

# Embracing literature

## *To read or not to read*

By: Kelsey Fairhurst

### 451 Book Club

If reading was one of students' favorite past times, then 451 Book Club was the club for them. No need to fear, Book Club was not meant for school work, and there were no graded assignments!

Led by **David Harmon, 12**, Book Club was a place to relax and have fun discussing new books. The books were selected every month by the group members and there were no limitations on topics of books. The club typically met once a month, so there was plenty of time to get the books read. The atmosphere was laid-back and run by the students. Voicing opinions was all part of the game. And, as always, food was a must!

**Matthew Weller, 11**, **Valerie Hsiung, 12**, and **Casey York, 10** work diligently for creative writing club. Prompts did not always come easily to those who were writing. Listening to music or chatting with some friends were just some of the ways to get inspiration.

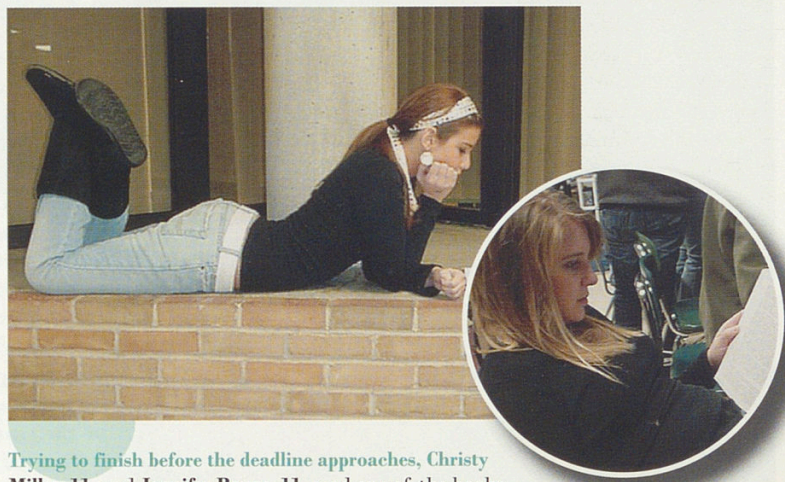


### Leaves of Thought

*Leaves of Thought* was the literary magazine that was produced by the students. Submissions to the magazine, including poems, short stories, photos, and drawings, came all year long. Head editor, **Valerie Hsiung, 12**, and her peers then sorted through all the submissions and picked the literary element that best suit the magazine. The magazine had no specific theme or topic on which they followed.

"Leaves of Thought gives the artistic students here at Sycamore a way to express themselves. It's not just writing, the magazine promotes photography and drawing too," said **Hsiung**.

Editions of the Literary Magazine were produced once a year and cost only \$1.



Trying to finish before the deadline approaches, **Christy Miller, 11**, and **Jennifer Baum, 11**, read one of the books chosen by 451 Book Club. The books ranged from mysteries to romances. There was no specific topic of book to choose from.

### Creative Writing Club

Once a month in spare time after school, a group of talented students gathered to express themselves through written word and language.

Through the use of poetry, essays, short stories, narratives, and a slew of other genres, profound ideas were transferred from the creative minds of the club members. Often listening to music or simply chatting about a topic for inspiration, the club took individuality of thought's and put them on paper.

All in all, the club takes the millions and millions of ways that words could be arranged and produced an original and inventive work.

**Daniel Zimmer, 12**, turns in his entry for *Leaves of Thought*. Any student, not just those in Creative Writing Club, could submit an entry. Students were encouraged to do so by their English teachers.

