



THE MORRISON SHARK POST



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#TBT to HehuanShan

By: Rosa Lin



Several months ago the sophomores attended a six-day expedition trip to HeHuan Shan. Before the trip people from Outward Bound came to MAK and informed the students about the basics of the trip. Prior to the trip, the sophomores had heard plenty of horrifying stories from the juniors who went on the trip last year, but the juniors also gave us great advice about the do's and don'ts on the mountain. On November 21st, the sophomores left MAK to experience something that they never would have imagined doing.

Day 1: To Outward Bound's LongTan Base Camp

After a long day of school, the sophomores traveled by HSR and bus to Outward Bound's Base Camp in HsinChu. Once we arrived at our destination, we hopped off the bus and were immediately greeted by Harry, the team leader, and several others. Soon, Harry gathered us in a circle and confiscated our phones and wallets. (Yes, I survived 5 nights without the internet.) We played some icebreakers, and the Outward Bound instructors taught us how to set up tents. The task wouldn't be as hard as expected, if done in the daylight, but it was night, and we had to use our flashlights.

Day 2: Getting Ready for the Big Trek

The next day we woke up to Sabrina and Elisa's morning calls and walked over to the main area only to find out that we had to cook our own breakfast. After breakfast came the most annoying thing to do: packing. Throughout the packing process many people complained that they couldn't "stuff" all their belongings in because we needed to bring not only our belongings, but also cooking and other gear up the mountain. After countless hours we were ready to conquer the mountain! Well, not really. Unlike the juniors last year we stayed at a small camp near CingJing Farm before hiking up the mountain.

That night, after a quick demonstration by the team members on how to cook curry, we were left to fend for ourselves. From what I heard from last year's group, the worst meal for the juniors was curry. However, our group didn't find the curry disgusting at all. In fact, it was our favorite and most successful meal of the trip. We went up the hill again after we finished cleaning and watched the stars. The view was breathtaking until a few of the

guys started singing "Stay with Me," by Sam Smith, totally ruining the moment.

Day 3: HERE WE COME

After a chaotic morning of packing our tents into our backpacks and cooking breakfast, it was finally time to hike up the mountain. For our hike, the weather was pretty good, and we were thankful that we didn't have to hike in bad weather like the juniors did last year.

And so...the journey began. Nathan, Elisa and I were leaders for the first day's hike, and there were countless dangerous parts that we had to hike. However, Nathan and Nini made it look effortless, while I struggled to crawl up the mountain. On the way to our base camp on HeHuan Shan, Nathan, one of the team leaders for the day, had to use the "facilities," technically in the wild, about eight times throughout the day. Here's a little friendly reminder to the upcoming sophomores: remember to always use hand sanitizer after you go number 1. After several hours of hiking, we finally reached our final destination for the next two nights.

The night came in a blink of the eye. On the way to our base camp, we were told by other hikers that it would be -6 degrees Celsius that night, so we expected it to be really cold. The hikers weren't kidding when they said it would be cold; Mrs. Griffin, one of our chaperones, wore *five* layers of tops and three layers of pants. People were getting headaches, and some were having trouble breathing. However, we still managed to have fun. Somehow, eleven of us managed to fit into one tent and started to play games such as Would You Rather and Mafia. We all felt pretty warmed up after a few hours, but we were told to go back to our tents to get some rest for tomorrow's tough hike to the North Peak.



Day 4: The North Peak

On the second day at our base camp, everyone didn't look so good because of the temperature of the previous night, and some were woken up by noises coming from other tents at 3 am. We were running behind schedule, so we quickly packed our gears and went to hike up to the North Peak on a beautiful day. We were panting and exhausted by the time we reached the North Peak, which towered 3,342 meters above sea level. After a brief break,

most of my classmates decided to continue hiking towards the West Peak, while three other students decided to go back to the base camp. Leo, Christine, and I went back to our base camp and washed dishes by the creek. The water felt like ice, turning our hands purple. The other sophomores came back later in the afternoon and proudly announced that they had made it $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way to the West Peak before deciding to turn back, consequently breaking last year's sophomores' hiking record.

Darkness soon approached, and we were all freezing to death again. Most of us couldn't feel our fingers or toes anymore. After dinner, eleven of us squeezed into a tent again, played the same games, and tried to figure out whose smelly feet it was that stunk up the whole tent. (Derek, we know it's you!) The night concluded with the Outward Bound staff telling us to get to sleep sooner because we were going to watch the sunrise early next morning.

Day 5: The Bamboo Forest

Freezing and sleep-deprived, we woke at 5 am to walk up the hill to watch the sunrise. We were awestruck by the amazing view in front of us. It was unreal that we made it to the North Peak, survived the cold weather, and managed to stay alive. We returned to our base camp and packed for our return journey. We were finally leaving the cold, forsaken mountain and journeying back to civilization.

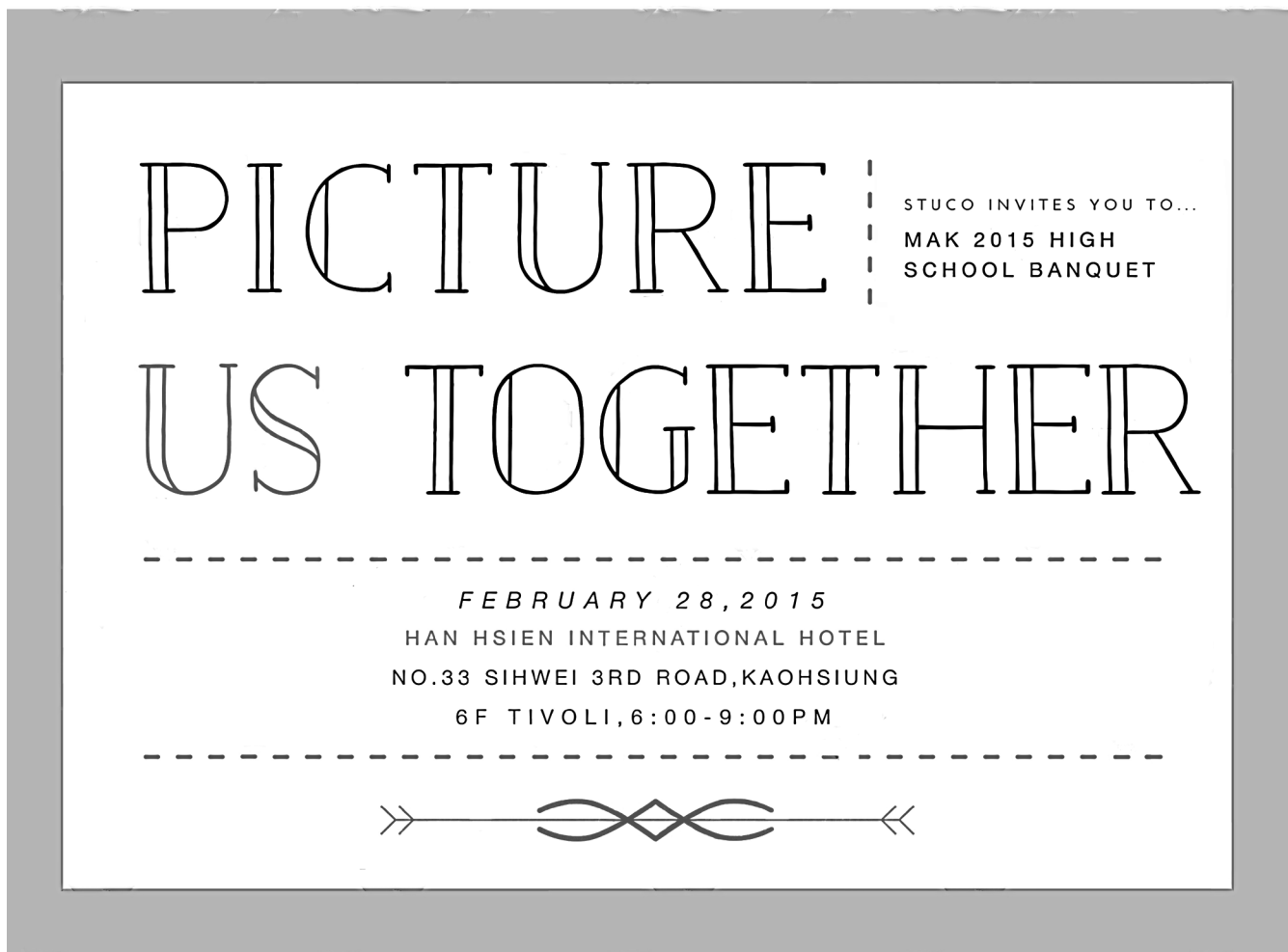
Running late again, we had to move fast to catch our bus back to LongTan base camp. Aside from the cold weather, the bamboo forest may have been the worst part of the trip. (Eric, we don't like your cousins.) The dark bamboo forest had rocky pathways, and there were a few places with a 90 degree drop, which scared the life out of people who were afraid of heights. After endless hours of hiking, we were finally out of the bamboo forest but also late for the bus. Everything seemed fine until we realized that Christine was struggling to walk down the pathway to the bus due to a knee injury. But Mr. Griffin saved the day and piggybacked her the rest of the length! We hopped on to the bus, exhausted but joyful that we managed to survive.

On the bus ride back to the LongTan base camp, we tried to catch up on some sleep, but the bus driver didn't allow us a sliver of peace with his crazy driving skills. He was going 60 mph on small mountain roads, and every turn felt like the bus was going to topple over.

This was our last night in LongTan base camp, so the Outward Bound members decided to let us cook our own hotpots. It felt like I was on cloud nine as soon as I started eating food that was hot and wasn't covered with dust. After we finished our joyous dinner, we were told to gather again to discuss our highs and lows throughout the trip. It was bittersweet because we all enjoyed our time in the mountain; however, many of us were glad to be back in warm weather. It was a long journey, but we still made it. We did it, Class of 2017!

Picture Us Together

By: Ray Kung



At six in the evening on the 28th of February, the much anticipated 2015 High School Banquet will take place at the International Han Hsien Hotel. Located across from the Kaohsiung City Hall, this luxurious hotel is perfect. In order to embrace the prevalence of social media and love of selfies in the lives of high schoolers, the Student Council has incorporated social networking apps such as Instagram into this year's banquet. "Picture Us Together," the theme of this year's banquet, embodies the idea of capturing memorable moments with friends. Through using the hashtag #MAKBANQUET2K15, moments captured will be streamed live throughout the night. This year, fun backdrops, polaroids, and creative photo props will be provided to further enhance the photo-taking experience.

The 2K15 banquet not only will entail a lovely venue and delicious food, but also will feature exciting activities throughout the night. The Newlywed Questionnaire is one of the many games

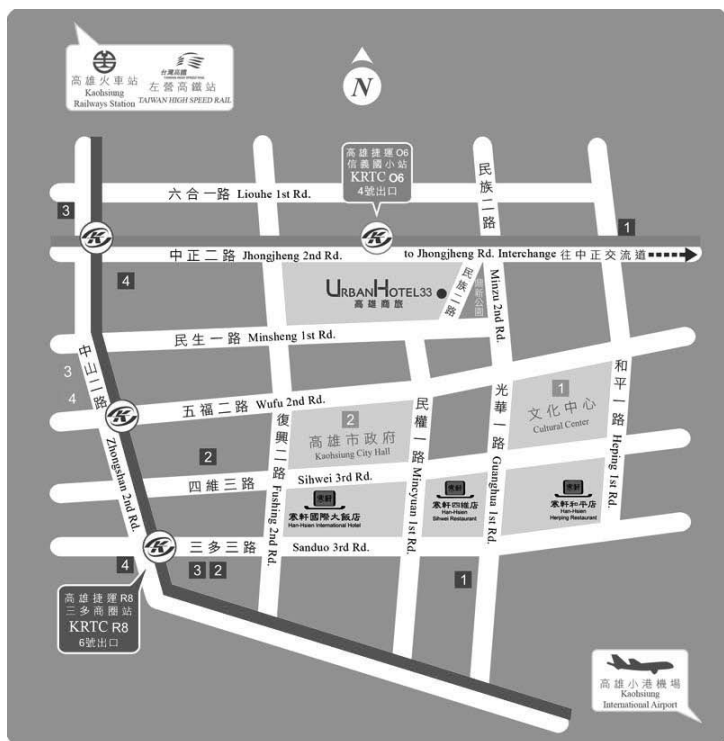
that the Student Council will be hosting. Played in a game-show format, this questionnaire involves several pairs of high schoolers as they answer couple-related questions that may make them squirm with discomfort and embarrassment, giving the audience a great laugh. Each group will be given the same questions, and each person in the couple will be given the opportunity to answer the question from their own perspective. Whichever group gets the most matching answers will win the game. To honor the winners of the questionnaire, the couple will be crowned "couple of the night." Other forms of entertainment include "Just Dance," the number one dancing game currently available online, which will be happening simultaneously with dinner, giving all students the chance to show off their dance moves and impress their dates.

Towards the end of the night, raffle prizes will be given out, and all those who come to the banquet are eligible for entering the raffle. This

year's prizes include gift cards, candy, and more. In addition to the regular raffle, people who come with a date are allowed to participate in an additional Couple's Raffle that offers \$1000 NT Häagen-Dazs gift cards, movie tickets, and E-Da coupons.

For all those without a date to the banquet yet, do not give up. Here are some friendly suggestions on how to ask a guy or a girl out. Keep in mind that the guy or girl you are about to ask out might be waiting for you to make the move, so be confident and do not shy away from any opportunity that comes your way. One of the most important things to keep in mind is to be sincere. It is crucial that you present yourself in a way that allows others to take you seriously. A simple gesture may go a long way if done at the right moment in the right way; for example, a short note with a small chocolate or flowers may be just enough to win someone over. Even though instant messaging is a fast and convenient way to ask someone out, it is not the most ideal method as some may see that as insincere and overly casual. Asking someone face to face, though, although intimidating and gut-wrenching, is always the best way to make someone feel special. A short, "Will you go to the banquet with me?" has proven to be the most effective approach.

Once you get a date, lay out your best suits or dresses, as February 28th is fast approaching. Brace yourselves for the best night of your lives!



Warming up for Malaysia

By: Nathan Lee



Nervousness, excitement, uncertainty. These were some of the emotions the JV boys basketball team felt coming off the bus at MAC on the chilly morning of January 17. It was a day the team had been tirelessly preparing for since the beginning of November - the day to apply all the skills, teamwork, and endurance they'd been working on all season. It was tournament day.

Upon arrival at MAC, the first reaction of the team was relief for finally getting off the bus. The icy air was refreshing, and it felt good to exercise their unused legs. But things quickly changed when the thought of a disastrous prospective first game emerged. The first game was against ICA, a formidable team that crushed MCA during a friendly scrimmage and destroyed the MAK JV team at the pre-tournament. As would be expected, no one was looking forward to playing this game. Nevertheless, the team followed Campbell to the upstairs court and started warming up. A couple minutes later the dreaded ICA JV team arrived. As each team checked out the opposing team, the MAK boys quickly realized something - ICA came without their two best players! This realization abruptly changed the atmosphere. Instantly, the

team was invigorated.

At eleven o'clock the monotonous buzz of the scoreboard signaled the start of the game against ICA and the beginning of the tournament for the team. Winning the jump ball, the game quickly shifted in favor of MAK, and the boys enjoyed a minor lead for the first couple minutes of the game. However, ICA soon caught up, resulting in a very close score the rest of the game. Despite this, the aggressive Shark half-court defense never let ICA take an insurmountable lead. Ultimately, MAK beat ICA by four points. After their exuberant win the team gathered around Coach Campbell for information about the next game. Informing the team that they were playing TES, the reigning champions, next, Campbell advised his players to rest up and eat some lunch to re-energize themselves.

The sharp shrill of referee whistles started the next game. The TES roster didn't change much from last year except for a few valuable additions. Notably, a towering, athletic new center was on the team - with the vertical of a goliath frog. Consequently, TES rapidly built a significant lead during the first half. At half time the sharks were in desperate need of points, so Coach Campbell called diamond, the Shark's deadly full court press. The call was a success! TES was caught completely off guard. Executing the press flawlessly, the team quickly tied TES within five minutes as hustle defense transitioned into easy, uncontested buckets or TES turnovers. At this point the TES coach was forced to call a timeout to stop the momentum of the game and respond to the turn of events. Once the game resumed, TES full-court pressed MAK in response.

By this time the MAK boys were exhausted and couldn't keep up with the fast-paced game. TES once again took the lead and never let up, securing their spot in the championship game against DIS. The next game against AST would determine if MAK would move up to the 3rd and 4th place game. Right from the start it was obvious that the Sharks would easily secure the W. Since MAK was tied with another team in their pool, ISIS, the decision of who would move up to the 3rd and 4th place game would be decided by point-differential. Whichever team had the highest score difference against AST would move up. Since ISIS crushed AST by 40 plus points, that meant that MAK had to top that point difference. However, Coach Campbell decided to play AST with sportsmanship and respect, meaning that MAK didn't crush AST. They ran no fast breaks and played mild zone defense.

Ultimately, the boys ended up in fifth place. TES went on to win the championship for the fourth year in a row in a super close matchup against DIS. MCA came in at third place, and ISIS fourth. Even though coming in in fifth place wasn't the ideal result, the season is not over yet. The team is still practicing and working very hard raising money for the highly-anticipated Malaysia trip, where the boys will have to defend their championship title.

STATS:

MAK vs. ICA	W	34-30
MAK vs. TES	L	39-52
MAK vs. AST	W	37-10

Sweat, Skill, and Determination

By: Christine Lee

The high school girls' JV basketball team had a tournament on 16 and 17 January. Although there was a bit of trouble with the bus getting lost along the way, they thankfully arrived at TES on time. The tournament consisted of three pools. The MAK girls were placed in Pool C along with AST and KAS 2. To get into the championship, MAK had to beat both those teams.

Their first game was against AST. MAK lost pretty bad to them last year so as you can imagine, it was quite intimidating for our girls to go up against AST again. But with hard work, sweat, and sheer determination, MAK pulled out the win with a close score of 18-16! After they beat AST, they had a second game against KAS 2, which they pulled off without breaking a sweat, beating them 34-0! Once they got into the championship game, the JV team fought hard to earn the title. From Pool A, ISIS beat MCA by one point with a clutch buzzer beater, advancing on to the championship game as well. This left MAK, ISIS, and ICA, the winner from Pool B, all fighting for the championship title. MAK's JV girls team's third game was against ISIS, and of course with their dominating performances, they kept their win streak going, securing their spot in the championship game.

With their back-to-back game against ICA, they fought a grueling game, giving it all they had. The first half was intense, each opponent not al-

lowing the score to tip in the other's favor. Unfortunately, after half time, exhaustion kicked in, and MAK started losing. In the end, ICA proved their worth, winning the game and becoming the 2015 JV girl's champions.

The tournament ended with ISIS coming in 3rd place, MAK in 2nd place, and ICA in 1st. Despite the close loss, it's not yet over. The MAK JV girls team is still practicing hard for the nearing Malaysia tournament in February and is looking for an opportunity to win a championship with some JVB additions to the roster.

While the JV team was owning the court up in Taipei, the JVB team was playing some basketball of their own at E-Da University as well. Their first game was on Friday against ISIS. With all their excitement fueling their energy, they played a strong first game, beating ISIS 21 to 12. After the game the team went home happy and ready to get some rest for the next tournament day. With three games on Saturday, the JVB girls were pretty pumped. Their first game of the day was against TES. At the end of the first half of the game, MAK was in the lead by 10 points. Then the second half of the game came around, and the JVB girls started to wear down and tire out. With their energy quickly dwindling, they fell behind and lost their hard-earned lead, but not by much. Unfortunately, while still making baskets, MAK never got the lead again and ultimately lost.

The next game was against MCA. Right from the start of the game as MAK's starting five went onto the court, you could see their determination to win. However, further into the game they started to wear down and lose hope. Of course they got some shots in the game and their defense was wicked awesome, but sadly MCA still beat them by 20 points with the score of 28 to 8.

After the loss the girls walked off the court feeling a bit discouraged. When the next game started they were still pretty down from their loss against MCA, so the first half of the game against DIS went pretty poorly. They quickly fell behind in points and couldn't pick up their offense. Then half time came and coach gave them a pep talk - a wake up call. The second half of the game started, and they bounced back, almost catching up to DIS. If they played the first half half as good as the second, then DIS would have been owned. But sadly, the girls lost by 3 points, ending the game with a very close score of 17 to 19. Ultimately, MAK JVB placed fourth in the tournament.



Valentine's "Not-A-Sham" Day

By: Samuel Tsai

For some, Valentine's Day is a sham; a day where single guys and girls are "isolated" from the rest of society. Couples date each other and then break-up the next day, and money is wasted on flowers, chocolate, and jewelry. For me and many others, however, Valentine's Day stands not just for love, but also for opportunity, friendship and, usually, delicious chocolate.

Valentine's Day is an opportunity, a holiday of friendship, and a chance to get what most people love - chocolate. While there are people who say Valentine's Day is an excuse for asking a girl out, I would say that that is exactly what is needed. Excuses are necessary in the "dating game," and for many, Valentine's day is the chance to change their Facebook status from "Single" to "In a relationship." Also, Valentine's Day is not just a time of dating and love. In Finland, for example, Valentine's Day, or Ystävänpäivä, is a holiday for celebrating friendship, not significant others. In Iran, Sepandarmazgān is the word, and it is a celebration of mothers and wives, not boyfriends and girlfriends. Finally, as many people would agree (or disagree, but please don't), chocolate is awesome. Understandably, chocolate is consumed not only on Valentine's Day. However, Valentine's Day is something extra, something more than just eating chocolate on a normal day. Valentine's Day chocolate symbolizes love and admiration for the one receiving the tasty treats. In addition, chocolate is amazing. For all the chocolate lovers out there, including me, Valentine's day

should be a day that you advocate. As for me, I enjoy eating chocolate as well as giving chocolate to girls, and if no one wants my chocolate, all the better - I'll eat it myself!

Single guys or girls feeling isolated from the rest of society should not be an argument against Valentine's Day. For one, feeling isolated is not a rare feeling that occurs only on Valentine's Day. In fact, a survey taken by Duke University researchers showed that 25% of Americans, approximately 80 million Americans, feel "lonely." True, single people sometimes do feel jealous and lonely when they see couples, but is that Valentine's Day's problem? Think of it this way: some random person has a box of delicious chocolates. Why chocolates? They look just absolutely delicious to me, so I begin to have feelings of covetousness towards that person. How should I deal with my desire for his or her chocolates? The solution is simple: I'll go buy my own chocolate. In the same way, if you feel lonely on Valentine's day, stop moping, get your own date, and don't blame February 14th! Besides, there are millions of other people out there that need a date, too. It shouldn't be too hard to find one person of opposite gender!

There's more. "The greatest wealth is health," said Virgil, the currently-decomposing poet of the Roman empire. Valentine's Day, surprisingly, does improve one's health. Giving or receiving increases "feel-good" chemicals like serotonin, the happiness chemical in the human body. Having enough sero-

tonin is important for one's mental health - another reason I give chocolate! Speaking about chocolate, it is proven by science that chocolate is good for the body in multiple ways. True, ingesting excessive chocolate brings about the possibility of weight increase and diabetes. However, some chocolate, especially dark chocolate, has the ability to reduce heart attack risk, decrease blood pressure, lower the risk for diabetes (unless you eat way too much, that is), and improve vascular function. Charles M. Schulz, the cartoonist of the comic strip "Peanuts," once said, "All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." On Valentine's Day, it's a win-win situation. Thank God for Milton S. Hershey.

All in all, Valentine's Day is a day of chance, chocolate, and staying healthy. While some of you who are reading this still might say that Valentine's Day is an excuse, a sham, or simply that chocolate makes you fat, I have a lesson, two actually, to all of you who say that. First, please think twice before calling people fat. Second, quoting Matthew Inman, creator of the Oatmeal comics, "If Valentine's Day really means so little to you, then I politely ask you to shut...up and treat it like any other day."

I like you so much ...



MAK Confessions

Dear new half of the HS,
Let's not be separated
anymore.
- Old Half of
the HS

Dear Future Bae,
Where are you?
- Sadly Single

Dear Viper,
Let us be the MC for-
ever <3
- Gary

I look good.

Dear Viper,
I secretly admire your every-
thing, like your teaching, food-
catching, and basketball skills
-6.03 x10^23

Dear Christine Lee,
I'm going to steal your
stuff.
- Your secret admirer

Dear Leo Hsieh,
I really like you.
- A secret admirer

I still can't sleep with-
out my ninja turtle
blanket.
- Kong

Dear Nathan Lee,
I think you're super
cute!

Dear Ms. Brabon,
I think you are the most
fashionable teacher at MAK!
Your outfits are always super
pretty!

Dear Nini Lee,
You are the perfect example of having
GRIT no matter what. On the mountain,
you took on everyone's burden without
ever complaining and during scrimmages
you wanted to keep going no mat-
ter how injured you were.
Hope you will have a
great year at MAK!

Where's My Chocolate?

By: Kent Hsieh

February 14, the day we call Valentine's Day, is comparatively inconsequential to days such as Christmas, Easter, or New Year's Eve. Sure, this can be a day that couples or friend show their appreciation for one another by exchanging gifts, but why does it have to be limited to a particular day? If this day, which only arrives once a year, was created for the sole purpose of giving, receiving, and eating chocolate, then all the chocoholics out there must be living some pretty depressing lives. Also, is it really necessary to have a date established for the sole purpose of expressing one's feelings for another? Why was this day created in the first place?

The answer to the questions above can be realized through the analysis of Valentine's Day itself. Why do we celebrate a day that more than half of society knows nothing about? To begin, Valentine's Day was initially established as a day in honor of St. Valentine, a Christian saint and martyr supposedly from the third or fifth century. He was famous for being imprisoned for performing a marriage ceremony for a couple who was forbidden to marry. During his stay in prison, he was also recorded to have healed the prison warden's daughter, and before he was executed for his "atrocious" crime, he wrote a letter to the warden's daughter in which he signed "Your Valentine." This historical evidence, however, does not provide the reason how Valentine's Day became associated with relationships. Besides the dubious letter St. Valentine wrote to the warden's daughter and the marriage of the forbidden couple, there has been no reference to the affection normally associated with Valentine's Day. Moreover, it is not explicit that the contents of St. Valentine's letter had anything to do with love at all;

for all we know, he could have been ranting about how awful the prison food was. Furthermore, if Valentine's Day was only named after St. Valentine because he did humanitarian deeds out of love, why isn't there a day for Mother Teresa, who also wholeheartedly helped the needy out of love?

In addition to the history of Valentine's Day, the implications of the day are quite negative even though it is supposedly a day of positive, bubbly emotions. We tend to associate Valentine's Day as the day of love, especially for couples. If this day was dedicated for couples around the world, what do the single men and women around the world do? In addition to the exclusion of single men and women, the act of giving has been stigmatized because of this day; the common practice of giving chocolate during Valentine's Day has become an obligation for couples instead of something done out of love. The act of giving and receiving gifts during Valentine's Day is now a representation of one's love for another. Furthermore, if one does not give a token of love to the one they admire or if one does not receive any gifts on that day, society will judge accordingly. The issue is that those who do not present a token of love are criticized as being "lazy" and "cheap" while those that do not receive gifts are mocked as being "unpopular." Certainly, this presents a problem as not everyone who refuses to participate in Valentine's Day is "lazy," "cheap," or "unpopular."

Furthermore, consider the meaning behind this day for marketing executives and large business owners. Valentine's Day, for them, is a day to earn wads of cash from naive consumers. Of course, marketing executives will emphasize the loving and

caring aspects of Valentine's Day in an attempt at tricking love-struck individuals into buying a product that will no doubt bring nothing but an empty wallet. This should not be a day dedicated to celebrate consumerism - that day is called Black Friday. If this day was created for the purpose of love, then the emphasis should be placed on the intentions behind it.

Ultimately, the need for Valentine's Day is infinitesimal and negligible. If Valentine's Day were to disappear from the calendar for good, human beings would not become more or less caring for others, nor will they stop gorging themselves with chocolate. Many holidays arose from a central message, a teaching, but Valentine's Day not only lacks a teaching, it also misguides us in the way we perceive love. It would be so much more inclusive and beneficial to society if we changed Valentine's Day to something like Mother Teresa's Day; it would include more individuals and bring about more positive change to the world.

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My normal approach
is useless here.

True Love Hatches

By: Alice Lin and Niki Huang



Many students at our school know about Mr. Love and Ms. Hatcher's engagement. But how did their relationship begin? In an interview with Ms. Hatcher, we got all our questions answered. Ms. Hatcher and Mr. Love didn't, in fact, really have a first date. Before they dated, they just hung out casually with groups of people. It also turns out that Mr. Love started liking her long before she was interested in him. Ms. Hatcher says it was only when Mr. Love "ended up telling me about his feelings when I started to think of him differently." A few days after Mr. Love told Ms. Hatcher of his feelings toward her, they had their first date on the roof of Ms. Hatcher's building. Ms. Hatcher says they "looked at the stars, and he played guitar. It was quite romantic for something that wasn't even

planned."

After talking with us about how they met, Ms. Hatcher shared more information about their relationship. Some activities and common interests that they both enjoy include watching movies and TV shows together, playing cards, and just talking. They also enjoy going out to eat or eating a nice dinner at Ms. Hatcher's place. Ms. Hatcher also mentioned that they sometimes work on Mr. Love's 3D printer, adding that Mr. Love does most of the work while she watches.

One question you might be wondering is how Mr. Love approached Ms. Hatcher's father for permission to marry her. Mr. Love asked Ms. Hatcher's father through the phone. Nervously, Mr. Love started the conversation by talking about other things, but Ms. Hatcher's dad knew why Mr. Love was calling and said to him, "Well, let's stop beating around the bush. Why don't you tell me your reason for calling." Mr. Love replied, "Well, Eddie. I called to tell you that... I'm pregnant." Ms. Hatcher's dad bursted out laughing, and Ms. Hatcher said it "broke some of the nervousness."

Ms. Hatcher then moved on to talk about the proposal. She talked about how Mr. Love knew she was a person that is very hard to surprise, so Mr. Love let her plan when they were getting engaged. Surprisingly, on a Saturday morning when Ms. Hatcher came over to Mr. Love's house for Sky-

ping with his parents, Mr. Love had everything set up and asked her to marry him. She was so shocked that she actually replied, "What? Are you kidding me? Yes!" For her, such a surprise was accompanied with a beautiful ring that made the proposal perfect.

After being asked about the differences between before getting engaged and after getting engaged, Ms. Hatcher answered, "It is fun that all of the things I have secretly dreamed and planned for a while are now things that I am allowed to dream about and plan now." After looking back to her life, Ms. Hatcher sees how God has clear plans for her and really knows what is best. She shared her life story of how she had planned on meeting someone in college and getting married after graduation, but that plan did not work out. Later, when she moved to Taiwan, lots of her friends told her that she should move back to America so she could find a guy to marry. However, she insisted on following God's calling for her and continued to teach in Taiwan. God planned everything so perfectly that she got to have all of the amazing opportunities in Taiwan and got to meet Mr. Love. This summer, these two teachers will be getting married in New York and enter another stage of life together. Congratulations to Mr. Love and Ms. Hatcher! MAK wishes you all the best!

Wise Up?!

Feeling Hurt

What do I do if I feel hurt inside and I'm also afraid to tell others about it, but other people think I'm ok on the outside? I don't want to talk to a teacher about it though, but if people found out they would think that I'm annoying.

I would like to begin by first assuring you that you are definitely not the only one feeling this way. Many people are hurt or sad inside, but act like they're fine outside. If you aren't comfortable talking to adults, that's fine, but still understand that here at MAK we have amazing counselors that you shouldn't be afraid of talking to, especially since they respect confidentiality.

When coming up with this advice, we all agreed that when you keep your feelings inside, they can build up and become worse. I know from experience that by doing that, you just become lonelier, feeling like there's no one who'll ever listen. It might be a little scary, talking to your friends, but here at MAK, there are so many caring students. Open up a little, see who seems to understand or relate, and you might even find a new friend. Don't be afraid, God will always help you out.

One of the most encouraging verses I've ever found in the Bible is Psalms 27:13-14: "I believe I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be strong, and may your heart be stout; wait on the Lord." When you feel like all hope is lost, and there's just NOBODY that'll ever understand here on Earth (although I assure you there is), you've got to remember that there's God. He created you, loves you, knows every thought in your head, and wants you to be happy so so so bad. That verse can uplift you so much when you realize that God has a plan for you through all of this, and that itself is amazing. It's amazing that he has all these events, challenges, troubles, and happinesses planned out for you, they will all work out. When I feel like there's no hope, I pray to God, and he reminds me that there is. Talk to him, just like you'd talk to a friend who'd understand everything, listen to every word, and never say you're "annoying", because that's exactly who God is.

Psalms 50:15 and 55:22 are both verses in the Bible that lets you know God is always there for us: "Call upon Me in the day of trouble" and "Cast your burden on the LORD and He will sustain you (Psalm 55:22)." Even though God certainly does not want you to be hurt, also still understand that he is the only one that'll satisfy you. We'd like to end off with Romans 15:13: "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit."

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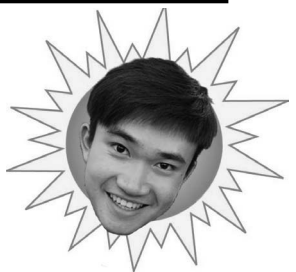
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Ray of Sunshine~



Whether you need advice, want to learn life hacks, or simply need a source of entertainment, Ray is ready to sunshine the dark clouds away!

Email questions to maksharkpost@gmail.com.

Isn't Disney World a "people" trap operated by a mouse?

- Suspicious Disney World Visitor

Dear Suspicious Disney World Visitor,

Yes. And not only that, Disney World (and DisneyLand for that matter) is operated by a manipulative, maniacal, and malicious mouse. Once, I waited in line for an hour for a private conversation with "Mickey Mouse," and his supposedly cute, squeaky voice was actually low and growling, interspersed with the giggles of a lunatic. I could see the evil, calculating glint in his freakishly large eyeballs. Speaking of freakishly large eyeballs, do you see the resemblance between Mickey and the wolf in Little Red Riding Hood? The abnormally large eyes, hands, and ears give his true wickedness away. Ever hear the phrase "May your dreams come true!" at Disney? Ever notice how every kid's "dream" is to buy an overpriced costume? Don't buy into his diabolical plan. It's a mousetrap, baby!

You may or may not know that olive is made from olives. As well as this, it is a known fact that vegetable oil is made of vegetables. Now observing the manner in which oils are named (by their main ingredient, in case you hadn't noticed), "baby" oil is most likely made up of babies. Although I am pretty certain that it is made of babies, I would like you to enlighten me in regards to what baby oil is actually made of.

- Disturbed Childhood

Dear Disturbed Child,

Most would say, simply, that while the terms "olive oil" and "vegetable oil" describe the ingredients, "baby oil" simply describes its use. For example, "cat food" is not made of cats, but it is rather for cats. However, the truth of the matter is that baby oil is made from babies. There is a secret factory in China that collects the tears of babies and of seven other privileged species (including baby koalas, kittens, baby elephants, and even baby Skittles) and uses them to generate a soothing oil. Don't worry it's very humanitarian (and Skittleitarian).

What would happen if pigs could fly?

- Flying Pigs Researcher

Dear Flying Pigs Researcher,

Have you ever heard people say "this will happen when pigs fly"? They usually say this because they believe it's impossible, but here's the truth. If pigs do fly, then you'll see the world in chaos, because all the things people have said will happen, will actually happen. Be prepared to see the impossible, my friend. One thing I'm personally rooting for is the encounter of Voldemort and the sparkly Cullen vampires. But hey, when pigs fly right?

What color would your unicorn tail be?

- Lover of Unicorns

Dear Lover of Unicorns,

It just so happens that I am a therianthrope. While I would prefer a rainbow-colored tail embedded with edible Skittles (so I can grab a snack in emergencies), my unicorn tail is actually just plain burgundy.

What new facilities do you want to see in the new high school building?

By: Ann King



Anson Shyu (9): “Bedrooms for sleeping during study hall.”



Chrystal Gilpin (9): “Swimming Pool.”



Leo Hsieh (10): “Swimming pool, Christine Wu’s radio, and a photo booth.”



Catherine Chen (11): “Swimming pool and moving walkway.”



Nathan Lee (10): “Trampoline basketball court with ice cream dispensing helicopter that shoots coffee flavored ice cream every time you make a shot.”



Jessica Kong (11): “Ice skating rink and a swimming pool.”

Dennis Huang (9): “More basketball courts.”



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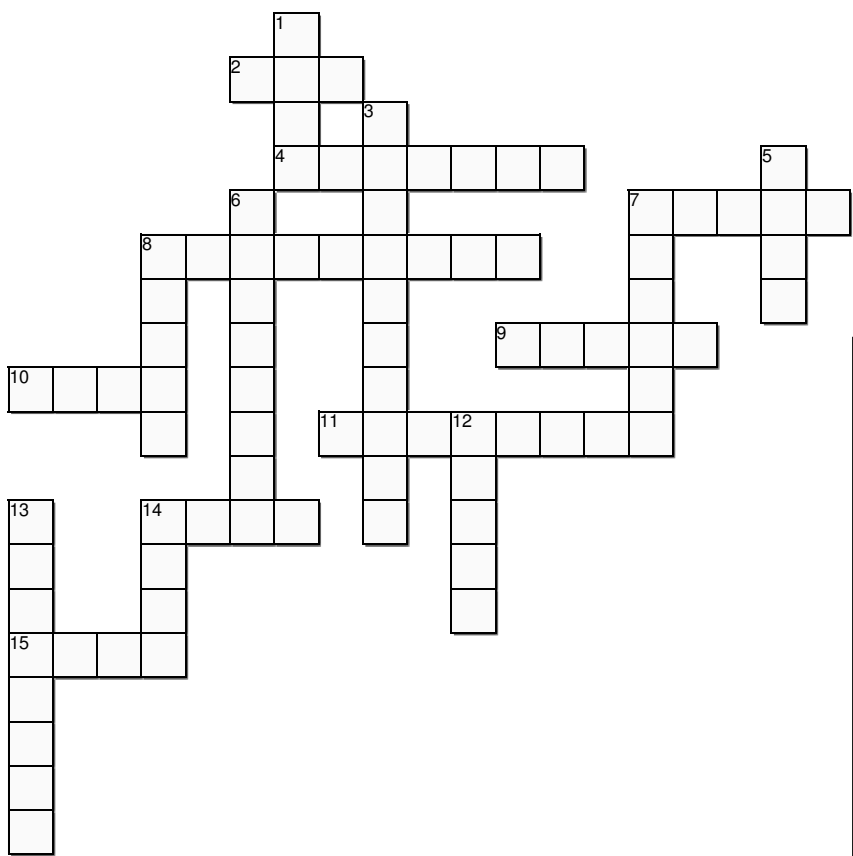
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Valentine's Day Crossword

By: Evan Hsu



Across

- 2. Who loves us all the time in heaven?
- 4. Japanese folding art
- 7. Person who shoots arrows through hearts on Valentines
- 8. Very sweet brown treat
- 9. Valentine's favorite shape
- 10. People send or give a _____ to you
- 11. Month?
- 14. Pepper _____ Candy
- 15. I _____ you!

Down

- 1. 4 letters of hugs and kisses
- 3. Opposite of boyfriends
- 5. Valentine's favorite color
- 6. Number of the month
- 7. A small red fruit with a stem and a seed inside
- 8. Everyone loves this on Halloween too!
- 12. Flowers that smell nice and have various colors like red
- 13. I put this candy on a stick in my mouth.
- 14. 'Be _____'!



By: Jessica Kong



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To establish a medium for school news and to create an outlet for expressing student ideas.

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