

1. UNDER THE SURFACE Dissecting and watching, Jordan Whitehead, 12 and Katie Bennett, 12 are observing the anatomy of a shark. "I did not know that sharks had such a huge liver, because I had never really seen the inside of any marine mammal that's on the larger side, so it was cool to actually see in real life the things we were learning about," Whitehead said. They both collected new knowledge of the anatomy of sharks

PHOTO BY MRS. ANASTASIA HARRISON



2. FROM THE INSIDE OUT Taking in the smells and oils of the dogfish shark, Colton Plentyhoops, 12, works towards a successful dissection. "Just seeing all of the organs of a shark was pretty cool, I thought it was interesting and I learned that sharks have similar organs as humans," Plentyhoops said. **3. CUTTING IT CLOSE** Cutting open a shark, Hunter Schumacher, 12, participates in a hands-on learning experience. "My favorite part was learning about the anatomy and doing the lab with my friends, and I learned that sharks smell a lot worse than I thought they would," Schumacher said. The shark lab provided many students with an in-depth lesson on the anatomy of sharks. PHOTOS BY MRS. ANASTASIA HARRISON



WE GOT QUESTIONS

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES?

MR. MICHAEL CORDOVA

"My favorite part of conferences every year is the opportunities to see the families that I haven't seen in a long time. I have built some wonderful relationships with Legend families and it's fun to catch up and see how their student is doing. I also enjoy hearing what former Legend students are up to and what schools they are attending." PHOTO BY KAYLIN MCRAE

MRS. CALLY MACOSKO

"My favorite part of conferences is meeting so many parents! I usually think parents are intimidating, so these face-to-face conversations really help me establish a positive connection with them. I also really like to have a specific time set in my schedule to have important conversations about students. It can be challenging to set up meetings during the week, but conferences gives us that time automatically." PHOTO BY KAYLIN MCRAE



4. TEAM WORK Comparing the diagram to the actual shark, Laney Felder, 12, Tyler Vockel, 12, and Isabella Bartels, 11, help each other dissect the shark. They worked as a team to grasp full understanding. "Whenever he would need help, I would open the shark up or cut, or do whatever was needed," Bartels said. PHOTO BY ANASTASIA HARRISON



5. LIVER, ANYONE? Touching the liver of a shark, Amy Voss, 12, and Jonathan Duca, 11 were interested with the content of the shark lab. "The most fascinating part to me was that even though the shark was dead, it still had oils coming out of its body." The smells and information embedded in the experience is why the shark lab is one that will not be forgotten by any student who has the opportunity to participate. PHOTO BY ANASTASIA HARRISON **6. BURSTING AT THE SEAMS** Opening the shark, Sierra Holmes, 11, is apart of the shark lab. Aquatic Biology provides students like Holmes with a once in a lifetime experience. **7. HANDS ON** Explaining the important anatomy of a shark in the shark lab to Anthony Carter, 12, Mrs. Rachel Stewart, is the teacher who brought Aquatic Biology to our school. "I wanted to offer an elective that students were interested in. It is my goal in the class that students take what they learn and apply it to life. I want my students to walk away with a greater appreciation of the aquatic environment and learn to appreciate it." Stewart said. PHOTO BY MRS. ANASTASIA HARRISON



"I FEEL AQUATIC BIOLOGY IS SOMETHING THAT YOU USE IN RECREATION AND TRAVEL FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE."

I'VE GOT THIS

WHAT HAVE YOU ACCOMPLISHED THAT YOU ARE PROUD OF?

MADISON ALBRITTON, 12

"I chose to take a different path this year by being in a cosmetology program and it has taken me out of my comfort zone."

NICOLE ROSE, 11

"Some of my biggest accomplishments I have done this year is keeping my grades up while doing extra sports, being in a couple AP classes, and taking on a job. This year I've really stepped outside of my comfort zone and made new friends."

HAILEN PAUKERT, 12

"This year, I have gone out of my comfort zone and tried lots of new things. I've always been introverted and this year I'm more outgoing. I think I have made really good friends and they have helped me accomplish my goals."

RYLIE DONAHUE, 12

"I've gotten out of my comfort zone. I try not to stay with the crowd and be myself while not letting people affect who I'm becoming. I'm happy with where I'm at and where I'm going."

JULIA JAKUBOSKI, 11

"I've really gone after my goals. I was afraid of failing, but in reality, I was holding myself back from success. I've accomplished more than I could ever imagine. This year, I have become a state officer for a national organization, and this is something that I never dreamed I would be able to do."

EMILY JOHNSON, 12

"This year, I have put in the effort to talk to new people and try different clubs and activities. It feels good to mix it up. One thing I have done this year was win a Golden Key award for one of my photography pieces that I have worked really hard on."

STUDENTS WORK TOGETHER TO UNDERSTAND THE ANATOMY OF A SHARK DURING THE SHARK LAB

DIVING DEEP

BY KAYLIN MCRAE

Senior Jordan Whitehead has always been fascinated with the unknown beneath the surface of the ocean, and has developed a deeper drive for a career in the field.

"I have been around the ocean a lot ever since I was really little, for someone who lives in Colorado. Aquatic Biology is really the only thing that is really interesting to me, and I think I found the thing that I want to study for the rest of my life," Whitehead said.

Labs like the shark dissection on October 4th drew Whitehead to Aquatic Biology. She enjoys the connection between education and the real world.

"For me, actually applying what I'm learning in the class to real life, making everything more real and worth it because anyone can look at a diagram of a shark but to actually see one in front of you is totally different," Whitehead said.

This year, Whitehead has expanded her experience in the field

with an internship at the Denver Aquarium. She will teach and learn new about the ocean and the animals while doing the internship.

"I'm going to start an internship at the Denver Aquarium and basically I'll spend my time there being an aquarium guide, learning about all of the different exhibits and teaching the public about them. So when people come in and have questions, I'll be one of the people they can go to," Whitehead said.

Between Whitehead's interest in the subject and the opportunities available, she has decided to continue her education and ultimately become an aquatic biologist in the future.

"I don't know exactly what I want to study, but I'm pretty sure that I want to study some marine mammal, possibly sharks, and I hope to one day be an aquatic biologist because just being around the ocean made me very curious because it's so different than you can find on land, it's a whole different atmosphere," Whitehead said.

WHAT PLANS DO YOU GOT?

MR. TIM TITZER

"I have all the students' grades prepared and have all of their tests ready so their parents can see recent tests so that we have something to talk about, because it is always best to have something to refer to if students are having trouble."

MR. NIKOLAS MILES

"I communicate to parents I would really like to see, usually kids with D's or F's and pretty much see what parents want to see and cater it to their concerns. I usually give a short description of the philosophy of my class and what I want the students to accomplish."

MRS. ANASTASIA HARRISON

"I bring my computer with me so that I can pull up each student's grade, as well as help parents navigate the programs their students use in my classes, like Canvas and Trello. I think it really helps for parents to see how they work so they can understand what their students are working on."

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FALL
OCT. 1-7
SHARK LAB AND CONFERENCES