

West Campus Chronicle

FEBRUARY 2023

WEST CAMPUS
WELLNESS DAY:
JANUARY 2023
PAGE 5



IMAGE: KEITH COLES

"WEDNESDAY": IS
IT WORTH THE
HYPE?
PAGE 2



IMAGE: WIKIPEDIA.COM

HOW TO PROMPOSE?

By: Alina Danchin (9)

The winter ball is only getting closer and closer y'all! Don't know how to rizz someone up? No worries I got you! It really all depends on the prospect. Your first step could be finding out what their love language is. It'll usually be one of these four: Words of Affirmation, Acts of Service, Gifts, or Quality Time. We'll disregard the love language physical touch for this scenario.

If their love language is Words of Affirmation you could ask with a cheesy sign or write a letter to them enclosed with your promposal. Who wouldn't love the classic cute little poster? If your person's more into Acts of Service you could ask them out by surprising them with a romantic performance from the West Campus band or just singing yourself! Have your little 10 Things I Hate About You moment.

For the Gift-receiving love language you can do a whole lot of things! Get them their favorite cup of coffee or boba, candy, or flowers. Just as importantly, you've got your quality time lovers. For them, it could be just as simple as spending time with them and letting them know you want to go to the dance with them.

If you don't know anything about your future date you could try to find their Instagram and hit them up or you could be bold and ask for their number. You could always just plainly ask them out. It really depends on your confidence. Confidence is key. Confidence = W Rizz. Now they've got no choice but to say yes!

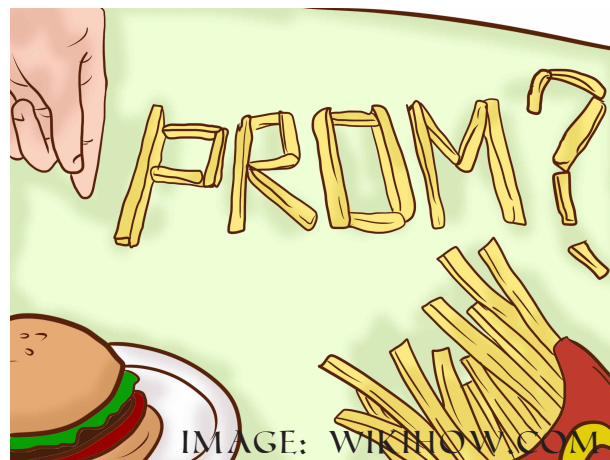


IMAGE: WIKIHOW.COM

Win a prize-
Submit pictures of your
Winter Formal to yearbook
using their link
on Instagram!

UP AND COMING EVENTS

THE ENCHANTED
GARDEN WINTER
FORMAL:

FEBRUARY 11TH FROM
7PM UNTIL 11PM

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS
FOR AN EVENING OF
FORMAL FUN!

WEST CAMPUS FOUNDATION OF
EXCELLENCE GALA:

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE PARENTS AND
FRIENDS OF WEST CAMPUS AT OUR
UPCOMING GALA OF LOVE AND PEACE.
OUR FOUNDATION WORKS TO RAISE
MONEY TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AND
STUDENTS. THIS IS OUR LARGEST
FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR.
[HTTPS://WC-FE.ORG/INSTAGRAM/](https://wc-fe.org/instagram/)

RANDOM ACTS OF
KINDNESS WEEK
(RAKS):

FEBRUARY 21ST TO
FEBRUARY 24TH

ACTIVITIES WILL BE
AROUND CAMPUS TO
SPREAD KINDNESS

HOW ORIGINAL IS WEDNESDAY?

This piece contains spoilers for Netflix's Wednesday

By Clayden Shennen

If you've been on the internet over the last few months then you've definitely seen at least one post about the hit show streaming on Netflix— *Wednesday*. There are many things about the show that have caught people's attention. The protagonist, *Wednesday*, provides a unique twist on the classic hero archetype. The Hogwarts-like school, Nevermore Academy, and all the mystical and magical students attending are eye-catching. The intriguing story involves many people in a town going missing due to a monster.

It's clear to see why a lot of people have been watching *Wednesday* and so many people are talking about it on social media. There are many things for the audience to enjoy. All this hype about *Wednesday* including hearing about it from friends and seeing many posts on YouTube and TikTok inspired me to watch it.

Overall I genuinely enjoyed it. I thought the love triangle plot line was unnecessary, but it was still engaging. The plot line following the monster was a more captivating story. A while after watching it I realized the shocking truth about the show.

When watching *Wednesday* I continued thinking I had seen this series before despite it being my first time watching. The most common comparison is *Wednesday's* similarities Harry Potter specifically how "Nevermore Academy" resembles "Hogwarts" from the Harry Potter series. Though the schools are very similar, both being schools for magical individuals, that trope has been used in many pieces of fiction such as *The Owl House*.



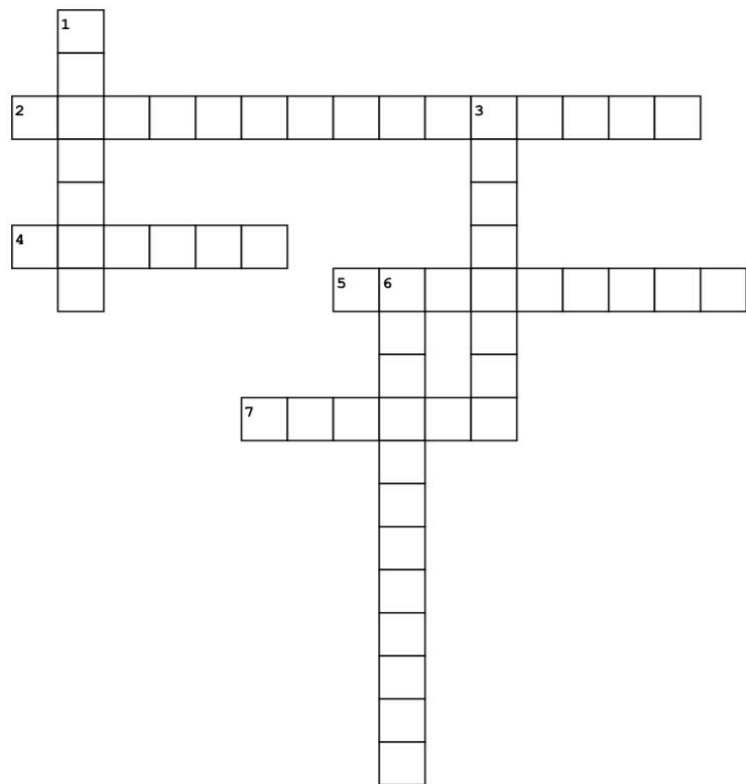
I found that *Wednesday* was shockingly similar to the 2012 Laika stop motion anime film, *Paranorman*. Now, a lot of people probably haven't seen or even heard of *Paranorman*. The plot follows a young boy who lives in a town with puritan history who can see dead people and is mocked for this. He starts having visions involving a young girl who was like him. She lived in the town and was killed for her abilities, and her spirit haunts the town bringing back the people who killed her as zombies. Eventually, the young boy resolves the climax and the town returns to its normality.

Now, you're probably wondering what this has to do with *Wednesday*. Well a lot of the key plot points in *Wednesday* are shockingly similar to *Paranorman*. The first similarity is the main characters, Wednesday and Norman are both kids with special abilities who begin seeing visions and are mocked for these abilities.

Furthermore, both Wednesday and Norman have a close relative with the same abilities who try to help guide them. In the visions, Wednesday and Norman both see a passed young girl who used to live in their town's with similar abilities.

The last major similarity is that there are puritans brought back as zombie like figures who happened to die because of the young girls in the visions. I do not think these similarities were intentional and they were done subconsciously. This may not be purposeful, however I thought I bring up the shocking similarities between the two.

February Crossword



Across

2. The theme for 2023 winter formal
4. The Chinese zodiac animal that represents the 2023 Lunar New Year
5. The first zodiac sign of the year
7. The type of exams that signify the end of the semester

Down

1. The last name of the new 11th grade English teacher
3. The zodiac sign of the water bearer
6. They're creepy and they're kooky, mysterious and spooky. They're all together ooky, the _____

VALENTINE'S GIFTS 101

By: Destanee Ballinger

Valentine's day is right around the corner. With Valentine's day comes the daunting task of buying a gift. Too corny, too cheap, too extravagant? All things we should actively avoid.

The first step to perfect gift-giving execution is knowing your person. Meaningful gifts can't be generalized so be mindful. Are they a teddy bear and roses person? Or a chocolate person? Both? Or do they find material things completely meaningless? Hints to these questions would've probably come up in past conversations.

If you haven't known your person for long, maybe refrain from anything extravagant or material. A well thought out letter or conversation can mean the most. It may seem cheesy but actions don't always speak louder than words. However, if you are dead set on giving a gift the best way to go about it would be to ask. Communication is always key!

One last important thing to remember is that love isn't shown through how much money you spend. Gifts do not equal amount of love! The way you talk to and treat someone will always say more than a rose, a box of chocolates, etc. ever could. Happy Valentines Day!

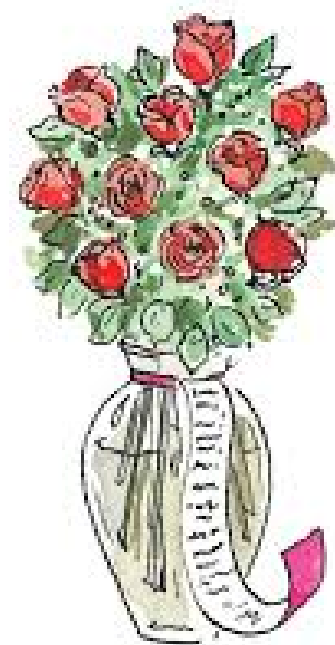


IMAGE: NEW YORKER

Class Sections: Treasurers

By Sujei Farias and Julia Kehoe

Freshman

Treasurer: Thadeus Kim

The freshman class of West Campus has hosted several fundraisers this year including a very successful boba fundraiser. Much of this success can be dedicated to their elected treasurer, Thadeus Kim. Thadeus has intertwined into the West Campus community with his friendly and helpful spirit.

He was asked to describe himself in three words and gave an insightful response, "Calculated- I don't like to make reckless choices, and i feel like math is my strongest subject, Distracted-unfortunately I get distracted easily whether im in class or at home, and Open-I don't think I keep many secrets, and I try to be open-minded to ideas." This response makes it clear that Thadeus is a trustworthy individual to be handing the freshman class' funds.

He enjoys being a part of ASB, despite it being tricky to wake up so early at first. He says despite the initial change, it isn't difficult to wake up anymore and is entirely worth it. He always looks forward to painting posters whether that be to help ASB publicity, or the rally decorations posters for the gym.

Furthermore, Thadeus shared more about his personal experiences that have shaped him to the fantastic treasurer that he is. He is influenced by his two older brothers, one is ten years older and the other eight years older. His family is important to him, he says although its cliché, his mom is his hero. "I really feel like I owe her for who I am now," says Thadeus.

Thadues enjoys traveling, even just the short distance. He has wonderful memories of traveling to Tahoe with his friends when it was snowing creating a winter wonderland. In addition, the coolest place that he visited was a village in South Korea known as Bukchon. The enjoyment he felt when he was there came from the impressive and old architecture that lined the streets.

Sophomores (Blue Crew)

Treasurer: Matteo Trento

Matteo Trento has returned for a second year as the Blue Crew Treasurer leading fundraisers and showing his spirit at rallies. Matteo is an upbeat and spirited addition to the class of 2025 officers. His description of himself corroborates with this. When asked to describe himself in three words he chose trustworthy, friendly, and outgoing. "I keep secrets very well and I am friendly," elaborates Matteo.

Matteo enjoys many aspects of ASB, especially the social aspect. When asked about his opinion on the class itself he said, "It's not a normal class, everyone in ASB are friends and it's really fun and chill. You get there and you aren't really doing classwork, but you are in a committee. Doing work [for the committee] is like walking around and collecting cans for a good cause with your friends- it's not like waking up for a normal class." Matteo assisted in the can food drive in early December and is currently working on a new event for ASB.

In addition, Matteo gave insight into his personal life. He has four siblings, one of whom is attending UC Berkeley after successfully graduating from West Campus. His family also includes two furry friends, two living dogs. He has fond memories of spending Thanksgiving with his family as well.

Furthermore, Matteo, being a social butterfly, spends a lot of time on Tik Tok throughout the day. It is his most used app both for watching and making videos. If ever in the exposition to text Matteo, it's most likely he will use the crying emoji but not to show sadness. Instead he is showing sarcastic laughter. Matteo finds that his favorite part of the day is lunch time because it is when he can embrace his social tendencies without the teacher telling him to quiet down.

Juniors (Red Legacy)

Treasurer: Julia Kehoe

The Class of 2024 has been leaving its legacy with its new treasurer, Iliana Buenrostro. Iliana is from a family of fellow West Campus warriors with two siblings who also attended West Campus. Iliana has two adorable dogs, one girl and one boy. If you are lucky, you may see them when Iliana is picked up after a long day at rally dees.

Spending time with family is very important to Iliana and she has very fond memories of the holidays with her family. Iliana always has the greatest holiday spirit which can be seen when ASB circles the school with their annual christmas caroling. Iliana feels that her hero is her grandma, she says, " I grew up really close to her and she is just a good lady. I like her."

Furthermore, Iliana has made many fond memories during her time in ASB. She knows it is hard getting out of bed at 6am to come to school however she enjoys beginning her day on a productive note. If she doesn't begin her day with a smile on her face, a compliment always increases her happiness and makes her day better. The happiness it brings her is something she likes to return and always spreads compliments when she can.

When asked to describe herself in three words, Iliana chose, "Caring, funny and silly because I like to be more a light hearted person but still be mindful of everyone's emotions and everything." Iliana is super spirited on any given day about not just class events but also ASB events.

Her favorite aspect of ASB is the organizing of events, mostly the school wide events. The CarnEvil was one of the events that she especially enjoyed. The feeling when watching the students enjoy the events after months of planning is an amazing happiness.

Seniors (Green Nation)

Treasurer: Jared Montes

The Class of 2023 is having a fantastic senior year planning their prom, senior night, and graduation. All these events are important to the class and require months and months of planning.

Jared Montes is the newly elected treasurer of the senior class and has enjoyed his first year in ASB. The Class of 2023 is lucky to have him as one of their officers.

Jared contributes his artistic skills to rally decorations especially in the bleacher decorations. He enjoys rally days and the set up of all the decorations.

His quiet presence causes him to be very successful at the behind the scenes work like the setup of many events. In fact, he said his favorite part of being a class officer is being able to make an impact on the students' lives.

During ASB, Jared can often be found playing Chess.com which is his most used app. He claims that he will likely beat his opponents in chess.

Furthermore, Jared's most used emoji is the streaming tears emoji which he uses to show laughter in a conversation.

When not at school, Jared loves to take drives to clear his mind. It doesn't matter where he is going, he enjoys the simplicity of just driving. Jared has fond memories of fixing cars including recently fixing the car door on his own car.

Although he didn't drive, Jared had a fantastic time in Reno, Nevada because he was able to go to a casino. This is one of his favorite travel memories.

SHRED YOUR WORRIES AWAY!

BY MAGGIE K.



On January 20th, West Campus participated in the first Wellness Day of 2023. Wellness Days are events that are specific to West Campus to encourage students to take a deep breath, reflect, and have a positive mindset. Being so close to finals and the end of the semester, stress was in the air. The Campus-Relation positions of ASB chose a shredding theme for this Wellness Day.

The quad was filled with music from the speakers, and on the 'Senior Stage' there were shredding machines. Tables were set around the grass area with paper and markers for students to write what was on their mind. Students had the opportunity to shred old papers or write a note to shred.

The idea was to liberate each individual from the stress that had been weighing down on their shoulders. Some students used it as an opportunity to shred concerns of classes while others found personal weaknesses to shred.

It was an amazing way to leave some worries in 2022. Finals week was right around the corner, so it was nice for a little bit to distract from the stress of such large tests.

If you shredded some paper for fun, or did it to shred away some worries, I think everyone can agree that this Wellness Day was a great success. I look forward to all the future Wellness Days this year!



BASKETBALL STARS!!

BY Derek Chan

Headlining the winter sports teams is our amazing girls basketball team. Currently undefeated with a record of 9-0, these girls have been tearing up competition all year. Led by captain Lani Edinburgh, who is in the top 25 of scorers in the state of California, this small yet mighty group has had multiple blow out games with 40+ point margins.

Here are some questions we had for the girls basketball team captain:

How has this season changed compared to last season taking on a leadership role?

"It has changed a lot since we only have 1 senior and since we won sections last year, we have a target on our backs which creates more pressure for our inexperienced players. There has been a lot going on in everyone's lives now that we are majority juniors and we have been trying to balance both aspects of our life."

What has been your experience playing girls basketball at west campus?

"My experience has been a journey these past two years. There's been a lot of blood sweat and tears put into these seasons and the hard work is paying off. There's still a long way to go but we have made tremendous progress within ourselves on and off the court. It has been frustrating, fun and hilarious. we have a great group of girls here and I'm glad i was able to get the opportunity to play with these girls."

Talia Quady, a valuable member of the team, shared her perspective regarding girls basketball at West Campus.

"There are many pros and cons playing at West Campus. Some of the pros are that we get more playing time and much more individual focus as we are such a small team. Having only 8 members of the team, building team synergy and becoming closer as a group is much easier. However some of the cons are that since each member is that much more valued, players often push themselves too far. Injuries become that much more detrimental and sometimes players will have to play through an injury."

Women's basketball is a very undervalued and under-represented sport, but this is especially true at West Campus. Compared to other sports, girls basketball hardly gets fans to attend. Players on the team have said that it comes across like no one cares and there is no support.

So if you ever get a chance, come check out these amazing players!



FORK VS SPOON: THE BATTLE OF THE SOUP-EATING UTENSILS TYLER RAY (11)

When it comes to eating soup, the question of whether to use a fork or a spoon is a hot topic. But which is the better choice? Let's take a closer look.

The fork is a great option for those who prefer to keep their hands clean while eating. It's also great for spearing any solid ingredients in your soup, like meat or vegetables. However, the tines of the fork can make it difficult to scoop up the liquid part of the soup.

The spoon, on the other hand, is the classic choice for soup eating. Its rounded bowl makes it easy to scoop up both solid and liquid ingredients, and it's also great for slurping up the last bits of broth. However, the spoon can be a bit messy, and it's not as versatile as the fork when it comes to spearing ingredients.

In the end, it's not about which utensil is better, but about which utensil is better for the soup you're eating. Whether you're sipping on a delicate consommé or digging into a hearty stew, there's a utensil out there that's perfect for the occasion. So choose wisely, your life may depend on it.

"SHE KILLED MONSTERS, IT WAS AWESOME"

By Giada Bhan

Last week, the West Campus Drama Club put on a stunning production of the hit dramedy *She Kills Monsters* by Qui Nguyen. This play follows teenage Agnes exploring the world of Dungeons and Dragons to learn more about her deceased sister, geeky Tilly Evans. This show was comprised of two casts: the Dungeons and the Dragons.

The Dragons cast included many new faces, while the Dungeons cast featured many actors from past productions. Mallory Shields, from the Dungeons cast, played the show's leading dead sister: Tilly. Mallory was a returning actor from West Campus Drama's production of *Clue*. She related to Tilly's "childish and dramatic younger sister attitude" but not to her D&D skills, revealing that she actually didn't know how to play.

A new face starred in the Dragons cast: freshman Madalynn Falconer as Agnes. As it was her first time acting in a show, she was worried she wouldn't be able to connect to her, but she tapped into her real-life older sister experience to effectively portray Agnes's relationship with her younger sister Tilly.

Another interesting character in the play was the narrator, played by Justine Chueh-Griffith in the Dungeons cast. She remarked how enjoyed playing such a unique role in the play as a person who could break the fourth wall. Justine went on to say that the play was well-written, doing a great job of balancing humor and heart, using interesting characters and two worlds to do so. "Also there's lesbians, so that's pretty cool."

Of course, none of this would have been possible without our wonderful directors: Annabelle Davis & Margaret Oehmke. These two put their all into the show to make it the best possible.

Annabelle went into the show with experience directing *Grease* and *Encanto* and expressed that while the show had been no easy feat, she loved watching the actors in *She Kills Monsters* develop in their characters as rehearsals progressed. Maggie commented on her first time directing, saying that she was "in absolute awe of the people in both casts and the work and effort they put into developing the play and their individual characters."

Like Maggie, we all were in awe of everyone that worked on the show -actors, directors, and crew- and West Campus cannot wait to see what they have planned for the spring musical!



Editors: Amelia Fung and Julia Kehoe

Writers: Destanee Ballinger, Clayden Shennen, Sujey Farias, Tyler Ray, Maggie Kinikin, Alexander Zepeda, Gracie Miller Segura, Alina Danchin, Giada Bhan, Derek Chan

Photographers: Keith Coles and Gracie Miller Segura

