

## New Science and Math Teacher

By Katherine Carey

Ted Wong is the new science and math teacher for the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as the science teacher for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mr. Wong says he applied for the position at Brookfield because he was interested in teaching math and the job was open when the prior teacher left in December to move out of state.

Mr. Wong is well qualified for teaching math and science. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley where he majored in social welfare and minored in education. He has both a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and a Supplementary Credential in math.

Before joining the Brookfield staff, he taught in Galt and in the Sacramento City Unified School District. His previous job was as a youth counselor at Stanford Settlement.

While Mr. Wong enjoys science, his favorite topic is math. Mr. Wong is already



demonstrating that he knows just what to do in the classroom, even though it is sometimes difficult to come into a school in the middle of the year. He says his plan is to see what the students are accustomed to and then he will work from there.

Mr. Wong says his teaching techniques are to write up the lesson plans and try to teach in a way that students will enjoy.

Mr. Wong plans to continue the projects that the prior science and math

teacher had planned for the classes. One of those is Science News, a monthly assignment that requires students to find a science newspaper article and summarize it. Mr. Wong says he likes the fact that students learn to summarize the key points from a newspaper story.

He also plans to have students participate in a Science Fair at Cal Expo in March, with each of his students creating and displaying a project.

Mr. Wong was born in  
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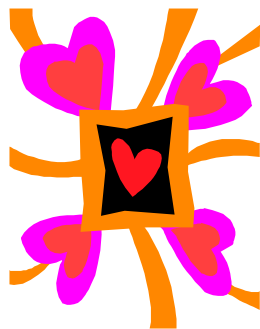
## Valentine's Day Celebrations at Brookfield

By Lauren Michelson

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, most people in America celebrate Valentine's Day. At Brookfield each class has a different tradition.

In the past, the yearbook crew has hosted candy grams – candy canes with messages attached – as a fundraiser to help subsidize yearbook costs. The candy grams have always been popular with students.

However, this year Mrs. Ashizawa has decided not to have candy grams because of two problems: too many hurt feelings, and some kids get more candy than other kids.



Mrs. Ashizawa has decided these problems are too difficult to solve, even though many students may miss this special way of showing friendship for each other.

Other classes will continue with their usual tradi-

tions. For example, on Valentine's Day Madame Stiehr wishes everyone a Bonne Fête and is going to give out chocolates, candy and sometimes French cards to everyone in her classes.

In many schools, students give each other cards and sometimes there are parties, but Brookfield classes do not usually have parties, although it is up to each teacher.

Often children give out little candy hearts. Outside of school, they may see their parents exchange cards and presents, and sometimes good friends give each other cards.

*This year, Mrs. Ashizawa has decided not to have candy grams because of the problems they sometimes cause.*