



The Cougar Bytes

The official newsletter of Tohatchi Middle School

Volume 2, Issue 5

January—February, 2018



Dear Students, Staff, Parents/Guardians & Community Members:

2018 has been off to a great start! We continue to have high attendance rates. I would like to thank the Parents/Guardians for all of their efforts in ensuring that their child (ren) are attending school each day. Also, our discipline issues are still low and I would like to thank the students for their overall good behavior. It is hard to believe but the 3rd Quarter is nearly over. Soon we will begin Interim testing, we have already begun WIDA-Access testing. Spring time there will be continued testing and the PARCC exam. Please continue to make sure that your child is here each day well rested and ready to learn. Thank you again for all that you do!

The winter has come late this year, please help us by reminding students to wash hands often, wear their jackets and long pants. We want to do our best to keep our students healthy. Also, we are inching ever closer to testing season. We thank you as Parents/Guardians for ensuring that your students are here each day and we ask that you continue to do this throughout testing. Spring sports will take place we have coaches for each of the sports now. We have also hired a new staff member, Tenisha Goodluck and we welcome her to our school.

Thank you again for all of your support!

Sincerely,
Anthony E. Morrison
Tohatchi Middle School Principal

Newspaper Club Members

Orlan Dale	Alisha Jarvison
Caitlin McLaughlin	Cassandra Castaneda
Kandice Chavez	Rachel Charley
Brianna Begay	Aliyah Conde
Myia Bitsoi	Madison Nez

Teacher-Adviser: Nemia Tan

Answers to V-Day Trivia (page 3)

1. B	2. B	3. C	4. D	5. C
6. A	7. C	8. B	9. A	10. D

fresh
new
start

Looking forward, not back

new year
new beginnings

We welcome the year 2018!

New beginnings, a fresh start, a chance to build a better tomorrow. As C.S Lewis said, "There are far better things ahead than any we left behind." We learn from our past and appreciate all we experienced, and we are ready to embrace the ones coming our way.

At Tohatchi Mid, we believe that the best preparation for tomorrow is doing our best today. We will make this year greater than last year. Cheers for the new year!

Way to go, Cougars!

WELCOMING A NEW BABY GIRL

By: Kandice
Chavez

"Babies are like little suns that, in a magical way, bring warmth, happiness and light into our lives."

Kartini Diapari-Oengider

Mr. Morrison is happy to announce the birth of the newest member of their family. A healthy bundle of joy named **Samantha Riley Morrison**, nicknamed Riley, was born last January 11, 2018 at the Rehoboth McKinley Christian Hospital at 8:44 AM. She weighed 7 lbs. and was 19 inches long. The family feels blessed with the coming of Baby Riley. She is a cheerful baby and is always sleepy.

The Morrison family hopes that Samantha Riley grows up to be healthy, strong and kind.

Congratulations Mr. Morrison for your beautiful daughter!



Announcements:

March 5th- No School for Students, Data Day

March 19-23 No school Spring Break

You can find the Cougar Bytes at:
<http://tom.gmcs.k12.nm.us/>

Some pictures and images used in this newsletter are sourced from Google images.

Congratulations

To our January

Staff Member of the Month

By Myia Bitsoi



Hannah Streeter

January 2018 Staff of the Month

Ms. Streeter is a 7th grade ELA teacher at TOMs since October, 2016. She likes reading, cooking, baking, and playing with her dogs and cats. Before she taught at Tohatchi Mid School, she worked with disabled adults, as a Special Olympics coach, a nanny, a waitress, and even cleaned hotel rooms for a year. Too many to count!!

Ms. Streeter describes herself as an optimistic person because she sees the best in every situation. This is probably the reason why she is so loved by her students! And she loves her students, too. "I love them more than anything!" she says. "I hope that they remember me as someone who cares about each one of them as individuals."

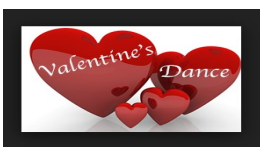
Congratulations, Ms. Streeter!!



Students do better in school when parents are involved. To increase communication between parents and home, Tohatchi Middle School had a Parent-Teacher Conference on February 5, 2018.

Parents came to discuss with teachers about their child's progress in school as well as to find solutions to academic and behavioral problems.

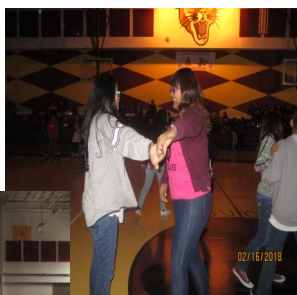
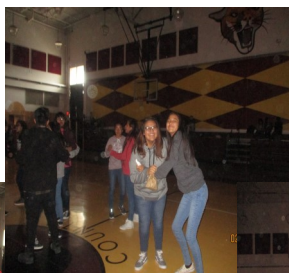
TOMs is always grateful for the support extended by the parents. Our goal is to help your child succeed, and we need every help we get from parents.



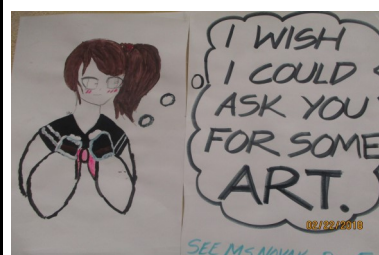
Sponsored by the Student Council



Students enjoyed the Valentines Day dance hosted by the Student Council last February 16th. Students danced the afternoon away and grooved to their favorite music.



Student Council Advisers:
Stephane Nez
Leah Kayonnie



Calling all Art enthusiasts, the Year Book Club welcomes your art work to include for this year's publication of the year book. Show your talent and share your beautiful art creations. You may forward them to Ms. Novak (Rm 5) or to any year book club member.



Who doesn't like Valentine's day? This occasion, which happens every year on February 14 is all about spreading the love. Hearts begin popping up everywhere and the world seems to become covered in red, pink, and purple. People, old and young alike, line up in stores to buy candies, flowers, and greeting cards. Restaurants fill to the brim with couples, families and friends celebrating love and friendship on this event.

But...what do we know about the origins of Valentine's day? How did Valentine's day begin?

According to National Geographic Kids, the holiday we know today got its name from a man named Valentine. While there are different stories told about what he did to inspire Valentine's day celebration, many people believe he is celebrated for his role as a Roman priest who helped couples secretly get married.

As the story goes, there was an emperor named Claudius II of Rome—who reigned from the year 268 A.D. to 270 A.D. He banned marriage because he thought unmarried men made better soldiers. Valentine thought this was unfair and decided to break the rules and perform marriages anyway.

He kept the ceremonies quiet, but he was eventually caught and later killed on February 14 of the year 270 for disobeying the emperor. Right before he died, Valentine supposedly wrote the first-ever "valentine" to his jailer's daughter, with whom he had fallen in love. Later, in the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I declared the day of his death as St. Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day traditions have changed a lot over the years. In the Middle Ages in Europe people started exchanging handmade cards with love notes inside. Today, in the USA alone, billions of dollars are spent on Valentine's Day cards and gifts each year around the world.

Source:

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/celebrations/valentines-day/>

How well do you know?

Answer these Valentine Trivia questions. If you can answer seven (7), then you are a real CUPID.



- Who is the winged child shooting the lovers arrow?
 - Mercury
 - Cupid
 - Pluto
 - Angel
- In which country is it customary for women to give men chocolate on Valentine's Day?
 - USA
 - Japan
 - Switzerland
 - Canada
- Which state grows the most roses?
 - Arizona
 - New York
 - California
 - Florida
- Which president lost his first wife on Valentine's Day?
 - John Tyler
 - Woodrow Wilson
 - Millard Fillmore
 - Theodore Roosevelt
- Who introduced the first Valentine's Day box of chocolates in 1868?
 - Milton Hershey
 - Franklin Mars
 - Richard Cadbury
 - Ferrero Rocher
- In Roman mythology, who is Cupid's mom?
 - Venus
 - Juno
 - Psyche
 - Luna
- What did the founder of Domino's give his future wife for their first Valentine's Day?
 - Marbled brownies
 - Domino's gift card
 - A heart-shaped pizza
 - Chocolate-covered pizza
- How much do Americans spend on Valentine's Day?
 - \$10.5 million
 - \$19.6 billion
 - \$8.3 billion
 - \$40.2 billion
- What flower was a favorite of Venus, the Roman goddess of love?
 - Rose
 - Sunflower
 - Peach blossom
 - Poppy
- Which symbol does New York's Empire State Building illuminate on every Valentine's Day?
 - Cupid
 - Gift Card
 - A rose
 - A heart



Excited for your results? Check answers on the first page!

Sources: <https://www.rd.com/>; cnynews.com; www.al.com/news



By Madison Nez

COMMUNITY VOLLEYBALL

To provide a healthy, active community and to promote good health and healthy lifestyles, Mr. Brown started a Volleyball tournament since December 2017 at Tohatchi Middle School at no cost. The event is every Sunday at 2pm and ends roughly at 6 -7pm. About 40 people from all over- Farmington, Gallup, Shiprock, Thoreau, Newcomb, Naschitti, Rayma and Tohatchi come to the event to play. Usually 5 to 6 teams participate, and they even have potluck sometimes.

When we asked Mr. Brown what convinced him to start this event, he said that the community asked him so after a while he had to step up and started the program. The rules of the games are: sportsmanship, no profane language and keep the gym clean. Asked how he describes the event, Mr Brown says, "It's fun, it's poppin' and it's crackin'!"

meet our
NEW

Staff



MEET OUR NEW STAFF

Ms. Tenisha Goodluck, whom we call Ms. Kaibah, is our new staff at TOM. She is an educational assistant of the Special Education Department. She used to work as an educational assistant for pre-school. She chose this job because she wants to expand different areas of teaching for different age groups. She says she likes learning new things about the TOM community with the staff and students. Ms. Kaibah describes herself as a quiet person, but she also considers herself an open book. "If you don't ask, I won't tell." She is still getting used to how much taller middle school students are compared to preschool kids, otherwise, you can just say "hi" to her and she is pretty nice.

Her advice to students: "Study broadly and without fear. Learn a language if you can, because that will make your life more interesting. Read a little a bit everyday. But more importantly, surround yourself with people who you like and make cool stuff with them. In the end, what you do is not going to be nearly as interesting or important as who you do it with."

WELCOME TO TOMs, Ms. Kaibah!

Tohatchi Middle School Assessment Calendar SY 2017-18

Assessment/ Training	Window	TOM Assessment/ Training Date	Teachers/Staff	Students
Test Security Training		Wednesday, February 28, 2018	All Staff	
ACCESS 2.0	January 22- March 16	February 6- February 14	Brown, Castaneda, Toledo, Tan, Novak, Streeter, Nez, Kayonnie, Gonzales	ELL 6th, 7th, 8th
Q3 SchoolNet Interim	February 20- March 9	February 22-26 <i>Feb. 27-March 2 Make up test</i>	All Teachers	ELA/Math 6th, 7th, 8th
NMSBA	March 5- 30	March 8-9 <i>March 12-16 Make up test</i>	TBA	Science 7th
NMAPA	March 12- April 6	March 14-16	Tan/Novak	2 SPED
PARCC	April 16- May 11	April 17, 19, 20 April 24, 26, 27 May 1, 3, 4 <i>May 7-11 Make up test</i>	All Teachers and Staff	ELA/Math 6th, 7th, 8th
EOCs	May 7-25	May 14-18 <i>May 21-24 Make up test</i>	All Teachers	6th, 7th, 8th

Thank you to all those who sent their greetings, love notes and sweet thoughts to the Valentine ShoutOut Wall!

Your participation was highly appreciated.

From:

Newspaper and Yeabook Clubs

