

## Funday Cold Day

In one of the many snafus of the week (and Andy's repeated use of the word snafu was certainly not a snafu), the weather cooled down significantly as the week progressed. Early in the week, the 8&under boys debated whether the water was hot-cold or cold-cold. By the end of the week, everyone agreed that the water was just cold. Some Sharks even showed off their C in Chemistry and created some equations to demonstrate how cold the water was. (While the Sharks may get a C in Chemistry and an A in As spelling, they still get an F in Freadinganalogclock). The colder weather and the addition of morning practices did allow for more fun and games at the practices. Although hopes of having a Funday Monday, a Funday Thursday, and a Funday Friday were quickly dashed (Sharks that were waiting for a Funday Thursday may not get in A in As spelling or Arhyming after all), there were still a few games to be played. In the 11&up practice, keyboard management and wind resistance played key roles in the add-a-kickboard relay, as Max Fuster and CG were forced to kick with 8 kickboards. In the 10&under practice, Mitchell Kupersmith won the season's first game of gopher.

## Montgomery Square Meet

On Wednesday night, the Sharks were shining brightly as they took to the road to face off against the Montgomery Square Seahawks. While the Seahawks' automation team was clearly hoping for a return to 2019, the Sharks proved that swimming can be great in 2021 as well. Andrew Butters and Greyson Woolley each dropped 20 seconds in a single event. Mason Aarhus dropped at least 6 seconds in four different events and had two drops of over 10 seconds. Audrey Aarhus, Max Fuster, Alex Lopez, Camden Tropp, Colton Tropp (twice), Alyssa Wang, Angela Wang (twice), Jerry Yang, and Leila Zhang also dropped at least 5 seconds in an event. Mason Aarhus, Cate Ledoux, Marco Minai, and Jerry Yang each had four best times. Kim Abera, Amelia Fuster, Miranda Kvedys, Raimi Kvedys, Alex Lopez, Alyssa Wang, and Angela Wang all earned 3 best times. The Sharks swept 12 events. Kim Abera, Daniel Blate, Nicolas Cheng, CG Combs, Max Fuster, Michael Langer, Cate Ledoux, Alex Lopez, Erica Lopez, Marco Minai, Alex Platzer, Angela Wang, and David Ye contributed to those sweeps. Amelia Fuster won best dressed. With the help of a group text, the 15-18 boys had 100%

participation with the theme. Even without a group text, the 8&under boys (especially Andrew Butters, Luke Hussmann, and Putnam Strong) proved to be the best dancers in the MCSL.

## Friday Activities

On Friday morning, the Sharks attempted to heat up the pool with some "hot takes" as they competed in their first mankillers of the season. After a few snafus from both the judges and participants, Cate Ledoux was able to hold off a hard-charging Marco Minai to deliver the victory for Team 2. We're not sure how the Gopher Dynasty Fuster family feels about Cate's hot take. She may join CG in the list of people that Max has "dqued". Charlie Wernimont impressed the hot take judges the most, as he brought statistics to back up his hot take. The 10&unders didn't warm up the pool, but they did warm up their voices for Saturday morning, as they took part in the now traditional "scream and sprint" to get out of practice. On Friday afternoon, the Sharks enjoyed another BYO Team Picnic and tie-dyed t-shirts thanks to the hard work of many parents.

## Daleview Meet

On Saturday morning, the Sharks (especially best dressed

winner Hawie Abera, Kim Abera, Jason Cobb, and Gabriela Minai) put on their hats and boots and attempted to lasso the Daleview Feet. Dylan Pino got the meet off to a great start; in the span of 3 minutes, he played a beautiful rendition of the national anthem on his cello and dropped 4 seconds in his 100 IM. From there the Sharks never looked back. Thomas Tawk knocked 15 seconds off of his freestyle time for the biggest drop of the day. Kim Abera, Nicolas Cheng, Madison Kelly, Larry Liao, Max Manne, Dylan Pino, Ethan Qian, Thomas Tawk (again), Camden Tropp, Gabi Winnig, and David Ye dropped at least 3 seconds in an event. Jason Cobb, Sidney Thompson, and Andrew Vorozheykin dropped time in four events. Max Fuster, Jordan Kelly, Madison Kelly, Marco Minai, Dylan Pino, Alex Platzer, Olivia Qin, Lucy Stanton, Gabi Winnig, and Jingjing Wu were not far behind with 3 best times. The Sharks won 3 relays. In the men's open age medley, Marco Minai, Jordan Kelly, Max Fuster, and Alex Platzer out-touched a very fast Daleview team. Daniel Blate, CG Combs, Alex Lopez, and Nick Kim added a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. Later, the Sharks took 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in both freestyle relays. Dylan Pino, Jason Cobb, Fuster Kyle, Brandon Pino, Clement Yuryev, Alan Sai, Andrew Vorozheykin, and Lukas Nuredini swam on the boy's relays. Judy Wu,

Maddy Manne, Jingjing Wu, Lindi Cheng, Olivia Qin, Hawie Abera, Madison Kelly, and Julia Liao swam on the girl's relays. Gabi Winnig, Sidney Thompson, Erica Lopez, and Cate Ledoux added a key 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the women's open age medley. 11-12 girls Hawie Abera, Yasmine Badr, Emma Barrow, Melissa Lopez, Maddy Manne, and Lucy Stanton swept all 5 of their events and outscored the Daleview girls 66-14. Lindi Cheng, Katie Wang, and Emily Qian added a sweep in the 8&under girl's backstroke. Jason Cobb, Brandon Pino, and Sidney Thompson swept their events. Lukas Nuredini completed the sweep of the 8&under boy's events. Hawie Abera and Maddy Manne combined to sweep the 11-12 girls events. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in a row, many Sharks stepped up to help the team. Gabriela Minai was added into the meet on Saturday morning. Nicolas Cheng, Gabriela Combs, Juliana Combs, and David Ye added extra events to score valuable points. Daniel Blate and Alex Lopez came to the meet just to swim the medley relay. Lindi Cheng skipped her final lacrosse game to swim the freestyle relay. A record number of Sharks (and a record number of Flower Valley Frogs) celebrated all of these great swims at the Falls Grove Chipotle. A record low number of people celebrated anything at Elevation Burger (thanks to Sabina Blate for helping the Sharks avoid that snafu)

### Best Times

The Sharks got 70 best times against Montgomery Square and got a Saturday morning record of 98 best times against Daleview. Through two weeks they have earned 365 best times.

### Records

Marco Minai, Jordan Kelly, Max Fuster, and Alex Platzer broke the Rockshire Team and Pool Records in the Men's Open Age Medley Relay. Individually, Jordan broke Rockshire Team Records in the 15-18 100 Breaststroke and 100 IM. Jingjing Wu broke the Rockshire Team Record in the 13-14 Girl's 100 IM.

### Upcoming Events

On Monday afternoon, the Sharks will organize by height (maybe we can find out if anyone is actually 5'3) and take the team picture. They will show off their tie-dyed t-shirts as take to the road against Inverness on Wednesday night and Calverton on Saturday morning. On Sunday morning, they will show off their patriotic fervor as they take part in firecracker relays.