

THE BADGER PAUSE

Volume 18, Issue 1

14155 Claridon Troy Rd.

September 2022

HELLO TO HOMECOMING 2022

by BP Editor Void Spanos

The Homecoming dance this year will be on October 15th from 7:15-10:30 pm. The theme is “Vegas Nights”, with the color scheme being red, black, white, and purple. There will be some casino games to play on the upper deck around the dance. Additionally, there will be custom casino themed items for the King and Queen. This theme was actually supposed to be last year’s, but because of Covid, we didn’t have HOCO one year, so instead we have this theme now.

For those interested in helping out with decorating, it will take place all day long on Friday October 14th (which is NEOEA day, meaning students have the day off), and they are always willing to accept more student council members. They meet in room 203 on Wednesday evenings. You can join the student council google classroom with the code odghark.

Tickets to the dance are \$25 each (HOCO court gets a \$5 discount). All OLR forms and past-due student fees must be paid before tickets can be purchased. The DJ is Burning River Entertainment, and there will be a photobooth. Homecoming is being held in the cafeteria, and arriving students should enter the building through door number nine. If you have any questions about homecoming, ask Ms. Green or a student council leader(Chelsey Hare, Kenny Winter, or Johnny Heiden). Hope to see you there!

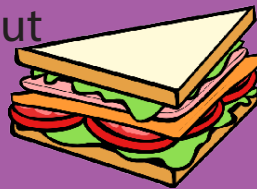
Read about
book reviews on
page 8!



Flip over to page 9
to learn about
cartwheels!



Find the scoop about
lunch on page 3!



Take a break at the
playground on page 9!



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electivies on
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Discover what soup
you are on page 10!



OPINIONS FROM ADMINISTRATION

by BP Staff Writer Lance Moffre

A new year, a new school, and a plethora of questions to be answered. While we occasionally hear the thoughts from the Administration of the school, the new year and circumstances have given more of a reason to ask them for their opinions on various things directly. Instead of tediously asking every staff member for their thoughts, it was decided to simply ask Mrs. Giel the set of questions that had been previously prepared. (The black text was the question, the purple text contains Mrs. Giel's answers)



How did you decide on the rules in the student handbook?

The Code of Conduct was established during previous administrations and approved by the Board of Education, however each year our administration and the Board of Education review the Code of Conduct. The final approval comes for the Board of Education.

While some of it was arguably standard, I'm still curious as to the specifics of its creation since the handbook is quite a lengthy read.

The new handbook has moved to one document to make it easier for families who have students in multiple buildings. While it is lengthy because it is in one document many of our families find it to be a useful tool of information that they can utilize as needed.

What are some things that you would like to see with the outdoor classrooms and PBL spaces?

We are fortunate to have the ability to provide these additional learning spaces for our students to collaborate with their classmates. Many classes and students have already begun utilizing these spaces. Within the next couple weeks there will be additional opportunities for our teachers to learn more about these areas and what they have to offer including our 3D and vinyl printers.

How was the dress code decided?

The dress code is an area in the handbook that has evolved over time and is reviewed yearly by all administrators.

Why no hats or hoods?

There are a couple reasons that we have these rules and they include:

School is practice for life - since employees are often not allowed to wear hoods at work, then this same expectation applies to the school as well;

In addition, there is a safety aspect regarding a student wearing a hood, as due to the inability to see a student's face while a hood is being used, it can be difficult to identify who they are or if they attend the school. Staff must be able to see the profile of a student's face to ensure quick identification;

Finally, we do not allow hoods and hats at school because it makes it difficult to know if a student is listening to music with airpods or cheating during a test, as it is hard to see their eyes.

Are you seeing any challenges with all grade levels being in a single school?

I think it is learning to work and operate together in one building. We have and continue to adjust as needed transition times for students in the halls to minimize the opportunities that student groups would be mixed (example: HS and MS class exchange). Some of this cross traffic is unavoidable for example students arriving on campus from ACC and Middle Students returning to their classes after lunch.

Thank you to Mrs. Giel for answering these questions, in spite of the irregular manner that they had been asked. These inquiries hopefully taught you something useful.

New Kitchen, Same Food?

by Haiden Welling BP Staff Writer

With the new Pre K- high school building, students have many new things to take advantage of such as the PBL rooms, the outdoor classroom, and a new kitchen. The kitchen is much larger and has many more features compared to the old school's kitchens. And yet we are being served the same food as last year. Students believed we would be getting new things to eat because everything else this year is new. I talked to a part of the kitchen staff here at Berkshire to find out if we will be continuing the themed food days, what's different about the new kitchen compared to the old, and if we will be getting any new food options this year.

Last year, we had themed food days that students could depend on to know what would be for lunch that day. There was, "In a bowl" Monday, Mexican Tuesday, Pasta Wednesday, "On a Bun" Thursday, and "Flashback" Friday. Students could tell that they would be having pasta every wednesday and could make the decision to buy lunch that day or not. It was very helpful for people to be prepared with money or with a packed lunch depending on what was being served. Luckily, will be continuing with that this year, hopefully with more variety than prior years.



There are two different serving spots for different options of food.



The new kitchen has two check out lines to help the lunch line move faster.

The old kitchen was small with very limited room to make things. Only limited appliances and tools for basic cooking were provided. The new kitchen has many new and exciting features such as more serving bars, a pizza oven, and a panini press. The kitchen staff said, "We would like to start using the new features eventually." since they are still getting used to the new kitchen. While they haven't started using them yet, we are hoping to see it soon.

Have you ever wondered how much of the cafeteria served food they actually make? The kitchen staff has a very hard job, making enough food for every student in time for them to eat it, then cleaning everything up and doing it all again the next day. Asking them to make everything themselves is just plain impossible. But what do they make themselves? A few things actually. If you don't want to buy whatever is specially made for the day they have a few options that are served daily, like turkey wraps and salads. Which are actually made by them. So along with everything they have to prepare, heat up, and serve, for the themed food day, they have to hand-make enough salads and wraps, for the kids who don't want what they are serving.

While we haven't seen much change in the cafeteria yet, we are most likely going to see it in the future. With some things remaining the same, and some things hopefully changing for the better I think everyone's Berkshire lunch experience will be improved from last year. The themed food days are staying. So are many good options, and we are all hoping for a few new foods to go with the new school experience.

Highlighting Electives

Women's Studies is one of the many electives that is offered here at Berkshire High School. I'm not even sure if you've heard of it; maybe you have, when your guidance counselor was listing off electives you could take to fill up your schedule, and maybe you decided not to take it without fully knowing what the course includes. Well, that's what I'm here for. As a former Women's Studies student, I decided to interview Ms. Bomback, the instructor for Women's Studies.

My first question was, "Can you give me a brief explanation of this course?" Her response: **"It is a course meant to increase awareness of women's experiences throughout history and across disciplines." Women's Studies in my perspective goes along with this, as it is filled with examples of Women's experiences and important female role models throughout history.**



My next question: "Why do you think Women's Studies is important?" She replied with: **"Because there is no other space or class where women's experience can be the center of history."** A classmate of mine stated that some people were wondering why Women's Studies was necessary, and Ms. Bomback explains that a lot of content you will learn in this course was not previously known to them, as it not commonly explored in conventional history classes. For example, I had little to no information on who Ruth Bader Ginsburg was before taking this class, despite her efforts

as a Supreme Court Justice in the past and what she accomplished for the women's movements, specifically throughout the Second Wave of Feminism.

I then asked her, "Who should take this class?" Ms. Bomback said, **"Anyone interested in challenging their own definitions of women and their place in society." Another important note I would like to add is: just because the title is "Women's Studies", it doesn't mean only girls can take this class; it's for anyone who wants to learn about history and the advances of history through women's perspectives.** To go along with classwork and give readers a "sneak peek" into the type of classwork, I asked Ms. Bomback, "What is your favorite activity to have students do?" She answered with, **"The daily notebook entries, because I find them inspiring and hopeful." One of the class's main focus is entering a daily journal entry answering a prompt or writing opinions about a topic to review.** I, personally, really enjoyed doing these last year; they were really exciting. On that topic, Ms. Bomback says her favorite topic to discuss is quote, **"The real women who have had to sacrifice their own comfort for the progress of all women."**

My final question for Ms. Bomback was, "Who is your favorite female figure?" She had to think for a second (as there are so many options to choose from), and said, **"That's hard, it's changing every day, my answer for today is Kathleen Hanna, the lead singer of the band Bikini Kill. As former students know and current students will learn, Kathleen Hanna is a popular singer and activist as she helped encourage the making of Riot Grrrl zines, which are short, art-based magazines. She encouraged women to step out of their comfort zones and express what they felt."**

So next time, consider checking the box next to Women's Studies, or maybe explore a similar course in college.

by Evelyn Milano,
BP Staff Writer

When Berkshire finally made the move to the new building, there were many mixed responses from students. Some liked the switch to a new building and new equipment and others didn't. As we all know, there have been quite a few traffic issues with the new building, such as limited parking, and the long drop off and pickup lines.

But some students seem to not mind the traffic. "I like how we can be late and get away with it," says Theo Nelson. There have also been some comments on the interior design of the building. Students have said that the design has no character to it and has too much purple. Some also dislike the small cafeteria mainly due to the fact 9-12 eat lunch at once. There has also been talk about the bell sounds. Many comments floating around on how the bell is loud and annoying.

The School Layout: Yay or Nay?

by Robby Sanislo, BP Writer



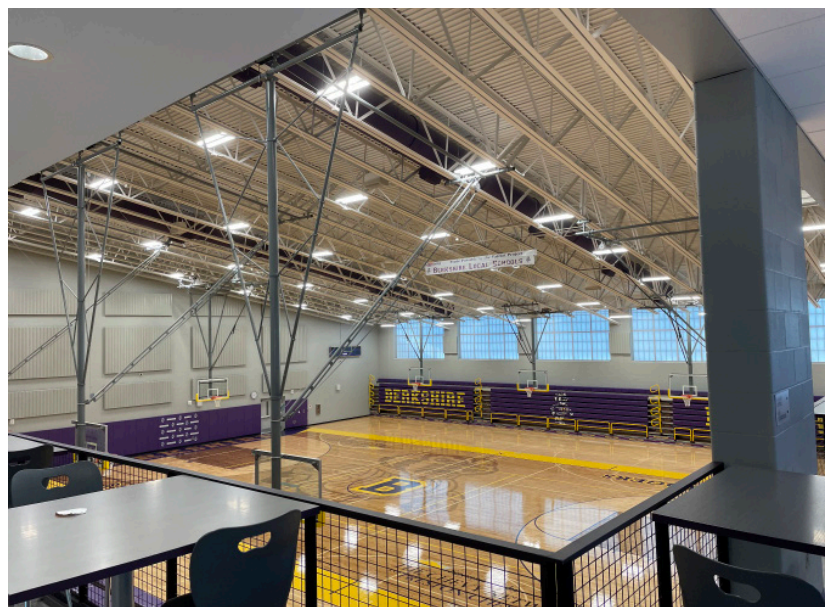
Students Haiden Welling and Mia Pirichy on the stage in preparation for the fall play.

Along with many negatives, there are some positives to the change. Some people like the new building especially the clean and new classrooms, big gym, and many student seating areas. When asked if she liked the change to the new building Teagan Hughes said, "Kind of. I don't like the little kids." Along with the new building we get a new football field. Although it is not done yet, it will be nice having a new football field. Many people have made positive comments about the new auditorium with a big new stage, more seating and new lighting.

"I like my office. It's very spacious," said staff member Maryalice Horton. "We could use more rooms for outside people to come in for meetings." Overall, the new school may take some time for people to get used to. Lots of walking, different school wings, unfinished parts. But hopefully everyone will have a great year at the new Berkshire school building.



The new football field while under construction



The high school gym has already hosted many events

Roe & Behold

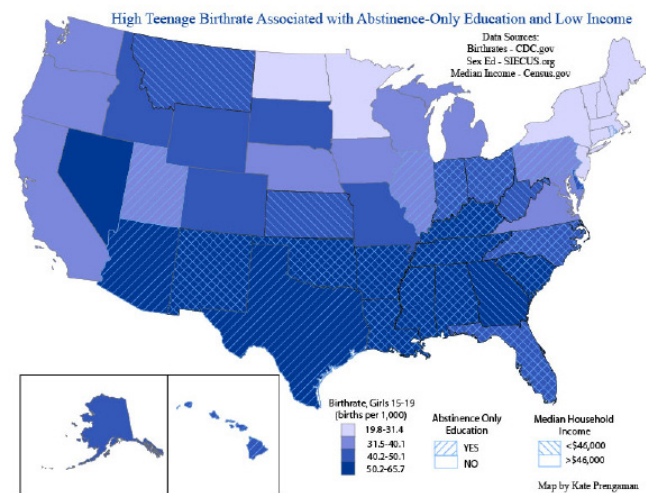
Roe v Wade is a court case from the 70's where defendant Roe was trying to prove the Texas law, making abortions illegal without doctor permission, was unconstitutional. The court agreed. Unfortunately, this was overturned in June of this year. What does this mean for people? This decision affects more than abortions. According to National Women's Law Center the decision allows the states to prohibit the purchase of contraceptives to those under 16, including condoms and different forms of birth control. For adults, the state has the power to limit the sale of contraception to be through licensed pharmacists only. It may also limit the right to intimacy and sexual privacy, making the possession of explicit materials illegal. IVF and other fertilization treatments could also be at risk, because if multiple viable embryos result they'd all have to be implanted, making it far more riskier and more expensive. To combat this doctors may try to limit the number of embryos produced but that also provides risks which may necessitate the procedure be repeated over and over, resulting in mental, financial, and physical strain.

The right to marriage could also be taken away for same sex and interracial couples due to precedents mentioned in the ruling. It also affects family life, such as allowing close relatives to live together, such as grandmother and grandson, something that was, and could be again, deemed illegal. More than those seeking an abortion could very well be affected by this harmful decision.

In some states right now the penalty for getting or performing an abortion is worse than the penalty for rape. Think about that. One is a consensual, potentially life saving, medical procedure. The other is sexual assault. Here in Ohio, a 10 year old girl who was raped had to travel out of state to get an abortion. The current Ohio law states that abortions are illegal after 6 weeks, unless it is life threatening. Exceptions are not made for birth defects, rape, or incest. There are many cases where people in life threatening situations have been denied access. It is important to note that most people don't even realize that they are pregnant by the 6 week mark. Statistics show the number of Ohio abortions is going down, but it isn't zero. Keep in mind that making it more difficult to get an abortion does not prevent them from happening. It only prevents them from happening safely.

The Badger Pause newspaper staff recognizes and respects the diversity of opinions related to the information in this opinion piece. The staff welcomes the submission of an opposing point of view from its student readership that can be published in a later edition.

There are many issues surrounding the ban. Most people who believe abortion should be outlawed do not acknowledge the risks pregnancy may present for the carrying person. They also ignore how bad the US foster system is. Putting more children in unsafe environments does not make you pro life, it makes you pro-birth. For some people, giving birth can be unsafe or deadly, for some it may be a reminder of trauma, and for some they cannot financially or mentally support a child. If you are biologically female and are against abortions don't get one. If you biologically male and are against abortions get a vasectomy, it's usually reversible. If the idea of regulating "men's" bodies is uncomfortable, check yourself. People should have control over their own bodies, the government, and the opinions of others should have no say. Abortion, just like other medical procedures, is a form of potentially lifesaving healthcare.



Source: <https://www.thelancet.com>

Risk factors and things to look out for, along with how to handle an unwanted pregnancy, and other sexual health information are all important to know. Planned Parenthood is a great resource for the future. Sexual health, while important, is not something I've learned or needed to know much about due to my lifestyle. However I can educate myself on risk factors and causes of unwanted pregnancy. According to Sex Education Comprehensive, Ohio is one of the few states that has no accuracy or comprehensive requirements for the sex education curriculum, and most schools teach abstinence only. This has proven to be ineffective, looking at the graph teen pregnancy rates are relatively high in Ohio. Abstinence only education doesn't work. Students need comprehensive sex ed. People will have sex even if you tell them not to. It is important to educate people on the importance of consent, how to prevent STD's/STI's, and how to prevent pregnancy. Abstinence education doesn't address this. Comprehensive sexual education is just as important as Algebra and chemistry, and it might prove to be more useful for some. Continued on page 8

BERKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL'S FAVORITE MEMORIES

by Evelyn Milano, BP Staff Writer

As many of you now know, the new K-12 building here at Berkshire features many new additions we didn't have at the old school, including the impressive big gym, the beautiful auditorium, the new cafeteria, and of course the unforgettable see-through doors. However, there are some things we had at the old school that you just can't replace. I sent a poll out to the high school, asking you to respond with your favorite memory from the old high school to bring a little nostalgia back to our minds and prepare for the new memories in the new building to arise.

I also interviewed some teachers, including Mr. List, Mrs. Ryks, and Mrs. Maske. They shared some memories like, "Using my chalkboards" from Maske, Mrs. Ryks said, "Because I came from Ledgesmont, seeing all the Berkshire kids get along with Ledgesmont kids the first day we merged was my favorite memory". And while I'm sure it wasn't exactly a pleasant memory, one of Mr. List's most memorable moments was "A bomb threat years ago, when we all had to gather in the gym."



Mr. Guthrie, Mrs. Guthrie, and Mr. Higgs excitedly waiting for the school to re-open after the gas leak.

Some other responses submitted to the poll included: "My office and all the posters and things I had on the wall!", from Ms. Green. Junior Mia Pirichy says her favorite memory is participating in the play "The Game's Afoot", while Senior Erin Palattella says hers is, "All of the paintings on the walls". The paintings, especially in Mrs. Koler's room were also one of my favorite things about the old school, and this was actually a popular response because it was perhaps the most unique aspect about our school.

Another popular response was "football games". It's no surprise that Berkshire football games are always hyped up, with our "Bleacher Creatures" showing their badger pride with themed games and of course, the famous games against our rival, Cardinal. While the new field is no doubt a game-changer (see what I did there?), the old field definitely holds many memories from years before as the classic home field.

Perhaps some of the most memorable (and funny) moments was the Berkshire Jr./Sr. High School malfunctions. I'm sure we all remember the infamous gas leak. Man, what a time. I really enjoyed standing outside in the cold as it started to rain for almost an hour while my phone was inside still. That was really fun, and I'm sure so many kids would probably agree with me. Another malfunction that is actually my favorite memory was the Art room pipe breaking a couple years ago. I remember walking through the hallways while the whole school smelled like...well, I'm sure you can guess. Kids plugging their noses and teachers fanning out the rooms while opening windows in the middle of winter was definitely memorable.

Some honorable memories include: the painted ceiling tiles, the hangouts in the lobby after school, the random things people stuck on the walls, the pep rallies, poor seventh graders tripping in the hallways and getting lost, the world renowned Badger bugs, Mr. Guthrie doing the Jack Sparrow run during my Algebra II class sophomore year, my 2nd block English class (shoutout Mrs. Koler), the wonderful views from the second floor, and of course all of the teachers, staff, and students who made these memories possible. Let's all make the most of the new school these next years and make some hilarious memories that maybe someone else will write about in the future.



Mrs. Koler's favorite class during a daily prank.



BOOK REVIEWS

Sweet & Bitter Magic - Adrienne Tooley

Tags: Fantasy, Magic, Romance, LGBTQ+

Rating: 9.5/10

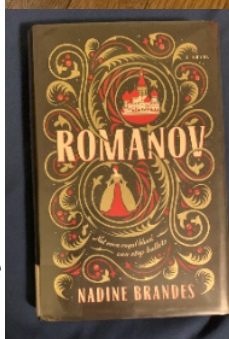
A fun and sweet book about magic and love. It has a great enemies to lovers (more like reluctant allies, but still the same vibe) story that builds nicely without overtaking other elements of the story. I thought the way magic works in the story was super interesting. For instance, I really enjoyed the idea of magical sources. This book is very catered to my specific tastes, so people who don't share my tastes might not love this book as much as I did, but I think it's still a solid read for almost anyone. It has action, romance, family conflict, mystery, and much more. I would definitely recommend this book.

The Key to You and Me - Jaye Robin Brown

Tags: Romance, Comedy, LGBTQ+, Equestrian

Rating: 6/10

A funny love story filled with horses and learning to drive a car. It's pretty well written, but the lack of communication between the characters can be frustrating at times. Several conflicts could have been resolved if characters had just talked to each other. One of the main characters rides dressage, so many parts of the book are about that. It is explained well enough that you don't need to already know about dressage before reading, but if it doesn't pique your interest, parts of the book can be kind of boring. It's still a fun read overall though. I might recommend this book to someone if I thought it fit with their interests.



Romanov - Nadine Brandes

Tags: Historical, Magic, Romance, Character Death

Rating: 7.5/10

A twist on the tale of the exile and eventual death of the Russian royal family. It is deeply sad, which those who are familiar with the Romanovs' exile will already know. It is not all depressing though, and the magical elements are fascinating. The idea of spell ink was a concept I enjoyed. The way the author blends historical elements with magical ones makes this a fantastic read. If you aren't interested in history, this might be a bit of a drag, but the characters are compelling enough that you'll still probably enjoy it.

by Void Spanos,
BP Editor

Continued from page 6 Something else to be aware of in daily life is your phone. According to Kaiser Health News, the government has tracked when people go to sexual health education centers, such as Planned Parenthood. It has also been discovered that some period tracker apps sell your data. Apps like Flo, the most popular app for tracking menstruation, also allows you to keep track of when you have sex, fertilization windows, pregnancy, and other things. This well known company has paid a settlement for selling data to Facebook and Google, despite being a supposedly private app. Over 79% of health apps share data in some form. The period tracker app 'Ovia Health' states in their terms of service that they may sell your data. The government can use this to see who gets pregnant, and whether or not miscarriages or abortions occur, completely invading peoples privacy. Some apps that have been proven safe are 'Stardust Period Tracker', a comprehensive women owned app, and "Spot On" an app made by Planned Parenthood. You can also use the app to track birth control. Remember to be safe online, especially with your personal health.

Another thing to be cautious of is Crisis Pregnancy Centers. These state funded agencies can appear like abortion clinics from the outside, but actually they do not provide accurate information. These clinics often force patients to watch pro-birth videos, look at pictures, and provide them with false or inaccurate claims. They do not provide health services aside from ultrasounds, but they have been known to lie about how far along patients are to discourage them. There are over 130 of these in Ohio alone, and over 6 million of our tax dollars go to them yearly. According to Planned Parenthood, they and organizations like them get no government funding. One of the most popular Crisis Pregnancy Centers is Birth-right. Be cautious, and if you or anyone you know is struggling with an unwanted pregnancy, or other sexual health questions, it is important to make sure you research your options and be safe. Roe V. Wade being overturned has many harmful consequences, and it is important for everyone to be aware of them.

Sources: <https://sexeducationcollaborative.org>
<https://nwlc.org> <https://www.health.com>
<https://constitution.findlaw.com> <https://khn.org>

editorial by Mia Pirichy,
BP Staff Writer



THE PLAYGROUND POLICY

by Mia Pirichy, BP Staff Writer

Picture this: you're at a brand new school, everything is cool and exciting. You look out the window and see an awesome new playground. After a long day of hard learning you want to release your energy. The problem? You don't have recess. Unfortunately this is a sad reality for kids grades 5 through 12. When asked most fifth graders reported "It's bad that we don't have recess. We focus better if we get our energy out". Some other notable replies were "It sucks" and "It's depressing". "It" being the absence of recess.



Evelyn Milano graciously demonstrating the zipline on the playground.

When the high schoolers were asked, they said they'd prefer a break over playground time, but regardless it seems everyone would benefit from some free time. Personally, I agree with the 5th graders, that playground seems awesome. From a cool zipline, an epic purple spinny thing, to a bunch of slides and swings. I, a Junior, would also appreciate a recess.

To be fair, it is understandable that highschool students do not receive a recess, but a break during the day would be helpful. Maybe an open campus would be beneficial. An open campus is when you can have downtime or lunch and can leave to get food, or simply just to sit outside. This would be beneficial because it provides a break and some fresh air for students. At the very least, 5th and 6th graders should have some form of recess or exercise. It improves their focus and creativity. When the Journalism class went out to the playground they really enjoyed it. What do you think? Who should have a recess?



Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Maxwell doing a cartwheel for her students.

Have you ever been in a class, doing work quietly, or maybe sleeping, when you all of a sudden see your teacher do a cartwheel? It gets everyone's attention, which is most likely the intent. Gymnastics in class aren't unseen at Berkshire, just enough to surprise everyone around but also not be shocking. Do teachers doing cartwheels really keep kids focused and on their toes? Maybe you've seen cartwheels as part of a reward system.

Classroom Cartwheels

by Haiden Welling, BP Staff Writer

Mr. Higgs was the first teacher I talked to who admitted to doing gymnastics in the classroom. He said, "I have actually done a cartwheel for my class, though it was as a reward. I think it was for kids turning things in on time." Would you work faster or harder to get things done if you got to witness your teacher cartwheel in the class? If you saw a teacher suddenly flip across the room, would you be more inclined to focus? I know I would be. I've seen maybe one or two cartwheels from teachers. One time I was barely paying attention and all of a sudden I saw Mr. Guthrie landing a cartwheel. I was instantly focused on what he was doing and I was fully awake after.

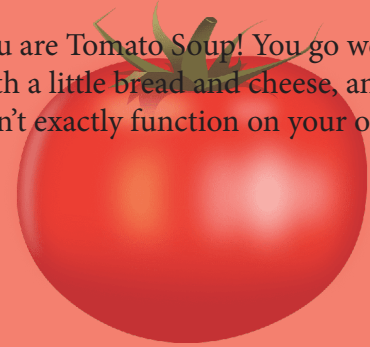
If you've never heard of a teacher cartwheeling in class, you're missing out on seeing, usually serious authority figures, getting attention by flipping across the classroom. It works way better than you would think it would when it comes to getting kids to listen. If you're sitting in class, pay better attention and you might be lucky enough to see someone cartwheeling in the classroom.

Whether the thought occurs to us when we're lying in bed or skydiving, I'm sure we've all asked ourselves the question, what soup am I? This quiz is for you to answer that gnawing need to know if you're a chicken noodle soup or more of a simple tomato soup.

1.) What is your favorite color out of these options?
A. Red B. Yellow
C. Brown D. Green
2.) How irritating are you?
A. Somewhat B. Not at all
C. Pretentious D. Funky
3.) Which of the following books are you most familiar with?
A. A Very Hungry Caterpillar B. Charlotte's Web
C. The Cat in The Hat D. Pete the Cat (series)
4.) Where would you like to visit out of the given options?
A. Spain B. China
C. France D. Greece
5.) Which of the following foods do you enjoy the most?
A. Tomato B. Chicken
C. Onion D. Peas
6.) What's your favorite season of the year?
A. Autumn B. Spring
C. Summer D. Winter
7.) Which of these caffeinated beverages is your favorite?
A. Coffee B. Tea
C. Soda D. Caffeine Free
8.) Which writing utensil do you prefer?
A. Pen B. Pencil
C. Feather D. Markers
9.) What is your favorite holiday?
A. Halloween B. Thanksgiving
C. Easter D. St. Patrick's Day

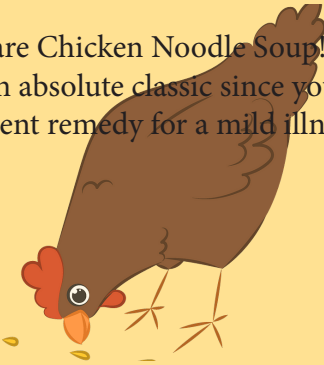
If you answered mostly A's :

You are Tomato Soup! You go well with a little bread and cheese, and don't exactly function on your own.



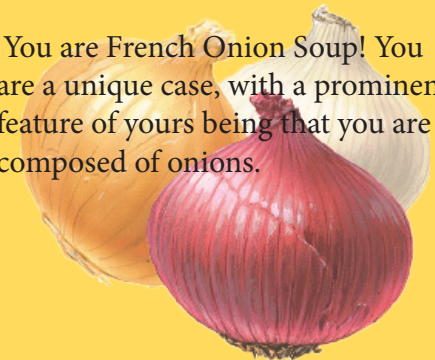
If you answered mostly B's :

You are Chicken Noodle Soup! You are an absolute classic since you are a decent remedy for a mild illness.



If you answered mostly C's :

You are French Onion Soup! You are a unique case, with a prominent feature of yours being that you are composed of onions.



If you answered mostly D's :

You are Split Pea Soup! You are a curious thing, with most people not liking your contents aside from a very rare few. Those people and you are two peas in a pod.



If you happened to answer all of these questions in a manner that doesn't have one of these answers :

You are a Nondescript Cereal! Since you aren't worthy of being called a real soup, you are instead a makeshift soup created to compete with the classic soup.

What Soup Are You ?

by BP Staff Writer Lance
Moffre