The Wednesday Wars

By Gary Schmidt
Chapter 1

“September”
Cheerios

- Introduced in 1941 by General Mills
- First ready-to-eat oat-based cold cereal
Azalaes

- Flowering shrubs
- Bloom in the spring
- Don’t require much water
Twinkies

- An American snack cake invented in 1930
- Made and distributed by Hostess Brands
- They are marketed as a "Golden Sponge Cake with Creamy Filling".
- Rationed during WWII
Colonial style homes

- Symmetrical in style
- Neat and orderly
Baby grand piano

This is an upright piano. They are more compact.

Longer pianos have richer sound.
Walter Cronkite

- November 4, 1916 – July 17, 2009
- Was an American broadcaster, best known as anchorman for the **CBS Evening News** for 19 years (1962–81).
- During the heyday of **CBS News** in the 1960s and 1970s, he was often cited as "the most trusted man in America."
Nova Scotia

- One of Canada's three maritime provinces.
The Monkees

- A pop rock group assembled in Los Angeles for the American television series *The Monkees*, which aired from 1966 to 1968.
- A musical acting quartet
- At the time of the group's formation, its producers saw The Monkees as a Beatles-like band.
Treasure Island

- An adventure novel by Scottish author Robert Louis Stevenson
- A tale of "pirates and buried gold"
- First published as a book in 1883, it was originally serialized in the children's magazine Young Folks between 1881-82 under the title Treasure Island; or, the Mutiny of the Hispaniola and the pseudonym Captain George North.
Bradley tank

- The Bradley is designed to transport infantry with armor protection while providing covering fire to suppress enemy troops and armored vehicles.
- The M2 holds a crew of three: a commander, a gunner and a driver; as well as six fully equipped soldiers.
The **Mesozoic Era** is a period from about 250 million years ago to about 67 million years ago. It is called the Age of Dinosaurs because most dinosaurs developed, and went extinct, during that time.
Most liverwurst varieties are spreadable. The sausage is usually made with pork. Only about 10-20% of the sausage is actually pork liver, which is enough to give it a distinctive liver taste.
The **Jolly Roger** is any of various flags flown to identify a ship's crew as pirates.
Fidel Castro

Brutal dictator of Cuba since 1965.
CIA

- Central Intelligence Agency
Rand McNally is an American publisher of maps, atlases, textbooks, and globes for travel, reference, commercial, and educational uses.
Chapter 2
“October”
Thorndike dictionaries

School dictionary widely used in USA
Asbestos

- Asbestos is a set of six naturally occurring minerals exploited commercially for their desirable physical properties. They can cause serious illnesses, including malignant cancer in the lungs.
- Asbestos became increasingly popular among manufacturers and builders in the late 19th century because of its sound absorption, average tensile strength, and its resistance to heat, electrical and chemical damage.
Tapioca pudding

- **Tapioca pudding** is a sweet pudding made with tapioca and either milk or coconut milk.
- It is made in many cultures with equally varying styles, and may be produced in a variety of ways. Its consistency ranges from thin (runny), to thick, to firm enough to eat with a fork.
• The company was founded in 1859 as The Great American Tea Company
• Supermarket chain
New York Yankees

- Baseball team established in 1901 – in New York since 1903
- Last won a World Series in 2009

Yankee Stadium
Boston Red Sox

- Professional baseball team out of Boston
- Last won a World Series in 2007

Carl Michael Yastrzemski born August 22, 1939), nicknamed "Yaz," is a former baseball player.[2] Yastrzemski played his entire 23-year career with the Boston red Sox.
Ditto machine

Duplicating machines were the predecessors of modern document-reproduction technology. They have now been replaced by digital duplicators, scanners, printers, etc. but for many years they were the primary means of reproducing documents for mass distribution.
Cream puffs

A pastry baked into small round puffs that are served cold with a sweet filling and sometimes a topping.
Bar mitzvah

Jewish ceremony when a boy becomes a man at 13.
Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ)

- 36th President of USA
- Served from 1963 (after assassination of JFK) to 1969
Flower child

A synonym for hippie
Idealistic young people who gathered in San Francisco
It was the custom of "flower children" to wear and distribute flowers or floral-themed decorations to symbolize peace and love
William Shakespeare

- Born 1564 – died 1616
- Famous English playwright and poet
- His plays have been performed more than any other playwright
Chapter 3
“November”
Long Island

- an island located in southeastern New York, United States, just east of Manhattan
- the term "Long Island" generally refers only to Nassau and Suffolk counties
Mississippi River

• the largest river system in North America
• About 2,320 miles (3,730 km) long
• Begins in Lake Itasca, Minnesota, and flows slowly southwards below New Orleans, where it begins to flow to the Gulf of Mexico.
Godzilla

- a Japanese movie monster
- created by nuclear explosions
- first appeared in 1954
United States Marine Corps

- 10 November 1775 – present
- a branch of the United States armed forces responsible for providing force projection from the sea
- Motto is “The Few, the Proud, The Marines”
Viet Cong

- Also known as National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam (NLF)
- was a political organization and army in South Vietnam that fought the United States and South Vietnamese governments during the Vietnam War (1955–1975).
- Had both guerrilla and regular army units
Chapter 4

“December”
Hanukkah

- also known as the **Festival of Lights**
- is an eight-day Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem
- may occur at any time from late November to late December
- observed by the kindling of the lights of the nine-branched *Menorah*. 
Mickey Mantle

- October 20, 1931 – August 13, 1995
- He played his storied 18-year major-league professional career all for the New York Yankees
- He still holds the records for most World Series home runs (18)
Bing Crosby

- May 3, 1903 – October 14, 1977
- American singer and actor
- Crosby's biggest musical hit was his 1942 recording of Irving Berlin's "White Christmas."
John Wayne

• born Marion Robert Morrison; May 26, 1907 – June 11, 1979
• Academy Award-winning American film actor, director and producer
• He is famous for his distinctive voice, walk and height.
Joe Pepitone and Horace Clarke

- a former Major League Baseball first baseman and outfielder

- a former Major League Baseball second baseman and outfielder
- Played for the New York Yankees (1965-1974)
Chapter 5

“January”
Times Square on New Year’s Eve

- Times Square is a major commercial intersection in the center of Manhattan in New York City
- Scene of major New Year’s Eve celebration each year
Saigon

• Formerly Ho Chi Minh City
• Capital of South Vietnam during Vietnam War
• Fell to communists in 1975
Soviet Union

- A communist state that existed on the territory of most of the former Russian Empire between 1922 and 1991.
- Was a major superpower often in conflict with USA
New York Mets

- Professional baseball team established in 1962
- In New York City

Derrel McKinley "Bud" Harrelson (born June 6, 1944) is a former baseball player who played for the Mets, Phillies, and Rangers from 1965-1980.

Ed Kranepool played for the Mets from 1962-1979

Tom Seaver played Major League Baseball from 1967 to 1986; debuted with the Mets
The Beatles

• The Beatles were an English rock band, formed in Liverpool in 1960, and one of the most commercially successful and critically acclaimed acts in the history of popular music.

Ringo Starr – the drummer
The Falkland Islands

- Located approximately 250 from the coast of mainland South America.
- A territory of Great Britain
radiator

Used to heat the classroom.
Chapter 6
“February”
Kiwanis Club

• An international, coeducational service club founded in 1915.
• Kiwanis has adopted six "Objects" to help guide activities:
  • To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.
  • To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
  • To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
  • To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
  • To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.
  • To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.
Camelot

- **Camelot** is a musical by Alan Jay Lerner (book and lyrics) and Frederick Loewe (music).
- It is based on the King Arthur legend as adapted from the T.H. White novel *The Once and Future King.*
Alfred, Lord Tennyson

- 6 August 1809 – 6 October 1892
- Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom during much of Queen Victoria's reign
- the second most frequently quoted writer in *The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* after Shakespeare
Woolworth’s

• U.S. based retail store now closed
Telegram

Telegraphy is the long-distance transmission of written messages without physical transport of letters.
Chapter 7

“March”
Khesanh

- a United States Marine Corps outpost in South Vietnam used during the Vietnam War
- became one of the largest sieges of the war
Robert “Bobby” Kennedy

- November 20, 1925 – June 6, 1968
- A younger brother of President John F. Kennedy
Martin Luther King, Jr.

- January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968
- prominent leader in the African American civil rights movement
- youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize (1964)
Communism

• In theory, a classless, stateless society
• decisions on what to make are made in the best interests of the collective
• Governments where one political party systems controls the economy and owns all businesses.
Jesse Owens

- September 12, 1913 – March 31, 1980
- an American track and field athlete
- Won four gold medals at the 1936 Summer Olympics in Berlin
Chrysanthemum

• Is traditionally yellow, other colors are available, such as white, purple, and red
• boiled to make a sweet drink in some parts of Asia
Himalaya Mountains

- a mountain range in Asia
- home to the world's highest peaks, including Mount Everest
Rubicon

• a shallow river in northeastern Italy
• "Crossing the Rubicon" means to pass a point of no return
• refers to Julius Caesar's crossing of the river in 49 BC, which was considered an act of war
Hubert Humphrey

- May 27, 1911 – January 13, 1978
- served under President Lyndon B. Johnson as the 38th Vice President of the United States
Chapter 8

“April”
California Gold Rush

- (1848–1855) began on January 24, 1848
- brought some 300,000 people to California from the rest of the United States and abroad
- The gold-seekers were called "Forty-niners" (as a reference to 1849)
Assassination of MLK, Jr.
Yankee Stadium

- located in The Bronx in New York City, New York
- the home baseball park of the New York Yankees
Volkswagen (VW) Bug

- an economy car produced by the German auto maker Volkswagen (VW) from 1938 until 2003
Columbia University

- the oldest institution of higher learning in the state of New York
- A member of the Ivy League
- Students initiated a major demonstration in 1968 over campus expansion and work with the military.
Chapter 9

“May”
Atomic bombs

• A nuclear weapon is an explosive device that derives its destructive force from nuclear reactions.
The Kremlin

- the official residence of the President of Russia.
- often used as to refer to the government of the Soviet Union (1922-1991)
Bazooka Bubblegum

• first marketed shortly after World War II
• was packaged in a patriotic red, white, and blue color scheme
• the packaging included small comic strips with the gum
Leonid Brezhnev

- 19 December 1906 – 10 November 1982
- was the General Secretary of the Central Committee (CC) of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), presiding over the country from 1964 until his death in 1982
1968 Ford Mustang

• the original pony car, manufactured by Ford Motor Company from 1964 until 1973
Tsar

- the official title of the supreme ruler of Russia (1547-1917)
- The last tsar of Russia was Nicholas II before the communists gained control
- Was responsible for the expulsion of Jews from Russia
Paul Revere

- December 21, 1734 – May 10, 1818
- an American silversmith and a patriot in the American Revolution.
Western Union

• a financial services and communications company

• products such as person-to-person money transfer, money orders, and commercial services
Port Authority

- main gateway for interstate buses into Manhattan in New York City
- The terminal is the biggest bus station in the United States and the busiest in the world
Central Park

• a public park in the center of Manhattan in New York City
• The most visited park in the United States
Chapter 10
“June”
Catskill Mountains

- An area in New York State northwest of New York City
John Steinbeck

• February 27, 1902 – December 20, 1968
• wrote a total of twenty-seven books, including sixteen novels, six non-fiction books and five collections of short stories.
• wrote the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939) and *East of Eden* (1952) and the novella *Of Mice and Men* (1937).
• received the Nobel Prize for Literature (1962)
Assassination of Bobby Kennedy

• Following a brief victory speech delivered just past midnight on June 5 at The Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Kennedy was assassinated by Sirhan Sirhan.

• Mortally wounded and unconscious, he survived for nearly 26 hours, dying early in the morning of June 6.
“Eleanor Rigby”

• A song by The Beatles released on the 1966 album *Revolver*.

• The song was written by Paul McCartney, but credited to Lennon/McCartney.

• A song about lonely people