

# THE WVA TIMES

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Welcome to the first issue of the WVA Times!



## Science Bowl Team Assembles

By: Yashika Chugh & Jenna Park

The first and most important thing going on in the school right now is the Science Bowl! For people who don't know, the Science Bowl is an event where different schools

compete against other schools in different science subjects like physics and math, earth science, life science, and chemistry for a prize and scientific knowledge! Students have been selected for different subjects and will compete against different schools. Wish them luck, and hopefully we will be known for something useful! More information on page 2!

# First WVA Science Bowl

By: Derek Zhao

This year, WVA is participating in a yearly regional science bowl to test the scientific knowledge base of their students. "The BPA Regional Science Bowl is a fast-paced academic competition that tests student knowledge in all aspects of science: math, geology, chemistry, energy, physics, environmental science and more. The competition is round-robin, double elimination style and lasts all day on the campus of the University of Portland."

The 2023 WVA Science Bowl qualifiers were held on Monday, November 21st, 2022 after school. Out of the 26 students, there were a total of 21 attendants. 5 of which qualified for the advancing team which will be representing WVA at the regional science bowl during May.

The Science Bowl lasted a total of 1 hour and had 4 categories: Biology, Chemistry, Space, and Physics.

The total scores were added up and the top 5 advanced onto the regional team. The WVA Science Bowl was given using the "Kahoot" platform. Although mainly being used for everyday classroom fun quizzes, Kahoot rewards speed and accuracy using multiple choice questions. The faster you answer, the more points you get, the slower, the less, if you don't answer or are incorrect, you get zero points. In general, each Kahoot question gives you 800 points maximum (only if you answer instantly), and more points are given for longer "streaks" of correctly answered questions. Each Kahoot quiz included 20 questions, with a 30 second timer on each one.

The final team representing WVA at the BPA Regional Science Bowl is the following: Anika Malyavanatham, Anshul Mantri, John Kong, and Derek Zhao. They will be competing at the regional competition on January 28th, 2023 on the University of Portland Campus.

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## Secret Santa Enchants

**By: Yashika Chugh & Jenna Park**  
**Edited by: Will Ferguson**

We just had the Secret Santa event right before Christmas Break, and we can just say that it wasn't exactly what we expected. We knew that some people probably wouldn't like their presents, but appreciation for the gifts was surprisingly low. According to a poll we took, only about 33 percent of people liked what they got for their gift.

Even though Secret Santa wasn't everyone's favorite, the rest of the day was a huge success. Many people enjoyed the food. There was also a movie (Home alone) and some people decided to play chess and video games.

While the gift giving may not have been the highlight for some, others greatly appreciated their gifts and the truest gift seemed to be the time we all had together. Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season!

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## Newspaper Club Needs You!

**By: Yashika Chugh & Jenna Park**

We are also hiring people to join the Newspaper Club. It is free, and you can work in free writing, news and updates as a journalist or a photographer, or the games category. We could also have an additional editor. You can also volunteer if you don't have time to join the newspaper club permanently. You add the club to your class page by registering through your school account. We look forward to hearing from you!

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## Covid Updates

**By: Yashika Chugh & Jenna Park**

This really isn't related to school, but if you don't know there are some new viruses going on, such as RSV, and an Omicron variant called XBB1.5. So, please, wear masks in school and be careful. XBB1.5 is a very fast-spreading variant, so make sure that you are following some protocols.



## **Spirit Month Info**

**By: Yashika Chugh & Jenna Park**

During the month of January, we will have Spirit Month, where on every Thursday of the month we have a "spirit day." We may be having a fifth spirit day, but that's only if the first four spirit days are a success. The Spirit Week schedule was: Color day (Jan 12), Twin day (Jan 19), Crazy Hair/Hat day (Jan 26), and Pajama/Bring a plush day (Feb 2).

# Short Stories and Poetry

## The White Mountains

By: Ryan Zhang

As Magnus walked along Holloway Avenue, he saw something unusual. Completely white mountains. This was unusual because the nearest mountain was an hour from view. He hurried back home and looked it up. He scrolled through hundreds of links about the white mountains in New Hampshire, but none said something about white mountains in Wyoming. Finally, he saw a link that said: Completely white mountains were just constructed and are moving from one place to another. Here is a map of where they are right now and the story of the mountains. He clicked the link, and it took him to a website with lots of information about the white mountains.

The website told how Bawoon, the company that made the mountains, had constructed them, and showed diagrams of them. At the last page was a map of the U.S. A red dot showed the mountain's location near Huntington, Wyoming. Magnus lived nearby in Caesar, Wyoming. After reading everything, he came downstairs to eat dinner. He told his family about the white mountains. "I saw it in the news this morning. The news also said there's an opening tomorrow. I bought tickets for all of us," Magnus's mother replied. Magnus saw a signup board for shows on the mountains. All the times except the last show, the 10:30-11:30 show, was filled. Magnus's parents signed up for the show and started looking for the line to the mountains. After they found the line, it was so long that they started lining up. When they finally reached the front of the line, they were just in time for the show, and they took their seats. The president of Bawoon came, along with the

the head of the museum which organized the opening and a few others. The president of Bawoon started talking about how the mountains were designed. When they were about to leave, Magnus noticed a huge ditch, smoothly graduated in depth, beneath the mountains. Connected to the ditch were eight ditches much skinnier than the one under the mountain but much longer, made by the wheels hidden beneath the mountains.

The next day, all the news networks shared the same breaking news. The mountains started to drive back to their original place, the Bawoon headquarters in Orlando, Florida. Workers all over the US came to the tracks and ditches made by the mountains and poured concrete over the dirt. A hundred cranes lifted the mountains into a special, extra-large truck made by Bawoon. That afternoon, the news started to spread.

The big ditches and the ditches made by the mountains' wheels, were turned into a national pool. Water would pour into a pool, leaving through the tracks, going through filters, and finally into the next pool. A place was reserved at each pool for boats, and a few tracks were for boats to travel.

People started to come to the national pool every day. Some went there for vacation, some for swimming lessons, and even some went there to move. It became so crowded, Bawoon had to sell tickets to limit the number of people. A ticket had to be bought a day before.

A week after the national pool opened, the controller for the white mountains broke. It started to drive around crazily to different parts of the US, and nobody could seem to catch it. When it was about to reach Wyoming, the governor set up stations for nearby people to write their ideas to how to catch the mountains. Magnus's idea was to build eight tracks for the wheels, and connect the tracks to the ocean, and lure the mountain into the tracks. When the governor read the ideas, he thought Magnus's idea was the best idea.



The next day, the mountains entered Wyoming. Assigned people lured the mountains into the tracks. After that, they closed the opening. But the tracks weren't as strong as the mountain, so they easily broke through. The mountains plowed through the state, leaving everything behind destroyed. Much of Wyoming was spared. Other states, such as Nevada and Florida, weren't as lucky. Most of those states were in pieces. The next state, Idaho, followed suit, except it used iron. The mountains' wheels easily went over the Iron tracks.

The last state remaining, Oregon, decided to lure the mountains into the ocean. People first tried to pull the mountains away from the ocean, so the mountains would do the opposite and go towards the Ocean. The mountains headed towards the Pacific Ocean and drove into it. The mountains went underneath, then surfaced again, spraying water everywhere.

Its wheels spun, propelling the mountains away from the U.S. Because the wheels were so large, sand flew everywhere as the wheels moved.

The force of the ocean made the mountains go slow, so there was a sand storm along the Pacific coast. The sand storm lasted nine days. A huge sand wall blocked the ocean after the storms ended, and huge tsunamis caused by the sand the wheels threw into the ocean, started along the coast right after. The wall of sand protected the Pacific coast from being flooded. The tsunamis lasted two days.

After the tsunamis ended, the sand wall crumbled into the ocean. Trackers on the mountains said they were going toward Hawaii. After twenty days, the mountains would arrive, so Bawoon had twenty days to fix the controller. Just as the mountains arrived at Hawaii, Bawoon fixed the controller and made the mountains turn around. Because the National Pool was mostly destroyed, construction workers destroyed it completely and made the ground as it had been before it became the National Pool.

When the mountains arrived at the Bawoon headquarters, they were loaded onto the truck designed to carry them, and Bawoon removed their wheels. The truck drove to New Jersey, where cranes lifted the mountains into the Atlantic

Ocean. Because it didn't have wheels anymore, it stayed there.

The next week, a huge storm came from the Atlantic Ocean, covering the New Jersey shore. The water was so high it lifted the mountains and carried them inland. Once the storm stopped, the mountains stood on the beach. Bawoon decided to leave them where they were and use the mountains for hiking trails. The company built ridges, railings, resting spots, trails, planted trees and plants, and added snow generators for snow, on the mountains. They named the place Bawoon's Hiking Trails.

The problem for adding snow was snow melted into water. The water took advantage of the trails being below the ground, by turning them into rivers. The next day, all of the trails were huge rivers, and the rivers were starting to flood nearby villages. The villages were near the ocean, so they built walls to block tsunamis, but the rivers broke through the walls.

Bawoon dug trails to the ocean, but the waters easily broke through. New Jersey was mostly flooded, and some

of the water even reached Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New York. The governors of Connecticut, Virginia, Ohio, Vermont, and Maryland teamed up to block the waters. Workers from all over the states built a strong wall to block the flood. Just before the flood was about to reach Ohio, the wall was finished.

The water couldn't break the wall, but mathematicians calculated after another month, the water would overflow. The reason the water was endless was because the snow generators kept generating snow, so Magnus wrote to the governor of Wyoming to send a helicopter to the top of the mountain, grab all of the snow generators, and destroy them. After the mission was completed, the rest of the states sent giant vacuums to quickly get rid of the water and dumped the water into the Atlantic Ocean.

After the water was vacuumed, the mountain was hung upside down near the Vermont part of the wall, destroying villages around the wall. The crash was near a Bawoon campus, and leaders there took a truck there to secure the mountain. The truck drove toward San Francisco, where a bigger campus built for the mountains



stood. During the trip, a huge earthquake caused the mountains to fall into a huge hole. In the hole, the mountains stretched and expanded. A day after, the mountains turned to the side, and cranes lifted them out. The mountains were much bigger now, but with two more trucks, they were driven towards the campus in San Francisco. There, they were lowered near the campus to cool off and to measure their new size. After the campus was rebuilt to fit their size, the mountains were moved onto the campus. They were still hot, so Bawoon dug a huge ditch beneath them and filled it with water. Soon after, a huge earthquake stretched over the Pacific Coast. The mountains fell into a hole, stretching and expanding. Some of the mountains inside were burned, filling with magma. Finally, a fissure opened, and the mountains burst out. Unfortunately, the rest of the ground was too strong, and they couldn't come out. They stayed and became known as the Cascade Mountain Range.

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## Aliens!

By: Ryan Zhang

Alex was running down the hill while her brother Conner was counting with his eyes closed. They were playing hide and seek. She hid in a bush and waited. Then, the leaves rustled, and Conner appeared.

"Found you" he said.

He was about to say "now it's your turn" when they heard a rumble. They thought it was from their new neighbors and they were curious about what was happening. They ran uphill, through a pond, past a thick row of trees, and saw a clearing. Instead of their new neighbors, they saw a group of aliens! They were so busy building a small cabin, they didn't notice the twins. An alien clicked a button. The entire cabin changed into a hundred super-powerful tanks. The twins looked at each other and quietly, they ran home.

On the way, they passed a huge building. It hadn't been there before they ran toward the aliens. Then, they saw it was a fort. The same web-footed antenna-headed aliens were pushing all those tanks into the

gate. The moat was filling up with hundreds of alligators and pythons inside. Hundreds of the same kind of aliens were guarding from above. Twenty-five aliens were guarding the gate. The twins ran and finally reached their house. Their mother was in the front yard. Seeing the twins freaked out, their mother asked them what happened. Breathless, the twins said, "We were playing hide and seek. We heard a rumble. Thought it was the new neighbors. Saw aliens. Preparing war."

Their mother laughed. "Nonsense. Come in for dinner and we can watch the news." But when they turned on the news, every channel had the same huge news. And they all said Breaking news: Hundreds of sightings of aliens! All witnesses said they were preparing for a war. Come to 99 Winson Avenue to report if you've seen them. Their parents jumped, but the twins said, "We need to go to 99 Winson Avenue. We've seen them."

Their parents ran to the garage, and they all got into the car. They drove to 99 Winson Avenue but there was a huge line. They had all seen

the aliens. There were a lot of other places with sightings, too. California, Oregon, Florida, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Kansas... those were only a few places. There were even sightings in Asia. Then, a man came out. He said, "The line is too long! Please grab a form, fill it out, and put it in one of the machines over there." Soon, the twins got a form, filled it out, and went to the long line and waited. Then it was their turn. They put the form in the slot and left. That day, More and more people came. Day turned into night. But people kept coming. Scientists gathered more information. The scientists figured out why the aliens were there. "They are preparing for war with us. They like earth. Earth has lots of trees and trees are their favorite food. They want to keep the food for themselves," Professor Hugo said on television. Then there was fire. A bomb was firing from the aliens.

Alex screamed. She screamed so loudly she woke herself up. It took her a few seconds, but she finally realized it was only a nightmare. Then there was fire and the same aliens from her dream was starting it ...

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# A Slow Day

By: Albert Liu

Today has been very slow.  
It's strange how the slowest days are the worst around here.  
It was the dream to have slow days.  
A fast day is like a war zone.  
Things break.  
Cups.  
Plates.  
The fast days are bad.  
There's nothing good about the short days.  
On a slow day, the world is calm.  
On a slow day, everyone is quiet, respectful, polite, and thoughtful.  
On a slow day, it's like we're normal. It feels like the way life is  
supposed to be.  
It's not that it's boring.  
You can't trust a slow day.  
Don't trust a slow day.  
One wrong thing, and a slow day changes.  
You can't trust a slow day.  
Slow days are the worst.

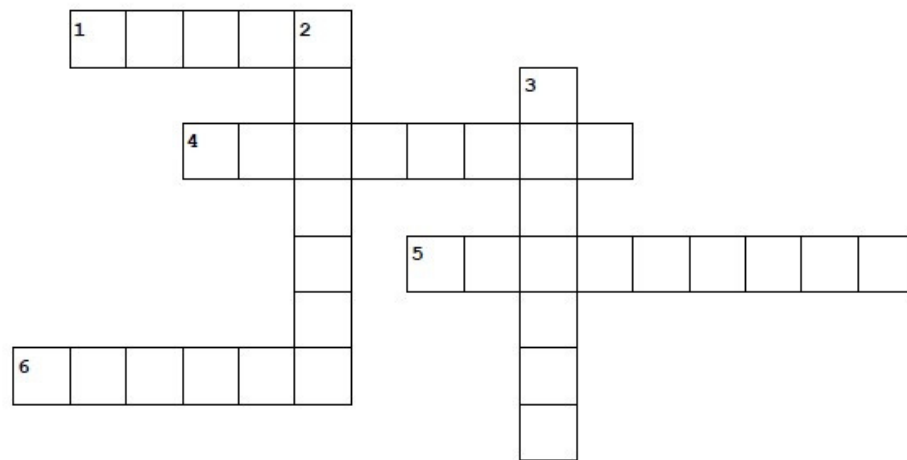
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# Teacher Facts

By: Roushil Satta

This is a crossword puzzle with teacher facts from all sorts of teachers from over the school. Remember, some don't teach a subject. For example, Nurbaya is there. None of the names include a Mr/Ms/Mrs. Also the teachers name could be their first or last name, or even a nickname (Yo teach) . What does this mean? Get creative! It's fine to ask the teachers.

As a special bonus, whoever submits a finished crossword puzzle to me first gets a special prize!



## Across

1. Work is fun, feels bored during break time
4. Has made a short film on 3 continents
5. Did theater in high school
6. Good at Balancing work-life

## Down

2. Was published in the oregonian
3. Just got engaged