



The Blarney Stone

VALENTINE'S DAY

February 2022 Valentine's Day Edition

VALENTINE'S DAY CANDY GRAMS ANNOUNCEMENT

Although I usually work in the background of the newspaper, I'd like to announce the newspaper club's candy grams! This Thursday and Friday of February 2022, the Newspaper Club will be selling Valentine's Day candy grams at lunch, which will be delivered on Valentine's Day. Make sure to stop by during your lunch hour to purchase one! Additionally, the money made from the candy grams will go back into the newspaper club to help fund the program!



Written By: Grant Naese

VALENTINE'S DAY GIFT GUIDE

Getting a gift for the one you love and care about can be both an easy yet difficult decision. You want to get something to show you care yet you aren't sure if they'll like it. Of course the obvious go to gifts on Valentine's Day is chocolate, stuffed animals, or roses, but what if who you're getting a

gift for doesn't like certain things? Well the obvious first step would be figuring out what the person you are getting a gift for likes. If they don't like roses, find out what their favorite flower is. If they don't like chocolate, figure out what kind of sweet or candy they do like. Figuring out what kind of things they like should make figuring out what to get easier. Though no matter what you get, it shows that you care about the person and want them to know.

Written By: Michaela Richey

VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT



Materials:

- Colored Paper
- Scissors
- Glue Stick
- Stickers, pompoms, or other adornments
- Optional: Ruler and pencil to measure

Step 1: Cut out beard, nose, hands, hat, heart, and boots

Step 2: Decorate hat with embellishments

Step 3: Glue hat on beard and nose over hat

Step 4: Glue on heart with hands and boots

Step 5: Magnet to fridge, use as decoration, or give as gift



Written By: Sarah Hoehn

HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

In ancient Rome Emperor Claudius II realized that single men made better soldiers than married men with families and wives at home. He outlawed marriage for young men. Then St. Valentine arose, he would wed young couples in secret. When his operations were discovered, he was sent to death by the emperor. Legend is that he fell in love with his jailer's daughter and sent her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression still used to this day.

When Pope Gelasius declared February 14th St. Valentine's Day, it



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quickly became associated with romance for the fact that it was the beginning of the bird's mating season. At the end of the 14th century writing "valentines" to significant others became a wide-spread way of showing love for someone they cared about.

Nothing really changed about Valentine's Day till the 18th century, that's when exchanging small gifts (mostly chocolates or other small trinkets) between two people became notable. Americans started the tradition of home-made Valentines at the end of the 18th century when Esther A. Howland began making small cards with red ribbon and colorful pictures.



Written By: Riley Piazza

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

This month's teacher interview was with our Chemistry, Anatomy, and Physics teacher, Mr. Annis, also known as "Mr. A". Mr. A grew up in Joliet, Illinois. He attended Joliet Catholic Academy High School which was at the time, an all male school. In high school, Mr. A participated in baseball. A fun fact about Mr. A is that his favorite color is blue. His favorite animal is a dog, and his favorite restaurant is "Enrico's" which is an Italian restaurant located in Frankfort, Illinois. When Mr. A is not teaching, in his free time he

loves to walk his dogs and spend time with his wife and grandchild. After high school, Mr. A attended Western Illinois University in studying Health Education and Athletic Training. Mr. A decided the way he could combine the two together was to become a teacher.

Right after college, he got a teaching job at Kankakee High School. He taught at Kankakee High School for 40 years. Mr. A says his favorite teaching memory was for the Medical Academy Exam when they went to the International Museum of Surgical Science. After teaching at Kankakee High School, Mr. A retired and took the opportunity to teach at Bishop McNamara. Mr. A's advice he would give is "Don't quit".



Written By: Leah Wilson

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

This month's athlete spotlight is junior and Bishop McNamara varsity wrestler, Luke Christie. Luke started his wrestling career at a young age, greatly inspired by his older brother who found much success in wrestling. Although he grew up playing other sports, like football and baseball, wrestling has always been his passion. He played

football freshman and sophomore year in addition to wrestling, but this year, he decided to put all of his focus on his "true love" (as it is February), wrestling.

Since Bishop McNamara has a small wrestling team – three people – he has been a varsity wrestler for all three (will be four) years of high school. He says he loves his teammates, and that they are able to encourage and support each other to a full extent, and that he gets solid one-on-one time with his coaches to learn and grow as an athlete. In the future, he hopes to wrestle in college, no matter what level it may be at. Best of luck to Luke and Bishop Mac wrestling!



Written By: Ava Brosseau

PARENT SPOTLIGHT



Remember when you were young, and someone would ask "what do you want to be when you grow up"? Back then, it seemed to be an easy question to answer. Fast forward to high school, many students are undecided. Is college the answer? Maybe you're considering a trade or working at the family business. There is no right or wrong answer. It is okay not to know "what you want to be when you grow up", but we can set goals and prepare for our future after high school. To help us learn more about life after high school, I have interviewed random parents of our students to learn what profession they are in, why they chose that field,

HOME OF THE FIGHTIN' IRISH



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and get their thoughts and advice to help guide us after high school.

In our first installment, I interviewed Mr. Jeffrey M. Levesque. Mr. J. Levesque explained that he works for CSL, in which he makes medicine from human plasma to treat rare diseases. His position is in the sterile filling department where they put medicine into vials. Mr. Levesque assists with process improvement to reduce errors and maintains the equipment to enhance efficiency.

When asking Mr. J. Levesque what his plan was after graduation, he stated, "I never really had a strong plan for what I wanted to do. But I found a good job and worked really hard to be good at what I do." He stated that he did in fact have a bachelor's degree, but it did not fit into his current field of work. Mr. J. Levesque's advice for our students, "Really think about what makes you happy and make a plan to get there. Whatever you do, do your best, always work hard and you will be rewarded".



Written By: Nikolas Acevedo

BAND SPOTLIGHT

This month the Blarney Stone interviewed Noelle Yartz, one of the seniors in the band.

1. What was the first instrument that you learned? **Flute**
2. When did you start playing in a school band? **4th grade**
3. Why did you join band? **I thought playing an instrument would be fun and**

and I wanted to play an instrument like my neighbor who professionally played violin.

4. What is the best part of playing in band? **Making friends that had the same interest in music.**
5. What instrument would be the easiest for a new member? **Saxophone or Percussion.**



Written By: Sydney Burnett

POMS



The Bishop McNamara poms season is coming to a close after placing 7th in IHSA sectionals, only 0.63 points away from qualifying for IHSA state. They are now preparing for IDTA state, which they qualified for not only once, but twice. Their hip-hop routine is currently undefeated in the 1A IDTA hip-hop division. The poms team would like to congratulate Jazmine Beck on winning all conference by showing positivity throughout practices and showing a great amount of showmanship. They would also like to congratulate Evita Martinez on winning a rising star this past Saturday in Villa Grove for showing an immense amount of showmanship. They would also like to thank all the guys who

participated in Guyrish. If you missed Guyrish this year, you can find a video on the Mac Poms Instagram and Facebook [@bishopmacpoms](#).

Written By: Lucy Mast

GIRLS BOWLING RECAP



Bishop McNamara's girl's bowling season has come to an end. The girls came in 4th place at the All-City on January 31 at Brookmont Bowling Center. Congratulations to the following seniors who participated in the 2021-2022 bowling season Anna Beckman, Elizabeth Worby, Kaela Heavener, Natalie Blanchette, Noelle Yartz, Sara Fernandez, and Sydney Burnett. The overall team score was 1767 and the top bowler was Anna Beckman who bowled a 164. On February 5th the team competed in the IHSA Regionals at Channahon Lanes. Congratulations to the following seniors Kaela Heavener, Sara Fernandez, Anna Beckman, Elizabeth Worby, and the following freshmen Tori Torres, Hailey Neill, and McKinley Parchim who participated in Regionals. Thanks to Mrs. Babbitt for coaching this season.



Written By: Hailey Neill



Submitted photo
Robbie Gould and Carter Levesque at Bears camp.



February 2022 Sports, Music, & Extras

NFL RECAP AND THE SUPER BOWL

As we wrap up an amazing NFL season, full of many ups and downs, we are finally down to the final two teams. This season was full of unprecedented occurrences, many that we want to forget about and move on from, as well as many that might help improve the NFL. This was the first time we've seen a 17 game NFL. This led to a very exciting end of the season, with many teams battling to get in. There was also another team added into the playoff picture, making it 7 rather than 6 teams. Many people did not enjoy this, because it made the first round much less competitive. We saw many exciting, high-scoring games throughout the playoffs. This featured many game-winning field goals. After it was all said and done, we are now left with the final two teams, the Bengals and the Rams. The Bengals completed one of the best rebuilds of all time, flipping their 4-11-1 record into a 10-7 record to go along with a Super Bowl run. The Rams are currently the favorites to win the Super Bowl, but you can no longer doubt the Bengals. This is a very exciting time in the NFL season as everyone looks forward to the Super Bowl, as well as awards.



Written By: Carter Levesque

LOCAL BAND CONCERT

On Saturday March 5, two local bands will be putting on a show together. The headliners are, Antisocial Club and New World. Doors open at 6:00 P.M. admission is free.

Antisocial Club is fronted by guitarist/vocalist Ace and bassist/vocalist Jade. They have friend James LeRoy on drums but are currently looking for a drummer.

New World is composed of bassist Liz Coyle, drummer Jathan Coster, lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist Ben Bilderback, backing vocals and lead guitar Edrick Jefferson, and keys player Blake Hartell.

ANTISOCIAL CLUB BAND INTERVIEW

1. When was the band formed? We formed the band in summer 2021.
2. Are all the original members still in each band? Ace is the only original member.
3. Who are your influences? Mainly Nirvana and White Stripes. We also draw from Jim Croce, Pearl Jam, Alice in Chains, and My Chemical Romance.
4. What gear are you using? Ace uses either a Squier Affinity Jazzmaster into a DigiTech drop, Nux brownie, Danelectro FAB chorus, and an Outlaw Effects Germanium Fuzz.

From there he goes into a Hartke HD 50. Jade uses a Sunshine Guitars P-bass into a Fender amp.



Written By: Walter Krause

POSITIVITY QUOTES

"But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation."

- Psalm 13:5

"I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding."

- Philippians 1:9

"Love never gives up."

- 1 Corinthians 13:7

"Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins."

- 1 Peter 4:8

"There's a love that only you can give, A smile that only your lips can show, A twinkle that can only be seen in your eyes, in my life that only you can complete."

- Unknown

"Sunsets are proof that endings can often be beautiful too."

- Beau Taplin

"To fall in love with yourself is the first secret to happiness."

- Robert Morley

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Extras

CUTEST CELEBRITY COUPLES

Love is in the air! Some of the cutest celebrity couples are breaking the internet as they are getting “shipped” (put together) by fans. Recently, Zendaya and Tom Holland, leading actors of the famous *Spiderman* movie series, just officially confirmed they are dating! With their characters’ romantic moments in the movies, fans have theorized their love for each other in real life, soon enough, the rumors and theories became true, and their fans couldn’t be happier. In the old, but attention-grabbing Netflix series, *The Vampire Diaries*, two of the main characters, Elena Gilbert, and Damon Salvatore, had an intimate connection throughout the entire show, but didn’t start to date until the fourth season. The actors that play Elena and Damon, Nina Dobrev and Ian Somerhalder, then started to date in real life. With the love between Nina and Ian in real life and the love between their characters on the show, fans believed they were meant for each other and would last a lifetime. Unfortunately, the two broke up but continued to date on the show, and fans were devastated. The two acting stars are in happy relationships, but still, show love for each other as well. Fans of the two continue to ship Nina and Ian even though they are no longer in love. Who is your favorite internet couple?



Written By: Emma Acevedo

WORD SEARCH

H	C	U	P	I	D	U	C	N	I	E	S	S	L
T	H	D	I	R	H	E	S	H	N	G	D	R	V
A	F	N	N	S	R	U	Y	B	U	N	N	R	O
L	R	E	K	P	E	T	E	H	A	N	W	O	E
F	C	I	H	E	E	U	T	R	E	H	H	M	L
R	O	R	E	S	S	D	A	I	H	E	I	A	L
I	R	F	P	R	M	P	L	R	H	A	T	N	F
E	L	Y	E	E	R	R	O	G	O	R	E	C	I
N	H	O	D	W	S	C	C	P	D	T	O	E	O
D	A	B	E	O	F	O	O	I	R	L	P	C	I
S	P	C	R	L	R	I	H	I	E	V	O	L	P
H	P	I	W	F	E	A	C	E	R	M	W	O	D
I	Y	E	A	R	P	C	O	U	P	L	E	S	W
P	D	N	E	I	R	F	L	R	I	G	P	O	K

- FRIENDSHIP
- RED
- HUGS
- HEART
- CHOCOLATE
- COUPLES
- CUPID
- WHITE
- ROMANCE
- PINK
- FLOWERS
- BOYFRIEND
- LOVE
- GIRLFRIEND
- HAPPY

February 2022 Extras

SUDOKU

6	4			3				7
5		1		7		9		
							1	
		4	9		8		6	
	8				3		2	
			4					
4			1	5	7		3	
2		8	3				4	
7	5						9	6

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OTHER CREDITS



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