



## Bexley City Schools Have Two Rare Snow Days!

By Olivia Ramsden, Noa Pitstick and Alissa Shyshkova



Bexley Schools were closed on Monday, January 8 after having a two week winter break, and Wednesday, February 7, due to icy roads, snow, sleet, and slush.

Izzy Carleton said, "I didn't believe my friends at first, but when I checked the Bexley website I was very excited. I went sledding with my friends, and afterwards, we had a big snowball fight."

Alina Lacki a sixth grader says, "I was pretty excited and surprised because Bexley does not have many snow days."

Do you ever wonder what the teachers have to say about snow days?

Mr. Sidel said that he likes snow days but he had everything planned out, so he had to make adjustments to his plans. Mr. Sidel got to spend some extra time reading and playing some Mario Kart. "I don't like losing time with my students though," Mr. Sidel says.

Mr. Gardner said that he was relieved because he didn't have to wake up early. "I love snow days! A surprise day off is one of the best kind of surprises!" says Mr. Gardner. During his snow day, he had quality time with his daughter, graded papers, and watched Netflix!

Bexley students hope for lots of snow days, but the probability of a snow day in Bexley is very low, and we can only have 5 snow days a year before we have to start staying extra days in the summer.

There are some crazy snow day traditions people do. Do you do any of them? One student said that she flushes ice cubes down the toilet, another student says he puts a spoon under his pillow and wears his pajamas backwards and inside out.

Now all we can do is hope for another snow day!

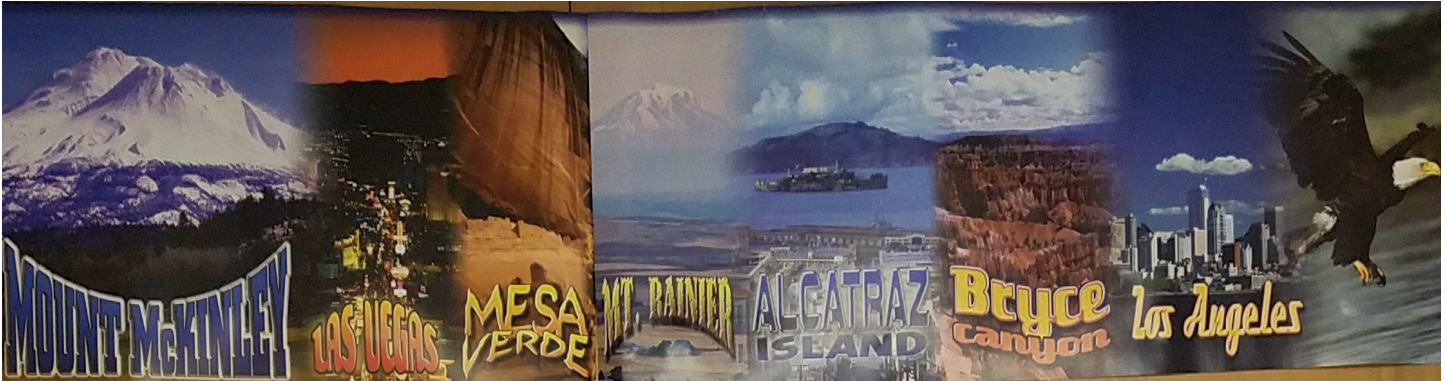
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## Putting the “Bee” in BMS: Bexley Middle School



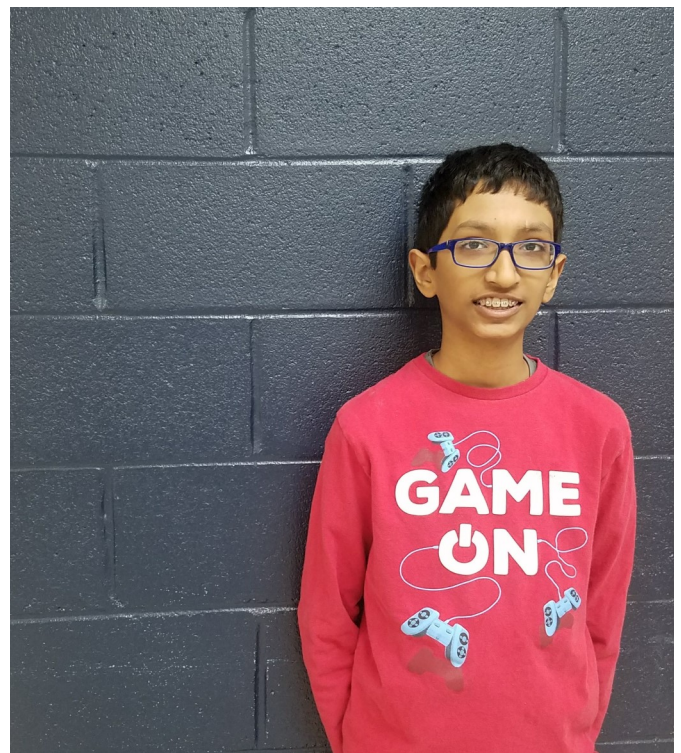
### Geography Bee

By Megan Cooper

This year Bexley Middle School is participating in the geography bee. Mrs. Rowley-Welsh is an eighth grade Social Studies and is in charge of the second-round geography bee. According to Mrs. Rowley-Welsh, "The Geography Bee is a nationwide contest sponsored by the National Geographic Society each year. Student in grades 4-8 may participate in their school bee. The Bee started in 1989. Students involved participate in a series of rounds of questions addressing various aspects of U.S. and world geography. These include everything from state capitals to global economics, to historical events and people, to natural aspects of geography like landforms, rivers, weather events, climate, animal habitats and more."

How does the geography bee work? "The Social Studies teachers give a verbal bee in each of their classes on the assigned days. There are seven rounds to this bee. Classroom winners go on to a written test. The top ten students from the written test will go on to the Final Round, which is a verbal bee. The winner of this round is the school champion, who will take an online test and possibly move up to the state bee in Colum-

bus in April. The state champion will travel to Washington D.C. in May for the championship. The questions are researched and written by historians, scientists, cartographers and others at the National Geographic Society based in Washington D.C. Teachers do not write or change any questions, and it is completely random which students receive which questions. Students around the entire country receive the same questions," Mrs. Rowley-Welsh explained.



# Students Find Success in National Competitions

The geography bee helps develop student skills. Mrs. Rowley-Welsh tells us more, "I think skills are just as important as their prior knowledge. The Bee asks questions that allow students to make educated guesses based on what they do already know. So, a student might get a question that includes information about surrounding countries or states, or that include information about the economy, climate or historical events. Even if they wouldn't know the answer directly, they can think about what they do know that is included in the question. So, I think it helps them use inferences, directions, geographic relationships with the rest of the world, knowledge of climate, animals, and economy, etc. when making decisions."

Did you know that what you learn in school helps you with the geography bee? Mrs. Rowley-Welsh says, "The Geography Bee relates to what students are learning or have learned over the past few years. In some questions, it is a nice review of what they learned last year, and in others previews things they will be learning. In all cases, there is great information about U.S. and world geography, history, cultures, events, etc. I think it gets students thinking about the relationships between what they learn in the context of the class and the geography of the places they are learning about."



## Spelling Bee

By Nora Cahill

On January 18, students from sixth, seventh, and eighth grade gathered in Mr. Sidel's room. Twelve contestants participated, and one is now testing to go onto regionals sometime in March.

According to Mr. Sidel, eighth grade Language Arts teacher, "The Spelling Bee is a spelling competition

sponsored by the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Students must spell words from memory without writing them down."

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is an annual non-profit spelling bee held by the E. W Scripps Company. Students first take a written test in their classrooms, and the winners from that round move onto the school spelling bee.

Addison Helon was the winner of the school spelling bee. Her championship word was Kilimanjaro. She will next take a fifty-question test to determine if she will go to regionals at Ohio University in Athens this March. If she would win regionals, she would compete on live TV at nationals in Washington D.C.

## The Miracle of the Lost and Found Table

By Jillian Savage



Don't deny it, we all know you've lost something before. Where did you find it? The lost and found table.

Our very own Mr. Caudill, says that he's found "Funny shirts, something you know only one kid in the whole school would wear." Mr. Caudill also said that he finds nasty lunchboxes that eventually he just throws out.

Mr. Caudill also notes that he doesn't love the system, it's just that they haven't found a better one. In addition, the middle schools lost and found table collects all items in the cafeteria. Even if they belong to someone in the high school or Cassingham. After the items have been on the table for a few weeks and no one's claimed ownership, they get donated.

Maia Nelson found an umbrella on the cafeteria table one morning. "I just knew that it would end up on the lost and found table." Nelson says. And she was right. Later that day, Nelson found the same umbrella sitting on the lost and found table. "The lost and found table is very helpful because otherwise, this person would not have known where their umbrella was. The lost and found table is a miracle!" Nelson exclaims. Although Nelson has never had an item on the table, she says that it has helped others that she knows.

Mr. Sidel says that he's gotten use of the lost and found table too. "I lose my water bottle all of the time and it ends up on the lost and found table, among other places."

Next time you lose something, check the lost and found table!