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## **GIFTS STAFF AND TEACHERS HAVE RECEIVED**

**by Benjamin Lang and Jennifer Byrd**

Jennifer and I interviewed staff and teachers about presents they have received for a birthday, holiday, or for any reason.

When we asked Cheryl, 5th grade teacher, she said, "For my 40th birthday I was thrown a surprise party."

We also asked the other 5th grade teacher Garn he said, "I was 6 or 7 and I got laser tag."

Next we asked 1st grade teacher Nancy and she answered, "surprise tickets to a Jimmy Buffet concert."

We also asked the music teacher Peggy. She replied, "When I was in fourth grade I received a 10-speed bike for Christmas."

Soon we asked 4th grade teacher Judy. She said, "a trip to the Florida Springs.

Later we asked kindergarten teacher Anne Marie and she told us, "My Miata convertible in 2001."

The preschool director Ann Gorelow, said "a clay pot that my friend gave me 15 years ago."

Soon we asked staff member Megan Vitale and she answered, "When I was 25 I got 5 diamonds from a pin belonging to my grandmother."

Another staff member we interviewed was Dara Simmons. She replied, "When I was 32 my sister kept my kids for five days while my husband and I went on a trip."

Next we asked Head of School Michael Edwards. He said, "Last May some people who work here all chipped in and bought me a watch to celebrate my Doctorate at Vanderbilt."

When we asked Spanish teacher Estella she said, "Four years ago I got an airplane ticket with hotel included to Prague.

Next we asked 2nd grade teacher Lori she answered, "When I was 16 my dad bought me a water ski."

Second to last we asked the 3rd grade teacher Ann. She replied, "A coupon book from my kids that included things like clean the house, breakfast in bed, and take me to dinner."

Finally, last but not least newspaper club director and staff member Jill Freeman answered, "a trip to Aruba this past summer to celebrate my 5-year anniversary."

It was very fun interviewing with this question. Have a great winter break!

## **“WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR WINTER BREAK?”**

**by Savannah Couch**

Lots of people are doing things for Winter Break here they are:

Summer - going to Pennsylvania  
Skyler - traveling to Indiana  
Quinn - staying in a hotel here  
Mia C. - celebrating Christmas

Ben - traveling to Florida  
Tori - traveling to New York  
Estella - having her family come over.

I hope everyone has a great and wonderful Winter Break!!!!!!

## **BOOKS!**

**by Quinn Elliott and Mia Chan**

WE LOVE BOOKS! Below are some of the favorite books of Cliff Valley students:

- *Harry Potter*
- *Percy Jackson*
- *A to Z Mysteries*
- *Magic Tree House*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*

Books are really cool because they can be long or short, fiction or nonfiction, funny or scary, and they are always fun to read!

How do you get a book when you can't drive? Ask your parents. We bet they will love to hear you want a book and they might drive you. Or stop by the Cliff Valley library and check out a book by yourself!

## **MORE WITH MICHAEL**

**by Gabriel Britman**

I had some follow-up questions from my earlier interview with our Head of School, Michael Edwards. I specifically wanted to learn more about his experience living in Germany.

Michael lived in two cities in Germany and they are: Hamburg (for 1 year) and Nuremberg (for 4 months). He stayed in an apartment while living in Germany. Michael said the biggest difference between the two cities

was their size. Other countries he would like to visit include Argentina, Chile, Morocco, Egypt, and Australia.

This is how you say some words in Germany, and here they are:

“Hi” is “hallo”

“What’s your name?” is “Wie heisst du”

“How are you doing?” is “Wie geht’s”

## **ABOUT THIRD GRADE**

**by Skyler Edwards**

Third grade is fun and we are learning a lot of things like how to help the environment and the history of civil rights. In third grade we have three teachers: Ann, Elizabeth, and Hannah. I interviewed one of the 3rd grade teachers, read below to learn more about Ann Mead.

**Ann Mead - 3rd Grade Co-Teacher**

Q: Do you have a pet and what is its name?

A: *I have two pets. I have a standard poodle named Noodle and a cat named Minnie.*

Q: What is your favorite hobby?

A: *My favorite sporting hobbies are playing tennis and jogging. I also like to scrapbook.*

Q: Do you have a funny memory from when you were a kid?

A: *In high school, I was in a talent show play. I got to dump a salad with Italian dressing on someone’s head as part of the play. It was great!*

Q: Did you teach at a different school before Cliff Valley?

A: *I have taught at Lindley Middle School, Blackwell Elementary School, and St. Martin’s Episcopal School.*

Q: How many years have you taught at Cliff Valley?

A: *This is my third year at Cliff Valley.*