



THE SPARTAN SCROLL



PUMP YOU UP!

by Dexter DeMayo Guerrero



Our spectacular Spartans supported our student athletes at our pep rally on April 6. The energy and comradery of our fellow Spartan scholars rumbled the bleachers as we got ready to feel PUMPED UP! Coach Disney highlighted the records and achievements broken by our Spartan athletes. Many achievements were highlighted by our enthusiastic coaches. Our middle school soccer teams became district champions under our coaches Orozco and Travis, and the high school soccer team dominated other ninth graders in the district under the wing of Coach Davila! There were many other amazing achievements accomplished by our Spartan athletes. 7th grader Israel Garcia placed second at the state golf tournament accompanied by Coach Ginithan. Our softball team won their first game under the mentorship of Coach Dionne and Coach Boring! With all of the house spirit in the room, our 5th grade companions felt at home with their own house. After Coach Disney set the stage, Hannah and Franz, two Spartans from a Spartan town in Germany, were there to "PUMP YOU UP!". Their act to inspire the next generation of Spartans was hilarious. Although they were sent to pump us up, they gave us more giggles and laughs because of how funny it was to see the resemblance that Franz and Hannah had to Dean Womack and Mrs. Keffer. The pep rally ended with 5th to 9th graders participating in a fearsome relay race. The houses were neck and neck, but eventually house Reepicheep prevailed above the other houses!

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

by Viviana Van



Honesty is a key virtue. I decided to choose someone to interview about honesty and chose Coach Ginithan because he always talks about how honesty is important in PE. First, I asked Mr. Ginithan how he defines honesty. When I asked Coach Ginithan about this, it took him a while to think about this question. Eventually, he said "Always telling the truth no matter who the person is or what the situation is."

Next, we discussed how honesty relates to his job. He shared this bit of wisdom: "Without honesty, you lack credibility and you wouldn't be able to have relationships with co-workers and students. I think having relationships with co-workers and students is very important. People find teachers more friendly and likable when they are honest and nice." When asked if there was ever a time he was not honest with his students, Mr. Ginithan's answer was "No, because I expect honesty out of my scholars and to demand it of others, I must be an example." He also gave me an example. When he sees bad behavior in a student he would pull them aside and ask them if they did it. Coach Ginithan wanted to give the student a chance to be honest. If they lie, he later talks to them about being honest. Finally, I asked Mr. Ginithan what makes honesty a virtue? I think this was the question he took the longest to answer. "Honesty defines you as a person," he said. "Without it you are not credible, therefore your words hold little value."

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4th- Gentlemen Athletics Award Ceremony
May 5th- Ladies Athletics Award Ceremony
May 18th- Intramural Flag Football and Volleyball Playoffs
May 25th- 8th grade Promotion
May 26th- House Banquet

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

4.11—Ms. Storey
4.20—Mrs. Cosnowski
4.25—Mrs. Dionne

JOURNALISM GUILD

Journalism Guild Members: Jet Alvarez, River Coker, Jade Kehm, Ariel Ramirez, Ariel Amaro, Dexter DeMayo Guerrero, Elisa Montelongo, Viviana Van

ASK SPARTY

by Ariel Amaro

Dear Sparty,

Why do we honor the Spartans? What is their significance to our school?

Sincerely,

A Confused Spartan

Dear Confused Spartan,

Thank you for asking this very important question. Why does this mascot represent our school, you ask? We honor the Spartans because they were very courageous and fierce. During battle, the Spartans fought to the best of their abilities; just like how at Great Hearts we work hard and focus on academics. I believe that the Spartan suits our athleticism. Our athletes compete fiercely just like the Spartans did.

Sincerely,

Sparty

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

by Jade Kehm



Let me introduce you to Mia Larios, a great friend and an all-around honest person. I chose to talk to Mia about honesty because she is incredibly direct. I asked her: "What does honesty mean to you?" Mia told me that, "Honesty means being able to trust someone with truthful information...to create a strong connection with someone important." Mia believes that honesty is one of the keys to friendship and being able to trust someone. When Mia is being honest, she is still being herself and is still kind.

Mia is always prepared to help anyone in need but is very honest about her opinions. She thinks that "honesty is the best policy." She thinks it is better to tell the truth and receive consequences than to lie and get in less trouble. What stands out to me is that she said that "life and love are the best parts of honesty." In life, you're going to have to be honest with your decisions. Mia truly demonstrates how, whether you are inside of school or outside of school, it's important to be honest.

BATTLE FOR THE HELM

by Viviana Van and Ariel Amaro

Early on the morning of March 10, all four houses gathered for the opening ceremony for Academic Field Day. Headmaster Keffer and Assistant Headmaster Koci gave us a motivating speech on teamwork and spirit. After the speech, the houses split into teams and went off to fight for the Helm of Knowledge and Thumos Award. Houses Oakenshield, Baggins, Pevensies, and Reepicheep competed valiantly with brains, and not brawn. Each team competed in games of knowledge. Ms. Kaufmann hosted the "Battle of the Books." In the game, you were questioned on books you have read in the past. If you answered correctly, you would spin the dice and move forward in a "board game." In the science room, Mr. Allen hosted a science themed game. Each team had to answer the question on a notecard then bring it to the table. Many other games brought joy to students.

After lunch was the Quiz Bowl, which was teachers versus students. This jeopardy-style game was won by the teachers (because they're older and wiser). The students also got to see baby pictures of the teachers. Then, the winner was announced. House Reepicheep won the event, while House Oakshield won the Thumos Award, which was "Pollito Tito." Everyone wanted this chicken!

OAKENSHIELD

HOUSE STANDING: 1ST PLACE

Semester Highlights:

House Oakenshield won the Academic Field Day Thumos Award!



Reepicheep

HOUSE STANDING: 2ND PLACE

Semester Highlights:

House Reepicheep won first place at Academic Field Day!



BAGGINS

HOUSE STANDING: 3RD PLACE

Semester Highlights:

Baggins House member Daniel Ezebuiro broke the school record for the long jump!



Pevensies

HOUSE STANDING: 4TH PLACE

Semester Highlights:

House Pevensies was the house with the most thumos at the Spartan Pep Rally on 4/6!



LAST MONTH ON CAMPUS

photos taken and captioned by Ariel Ramirez and Elisa Montelongo

Academic Field Day was a huge success! Students loved competing with their teammates for the Helm of Knowledge.



Some special guests visited our Pep Rally on April 6th. They looked suspiciously like Headmaster Keffer and Dean Womack...

9th grade enjoyed their *My Antonia* dance after several days at a biology camp in the Hill Country.



The 7th and 8th grade Swing Dance was a blast from the past!

SPRING SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Middle School Boys Soccer:

Our middle school boys fought valiantly on the field of soccer and remained undefeated scoring 20 to to the SST Narwhals. They have received an influx of spartan encouragement from both students and parents alike. Our Spartan men moved on to playoffs and became Division Champions!

Middle School Girls Soccer:

Our middle school girls fought fiercely on the field of soccer winning their game 7 to 0 against Lighthouse Academy. They have received quite the encouragement from siblings and parents alike. Our Lady Spartans also moved on to playoffs and were named Division Champions.

High School Soccer:

Our Spartans in soccer fought bravely against the opponents and still fight for us today. The High school soccer team has dominated other 9th and 8th graders!

Middle School Track and Field:

Our Spartans on the track have broken countless records and we are hoping to see them go to state. Congratulations to Baggins House member Daniel Ezebuio, who broke the school record for the long jump!

Middle School Girls Softball :

Congrats to everyone making the team! You have received so much support from parents as well as students and will continue to get the support of us here at Great Hearts Western Hills. Practice is at the YMCA at the fields. The softball team beat another team with an amazing score of 15-2. Their next game is this Saturday, April 21st. Good luck to all of our softball players!



COACHING CORNER

by Dexter DeMayo Guerrero

To begin my interview with Mr. Orozco (middle school boys soccer coach), I asked why he decided to coach soccer. He responded: "There are many reasons why I choose to coach soccer. I think for me it is the love of the game. I have played since I was a little kid and through college so it has always been a passion of mine. As I got older and started to have a family, my son generated an interest in soccer. Naturally, I started training him and eventually coaching him on his own team." Mr. Orozco went on, saying "Seeing the progression and strides he and his teammates made by me helping him and others as a coach felt very rewarding. I had some great coaches in my life and learned so much from them to help show many other kids that soccer is a beautiful sport and anyone can have fun learning to play the sport. As a coach you never stop learning, there are always things to improve as a coach whether it's continuing education for coaching licenses or different ways to help your players learn the game by studying other coaches or just by watching soccer." With the soccer season coming to a close, my final question for Mr. Orozco was about the lesson he wanted the players to take away from the soccer season. Mr. Orozco stated that: "I think one of the lessons they can take away when the season is over is that win or lose, they did it together as a team and had fun playing together as a team. I want them to look back on this season and know they created bonds and friendships because of soccer and their love of the sport. Those memories will last a lifetime and they can look back knowing they had a great season and remember all the successes and learning from any shortcomings. I am proud of all of them and everything they have accomplished this season. They have represented Great Hearts Western Hills with pride and integrity and I could not have asked for a better group of boys! We are a family now because of it!"