school credit. Chinese has approximately 10,000 symbols in its alphabet but one needs *only* about 2,000 to be successful.
11. Originally, KMS had only five houses—**S** house was split between 7th and 8th graders.
12. At one point, the inside stairs were designated as “*up*” only and outside as “*down*” only.
13. “**KMS IS THE BEST**” remains our unofficial school slogan.



What do you like about school?



“I like hangin’ out with my friends & learning new stuff.”
Gianna Seisa 8S



“I like the tight teachers & hangin’ out with my friends.”
Zach Hines 7M



“I like chillin’ with my friends.”
Alaya Robinson 8M



“...Getting to greet people all the time.”
Ms. Garza, office



“I like to spend time with friends who live far from me.”
Ahdriana Stiefel 7K



“I like that we have opportunities to learn advanced math.”
Crystal Shelton 7S



“We really like getting a good education (and getting popcorn.)”
Humanities 7 class



“My favorite things about coming to school are seeing my friends & having fun in class.”
Frankie Costa, 8K

Friend tires of bickering and seeks advice

Dear Wolverine: My friend and I always get into fights over nothing. Like a homework assignment or a book that she needs to borrow. I really want this to stop.

—**Fighting Girl**

Dear Fighting Girl: I suggest confronting your friend. Tell her you do not want to constantly argue about the smallest and silliest things. If this person is truly your friend, she will understand and make some effort to change.

If an argument arises, tell yourself it isn't worth fighting for and try and settle your argument fairly. Try to avoid yelling because all this does is make the situation worse.

It is normal for friends to fight every once in a while. But, if you are fighting everyday, ask if this person is truly your friend.

Dear Wolverine: I see one student in my class who changes his answers on the test and tells the teacher she marked them wrong but they were right. What should I do?

—**Concerned KMS Student**

Dear Concerned: This can be a big problem. Cheating is not permitted in school and what that kid is doing definitely is not right.

Tell your teacher that a classmate is cheating during the

tests, and you have seen him do this on numerous occasions. If she doesn't believe you tell her to watch that student during the period of correcting.

Another suggestion is that you could write an anonymous letter to your teacher telling her about

making smart remarks, just tune out his voice.

If ignoring him fails, you can ask the teacher to move you away from this person. The teacher will understand that this person is interfering with your learning. If you see him outside the classroom, do not snap

at him because he will just keep bugging you.

Life has people you cannot stand, but do not panic. That is the way people are and we cannot make them change.



B5 Journalism doubled as advice seekers and Dear Wolverine staff.

your problem. If nothing changes, then take your problem up with your counselor or principal.

You will be doing the right thing by telling somebody. All it takes is courage and I know you can do it.

Dear Wolverine: How do I deal with guys who are so conceited? These kinds of guys are everywhere; it's ridiculous. I know this guy and he thinks he's all that. He's in one of my classes and sits right next to me. He really thinks he's God's gift. It is so sad. I'm completely hopeless here. I need help. Please, Dear Wolverine, tell me what to do.

—**Hopeless in Okinawa**

Dear Hopeless: You should not let him get to you. The best way to deal with him is to ignore him. If he is

Dear Wolverine: My classmates keep making fun of me. I told them to stop myself, but they didn't stop. Instead they made fun of me even more, and if I tell my teachers it will make me look weak. What should I do?

—**Dude in Despair**

Dear Dude: The best possible thing to do is ignore them. They are just trying to make you upset and make themselves feel better. If they know that they are bugging you, they will continue to do so until you ignore them or take action.

If ignoring them does not work, then you should tell someone like a teacher or counselor. If you are worried about looking weak, then you should go talk to your teacher after class or during lunch. Teachers will try their best to make it better. Also, The counselors' doors are always open, and they will offer assistance.