

## **A Class Party at South Middle School (Part 1)**

**(Story words: head, halls)**

The big science test was on Thursday, and the students in Mr. Wheeler's second period class presented him with an idea on Tuesday. They proposed that they have a party on Friday because the class had been studying so hard for the exam.

Mr. Wheeler was in his first year of teaching at South Middle School. He was a bit overwhelmed this first year, teaching five big groups of seventh graders, but he loved science and loved being with kids.

The class passed around a list of who would bring snacks, cups, and drinks for the party. Then, Ralph said, "Let's make it a costume party just for our class. We'll all dress up in crazy costumes—it will be so fun."

If Mr. Wheeler had not been in his first year of teaching, he would have known that he was about to become the victim

of a middle school prank. But his second period class was his favorite class. He was gullible enough to agree.

Ralph had come up with this devilish plot on his own, but he got others in the class to help him fool Mr. Wheeler by chatting about their costume ideas for Friday.

On Friday, Mr. Wheeler arrived at school all dressed up. He had flippers on his feet and a diving mask on his head. His pants were silk spotted clown pants. He made quite a stir as he flip-flopped down the halls to his room.

Did he detect that the seventh graders in his first period class were smirking when he explained that he was dressed up for the second period's class party? The entire seventh grade, of course, knew all about Ralph's prank to trick Mr. Wheeler into being the only person in costume that day.

It was a horrible long day. Mr. Wheeler had a pair of sneakers, but he spent the whole day teaching in spotted

clown pants. “My second period class played a prank on me,” he said at the beginning of each class, before gloomily starting his lesson.