

THE WINDSOCK

'LIVING THE MEME': MR. GARDNER AND THE MEME WALL

BY: EFFIE EADS

If you've ever walked in the hallway that passes the Art and Music classrooms in the last year, you have probably seen the meme wall. The meme wall is between the lower door to the art room and the entrance to the band room. I asked Mr Gardner about the history and purpose of the meme wall. He told me that he started the meme wall soon before the concert at Christmas 2021, because he had found a meme about a concert and wanted to share it with the school. He originally posted memes only occasionally, but he ended up putting a meme up every day. When I asked him about why he started the meme wall, he said, "I'm always looking for ways to build band culture and have fun jokes to share. Memes seemed like a natural way to go, and it's fun because anyone who has some background in music can usually understand them."

Mr Gardner says that he normally finds memes on the internet, sometimes sent from friends or from online groups. Sometimes he makes his own, or students make memes for him.



He welcomes memes from anyone in the school, and will happily accept submissions (school appropriate, of course) emailed to him at gardnern@emhs.net.

When asked what he would do when he ran out of room on the current meme wall, Mr Gardner said this. "I have a lot of space on the meme wall.... [When] I run out of space, I'll just move to the opposite wall, and it'll turn into more of a meme gauntlet or corridor. Some students have suggested that I just do a single row of memes that will eventually encircle the entire school. While I do enjoy the metaphor of the band taking over the entire school, I don't think the other teachers would appreciate my encroachment on their space. In any case, I'm currently living the meme!"

THANKSGIVING: HOLIDAY FEAST, OR HORRIBLE BEAST?

**BY: EMILY ROGERS
AND NORAH GERLACH**

You love it or hate it. Thanksgiving can be one of the most controversial holidays. On the one hand, it's a holiday feast when you're eating lots of great food and spending time with family. But on the other hand, it can be a sort of "beast" when you think about the bad events that happened on this day in history. It's a reminder of the genocide and theft of native Americans and their land caused by the arrival of North American settlers. Indigenous people in America call this day a "day of mourning" because of everything that went down. Although there are many reasons to dislike the Holiday, there are also benefits. For some people, it's a time when family can come together to celebrate and give thanks.

One student says, "It's a good time to pause and reflect on the things we are thankful for in our lives." This is a good point; we can always stop and be thankful for things while enjoying what we love. So what do you think, Holiday, about giving thanks? Or a bad memory of horrible events.



Image courtesy of canva.com



Image courtesy of the Indigenous
New Hampshire Collaboration
Collective



Image courtesy of canva.com

THE SHOP

BY: RYAN HOSTETTER

If you have ever been to the area behind the robotics lab, you know the value of the shop. It's an ample space of pure imagination with countless materials and tools to create almost anything. This area is ideal for a shop class (which we don't have), but the Robotics club/classes have made it our own. The shop has been key with the exponential participation in Robotics classes, with triple the number of students taking it compared to just three years ago. The singular classroom used for robotics is barely enough room for just the robotics one class. The second-plus year robotics students need the robotics lab as a key place to start creating at a larger scale. All soldering, woodworking, and lazer-cutting wouldn't be possible without access to the shop. The shop has a lot of value for the growing Robotics program and will also soon be home to the new MDS classroom.

WINDY AND SOCK: REPORTERS

COMIC BY: ELIZA WARREN AND CORINA JAHNE



THE WINDSOCK WARRIOR ADVICE COLUMN

How do I shoot my shot?

Well, this is a good question. Many people often get incredibly nervous when they think about asking somebody out. They think, “what if they say no,” or, “what if I say something embarrassing?” If this sounds like you, I only have this to say: stop being such a chicken, brother! Get in there like LeBron James, and go for that free throw! The worst thing that can happen is they say no and make fun of you with all their friends, no big deal. On the other hand, they might even say yes. If they do, well, I can’t give any advice on that. To see the answer to that question, simply go to the Windsock website and pay the subscription fee, along with the distribution fee, ink and toner fee, press tax, and printer fee. I hope this helps!

(The Windsock does not actually require subscription or any other type of fees or payments.)

To: Windsock Warrior

From: Anonymous Student

“What club should I join?”

Hey, I'm glad you asked such a riveting question! Even though there are several lively clubs in EMHS, I can really only give you one concrete answer. Let it be known that I have no bias! Possibly the most helpful club for your academic advancement would be the Windsock! Many people have joined Windsock and adore everything we do here, evidenced by the strong turnout of articles in each edition. Even though this question could have many good answers, Windsock triumphs over them all! Best of luck!

To: Windsock Warrior

From: Anonymous Student

**HAVE QUESTIONS
FOR THE WINDSOCK
WARRIOR?**



! SCO ANNOUNCEMENT !

On January 13, 2022, SCO will host a lock-in for grades 9 through 12. SCO has many fun activities in the works for the first high school lock-in the school has had in several years.

Cross Country Season Comes to a Close **By: Sam Castaneda**

Eastern Mennonite had cross country conference championships on Saturday October 30, 2022. Sadly, runners Ben Huyard and Jakob Gerlach were been sick. Ben has the number 4 spot on the team and Jakob has the number 1 spot. Even with the top runners out, the team pulled together and ran hard! Isaac Ott ran an incredible time of 18:07! Drew Holland ran a time of 18:27, Jedrek Sneary ran a time of 18:14, Samuel Castaneda ran a season PR of 19:24. And, even though Ben Huyard was sick, he ran an incredible time of 20:05. Noah Loker came in right after Ben with a time of 20:07. Isaac came in 10th place, Jedrek in 11th, and Drew in 12th. Isaac Ott and Jedrek Sneary were the top Sophomores in the entire conference.

After the conference meet, there was the state meet. The team was ranked as #2 in the state and was expected to be runner-up, even having the chance to win for the first time in 50 years! Eastern Mennonite had only won states in the years of 1971 and 1972. But, alas, sickness had struck the team and 4 out of the 7 top runners were either sick or recovering from being sick. Since our runners were not in top condition the team was not able to do too well. The team got 5th place. But, even with the disappointment there was some good. Isaac Ott was ranked 12th in the state for DIII. Erin Loker was 5th in the state for DII! Go Erin! The team will try next year to get a state title, but we'll have to see what happens. That is the latest on the XC news! Go Flames!

MONTHLY INTERVIEW

COLUMN BY: HANNAH DREGDER

CARSON CALE

This month, I interviewed Carson Cale, a member of the Varsity Girls Tennis team. Carson said that the season went well. She got a lot closer to her teammates, and they all improved significantly. Carson has been a member of the tennis team since she was in 7th grade, and her favorite part about tennis is playing doubles because coming together with her partner, Vivienne, makes it less pressure on herself and more fun. Carson plays tennis so she can get better, and she loves hanging out with her teammates during practice. With there only being six people on the team, they're all pretty close which makes it more fun. Her favorite memory this season was when they went to Kline's after a game and the team was extremely tired and somewhat delusional. They were at the point where no matter what someone said they would all start laughing so hard they'd end up crying. They were also singing songs like Gold Digger (clean version) and songs by the Haschak sisters.



SPECIAL QUESTIONS

Now, time for our special question! This month's question from Martha Wyse is, "If you could choose any mythical creature to catch and be your pet, what would you choose and how would you catch it?" Carson said she would choose Bibble from the Barbie Fairytopia movies because he is cute and brings her so much joy. She also said he would be a loyal friend. Carson would catch Bibble by simply giving him cakes and sweets because anyone educated on the wondrous world of Barbie Fairytopia would know that Bibble loves cake and he loves to eat. She would also let him take naps in her house. Carson is such a kind person that she wouldn't capture Bibble, but instead she would be nice to him until he decides to be her friend and stay with her.

Carson's special question for next month is, "Which planet in our solar system is your favorite and why?" which we will be asking Shawn Valentine.

DOES THE WIND KNOW WE CAN HEAR HER WHISTLING?

BY: MACKENZIE MILLER

Does the wind know we can hear her whistling?
Maybe she's distracted by the pattern in front of her
Tying the thread to the needle,
Carefully following the pins
Weaving through the fabric
Preparing herself to weave through the falling leaves

Does the wind know we can hear her whistling?
Maybe she's distracted by the wooden handle in her hand
The pounding of the hammer on the nail
Carefully placed fingers
Cutting lines and notches
Pounding on deep rooted trees and snapping thin branches

Does the wind know we can hear her whistling?
Maybe she's distracted by the rough sand between her toes
The harsh sunlight, willing the clouds to cover it
Timidly tossing waves
Salt air disrupting any pleasant thoughts
Frustrated with the ocean, tossing waves turn into hurling one

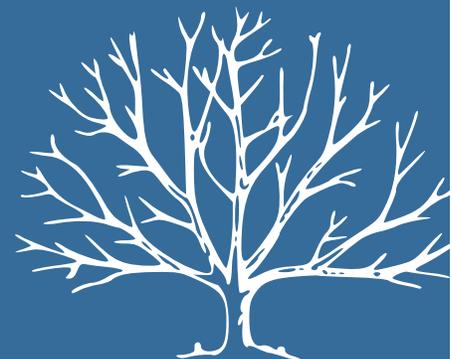
Does the wind know she's whistling?
Maybe she's distracted.
Maybe she's overworked.
Maybe she's frustrated.
Maybe it's a warning.

Maybe no one can explain why the wind chooses the leaves or the seas
She cries as the ground crumbles beneath her feet

Maybe I'm whistling.
Hoping someone will hear the warning.
Hoping the words don't stay unspoken.

The wind knows she's whistling.
The wind knows the storm will arrive anyway.
In all its glory,
The storm will arrive.

Can you hear the whistling?



CROSS COUNTRY PERSONAL HIGHLIGHTS

BY: KATE PIPER

The cross country team this 2022 season had a pretty good year. The boys team got second in conference and then fifth in states. On the girls side of things, Erin Loker came in fourth at conference and fifth in states! Here are some of the highlights and favorite memories from the season in the words of the team.

Martha Wyse (freshman): "Eating figs and jumping in the river after my first meet."

Zach Halteman (freshman): "Jakob and Isaac having a showdown to see who's better at football at the State meet team meal, and me and Isaac winning a bet that made Kate have to do baseball. :)"

Calvin Bixler (sophomore): "Fooling around with the team."

Noah Loker (sophomore): "I liked the long runs."

Isaac Ott (sophomore): "East Rock invitational- we won our first meet, lots of people got a PR, and we stopped for ice cream on the way back."

Sadie Groff (junior): "Getting to experience being part of a team for the first time. It was a great experience."

Erin Loker (junior): "Doing warm ups with the rest of the girls and saying encouraging words to each other before every race."

Paige Hutcheson (senior): "Getting off the bus at conference and Kate telling me I looked really bad."

This season, the team bonded in so many ways as a team of many different grades. XC is now officially over but as we are heading into the winter sports season, indoor track meets are just around the corner!



Image courtesy of EMS Athletics

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