

VALENTINES DAY NOSTALGIA

Remembering the good days

Valentine's covered shoe boxes decorated with hearts, stickers and full of homemade Valentines for all the people of the third grade maybe including that extra special Valentine heart that said "Be Mine" kept from the others to give to that special someone. Valentine's day, some students have said, is not all the hype it used to be in grade school. As students grow older, and Valentine's day comes around, it's not unusual for students to reminisce and longingly remember what Valentine's day used to be like when it was more than having a "special someone".

"When I was younger it would usually be on a school day, so we'd wake up and we'd open a few little gifts like candies. I don't know why, but we usually had Valentine's day pajamas so me and my sister wrote little cards to our family," said eighth-grader, Meghan Maxwell.

"[In elementary school on Valentine's day] I'd make boxes to take to school and you'd put candy in it," seventh-grader, Morgan Waters said.

"[On Valentine's day in grade school] we would have a party and give out chocolates and heart-shaped chocolates," seventh-grader, Kyle Murphy said. It is said by many that throughout the years

Valentine's day loses it's significance due to many pressures that students experience during middle school and high school. Everyday on social media, students see celebrities and their favorite Internet sensations with their boyfriends and girlfriends. The familiar term "relationship goals" is also seen through all forms of social media making some feel like they will always be "forever alone" or like a loner.

"[Valentine's day now is] not that big of a deal. I usually don't get Valentine's day pajamas either," Maxwell said.

"I think to most people it is [about having a boyfriend or girlfriend on Valentine's day]," Katie Welch, seventh grader said.

Though Valentine's day is the holiday of love, to many it's also about loving and appreciating friends and family, which, for some people, was always more important in elementary school.

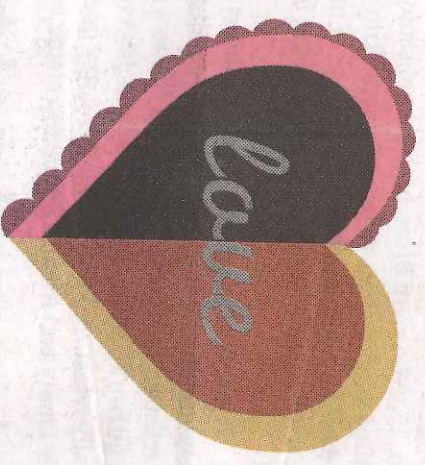
Though not all of the students believe this. Some make it clear that Valentine's shouldn't be about relationships or dating, and that spending time with those you love is more important.

"[On Valentine's day in present time] I send notes to my loved one," Murphy said. "I mean it could have stuff to do with

[having a boyfriend or girlfriend on Valentine's day] but just because you don't have a boyfriend or girlfriend doesn't mean you can't do Valentine's day. You can still write to your friends and family and tell them how much you love them as well," Jaica Evans, eighth-grader said.

According to students thoughts, middle school relationships aren't the highlight of Valentine's day at all. Spending time with family and showing how much you love them is much more important to the students here at Willow Springs.

-Lulu Butler, Section Editor and Lia Hopkinson, Staff Writer
graphic by: shae daugherty



"And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson" Premieres

"*And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson*," the One Act Play for WSMS theatre, will be performed in competition on Feb. 27 in Prosper ISD.

"It's a really fun show," says Stephen Godfrey, an eighth grader, "There are some awkward parts, but I really enjoyed doing it."

Both seventh and eighth graders are part of the OAP production. The play follows in the footsteps of previous performances, such as "*A Girl Called*

Opal". The new OAP promises all of the great theatre techniques that have made the plays in the past memorable and fun for everyone.

"It's set in the 1850s-area," said Grace Cowan, a seventh-grader, who plays the roles of "Woody Mathews" and one of the furies in and plays the role of Reverend.

"It takes place in Indiana, and is about a crippled girl who has polio, named Elizabeth. It's kinda sad and has a really tragic ending" The play is set in Jack-

son, Indiana (a fictional city in the play).

"It is difficult portraying an individual crippled by polio because I never can move my legs and am in a wheelchair," Madeleine Konecny, seventh grader who plays the lead role. "But it is fun because I get to throw the wheelchair in one scene."

-Jack Marsden, Staff Writer
photo by: zoe allison

