

Reporting From Middle Earth to Narnia and Everywhere in Between

Ready, Set, Race!



Circus Maximus Thrills Again!

By N. Hada

Circus Maximus "raced" into action on Friday, September 20th, with four houses building incredible chariots to battle it out for victory. While all the chariots were impressive, only one house could claim the top prize.

The event was a huge hit, especially for new students and mentors. At the starting line, there were many eye-catching chariots, but the "Warriors Chariot" from House Oakenshield stood out as the most beautifully designed and best-named chariot of the day.

The race between the "Reepicheep Roses" and the "Baggins Dragons" had the crowd on the edge of their seats, and in the end, the House of Baggins claimed an amazing victory! Along with winning the race, the "Baggins Dragons" also earned the award for the most creative chariot design of the night.

For the first hour, all four houses showed off their creativity. The Mighty Pevensies wowed the crowd with grand yellow displays. Reepicheep proudly featured their house colors with roses and fire, while Baggins took the theme to the next level with fire and Hobbit-inspired designs. Oakenshield brought flowers and dwarven flair to their chariot.

With creative ideas, greasy pizza fingers, and thrilling races, Circus Maximus was a night to remember!



Success at BigGive
P. Oladipupo

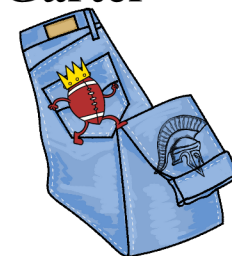
Spirit Week Schedule

10/4 Fri - Spirit Jean and Mum/Garter

Make sure those jeans are decorated with
Spartan or House Spirit



10/7 Mon- Crazy Hat/Hair



10/8 Tues- Dress Up As
Your Favorite Teacher



10/9 Wed- Dress Up As
A Literary Character



10/10 Thurs- Athletic Field Day



Is the Mum and Garter Dance Worth It?

Here Is Why You Should Go!

By A. Hernandez

"Should I go to the Mum and Garter dance?" and "Will it really be better this year?" These are just a couple of the many questions high schoolers are asking themselves about this year's Enchanted Garden-themed Mum and Garter dance.

Before you decide, here are a few things to keep in mind: The event will feature actual catering, activities for everyone, and, best of all, even more time to dance! This year's dance will last three full hours, giving you extra time to enjoy the music, hang out with friends, and create lasting memories.

These magical changes have all been made possible thanks to the hard work of our dedicated Dance Committee and school administration. They've put in a ton of effort to make this year's Mum and Garter dance the best one yet! Don't miss out!

The Big Give

A day of fun and football

By I. Vogt

The Big Give, one of the most anticipated events of the year, brought together students, families, and friends for a day filled with exciting football, delicious food, and great memories. Although our football team didn't come out on top this time, the event was still a big success, showcasing the spirit and community of our school.

Star player Ronell J. delivered an impressive performance, scoring two touchdowns and boosting the team's points. Despite the final score, the team displayed incredible sportsmanship and leadership on the field, showing that there's always room to grow and improve for next year!

Building Better Bookshelves

By D. Nitschke

From magical kingdoms to menacing dystopias, literature can transport readers to exciting new locales. Thanks to the opening of our new library, students can now explore a whole new host of books. Some students, however, might want to continue their journeys at home. While checking out a book is a possibility, creating a personal library might prove a better option. But where should one begin in their collection?

The Western Hills Humane Letters teachers offer these 5 tips:

1) Start with what your friends like -

“The best way to start is from recommendations,” says 10th grade teacher Ms. Stevens, when diving into an unfamiliar genre or starting from scratch. Friends and Family will often have many seemingly random, yet insightful recommendations, which will add variety to your shelf.

2) Make additions that you won't outgrow -

“Pick books that will be your friends for life,” says Dr. Lamascus, an 11th grade teacher, as she describes how the books we keep around for many years help guide our worldviews. While having a children's book or two doesn't hurt anyone, more serious works offer more readability and prove a better investment.

3) Annotate your books -

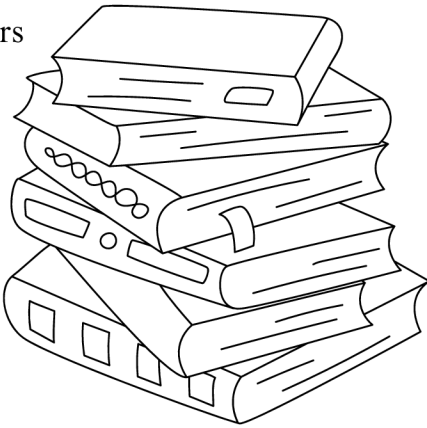
“Annotate your classics to keep,” says 9th grade teacher Mr. Grover, “Its part of the fun of a home library”. He describes how going through your old annotations can be like reliving all the emotions one might experience from their first readings of a novel. Additionally, books with annotation add individuality and flair to your collection.

4) Don't focus too much on order -

“too much organization can be a hinderance,” says 9th grade teacher Mr. Taha, as he explains why a collector might choose to have a less structured library. Because the books are just for you, you don't have to make them very organized.

5) Invest in hardcover copies -

Purchasing hardcover copies can go along ways toward adding an air of refinement to your collection. “Anytime you see a leather-bound book at a good price, buy it,” says Ms. Katerburg, 10th grade teacher. Hardcover books are also more durable and can help your collection last. We hope this tips and tricks have helped inspire and inform you about the makings of a better bookshelf.



Get Ready for Spirit Week!

By A. Maldonado

Spirit Week is right around the corner, and it's one of the best traditions we have! It's “a way to break away from our everyday routine, add a little fun and creativity, and build school spirit,” says Mrs. Dionne, who has been a big part of planning the event.

Planning for Spirit Week started back in August at the mentor retreat. Since then, Coach Disney and the mentors have been working hard to get student input on what everyone wanted to see in the hallways. “We wanted the students' opinions,” Mrs. Dionne shared, making sure the week reflected the true Spartan Spirit of Great Hearts Western Hills.

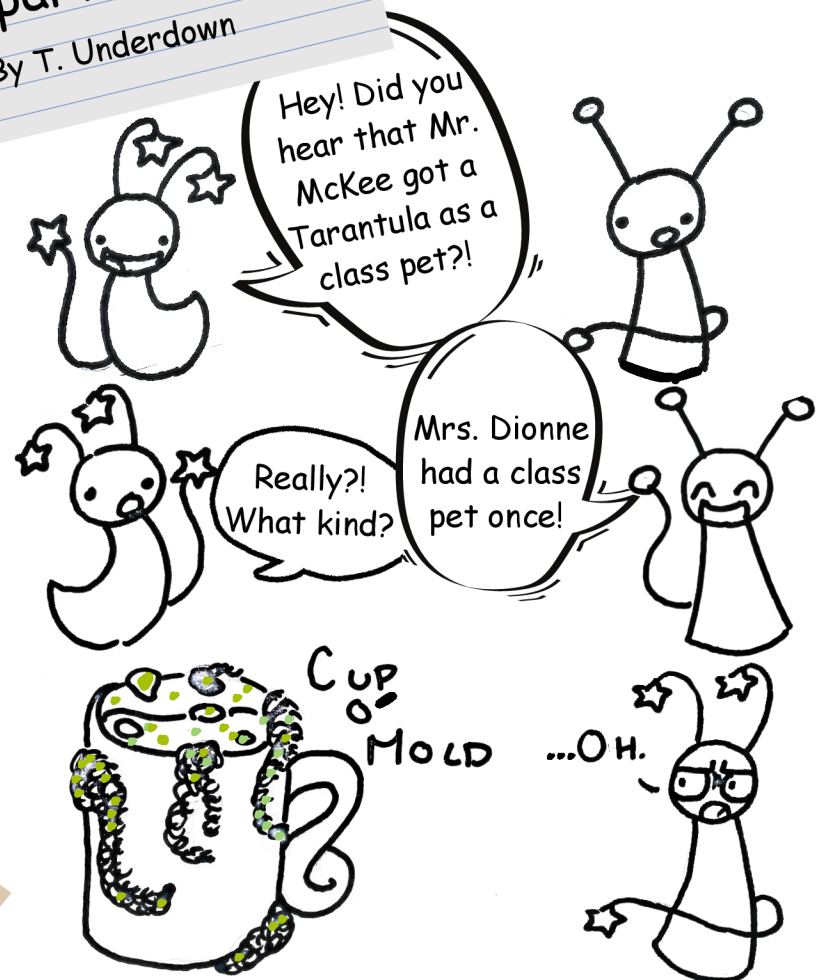
Mrs. Dionne is just as excited as the rest of us, especially because it's a chance to show off some creative school spirit. “Plus, jeans are comfortable,” she added with a smile. “I love having an excuse to wear jeans to work and I can't wait to see everyone work their Spirit-Themed Jeans!”

So, get ready to show off your house pride and creativity! From Spirit Jeans on October 4th to Athletic Field Day on October 10th, this year's Spirit Week is packed with fun themes and exciting days. We can't wait to see everyone's outfits and how you all show off your spirit!

We can make this Spirit Week the best one yet!

The Spartan Snicker

By T. Underdown



Dear Sparty,
Help! I'm Being Bullied
but No One's Listening- Any advice?
Signed-
Feeling Defeated :-)

Signed,
Sparty

Dear Feeling Defeated,
I'm sorry you're dealing with this. Make sure there's not a misunderstanding- clear communication is key, but also keep reaching out for support. Don't give up- Tell your parents and then try talking to another adult, like a teacher, counselor, or the Dean. Making sure several people know helps keep more eyes on the problem. Remember: "If you see something, say something!" -even about your own situation. Keep a record of events to help with investigations, which can take time. You deserve to feel safe, so reach out and lean on your friends. Stay SPARTAN STRONG! Signed,
Sparty

