



THE SPARTAN SCROLL

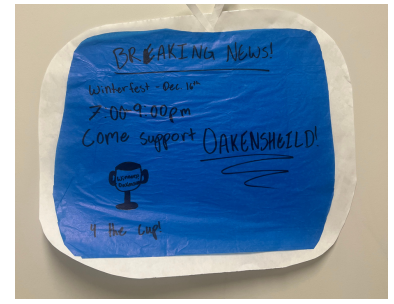
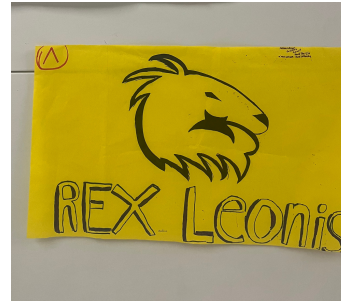


FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

by Katherine Boykin



'Tis the season to be excited. What for? The Winter House Festival, of course! For those Spartans who attended Great Hearts Western Hills last year, you may remember the wonderful Winter House Festival that took place. It was planned by the dance committee and put in motion by house members, and it turned out wonderfully. Like last year, the Winter House Festival will be filled with games, treats, and cheery house fun. However, this year there will be way more in the way of festivities.



Run entirely by your student house leaders, the House Winter Festival will take place on Friday, December 16th, right here on our campus from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Admission is free, and your parents are welcome! Every house will have their own small tent that will have an activity made and set up by your house leaders. Your teachers also have helped to plan some top secret fun house activities that will supplement the house tents. Your only job? To come and enjoy the lovely lights and games that will be set up for your enjoyment.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

by Vanessa Garcia



You might have seen a scholar helping people with their math homework during morning break. If you've ever wondered who she is, her name is Karina Lechler. Karina is an 8th grader in 8A, and she is one of the kindest and most dedicated scholars you will ever meet. She works incredibly hard, especially when it comes to her school work.

One reason that she is dedicated to her education is her parents. Karina reflects that when she works hard, "it makes my mom happy."

She always is willing to help her friends whenever they need it. Karina often does this by helping others with their homework and giving her full attention to her friends in conversations.

Karina manages to keep up with school work by having an organized schedule. She also puts a lot of effort into all of her work by using all the free time she has. One way Karina stays organized is by using her agenda, which is especially helpful when you have a lot of class work. She also uses her time in Lyceum wisely, especially when it comes to math homework because it's one of the longest assignments to do. She has definitely changed her study habits since coming to Great Hearts. Now, she doesn't rush through her work—she takes her time and focuses on every assignment. Karina has definitely proven to be a hardworking student, and is always there to help others when they need a hand.

ATHLETICS

Intramural Soccer

12.13, 4:45pm, Middle Earth vs. Invictus

Lady Spartan Basketball

12.12, 6:30pm, vs. GHFH, Home

12.14, 6pm, vs. Jubilee Westwood, Home

12.15, 5:30pm, vs. GHFH, Home

Lady Agoge Basketball

12.14, 5pm, vs. IDEA Hidden Meadow, Home

MS Boys Basketball

12.14, 7pm, vs. Jubilee Westwood, Home

HS Boys Basketball

12.10, 10am, vs. Anne Frank Inspire, Home

12.12, 5:30pm, vs. SST Hill Country, Home



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12.13—Spelling Bee
- 12.13—9B Grade Winter Concert
- 12.15—Athletics Meeting
- 12.16—House Winter Festival
- 12.17-1.2—Holiday Break
- 1.2-1.6—Independent Study
- 1.9—9th Grade Symposium
- 1.14—6th Grade Fezziwig Ball

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

- 12.24—Ms. Stevens
- 1.8—Mrs. Hockert
- 1.15—Ms. Davila

JOURNALISM GUILD

Journalism Guild Members: Lillian Gonzales, Jet Alvarez, Katherine Boykin, Tatum Underdown, Vanessa Garcia, Valerie Garcia

Are you interested in joining our Journalism Guild next semester? Look out for guild sign ups in the Spring!

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

by Jet Alvarez



Allow me to introduce to you Mrs. Dionne—she is a 7th grade History and Literature teacher who has a special dedication to her students. Mrs. Dionne also demonstrates why school is important. During an interview, she was asked a variety of questions about her experiences in college, and responded with many inspirational answers.

ASK SPARTY

by Katherine Boykin

Dear Sparty,

Why do we have to wear such strict uniforms? I feel like I can't express my personal style. and I don't understand how it has any benefit.

Sincerely,
Confused Spartan

Dear Confused Spartan,

What a good question! While I understand your concern, and totally agree that expressing yourself is important, allow me to explain why our uniform/dress code is equally as significant. At GHWH, our goal is to cultivate goodness and beauty in our scholars and environment, and that includes growing good friendships! As individuals, we often like to express ourselves with our physical appearance so that other people can better understand our personalities at first glance. However, that can often lead to people thinking that's all we're all about, which can sometimes be the wrong idea. When everyone is wearing the same thing, it's not as easy to read the book by the cover. We have to actually get to know each other in order to find similarities, which can cultivate stronger and longer-lasting relationships. With the limitation to not easily express ourselves with our appearance, we have to express ourselves with our actions and words.

Sincerely,
Sparty

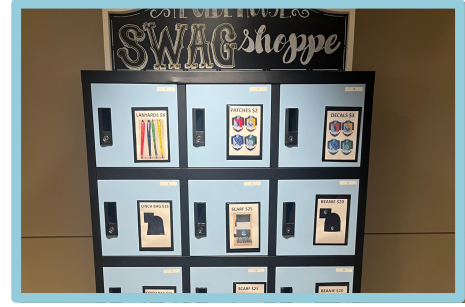
Mrs. Dionne's experience in college was, in her words, "difficult, but rewarding". She remarked, "At college, I learned to love learning for its own sake. I read so many books and made meaningful friendships."

What truly stood out for me was when Mrs. Dionne shared the memories of her time in college. Mrs. Dionne shared, "One memorable moment was graduating. I was the valedictorian of my class, which was a rewarding end to a lot of hard work"

Mrs. Dionne's opinion about the virtue of honesty is also compelling. She explained how being dishonest can become a bad habit and can also bring you down. She advised, "It is incredibly important that your work be yours. The best way to learn is by failure. If you look to cut corners by cheating, you lose the opportunity to learn from struggle. Learning to 'fail' with grace and poise is an important life lesson." It is clear that Mrs. Dionne is both a wonderful person and a teacher that can help you in your educational journey.

HOUSE NEWS

Once there were houses four,
All had something special in store,
Full of food and light
On the darkest night,
A festival for all to adore
—Governor Riedlinger



The House Swag Shop is open for business! You will have an opportunity to pick up items at the "Swag Locker Station" located in the lobby of the Upper school campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Oakenshield

HOUSE STANDING: 1ST PLACE



Reepicheep

HOUSE STANDING: 2ND PLACE



Pevensies

HOUSE STANDING: 3RD PLACE



Baggins

HOUSE STANDING: 4TH PLACE



LAST WEEK ON CAMPUS

On December 3rd, 8th grade students enjoyed "Beowulfathon" at Government Canyon State Park.



6C, 6D, and 6E performed Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*. Congratulations to Mrs. Hardin and her performers!



Ms. Zander's 7th and 8th. grade art students presented their work in an art show.



It is the "Season of 1000 Gifts" here at Great Hearts Western Hills. Pick up a butterfly from one of your teachers and share what you are grateful for!

