WINTER 2024-2025 EDITION

The Spartan Speaks

AMITY ORANGE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Top Stories

Important Dates

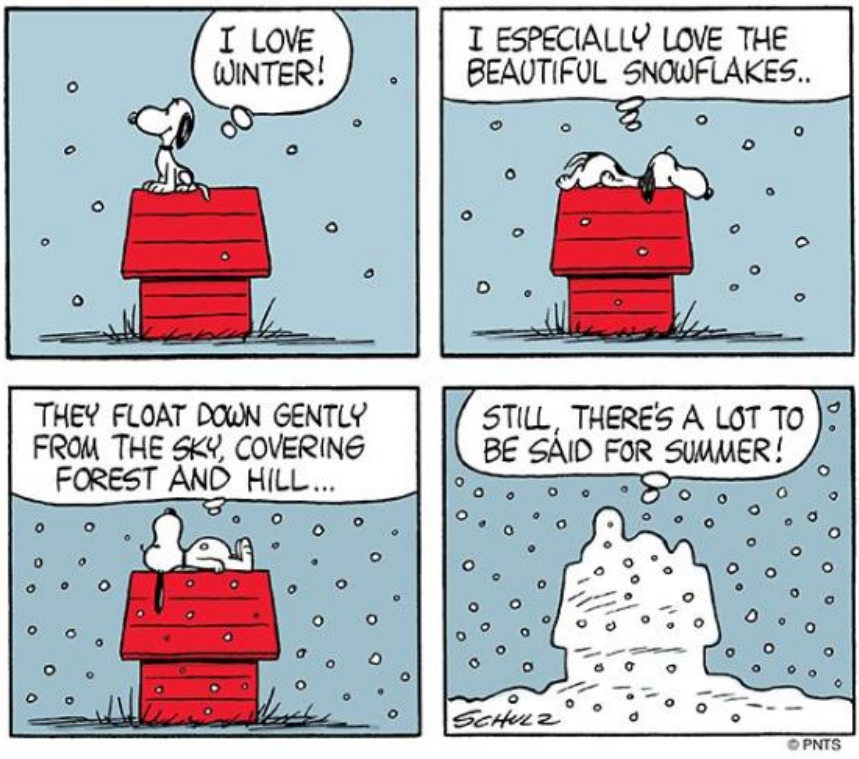
Early Dismissal:
March 13

AMSO Hockey Field Trip: April 2

Early Dismissal:
April 3

Spring Recess:
April 14 - 18

Snow… How does it form? … Page 2
Staff Spotlight ..... Page 3
Teacher Spotlight ..... Page 4
Artist of the Month ..... Page 5
Winter Art Gallery ..... Page 6
Superbowl ..... Page 7
Winter Word Search ..... Page 8



Snow… How does it form?

Introduction

There are not many requirements that need to be met in order for snow to form. The temperature must be below or at freezing and water vapor must be present in the atmosphere. Snow is not water, but rather the crystallization of ice that can be found in clouds.

Snow Variants

Depending on circumstances in the atmosphere, snow may be composed of different textures and different things can be created. For example, snowflakes are groups of ice crystals that fall directly from clouds. If a snowflake falls through dry air, the outside will dry up and as a result the snow particles will weaken. Snow formed by these snowflakes are heavier and more compact. The other type of snow happens when the atmosphere it is falling through is slightly warmer, causing the outside to melt and soften. This type of snow is typically the type used for things like making snowmen or to play in.

Written by: *Myi H. (Grade 7th)*

Where are you from?
Ms. Neubauer grew up in Groton CT, but is currently living in Trumbull CT, though she did go to Springfield College in Massachusetts.

Why did you decide to be a school counselor?
"I like helping students in a way that's going to impact their life…. I think there's more to school than just academics." She also states that she believes in supporting and encouraging students, not just in their school lives.

What are your hobbies/interests?
She says that she enjoys reading and thrift shopping and likes the book "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd. She also owns a photo collage of pigs called "Extraordinary Pigs" by Stephen Green-Armytage. With even just a quick glance around her office you can tell that she likes animals, she has many decorations of various types of animals on posters, as wall decor, hung up or sitting on her shelf or desk.

What's your favorite food?
Eggplant parmesan

What's your favorite color?
Green

What's your favorite sports team?
Mets

What's your favorite TV show/movie?
"Fast Times at Ridgemont" by Cameron Crowe.

What kind of music do you like?
Country music, "Remedy" by Zac Brown Band.

Do you have any struggles with school counseling?
"No, I love my job." Ms. Neubauer states that she doesn't have any issues with her job as school counselor and, as stated before, just wants to encourage and give support to students.

What's your favorite part about working at AMSO?
She likes working with the other staff and says that they're very interesting.

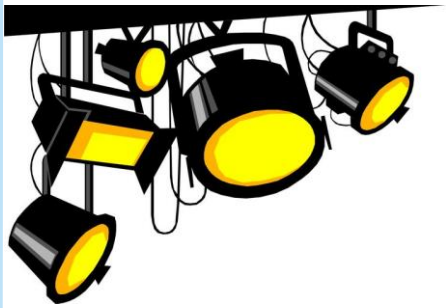
Is your job hard?
Yes, it's hard to deal with everything as there's 193 students in 7th grade. I'm constantly busy but I'd rather spend more time talking with students.

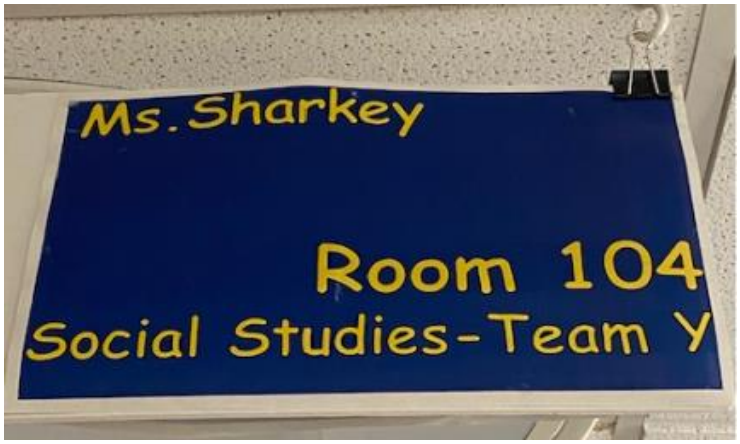
Are you a dog or cat person?
When asked this question Ms. Neubauer says she prefers cats, but likes chickens as a species overall.

Do you do any activities outside of school?
She says that she likes to cook and be active, walks with her husband and going to the gym as well as visiting family, as she has two kids, who are 30 and 28-years old.

Have you ever taught in different schools/places? If so, how many?
Ms. Neubauer says that she was an undergraduate in education, and "dabbled" in substituting as part of it.

Interviewed and written by: *Myi H. (Grade 7) , Luiza V. (Grade 7), and Lauren K. (Grade 7)*

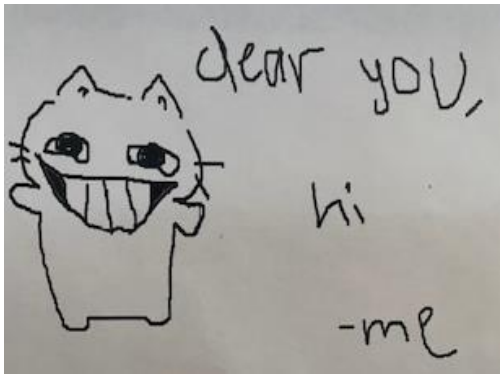




Today, I had the pleasure of interviewing Ms. Sharkey, a Social Studies teacher on Team Y. Ms. Sharkey is incredibly accomplished; she attended Yale University for both her bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology. After completing her studies, she worked in a psychiatric hospital, applying her psychology knowledge. Before becoming a teacher, Ms. Sharkey also worked at the Kellogg Environmental Center, where she was responsible for gardening and maintaining the trails. A few surprising facts about Ms. Sharkey include her past as a member of an all-boys soccer team. At the time, there was no girls' team available, so she played with the boys. Another surprising fact is that Ms. Sharkey was one of just 20 teachers in the entire country selected for a special trip to Iceland and this year she is going to Japan to do a field study. Finally, Ms. Sharkey has a huge collection of Cars memorabilia!

Written by: *Anthony C. (Grade 8)*

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Artwork created by: Kyleigh W. (*Grade 8*)
AMSO Art Club

Winter
Art
Gallery

hi!
XD

BAD

Mr. Sigma

Super Bowl LIX

As you all know the Super Bowl is on February 9th, 2025. The game is good in all, but the main thing is the food. My favorite food on Super Bowl Sunday is pigs in a blanket and buffalo wings. Some other common foods are sliders, nachos and pizza. The second best part is the game itself. The first round will consist of the (2)Bills vs (7)Broncos, the (3)Ravens vs (6)Steelers, and the (4)Texans vs the (5)Chargers. The Chiefs are the number 1 seed and will play the lowest seed left in the next round. The first round in the NFC will consist of the (2)Eagles vs (7)Packers, the (3)Bucs vs (6)Commanders, and the (4)Rams vs the (5)Vikings. The Lions are the number 1 seed and will play the lowest seed left in the next round. I think the Super Bowl will be Lions vs Chiefs. The 3rd most important thing is the halftime show, which is headlined by Kendrick Lamar. Whoever makes it to the Super Bowl, just remember to enjoy the game with friends and family.

Written by*: Anthony C. (Grade 8)*

Winter Word Search

e s h h s s h o l i d a y s k h s g
k e n a o n n h h e u z n u l q p s
f c k o n t o o s l e d d i n g r n
s w h z w u c w w a r d q v r w e o
w a i r k b k h b m t t f h l b s w
e i n a l b a k o o e r s j r t e f
p l n t i s i l a c a n e k b w n l
l m f t a c t q l h o r f e i q t a
j q u d e w e m h i i l d x n i s k
n i n k s r c f a t a w a i q m n e
h v a g r i n c h s l u n t n q m g
t o y o m e r z i c i c l e e g k a

Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

snowboarding
hot chocolate
christmas
snowflake
hanukkah
sledding
holidays
snowball
presents
snowmen
winter
icicle
skiing
grinch
santa
snow
tree
ice
fun
elf

Created by Musa Khan and Anthony Coppola using Word Search Generator on