

***Bye Bye Birdie* set to take the stage**



Photo contributed by Angie Straub

IMMS cast members get direction from Dee Dee Bouzak at the McFarland Performing Arts Center.

By Staff

IMMS students are ready to take the stage this week to present the musical *Bye, Bye Birdie, Youth Edition*. The production is described as a fun, family-friendly musical that tells the story of small-town teens in Sweet Apple, Ohio, as they prepare for rock 'n' roll star Conrad Birdie's farewell appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show." Full of catchy

songs, hilarious antics, and heartwarming moments, this junior version of the classic Broadway hit captures the excitement of the 1950s pop culture craze while exploring themes of love, change, and finding your voice.

Performances are scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30-Feb. 1, at the MHS Performing Arts Center.

Breakfast survey

By Ben Carr
IMMS Grade 7

Hello! This issue's big survey is going to be on the school breakfasts. According to Jacki Ribble, our Director of School Nutrition, about 100 people get school breakfast daily. But, is it up to par? This survey will cover that and answers to these questions: Do you take it? Is it good? Is it nutritious? And what else do you have to say about it?

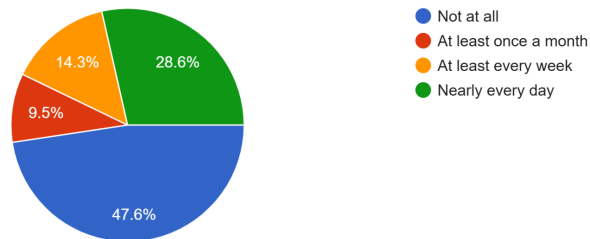
Of the 21 people who took the survey, more than a third were eighth graders, suggesting that eighth graders may take breakfast more often than the other grades. Next, about half of the students don't even take breakfast, but of the half who do, about a quarter of them take it daily.

Next, people don't really like the breakfasts a ton, as most of the responses were either a 1 or 2 out of five. But, there are a good number of responses who thought it was a four out of five for quality and portion size. However, people don't really think the breakfasts are nutritious.

Some takeaways: Most people would like more nutritious options, more quality and bigger portions. So, maybe some changes could be made. That is all for now though. Bye!

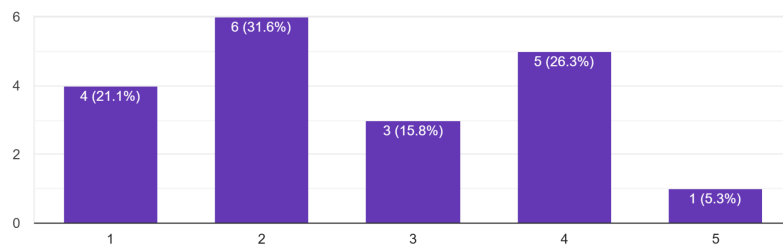
How many times have you eaten breakfast at school this year? Select the answer that is most true for you.

21 responses



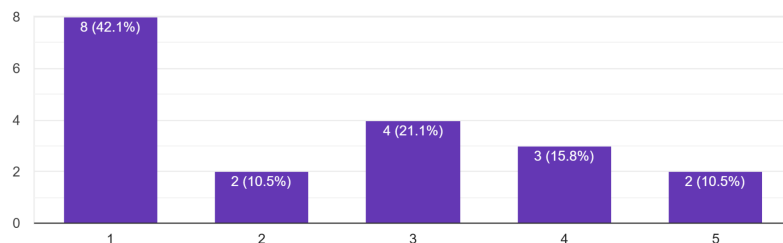
How would you rate the breakfast options for quality?

19 responses



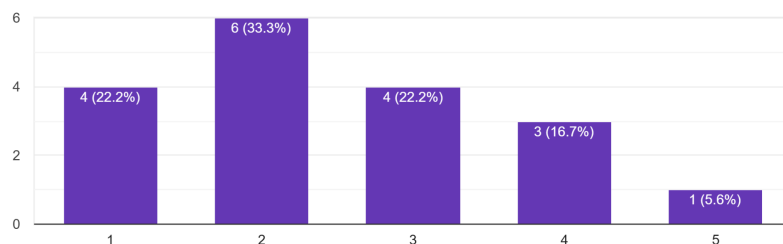
How would you rate the breakfast options for nutrition?

19 responses



How would you rate the quantity of the breakfast portions?

18 responses



Pet photo contest winners



The winner of the IMMS Messenger 2025 Pet Photo Contest is sixth grader Charlie Ward's photo "Mojo's Post-Bath Glow: Wet, Wild, and Ready to Go!" The photo is top left.

Second place was earned by eighth grader Elizabeth Loy's photo "Night Sleep," featuring her cat Ghost, below left.

Third place went to eighth grader Lenny DeSimone's photo of Maxine, below right.

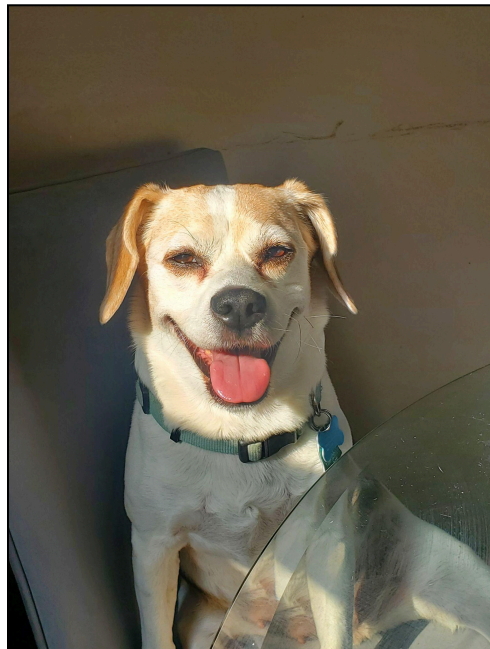


More students share their furry friends



Although these photos did not win a spot in the contest, we would like to share these additional fun entries. Above, eighth grader Ellie Jasinski shares her photo of Riley.

At right: Top photo is eighth grader Cece Norgord's titled "I got this," featuring her pet Yukio; and the center is Kleo, the dog belonging to eighth grader Norma Prado, and at bottom, seventh grader Aoife Wallock's dog, Forest, watching TV.



What are IMMS students' favorite subjects?

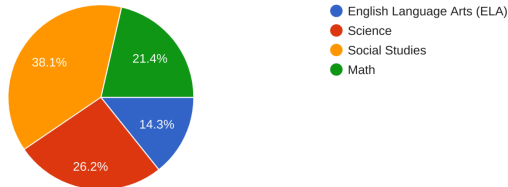
By Alex Grossman

IMMS Grade 7

Did you know that social studies is the most liked subject among your peers at IMMS? Students have a lot of different opinions about the four main subjects. (These are social studies, ELA, math, and science). The newspaper staff made a survey to find out why students like their favorite subjects, and what students would change about their least favorite subjects.

What is your favorite school subject?

42 responses



What do students like?

The first two questions on our survey asked what students' favorite subject is and why it's their favorite. We had many responses from varying grade levels. Social studies won by a pretty large amount with 38.1% of picks. Science took the number two spot with 26.2% of picks. Sadly, students from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade are less fond of math and ELA. There are many reasons why a student likes a certain class whether it be any of the four, but the responses quoted will be from the top two. Being social studies and science. Usually, the students who picked social studies either liked their teacher/class, or liked the cool facts they learned there.

"I like social studies because Ms. Halverson makes it fun and we still learn," describes one student.

"I like social studies because Mr. Martina is really funny and chill," says another student.

Clearly the eighth-grade social studies teachers are liked by students. Many students like social studies because of their general interests.

"I like social studies because I like maps and geography," says one student.

This shows that it doesn't just depend on how a teacher teaches class to make someone like or dislike the class. It mostly depends on if they're interested to begin with.

Students also responded with love to science. They like it for similar teacher reasons and that it's very hands-on.

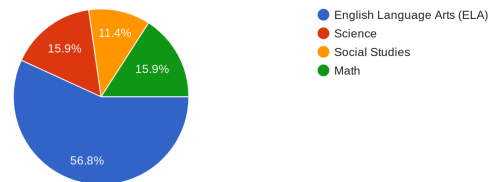
"I like science because my teacher is really fun," says one student.

"I like science because it's just generally more fun and you get to be active and curious," describes another.

Overall, many factors go into what a student likes about a subject and it isn't always dependent on what a teacher does right or wrong. (Tips for teachers on the next column).

What is your least favorite subject?

44 responses



What do students not like?

The second two questions on our survey asked students what their least favorite subject was and why. As you can see, the results are somewhat skewed. ELA is by far the least-liked subject with 56.8 percent of students picking it. The reason why is mostly because of their interests. It's sad, but true. Most kids either struggle with it, or just don't like it.

"I don't like ELA because I don't like reading, nor writing," says one student.

When a student doesn't like a class because they simply aren't interested in it, there isn't much you can do. But you can always make class more interesting by making lessons more engaging and interactive.

A second reason for not liking ELA is because they struggle with it. Students struggle with ELA the most out of the four subjects.

"I don't like ELA because I'm very bad at it and it's hard to understand," says one student.

When a student doesn't like a subject because they struggle with it, you can help them in a few ways. One thing teachers should do is check in with each student. Students might not want to ask a question by raising their hand because they could be embarrassed. Asking each individual student something as simple as, "Do you understand everything here?" could help them immensely. The second way I'd help is by slowing down. Some students need more time to think, or process the information. Overall there are lots of ways to fix students' hatred towards ELA.

Many clubs available and what you can expect

By Finn Weichelt
IMMS Grade 7

IMMS offers many clubs open to all students, and some to specific students. To find out about clubs starting or meeting, you can look at the daily morning announcements.

One club you could join is homework club. Do you ever feel like you are running behind on homework? You could join homework club to finish your homework on time and maybe be a math genius! The homework club meets before and after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Another club you could join is Crochet Club, in room 150, Ms. Younger's room. You could bring yarn and a hook, or you don't have to. The Crochet Club meets Thursdays after school.

Another club you could join is GSA. It meets in room 134, Ms. Meyer room, with Ms. Zamistil also advising. GSA club is a drop-in, supportive, social club for members of the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies. In GSA, you can play games, have great discussions, spread positivity, and often have treats. GSA meets on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30.

Another club you could join is Club Unified, formerly known as Alliance of Allies. Club Unified meets in room 121, on Thursdays, and the club leaders are Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Woodlock. Club Unified meets at 7:45 a.m.

Another club you could join is Student Council.

Student Council meets in room 138, and Mr. Williams is the club leader. Student Council meets Mondays at 7:45 a.m.

Another club that has started is Classroom Librarians. Are you interested in sorting books? Reading? Join classroom librarians! Classroom Librarians meet in whatever your ELA class is, and it meets on Fridays, just remember to grab your pass from your ELA teacher before lunch. Your books are waiting for you!

Another club that you can join is Lunch Art Club, which is like normal art club but it meets at lunch, and only the seventh graders are in this club. Lunch Art Club meets once every week, and don't forget to bring your lunch with you. Also, you will learn about painting!

Another club that you could join is Art Ambassadors, a club for eighth grade only, and you can draw art and paint!

Another club that you can join is NCoS/PCU. NCoS/PCU meets Tuesdays, from 8-8:45 a.m., in the Orchestra room.

You could also join the science bowl teams. The science bowl teams meet by grade level in Ms. Donagan's room, room 101. Sixth grade meets from 3:40 to 4:40 on Wednesdays, and the seventh and eighth-grade science bowl teams meet at the same time on Tuesdays. If you love science, then science bowl teams are the right club for you!

Have a great day!

IMMS Winter Messenger Staff and Contributors

Raya Becher-Etnier, Kaavi Bezouska, Ben Carr, Alex Grossman, Emma Larson, Luke Larson, Kendall Thorson, Aoife Wallock, and Finn Weichelt. If you would like to get involved, contact Adviser Ms. Ndlovu at Ndlovut@mcfds.org.