



THE WV VOICE

Welsh Valley Middle School

January 2017

Misinformation

By: Elias Catania

Information can spread very quickly and there is not an easy way to tell if the information is true or not. Just like the kids' game, Whisper Down the Lane, whatever is said at first almost always changes by the end of the line. Misinformation is very similar to this; if someone says something partially true and they tell it to their friends who tell their friends who tell their friends everything gets mixed and anyone could get angry or confused at another person. The situation gets out of hand and that never ends well.

When it comes to books, they are edited and checked several times before they are published. It is completely different for web sites. Anyone can write a piece of misinformation and post it. There are no editors or fact checkers and many people will just believe what they read.

One contributor to the problem is that many websites need to get viewers to make money with ads and such. If they don't get new content up quickly, then they won't get many viewers. Instead of editing and checking their work, they write whatever they think about the topic and end up giving misinformation.

Social media is probably one of the greatest offenders of delivering misinformation. There are tons of false news stories, people passing opinion off as fact, and photo shopped pictures on social media outlets like Facebook and Twitter. Sadly, there is no way to stop it. The best we can do is to be very careful about what you believe and what not to. Know that not everything you see or read is read!



A dangerous trendy way to distribute misinformation is called Clickbait and is a growing problem. Clickbait is when a person puts up a lie to get people to watch the video so they can get more views. For example, there is this video on Youtube entitled "Found new Iphone 7 and Beats headphones with lots of other tech stuff." When watching the video, you'll notice there are 10 million views but a bunch of dislikes. However, the video is really just a box that was planted and they didn't find any of the things they said they did. There is no real way to tell how much clickbait is out there, so be careful. You never know what you will stumble upon.

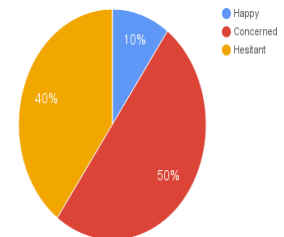
Computer Viruses are another factor connected to misinformation and click bait. Have you ever gotten a message saying you just won an iphone or a bunch of money? You many even have been tempted to take the survey or give your personal information to get whatever the pop up virus says you got. According to Wikipedia, around 2012 there was 18 million counted viruses, but there is much more by today. All you have to do is look in your inbox to find pop up ads and viruses. It doesn't look like this issue is going away anytime soon, so the best we can do is be aware and not make decision solely based on what we see online. We need to think for ourselves and draw our own conclusions!

Will President-Elect Donald Trump Really Make America Great Again?

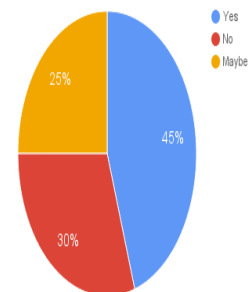
by Abby Parks and Sarah Levy

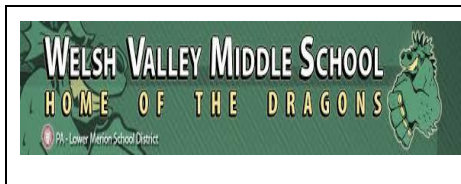
Donald Trump will become the 45th president on January 20, 2017. This past election will surely go down in history as the most controversial and perhaps dividing. Although the voting age is 18, middle school students have opinions, too. So, we asked Welsh Valley students a few questions. How do you feel? Check out the results.

How Do Students Feel about Trump Being President



Do the Election Results Effect Students at WV?





Riddle Me This

There's a bomb on top of a computer. Around the computer there are keys, a phone, a hairbrush, and a cup. When the explosion is set off, what item is destroyed first?

Email your answer to Ms. Dubashi at Dubashm@lmsd.org. The first person with the winning answer will be mentioned on the announcements!

A Message to New Teachers

By: Abby Parks

There are a lot of new teachers at Welsh Valley this year. And just like if you were to move to a new school, it might be scary for the teachers, too. So, we interviewed Mrs. Wolfe, who has been a teacher here for 12 years. Hopefully, this would be helpful to the new teachers here at WV.

Q: What is the most important thing that you have learned over the years of teaching?

A: It is ok to be crazy and I always learn I never stop learning. I mean it's ok to teach outside of the box.

Q: What is your favorite thing about being a teacher?

A: My favorite thing about being a teacher is that I get to teach what I love "history" and I get to teach creatively.

Q: What is your favorite thing about Welsh Valley?

A: My favorite part of Welsh Valley is my colleges, the people I can go to and I learn from, and the new teachers. It is not just teachers, but the whole staff.

Q: What advice would you give to a new teacher here?

A: Be positive and love what you do!! Communicate, collaborate, listen to advice, but always trust your gut!!

Internet Trends

By: Lily Greenberg

Internet trends. Huge on the internet in a second and referenced-no-more in a week. Yet, they are all the rage at Welsh Valley.

The bottle flip is a special trend that has been around for a few months, and has even had apps made for it. Bottle flipping has been banned at Welsh Valley, and for some team, water bottles have been banned in class for the year! It has become a problem, a distraction and just plain annoying in class. According to an interview in Teen Vogue, Michael Senator dubbed the "water-bottle flipping kid" is to blame. The trend started from a video of a Michael flipping a water bottle at a talent show at Ardrey Kell High School, in Charlotte, North Carolina. And he even thinks it's annoying going as far as to apologize. In Inside Edition, he is quoted as saying, "I want to apologize to all teachers, it's not my intention, not my intention at all, to get your kids distracted."

Another huge trend at Welsh Valley, is P.P.A.P. (AKA, the pen pineapple apple pen song.) You have all probably seen the video of the cheetah-and-snakeskin-clad man dancing and singing about fruits. But, if you haven't, you're in for a treat. This song was performed by a singer named Piko Taro and written by Daimaou Kosaka. Shockingly, he released three others!

This internet trend has actually been used as a reward in some classes. It is called "The Mannequin Challenge." This challenge calls for everyone in a room to freeze in a certain pose. The group is then recorded in their poses while the song "Black Beatles" by Rae Sremmurd, plays. Many famous

The nice thing about these trends is that they encourage people to have fun. There are always new trends popping up all over the web, but that's all for now. Don't forget though, get off the internet for a while and enjoy your friends and family.



Upcoming Events at Welsh Valley

- 7th Grade Social on Friday, January 20th from 7pm-9pm in the Gymnasium
- 8th grade Choral Concert on January 18, 2017
- Welsh Valley Present Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory on the opening night of March 2, 2017.

Thanks to all those that participated in Spirit Week!

Photo credit: M.Dubashi



Death to the Dab

by Andrew Seltz

Inspired by Ms. Dubashi

Dabbing, the trend of yesterday. Dabbing originated from Skippa Da Flippa as a dance but was most popular in 2016. Unfortunately, the trend lasted longer than some other annoying trends. Why dab when you can do something better with your life? Imagine if it were the first day of school and you were talking to someone new and suddenly they dab mid-sentence. What do you think? I mean, how cool can it be to put your arm to your face. **The light is growing dim on the dab, soon, hopefully it will die. DEAD.** So, the next time you think about dabbing, think "Let it die; it's over." Dabbing was just like any other trend at first but it lasted too long. It started getting annoying not just for teachers, but other students. It has even given people injuries according to an article on Totalprosports.com. The article states, "In a very unexpected turn of events, the Denver Broncos will turn to backup quarterback **Brock Osweiler** when they take on the Carolina Panthers at Super Bowl 50 after starter **Peyton Manning** injured himself while taking part in some pregame dabbing." Ouch!



This silly movement went so far that there's an emoji! This is just another reason to stop this trend.



celebrities and athletes have also done the mannequin challenge.

"Andy's Coming" is another internet trend somewhat like the mannequin challenge. In the Andy's Coming challenge, someone yells "Andy's coming!" and everyone falls. This trend comes from the movie, "Toy Story" when the cowboy, Woody yells, "Andy's coming!" and all of the toys fall to the ground. It became a meme when someone put a photo on Pinterest of people in the Disney world "Toy Story" costumes on the ground with the caption "What happens when you say 'Andy's coming' at Disney World."

How to Get Dragon Fire

By Morgan Powell

To get Dragon Fire there are certain expectations. Character in life is what makes people believe in you. It is essential for both individual success and for our community to thrive. Our character is much more than just what we try to display for others to see, it is who we are even when nobody is watching.

Here's what you need to do to get recognized:

Respect around Welsh Valley

- On the bus
- In the hallway
- In the Cafeteria
- At Recess
- In the Auditorium
- By the lockers
- At the Office
- And in the classroom

Respect in Welsh Valley

- To yourself
- And others

Responsibility, zero unexcused absences and unexcused lateness to school. Academic excellence of 80% or higher in all classes or significant academic improvement.

Citizenship, being a stellar Welsh Valley citizen involves an honorable contribution to the Welsh Valley community through your active participation in a school sponsored club, school sports, music program, and/or school events like Build On!

Following all of these will probably get you a dragon fire!

Thank you and Goodbye

By Abby Parks and Jasmine Khawaja

In honor of President Barack Obama's service to our country, below are some of his inspirational words of wisdom.



"If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress."

"If you work hard and meet your responsibilities, you can get ahead, no matter where you come from, what you look like, or who you love."

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

"The future rewards those who press on. I don't have time to feel sorry for myself. I don't have time to complain. I'm going to press on."

"You can't let failures define you. You

How to Actually Follow Through with Your New Year's Resolution

By Sarah Levy

Happy 2017 everyone! This is the time of year that everyone makes a New Year's resolution. Some people vow to get all A's. Some students promise they are going to study more. But, will you actually follow through with it? There are many ways to make sure you actually accomplish your goals.

1. You can write them down and put the paper up somewhere where you will always look at it.
2. You could always tell your resolution to yourself when you go to sleep and when you wake up. You could also tell a family member or someone you see a lot to remind you.
3. You can come up with a plan to make sure your resolution happens. For example, if your resolution is to study harder, make sure you study for days leading up to the test and study for 15 minutes every day for a week (set up an alarm.) Then you would have studied for 105 minutes! You could also study with friends or ask teachers for help.

These tips seem easy enough to do. Good luck and have a happy and healthy 2017!

Mix It Up Day

Photo Credit: G. Rendler



-Ella-

By - Isabel Prosnitz
Dedicated to Elaine Wisser

At school, there were some people making a library. It was always full of grownups calling out words like, "Fiction!" and, "Mystery!" I asked mam what they meant. She said that they were types of books. "I have a mystery," I told her, "the mystery of why no kids come and work to put in the books." Miss, my teacher, says we've gotta be nice to the helper ladies. I didn't want to, so every time that we passed the room that was supposed to be a library, I stuck out my tongue. The lady in the pink jacket just smiled and waved. She was there every day. Two weeks later, the pink lady brought someone with her. She brought a girl. I didn't like her because she solved my mystery. The girl wore a blue shirt and fancy boots. I decided to investigate her. During library time, when I usually ask to go to the bathroom and then decide to walk in the hallways, I looked at the blue girl. Walking over to where the word "mystery" was spelled, M-Y-S-T-E-R-Y, I stuck my nose in a book called *Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Monkey House*.

Then, I looked over the edge just like spies do in movies. Turned out I didn't have to do that. The blue girl walked right over to me and said, "Hi! My name is Eleanor, but most people call me Ella. I'm in third grade. What is your name?"

Why was she being so nice to me? She was one year older, too. "I'm Grace."
"How are you?"
"I'm good." I said, "And how're you?"

"Oh, I'm feeling just stupendous!" I sat just there looking at her waiting for a definition.

"Stupendous means totally amazing. It is a very big word."

"I know what stoo-pen-dus means!" I told her, even though I hadn't. Just then, Miss called us kids back and all I could think of was Ella, with her fancy boots and big words. At home, mam asked me how my day was. "It was stupendous." I told her.

"Oooh!" Mam said, "That's a big word. I guess Ellen actually taught you something today!" She winked. Ellen is Miss's real name, but she yells at people if they call her that. She says that Miss is an important name, but Ellen is a lowly, sad one. I don't think Ellen is a lowly name. It sounds like Ella.

The next day, Ella wasn't there. I was feeling brave, so I walked up to the pink lady who I thought would be Ella's mam. "Ma'am?" I said cautiously, "Where is Ella?"

"Why, she is back at her new foster home!"

"Her... foster home?"

To be continued...

Jokes and Jabs

1. What do you call a crossbreed of a cow and a shark?
2. Why did the shark keep swimming in circles?
3. What washes up on tiny beaches?

Answers:
1. I don't know but I don't want to milk it
2. It had a bloody nose
3. a microwawe



Are you interested in being published in the school newspaper, but you don't have time to come to our Wednesday meetings? You can still see your work in the WV Voice. See Ms. Dubashi in A207 for details.

Want to finish reading? Check on Ms. Dubashi's eboard for the complete story. Look under the tab labeled Student Writing.