Hermione was one of the first women to attend Oxford a really long time ago - during an era when no women even thought of university work. She lived in Fellowes House with other students, including her twin brother Hermes. The tutors (profs) did not believe women should sully the hallowed halls of Oxford, so they gave her a hard time. However, she had the support of her twin, Hermes, and the other fellows of Fellowes.

Hermione's genuine gift was helping other students with their writing, and many students made their way to Hermione's bedsit for tutoring. They learned to esteem her and her patience with them most fondly.

One day, Hermione sat for an exam. Diligently had she studied and studied for it. The fellows of Fellowes House had helped her. She was prepared and anxious to start. Her tutor walked in, lip curled in scorn. A woman was he obliged to work with and with much ill humor. He handed her the test, barely deigning to look at her. Hermione sagely previewed the test before diving in. A smile crept across her lips. She knew she could do well. She reached into her book bag and LO! She had no pen. Nary a writing utensil. Nada. Panic. Tears well up. . . . Hermione knew that her tutor would dismiss her from the test and from the university for the crime of showing up at the test sans writing utensil. All seemed lost. She would fail the fellows of Fellowes, her family, herself, and all women everywhere. Despair welled up and nearly choked her.

At this moment, Hermes was enjoying a pint with friends in the Common Room of Fellowes House. Suddenly, his twindar went off. He knew Hermione was in trouble. No dullard, and using his twin powers, he KNEW what was wrong. He jumped up from his stool and shouted, "My brothers! Hermione needs us!" And they all stampeded from the room, while Hermes - ever swift on his feet - explained the calamity she faced.

Back at the test, Hermione sat stunned. Then suddenly, she heard a small commotion. Her twindar heard Hermes saying, "Roll, roll! Roll, my druges! Roll pens and sharpies and quills and Ticonderoga #2 pencils under the door. Roll ye! And save our Sainted Hermione!"

And Hermione picked up her favorite writing utensil from the floor, wrote her test, and went on to achieve highest academic glory. So grateful was she to the Fellowes fellows, that she baked them small loaves of sweet bread and put them into Brown Paper Parcels outside their doors as secret presents. And she did give them Ticonderoga #2 pencils, and pens, and Bics, and small notebooks that they may jot down their ideas as soon as they thought of them, thereby not forgetting them. And other goodies both toothsome and writerly. And continue she did, to work with them on their writing most eagerly.

And hence, the first writing center tutor was born and passed into legend. Later sainted, St. Hermione of Oxford became the Patron Saint of Writing Centers. Every February, on the Friday that falls closest to St. Valentine’s Day, writing centers the world over celebrate her day by drawing Secret Hermiones and putting small gifts for their secret Hermiones in the brown paper parcels decorated by staff members. Common St. Hermione's gifts include pencils, pens, notebooks, stickers, and candy.