



THE HISTORY OF MEMES

By: TJ Mullin



Image Credit: <http://dailyutahchronicle.com>

Have you ever seen an internet picture with a phrase on the top and bottom? If so, you probably saw a meme. Memes are usually funny pictures or videos that are shared through popular websites on the internet. They can be shared on YouTube or by email. Have you ever wondered where these internet memes came from? Richard Dawkins coined it in his book, *The Selfish Gene*, in 1976.

People started sharing images through emails. They also shared through usenets and message boards. Even newsgroups were used to share. This was the start of connecting online with others. The emails and usenets went through slow, but when message boards and newsgroups were used, it allowed people to share their memes really quickly.

The memes also made people posting them curious about what people had to say. They asked for feedback and comments, or opinions. People began to start talking and having conversations through posts by commenting. They had arguments as to why a meme was better than another, as well as sending links to other memes.

This allowed for new memes to come into action. One example of this is the *Hampster Dance*. It took many people's comments, ideas, and suggestions and mashed them into one video.

After this, memes started to get interactive in nature. People started editing meme videos to make them seem funnier than they were at the start. A popular example of this is "Something but Stingy copyright claims everything."

You may start seeing the same meme somewhere by a new creator, without it being edited at all. This is called **plagiarism**. Plagiarism is the act of stealing someone else's work and passing it off as your own. Doing this in school or anywhere else could result in getting suspended, getting expelled, or even going to jail!

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The search engines now make it easy to find the meme you want, even with obscure information on what it is. One meme might also evolve over time as people start editing it into special versions of its original self.

When people begin to view a meme, it can go viral, meaning many people share, send, and post it for many to see. Sometimes, if it is really bad, people will call it a "dead meme". This means that a meme is really bad and people call it **cringeworthy**. Cringeworthy means that you back away in disgust at something, or shrivel up in disgust.

Memes don't even need to be from the imagination. Some memes are already existing things with captions over it or something remixed into a song. An example is "*Seagulls*" by Bad Lip Reading on YouTube.

Memes are one of the easiest ways to connect with others, and they even can take over games if they are able to have custom player characters, or custom items.

SNOW DAY ACTIVITIES & OPINIONS

By: Cameron Poirier



Photo Credit: Joslyn Mota (above and top right)

On snow days we do many different activities. This probably would include sledding and watching television, but that isn't all we do. For instance, on Jackson Sylvaria's snow days, he feeds squirrels and has snowball fights! Many of us head toward the mountains where we ski or snowboard for the day. All these activities are so much fun, but what about a teacher's perspective on a snow day? Our awesome teachers probably spend most of their snow days grading our fantastic work, but that's not all they do! For example, Miss. Rogers bakes and plays with her dog!

While these are just a few examples of what there is to do, we also know that most kids and teachers use snowdays to catch up on sleep and rest. If you want to share with the GRAIS Rising Star what you do during your snow day off from school, go to: mrlestagegrade4.weebly.com and add a



comment under the "Contact" section! Have fun during your next snow day! Oh, I almost forgot, don't stay on your Xbox all day - go explore the white fields and hills and get outside!

BOOK TALKS

By: Ava Richmond



Image Credit: p2cdn4static.sharpschool.com

What do some kids love and some kids dread? You guessed it, **booktalks!** Below you will find many tips on how to become a pro at giving these astounding talks.

Are you shy and hate having an audience? If so, use the old "picture the audience in their underwear" trick. They should be the ones embarrassed, not you. On the other hand, do you love being the center of attention? Well, you're in luck, booktalks are for you!

Next, make your book talk boom! Be sure you include the title, author, and genre in your booktalk. Include details such as how the characters look, how they feel, the plot, and the setting. Don't forget to find and include the problem of the book as well.

Now you are ready to give the overall talk. Begin with a question to hook your audience. For example, "Have you ever heard of a man-eating horse?" Next, share the title, author, and genre with your audience. Then, tell your audience about the characters, plot, setting, and problem. Finally, end with a suspenseful cliffhanger. For example, "If you want to find out if they can stop this mad horse, read the book to find out."

Using these tips should make your booktalk rock. Remember, don't give away the whole book and have fun!

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Bear WITH me

by: Sarah Doherty



(Left): A Moon Bear at Roger Williams Park Zoo in Rhode Island - **Photo Credit:** Sarah Doherty
(Right): Grizzly Bear - **Photo Credit:** Hailey Botelho

Imagine you are looking out your window and you see a large bear eating all of the seed in your bird feeder! If you live in North America, you are most likely looking at a black bear! If you really want to WOW your friends, you can tell them about the giant short-faced bear that was bigger than an elephant and lived over 2 million years ago! That is a lot of years! From the common black bear who could be watching you right now from the woods, to the prehistoric short-faced bear, there are many different types of bears that still amaze people today.

Have you ever wondered what different types of bears there are in the world? Well there actually aren't that many. There are only eight types of bears. The brown (or grizzly) bear, the black bear, the panda bear, the Asiatic black bear (or moon bear), the polar bear, the sun bear, the sloth bear and last but not least, the Andean bear. These bears are from all different parts of the world like Southeast Asia, India, North America and South America. Bears are everywhere!

If you think about it, bears are a lot like humans. They can stand on two legs, they are mammals and they have emotions like us. Over the years, bears have become widely recognizable in popular culture like *Paddington Bear*, *Winnie the Pooh* and Baloo from *The Jungle Book*. Have you ever heard of the Cape Cod Bear? If you have not, there once was a bear named Barney who went to Cape Cod by swimming across the Cape Cod Canal. People had to tranquilize him and bring him home to the woods of Western Massachusetts. You are probably asking how a bear could be there? We have black bears right here in Massachusetts like Barney. That means a bear could be in the woods right now looking at you!

I am so bear-y hungry! Bears eat many different types of foods like fish, berries, seals and sometimes small animals like rabbits. To get food, bears have to hunt, but that is easy for them because their sense of smell is seven times as strong as a bloodhound's! Thankfully, bears do not eat humans often. But just in case you see a bear near you, do not run, and try to back away in the direction you came from. If you follow these tips you will be much safer!

Before you read this article you may have thought bears were mean and scary creatures. Hopefully after reading you realized that they are truly mystifying beauties of nature, and I hope they live on forever.

valentine's Day SUGAR COOKIE RECIPE

By: Madison Nunes

~ Ingredients~

- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 3/4 cups flour



Photo Credit: Ava DiGiammo

~ Directions ~

- Mix together butter & sugar
- Add egg & vanilla
- Mix all dry ingredients together and slowly mix into butter mixture until incorporated
- Roll out on lightly floured board to desired thickness
- Cut out 2 1/2" hearts and bake 400 degrees for 7-10 minutes.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SONG?

By: Aurora Corbett & Madison Gilbert



Photo Credit: MyKaela Santos

Lately have you heard some popular songs such as *Thunder* by Imagine Dragons, *Havana* by Camila Cabello, *Chandelier* by Sia, *Handclap* by Fitz and the Tantrums or *Best Day of My Life* by American Authors? Well we have, and we picked out these songs to see what some students at GRAIS had to say!

Out of the 23 student we surveyed 19 out of the 23 voted for for *Havana* by Camila Cabello as their favorite song. The other 4 voted for *Thunder* by Imagine Dragons for their favorite. Not one person voted for *Best Day of My Life*, *Chandelier* or *Handclap*. We may never know why these songs won or why these songs lost! Maybe it's because of the words, or the beat? Or maybe it could be the rhythm that's more recognizable and enjoyable?

We chose these 5 songs because we thought everyone would at least know one of these them by name. We thought that people would vote for all of these songs but in truth, people only voted for two of them. The reason that probably lead to this was because *Havana* and *Thunder* are mostly newer songs that people hear on the radio.

While our survey was a small sample of students, it still gave us a good idea of what is popular in music right now for the students of GRAIS. Do you disagree with the songs people chose or would you pick something else?

Overall we think all songs new and old are good, whether its Rap, R&B, Country, Blues, Hip-Hop or Rock and Roll and many more!

<i>Havana</i>	<i>Thunder</i>	<i>Best Day of My Life</i>	<i>Handclap</i>	<i>Chandelier</i>
19	4	0	0	0



THE TALE OF THE WAILING WAMPUS WEREWOLF

A Fictional Tale By: Jaden Barth



Photo Credit: Jaden Barth (<https://i.imgur.com/fjsr49E.jpg>)

It was a dark and stormy night. It was an electrical storm without rain. Too bad though, because we could use some. There was this female deer named Giselle. She heard a scary sound. She went to investigate until her squirrel friend McSquizzy came and said, “Where are you going you simple lad?” Then Giselle said, “To check on that noise!” “I want to make sure it’s not a scary monster.” Then McSquizzy said, “Who in a horror movie investigates creepy sounds instead of running away?” “Now stand back while I investigate instead of running away!”

Then something cut down a tree with its bare hands. McSquizzy said, “by the looks of those claw marks I say it’s none other than the **Wailing Wampus Werewolf!**” Then Giselle said “I thought that was a legend!” McSquizzy said “Aye the legend lives.”

They were in need of a hero, and they were about to get one. A brave male deer named Elliot came just in time. “It just so happens to be a Wailing Wampus Werewolf Whisperer.” Elliot said, “Don’t worry the werewolf communicates through interpretive dance and so can I.” He busted his every move. It’s a good thing danger is Elliot’s middle name. There was no doubt about it, that werewolf meant business. Blood business.

Now werewolves aren’t like you and me, unless you like ripping lungs out of things, but who am I to judge? I’m sure there are perfectly good werewolves out there just waiting to be friends, but not this werewolf - oh no, the Wailing Wampus Werewolf is a different breed. He stalks the forest looking for the biggest, juiciest tub of lard he can find. Elliot came face to face with the rabid beast. He could smell it’s smelly breath. There was no doubt about it, the werewolf wanted to devour Elliot! There was something even sharper than the werewolf’s claws - it’s deadly fangs! This thing is huge! It’s got fury in its eyes and hunger in its belly. It’s a ten foot tall drooling beast! It’s found mostly in Dead Bear Gulch. It’s eyes are blood red. It wants to destroy you, your family, and your way of life.

Stay away from the Wailing Wampus Werewolf! If you think this werewolf story is not real must worry because the Wailing Wampus Werewolf is real and ready to pounce! There is a special ability called the see-cret. You say it and you see it. The way to Dead Bear Gulch is through the mountains across the lake in a seaplane over three tall trees. There’s a mountain that looks like a bear and a sign that has Dead Bear Gulch on it. The werewolf might be dressed up as a man with a fake pilot’s license. So if you hear someone jacking your plane it’s the werewolf.! It’s got the intelligence of a man.

If you get there and you’re really scared, you can make a panic room. If you don’t know what a panic room is, it’s a safe place where you can hide to keep the werewolves out. Dead Bear Gulch is haunted with evil spirits and spooky mist. There are bottomless pits that end to the bowels of Earth, and even evil, dead trees with kill on their minds! There’s also evil rock shadows and zombie skeletons, which is why the werewolf will be hiding there. If you get to Dead Bear Gulch be on the lookout for the Wailing Wampus Werewolf! Remember what Elliot told you, if you’re in trouble use the interpretive dance - if not.....

GET OUT!!

DOG VS. CAT

By: Delaney Bazydlo



Photo Credit: Nicholas Connolly

What animal do you like more? A dog or a cat? This has been the debate for centuries. Most people have an opinion, but is there actually a better animal? In order to find out more, I asked the students of GRAIS. I interviewed twenty-five students and the majority of the students asked said dog. Only six students picked cat, while nineteen students picked dog.

Do you agree with them? The students that said that they like dogs more were because they are fluffy, friendly, active, cuddle, and are smarter than cats. On the other hand, the students who picked cat said they are calm, not a lot of work, and fun to cuddle.

The students that picked dog said they did not pick cat because, they are not as playful as dogs, get scared very easily, and are not as friendly as dogs. The students that picked cat said they did not pick dog because you have to walk them, take them outside even in winter to go to the bathroom, dogs need a lot of attention, and some even believe they are not as smart.

But what animal is smarter? A dog or a cat? Both sides believed that one was smarter than the other. Scientific studies say that dogs are smarter than cats. Scientist can tell which animal is smarter by counting the cortical neurons (which make up brain cortex or gray matter.) The more cortical neurons the animal has, the smarter they are. With this research, scientists have found that dogs have 530 million cortical neurons while cats only have 250 million cortical neurons. In comparison, humans have 16 billion cortical neurons in there brain.

After hearing more about dogs and cats, which do you prefer? Has your opinion changed?



valentine's day: A HISTORY

By: Ayvia DaSilva & Orianna Hernandez



Photo Credit: Orianna Hernandez

Have you ever wondered why we celebrate Valentine’s Day? Or how other people do? The history of Valentine’s Day is told in many different ways.

One popular version is the Ancient Roman story. From February 13th to February 15th the Romans celebrated the feast called Lupercalia. During that three-day celebration, Emperor Claudius II executed two men on February 14th both sharing the same last name, Valentine. From then on February 14th was known as Valentine’s day.

We know Valentine’s day as a day were you give cards, gifts, flowers, and candies. But in other countries around the world people celebrate it differently, Denmark being one of them. Danes (people from Denmark) exchange white flowers called snowdrops and also give lover’s cards. A man gives a woman a gaekkebrev, which is a funny rhyme or a teaser poem. The gaekkebrev is signed with dots, and if the woman guesses the sender correctly she will get an easter egg later in the year.

In South Korea on February 14th, women give men candy’s, flowers, and chocolates. On March 14th, known as “Whites Day” men give women chocolates, flowers, and a gifts.

In Brazil, Dia dos Namorados, also known as “Lover’s Day” is held on June 12th instead of February 14th. Performances and music festivals are held within the country. People celebrate by sharing dinner with friends, family, and “valentines”. On this day they will exchange gifts, flowers, and chocolates to show their love for one another. The next day is Saint Anthony’s day, which honors the Saint of marriage.

Two common symbols in our country that represent Valentine’s day are a dove and the color red. The dove symbolizes peace and romance, and the color red symbolizes love, beauty, courage, and respect.

These are some unique ways other people in different countries celebrate the holiday. If you are looking for a gift idea then chocolates, flowers, jewelry, and candies are all good choices. You could also make something like a handmade card. That is how Valentine’s day started and how other people celebrate it.



Photo Credit: Orianna Hernandez

SNOW DAYS - Yay or Nay?

By: Autumn Arnone



Photo Credit: Phoebe Quinn

Lots of students and staff members enjoy the pleasure of not having school due to snow. Meanwhile others dislike snowdays for reasons such as, it takes away from our summer, or you run out of things to do quickly.

There are many fun things to do in the snow! Some examples are: sledding, snowball fights, snowman making, skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing and snow fort building. Some students like not having to do schoolwork as well as being able to relax. One of your fellow students said that they like snow days because there’s “No school” and that they “like playing in the snow.”

On the other hand, a student responded saying that they don’t like snow days because “It takes away from our summer” and “you lose power.” Do you agree? We had a snow day on the 4th of January during which we got 12-15 inches of snow!!! We now have to go to school longer into the summer!

However, it was fun to sled down hills and build snowmen! What did you do for your snow day? I asked 21 people their opinion and there were 12 votes for Yay and 9 votes for Nay.

In my personal opinion I dislike snow days because we have to make it up in the summer. It’s fun to play in the snow on a snow day but you have to consider that you must make it up later in the year. So you decide; are snow days a yay or nay?

Yay (YES)	NAY (NO)
12	9



Photo Credit: Phoebe Quinn

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ORIGINAL artwork/comics/cartoons
(enLARGed)



Original Artwork: Anthony Sergio



Original Artwork: Mia Furtado



Original Comic: Anthony Sergio

GRAIS HaPPenings

Check here each month for updates on some of the important activities, events, and dates for 4th and 5th grade students at GRAIS!

GET THAT HEART PUMPING - FOR A CAUSE!



Starting on February 1st, students will be fundraising for the American Heart Association through the Jump Rope For Hearts program. In return for donations, students will be practicing jump roping in class and will participate in the Jumpathon in school on **Wednesday, February 14th**. During this, students will see how many jumps that they can do in a 40 minute class. Increasing our heart health and raising money for the American Heart Association is a win-win.

- Mr. Ireland (Physical Education)

calling all ARTISTS! 2018 ART SHOW!



Grades 4-8 will be presenting their artwork on display at the **FLMS on Tuesday, March 27th at 6pm!** Come out and support our artists from GRAIS and the FLMS!

- Mrs. Boissonneau (Art)

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

The Intermediate school students and staff understand the value and pleasure of reading on their own time. Our new "What Are You Reading?" cafeteria bulletin board showcases all the reading that has been going on at home. It's a work in progress, and with the help of our ongoing reading challenges, it's filling up day by day! This interactive display is also a great way for students to get recommendations from other students. Families are invited to send in or email pictures to be displayed.



UP COMING EVENTS

Early Dismissal for students @ 11:00 am	Monday, February 5th
4TH GRADE HANDBALL	Monday, February 12th
PTO Meeting @ 6:00 PM	Monday, February 12th
5TH GRADE HANDBALL	Wednesday, February 14th
VALENTINE'S DAY	Wednesday, February 14th
FEBRUARY VACATION WEEK	Monday, February 19th - Friday, February 23rd
4TH GRADE HANDBALL	Monday, February 26th
5TH GRADE HANDBALL/NEWSPAPER CLUB W/ MR. LESTAGE	Wednesday, February 28th

NEW ENGLAND SPORT DAY SUPPORTERS!



CRISS CROSSING THE CONTINENTS WITH STORY

Please join us for an evening of whimsy and wonder! The George R. Austin Middle School will host the Annual Student Storytelling Festival on Thursday, March 29. Travel with us as we cross the continents, visiting Africa, Bhutan, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Scandinavia, and more! Bring your imaginations and a smile; you will be enchanted as the Story Explorers perform their multicultural tales, no passport required!

Date: March 29, 2018
Location: 112 Howland Road, Lakeville, MA
Room: Cafeteria
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Admission: FREE

Handicapped access is available. For further information contact Karen Chace at (508) 763-8565 or email at storybug@aol.com.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Freetown Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency,



CHECK US OUT ONLINE!
- [HTTP://Graisrisingstar.weebly.com/](http://Graisrisingstar.weebly.com/) -
SEND TIPS/IDEAS TO: TLESTAGE@FREELAKE.ORG

FOOD★FUN

2018

February

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
29 Chicken Tenders Whole Grain Bisquit Steamed peas Baby Carrots Applesauce	30 Soft Beef Tacos with Lettuce and Cheese Black Bean Salsa Baby Carrots Applesauce	31 <u>Breakfast for Lunch:</u> French Toast Sticks Sausage Hash Brown Baby Carrots Applesauce	1 Pasta with or without Meat Sauce Diced Carrots Baby Carrots Applesauce	2 Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Applesauce
5 ½ Day No Food Served	6 Pulled Pork Sandwich Baked Beans Diced Peaches Craisins	7 <u>Breakfast for Lunch:</u> Waffles with Sausage Hash Brown Diced Peaches Craisins	8 <u>LUCKY TRAY DAY!!</u> Mac N' Cheese Tossed Salad Diced Peaches Craisins	9 Pizza Sticks with Dipping Sauce <u>Blueberry Cobbler</u> Tossed Salad Diced Peaches Craisins
12 Mini Corn Dogs Baked Beans Fresh Apples Mixed Fruit	13 <u>Breakfast for Lunch:</u> Pancakes with Sausage Potato Tots Fresh Apples Mixed Fruit	14 Popcorn Chicken Baked Beans Fresh Apples Mixed Fruit Heart-Shaped Sugar Cookie!	15 Roast Turkey and Gravy with a Dinner Roll Mashed Potato Fresh Apples Mixed Fruit	16 White Pizza Fingers with Dipping Sauce Cherry Tomatoes Fresh Apples Mixed Fruit
19	20	21	22	23
Have a Safe February Vacation!! Did you know? At 42 years, 10 months, 18 days old Teddy Roosevelt was the youngest man to hold the office of president. Ronald Reagan was the oldest at 69 years 11 months. John F. Kennedy was the youngest to be elected president.				
26 Mozzarella Sticks with marinara dipping sauce Green Beans Raisins Diced Strawberries	27 Turkey Bacon Melt Baked Beans Raisins Diced Strawberries	28 <u>Breakfast for Lunch:</u> Bacon Egg and Cheese on a Bagel Hash Brown Raisins Diced Strawberries	1 <u>LUCKY TRAY DAY!!</u> Chicken Pot Pie with Peas and Carrots Raisins Diced Strawberries	2 Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad Raisins Diced Strawberries

Freetown-Lakeville Elementary Schools
Special News...
Lucky Tray Days:
February 8th – Valentines Bears
March 1st – Smencils

Meal Prices:
Reduced: \$0.40
Paid: \$2.50
Milk: \$0.50
Menus are subject to
change without notice.

More Info... Available Daily:

- Turkey & Cheese Sandwich
- Ham & Cheese Sandwich
- Tuna Salad Sandwich
- Toasted bagel w/ Cream Cheese, Yogurt & String Cheese
- Skim, 1%, and Chocolate Milk
- Garden Salad with a Yogurt & String Cheese
- Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich

3¾-5
Cups of Vegetables

Schools must offer 3 ¾ to 5 cups of vegetables per week for lunch, including vegetables that are dark green, dark green and beans/peas.

Celebrate Valentine's Day February 14th with a whole grain heart-shaped sugar cookie!
Andrea Fay
Foodservice Director
508-947-2660 Ext 7 or
afay@freetlake.org



THE GRAIS RISING STAR

“Created by students, for students.”



CHECK US OUT ONLINE!
- [HTTP://Graisrisingstar.weebly.com/](http://Graisrisingstar.weebly.com/) -
SEND TIPS/IDEAS TO: TLESTAGE@FREELAKE.ORG