

# different APPROACH

With Mardi Gras parties, Mock Trials, and impressionist art pieces, the Language Arts department used active strategies to involve students in literature, providing skills and a fun break from the norm.

With interactive forms of teaching becoming more prominent in classes, teachers found unique and unorthodox ways to engage students in learning. Have these fun activities helped or hindered the class?

**Interactive lessons engage readers**

Nina Kogan's answer was positive. "I think it definitely helps, I know it's not the right thing for some people, but personally for me, I really like hands-on learning and doing different things, and even though this isn't something that I'm used to it really helps me a lot," Nina Kogan (9) said.

In Kogan's 9th grade Advanced LA9 class with Ben Reed, she found that fun events-like a Mock Trial over the death of a character in one of their books, or weekly review games-helped her writing skills and overall comprehension.

James Harford's answer was mixed. "Depends on the project, can be either helpful or hindering...the project has help to better understand the material, not just be busy work," James Harford (12) said.

In Harford's AP Literature class with Jane Felknor, he found that what set it apart how meaningful the work was. 'Art of Darkness', in which students had to draw scenes from *Heart of Darkness* in an impressionistic style so they could understand how the book and the art use similar techniques, gave Harford insight into the text.

page by mae harmon



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**ART OF LITERATURE** Sophia Le (12) and Grace Wade-Stein (12) work on their impressionist interpretations of a scene from *Heart of Darkness* in Jane Felknor's AP Literature class. It was a project to help students approach the book with an impressionist mindset. "You have to have read the whole thing and then take a step back from it and look at the meaning as a whole," Wade-Stein said. **OBJECTION!** Nina Kogan (9) swears in before a mock trial over the murder of Lennie in *Of Mice and Men* in Ben Reed's LA9 class. "It was really engaging; I learned a lot more from the book," Kogan said. **GOT BEADS?** Bonnie Nicole Reading (12), Ainslee Reese (12), Mary Sinsel (12), and Jonah Rondash (12) show off their beads after a New Orleans themed unit in Mary Prassa's AP Lit class. Sinsel felt that activities like this made for great bonding moments between classmates. "We had Lucile's come and cater and we got beads... everybody was dancing... it was great," Sinsel said.



photo by bonnie katzive

## bittersweet GOODBYES

Morgan Martin (12) and Grace Wade-Stein (12) work out the style guide for this year's edition of the Literature Magazine. Both seniors had been a part of

Writer's Society since freshman year, and graduated along with six other senior members.

"My parting words are just don't lose sight of the goal being the appreciation of art and writing and words and stuff like that. I think that all of that is really worth preserving and compiling and celebrating," Wade-Stein said.



photo by mae harmon



photo by ruth fager

**CHOPPED!** Eudocio (Phil) Phronesius (11) and Kayla Root (12) focus on a fun teambuilding exercise in Yearbook class. Root found that the class improved her social skills. "It's one of my favorite classes. I think it's a lot of fun to actually go and meet new people; I think that it's helped me be more open because I used to be really shy," Root said.

## yearbook AND NEWSPAPER

**PRESSING NEWS** Lia Farrell (10), *The Pack's* cartoonist, considers a page with Editor-in-Chief India Turner (11), Adviser Ben Reed, and Nathan Phillips (10). Farrell has appreciated the new connections she has to the school because of her work on *The Pack*. "You get to create stuff that people are actually going to see and you get to make an impact in the school," Farrell said.



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