



WILD TIMES

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Is there going to be halloween/trick-or-treating this year?

By: Candy Bravo

Many students wonder if there is going to be Halloween trick-or-treating this year with Covid cases increasing. How might the epidemic affect students plans and traditions this Halloween?

The majority of WHMS students still go trick-or-treating, and were planning to go this year. In West Jordan there have been no government cancelations of trick-or-treating, but some places around the world are cancelling Halloween trick-or-treating and other events such as Halloween parties and dances.

While trick-or treating is still allowed, there are some people who are not going to hand out candy this year. It is unknown how many people will not open their doors or turn on their lights for kids this year. But if a lot of people don't participate, where are kids going to get candy from? Will it even be worth it to go out?

COVID-19 guidelines for Halloween, classifies trick-or-treating as 'high risk.' Other Halloween traditions have also been cut. In Utah, Park City parades and trick-or-treating have been cancelled due to COVID-19.

Some families and areas are likewise



canceling events because of the risk of spreading the disease. Some of those events are:

- Crowded indoor costume parties
- Indoor haunted houses
- Traditional trick-or-treating

Health officials have stated, "Higher levels of COVID-19 cases and community spread in the gathering location, as well as where attendees are coming from, increase the risk of infection and spread among attendees. Family and friends should consider the number and rate of COVID-19 cases in their community and in the community where they plan to celebrate when considering whether to host or attend a holiday celebration."

Some people are changing their plans to be safer by having outdoor costume parties or parades in which attendees wear protective masks and stay six or more feet apart is a moderate-risk activity.

Is it necessary for Halloween to be cancelled or changed? In Utah the coronavirus cases have been rising. There are about 88,000 COVID-19 cases in Utah

plus there are more than 525 deaths that have happened since March. The daily cases have been rising over the past days.

With the holidays ahead and Halloween just around the corner, some experts are saying that the spookiest time of the year doesn't have to be completely canceled as long as kids and families are complying with social distancing orders and rules set by communities, especially when it comes to trick-or-treating. Parents are not really happy about Halloween getting cancelled because they think kids will maintain their distance but other parents and kids disagree.

9th-grader Felina Bravo said that "Halloween getting cancelled is actually good because we have less people that get sick from candy." She also said "The people that give out candy may have put glass, needles, or any small things that can harm kids." While spreading glass needles is very unlikely, spreading the Coronavirus is not.

25-year old Marla Martinez said "I thinks it's sad that Trick-or-treating is cancelled because it is an American tradition that has been going on for 88 years. And that it is for everyone getting excited to show off their costumes." The last thing she said was "It is the night where you can eat as much candy as you want, without no one stopping you."

So will Halloween be cancelled this year for WHMS students? It looks like it comes down to each student's parents, and the neighbors themselves to decide.

Xbox vs Playstation



By, Lucas Balsamo and Preston T.

According to the Center on Media and Child Health, 56% of teens ages 13 to 17 play video games for an average of 2.5 hours per day. There are a lot of different types of games kids play but the two major gaming systems are Xbox and PlayStation. What's new with these two systems this year?

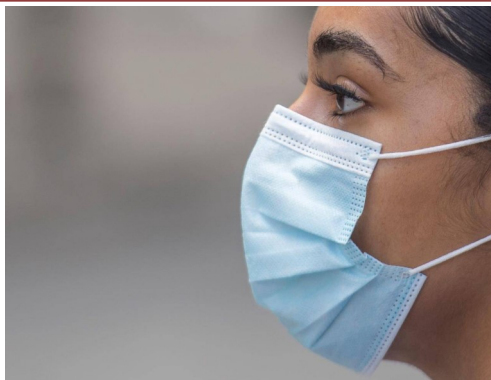
Sony is the company that makes the PlayStation, and Microsoft is the company that makes Xbox. Microsoft and Sony are competing for the release date of their new systems for this of November. Sony will release the PlayStation 5 on November 12, 2020, and Microsoft will release the Xbox Series X on November 10, 2020.

Both systems have major selling points. The Xbox has backwards compatibility and PlayStation has V.R.

Xbox has the Xbox game pass with over 100 games and 3 new games are added every Week. PlayStation has the PlayStation plus which gets new games once a month.

Mask or Pass

By: Braden Hinckley, Austin Jacobsen and Aubery Reed.



This year at West Hills Middle School, students are mandated to wear masks at all times in the building. Many students are supportive of this, but there are some students who also issue their concern about the policy. Students complain about those who don't properly wear the masks, while others complain about being required to wear a mask at all. What are the pros and cons of each side?

There are pros and cons to wearing and not wearing masks. Pros of wearing masks are the protection from spreading the virus by blocking air particles that come from your mouth and nose, and preventing mass spread. Masks also help people feel safe and part of a bigger community working to protect those who are at risk.

There are also cons though to wearing masks, such as the risk of hypoxia in those who already have breathing/lung problems such as asthma. There is also a con in the fact that most teenagers aren't at risk of dying. It is hard for many to want to wear it when it doesn't directly affect them.

Some say they shouldn't have to wear a mask because they have already had Covid 19. But according to an article "Can people spread coronavirus after they recover?" by Stephanie Pappas, the author states, "...Findings suggest that at least a proportion of recovered patients still may be virus carriers."

The mask policy has been enforced quite strictly

throughout Utah and West Hills. You are not allowed to enter the building without a mask or you will be promptly kicked out of the school. This also applies to most stores and other buildings. In fact in some states close to Utah such as Idaho, people have been arrested for breaking the mask policy, although they did not face charges.

Covid rules encourage people to stay at home to prevent spread, but if they go out to wear a mask and stay 6 feet apart.

Although masks do have good goals and possible outcomes, it also can be argued that mandating they be worn is an example of the government controlling the population. Many people fear governments taking control and do not like that they are taking control in this case by requiring certain things be worn. They say it is taking away the freedom of the people to choose and make decisions that are best for them. They say, even if it could be deadly, that it is their choice. The government doesn't stop people from doing other things that are dangerous.

How long will the mask policy be in place? As of October 1st 2020, the mask policy in Florida has been made less strict, and it is predicted other states are soon to follow. Although it isn't a full lift of the policy, it is still progress working toward going back to normal. The Florida governor has also been confident in the change, and stated, "We are not shutting down," DeSantis said during a press conference Tuesday. "We are going to go forward ... we're not rolling back.", assuring that the reopening date for Florida is not going to change.

The mask policy is a heavily debated topic, and one that is hard to get to the truth of. Whether or not you the reader are in support of the mask policy, it would seem like the order is going to be falling back eventually anyways.

Xbox has more online games and story driven games, the PlayStation gets DLC content before Xbox does.

The Xbox has more space than the PS5. but the PS5 has faster load times.

Which system do WHMS students prefer?

7th grade student Juda Richard said, "I think the PlayStation is better because it's a lot more modern than the Xbox."

7th grade student Lizzie Manning said, "Definitely the Xbox because the controls are easier and runs smoother. Yes I would upgrade the new Xbox."

Jayden Giles said, "Definitely the Xbox. the Xbox game pass is lit. And I would upgrade to the new Xbox!"

Isaiah Wheatle. "I think the Xbox, because the Xbox has better graphics than the PlayStation does, and the controls are really smooth. Yes I will upgrade to the new Xbox when it comes out. And also the people at Microsoft are better people."

While WHMS students seem to prefer the Xbox, PlayStation has sold more units over all.



The PS5 and the Xbox series X have a lot in common. So come November, which are you going to choose?

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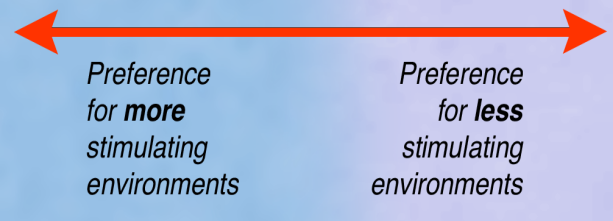
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Who Survives School Easier: Extroverts or Introverts?

By: Bradon Hepworth

Extroversion - Ambiversion - Introversion



What does it mean when someone is called an Introvert or Extrovert? Introverts mean people who are shy and don't really like talking to other people. Extroverts are the exact opposite! They really like talking to people and they talk to strangers all the time. How many people are extroverts or introverts? According to a survey ([Introverts Or Extroverts Spectrum](#)) out of 3,014 people, 43.6% are extroverts. That

means the 57.4% Are Introverts!

Different personalities make different tasks easier or harder depending on the skills needed. So which group survives school easier?

School is a very social place. A lot of people here would probably classify themselves as Extroverts. Extrovert people struggle and hate being stuck away from friends and working alone. Introverts really don't mind staying at home. Quarantine, therefore is more likely more easily endured if you are an introvert.

School has a lot of opportunities to participate. People do presentations. They also make friends and socialize in the hallways and at lunch. They get to know people more. Being sociable is one way to be classified as an extrovert. Skills that require groups or presenting, are usually easier for extroverts.

Parties and after school hang outs with friends had to stop during COVID. Imagine that these changes go on for an even longer time. How would each group of people handle it? Extroverts would be really disappointed, and introverts would truly not care.

What about group work? Students are sometimes forced to meet someone and work with them. If they are both extroverts they might become friends. But if both of them are introverts they might not bond at all, or struggle to connect.

Who would win more contests? Well, introverts would likely do well in individual contests, where they alone are competing, while extroverts would be better suited for team and group competitions and contests.

With all of this research done, Extroverts would survive the social side of school more than introverts, but Introverts would survive the activities such as independent work better.

Did you know that extroverted people can have social anxiety? According to the website, [Is It Possible To Be An Extrovert With Social Anxiety?](#) you can be an extrovert with social anxiety. It is also possible to be an introvert and still want to have friends and be social.

The school counselors want students to know that "It's okay to only tell us about it." They are happy to help students improve in areas they struggle with socially, and emotionally.

Should Students be Allowed to Listen to Music in Class?

By: Jaxton Harrison and Connor Stevens



For the last few years West Hills Middle School has gotten more and more strict on cell phone and headphone policies. Teachers and administrators keep saying that students can't use them; that they can only be used for academic purposes. But is that really fair?

When asked this question, Maverick Bowles, an 8th grader here at the school, responded with, "Students shouldn't be allowed to listen to music if the teacher is teaching them or giving them instructions, but if they are doing an assignment then they should be able to."

Many students agree that when students are doing their own work, such as homework, during class, they should be allowed to listen to music. Although, when the teacher is giving directions, they should have to put them away and listen to what the teacher is saying.

While students may think they should be able to listen to music there are two sides to this argument. Why aren't students allowed to listen to music during class? Students are not allowed to listen to music during class because the administrators say, "Music and phones are distracting and take away from academic purposes and learning. Many kids say they will work if they listen to music but don't. They use music as an excuse to not work."

This is probably because students listen to music that can be loud and full of lyrics. Most people can agree on the fact that rock and pop music is loud and can often be distracting. Since rock music is loud, teachers and administrators believe that the students who are listening to it and the students around them will hear and get

distracted by it.

The other side is that students should be allowed to listen to music during class. They feel this way because they feel it helps them focus on the task they are doing.

According to Study.com, background music increases focus, but it depends on the music. The article says that rock, hip-hop, and rap can help by uplifting, students and helping them manage mental health issues. Soothing and relaxing music helped students study harder and get a higher percentage on their tests. However, it doesn't help all students. If the task is reading or writing, music with lyrics is not helpful and actually hurts comprehension.

Do you want the school to change the headphone policy? Darin Detvongsa, an 8th grade student answered, "Yes they should change the policy because music gets me pumped up and more confident on a test. When I am more confident I do better on my tests."

What is the downside to letting students listen to music during class? Both Maverick

and Darin came up with similar answers, "They can miss important instructions and can just not listen to anything the teacher needs to say."

How did you run your classroom with students listening to music? Former teacher Mr. Donalds said, "I had a rule where they can't use them if it's the first few minutes of class because that's the time I give them instruction then for the last few minutes of class they would take them out. If they used them in the non instructed time then I would ban them from using them for the next day."

Most students would love it if the school let them use their music. Even if teachers have a few rules they would be happy. If the school changes the policy there could be a few problems but there are problems with everything. According to students the school should change the policy and let kids listen to their own music.



West Hills Musical, Happening or Not

By: Sadie Smith



One question that some students may be asking is, will the traditional West Hills Musical be happening this year. So far the musical is a no this year, it is just too dangerous to have it happen. Principal Vandermeiden has said that if things can go back to normal, she believes that the musical will be able to happen. Right now though, the musical is just too big of a threat, especially with how quickly the coronavirus can spread.

The school musical has an average of 640-659 people per show, and with 3-5 shows and so many individuals it is almost impossible to keep the correct precautions. During this dangerous time it is very important to uphold these defenses against COVID-19. Also the students performing would have difficulty wearing masks during the play. It is just too difficult to stay safe while doing the musical. Even though it is difficult, Judy Binns encouragingly said, "It is best to be responsible citizens, students, actors and artists - sometimes that means we need to give up something we want now (the show) for something we want most (a healthier world)."

Though it may seem like the musical will not happen, there is still some hope. The coronavirus could go down, and begin to be taken care of. If this happens there is a very high chance that the school play will be happening. The coronavirus would have

to go down far enough for us to allow a full auditorium of people 3-5 nights. It would also have to allow at least the students to not wear masks so they can play their parts. Though the play is off, things may be redecided after Thanksgiving. If things are not better by Thanksgiving time, the musical is most likely off, but if things can get better by then there is a chance that the musical will happen.

If the musical were to happen it would be during the Spring, like usual. The script for the play would be picked out, and auditions would then happen. The musical is an exciting experience for those who are in it, help with it, and watch it. Principal Vandermeiden said, "I love the school musical and I hope that we can go back to that. If it's not this year we will definitely go back when we can."

Various people are looking forward to the musical, but right now it is just not possible to be safe while doing it. Currently the play is off, but who knows, maybe things will get better and the musical can go on as if nothing happened. Cross your fingers!



The Rollable TV and Other Great Inventions

By: Bradon Mace and D.J. Ipson

TVs and phones have been changing a lot over the last few years. There are many different TVs in the world, but the newest and most innovative one is the Rollable TV. Its official name is the LG Signature OLED TV R. This TV can roll into a box that is about 65 inches wide and , with a remote to roll the TV. This TV only comes in one size, 65 inches. Its price is much higher than a normal TV, its retail price is \$60,000 dollars. Part of the reason for its price is the 794 OLEDs found within the screen of this amazing innovation.



We asked West Hills students Anthony Sterzer, Marshall Bailey and Davin Case if they would buy the Rollable TV if it was free. They all responded with "Yes" and, "Oh Yeah!" Then we told them that the price was 60,000. We then asked them if they could afford it, would they still buy it. Davin case responded with a flat out. "No" However Anthony Sterzer and Marshall Bailey said "Yes" Then we asked them why or why not they would buy the TV. Anthony Sterzer said, "Why wouldn't I?!" Marshall Bailey responded with, "It's compact."

OLED stands for organic light-emitting diode. OLEDs are even better than LEDs (light-emitting diode) OLEDs use much less electricity than normal LEDs. They also have a much better view from a distance. However, they are not good for the environment. They

are also toxic if broken. OLEDs are LEDs but they have a film of organic compounds. When an electric current goes through the OLED, it illuminates. This TV doesn't just use OLEDs though.

Did you know that there is such a thing as electronic ink? There is not just electronic ink in the TV, there are gyricons and organic LCDs.

One of the reasons that engineers and inventors created this is that normal flat-screen TVs had been

around for over 40 years and they are so bulky. People wanted something that was lighter and easier to carry around. Rollable and bendable phones have already been invented and are a pretty big thing. They can fold from a normal-sized phone to an iPad size. The Rollable TV has similar technology. It uses something called Flexible electronic paper, or E-Paper. E-Paper is what makes it able to roll into its box.

Then the iPhone 12 came and this phone is an absolutely massive phone, it is 6.1 inches tall and 4.3 inches wide. This iPhone is the cheapest iPhone on the market. It is \$750-\$1400 and that is a really good price considering the size and technology inside. Also, the iPhone 7 is worth more than this iPhone. Many other iPhones are the same but are not the same price as this phone. The best phone is the iPhone 11 but we will see after the iPhone 12 might be better than the iPhone 11. This phone is the iPad mini so the phone is big and the bad thing is how are you going to get it out of your pocket also the phone has no gigabits it has 64 and you can only

have 3-4 games and that is not a good thing because there are many kids that like their games and the teens are the worst and they like to take pictures and that takes a lot of space.

Also, there are 3-4 different types of the phone and the types are the 12 pro, and pro max also the original. The people in the world like having a new phone. The iPhone 12 has 2,897 pixels, and that is more than a 45 inch tv. The iPhone 12 is 7.4mm thick and that is a skinny phone and will break easily. The phone is not that wide but it is tall and there are many ways to break this phone. With the corona going on will anyone buy the iphone 12 and if the corona virus is not as will more people get the phone or will they just buy the phone online also will people fight over getting the new phone.

Also if they do fight will the person with the phone first get the phone or the person that has the phone last get it. So with the rioting going on will all of the phones be stolen out of the stores. Will the people in America get the phone? There are 3 different types of phones and which of the 3 will be sold the most. Also the reason that the phone is so cheap is because the people that they sent the phone to said that they did not like the iphone 12. The reason that this phone has 4 cameras is because the 1 camera is a large camera and the 2,3,4 are the small ,med ,and the zoomed camera also if you are going to take good pictures then you are not going to like the camera also the people that take a lot of pictures are not in luck because there are only 64 gb and that is not a lot. Also if you would buy this phone would you get a new one if you do not like the phone or will you keep the phone and then get rid of it when a new better phone is released.

Is Work/School Going to Return to Normal After Covid-19

By: Aiden V., Eric R., Kaylix W.

Many people are wondering if and when school and work are going to return to normal.

Covid-19 has changed the way many people do things, from working at home to schooling at home; from going to class, to cleaning the class. Some people like the changes that have happened. Others do not. Some still worry about whether or not they should go back to school after the Covid vaccine and want the serious cleaning and mask wearing to stick around. Others can't wait till these things end. What changes from Covid will stick around? Are there some parts of school/work that might not go back to normal.

What changes did West Hills have to put into effect for Covid? Principal Vandermeiden from West Hills Middle School had this to say on the topic. "Masks, cleaning procedures in class, walking on the right side of the hall, all students facing the same way in class, hall monitors wiping down everything in the halls when students are in class, dividers in the lunchroom." Other changes include backpacks being allowed in class and no lockers being assigned, Chromebooks for every student, and many classes going paperless.

One part of Covid that many 8th and 9th grade students had to adjust to is not having a locker, but instead having a backpack. Backpacks might be a permanent change for the rest of this school year at least. Principle Vandermeiden said, "We might not go back to lockers after covid-19."

Lunch and Hallways have been very different for students this year. Are the spacing and seating changes likely to stay? This is one change that Principal Vandermeiden is planning to eventually end. "Hopefully we can go back to normal without wearing our masks. We might keep the hallway

procedures and keep the backpacks with us, but eventually students will get to sit closer together."

Chromebooks have really changed how students do work this year. Are Chromebooks here to stay or will they go away? How might the use of Chromebook change? "They are not going to change. The teachers will learn to use them better and we will learn how to come more interactive with them." Students getting their own Chromebook will be the new normal.

School work has changed very much during this school year. What might change about schoolwork after Covid-19? "Many teachers are not going to go back to paper assignments." "They are going to continue using Canvas and the use of Chromebook."

Constant cleaning in the class and hallway is new this year, every class has desk cleaning, hand sanitizing and material cleaning rules. Are these changes going to stay or go away? "Once granted permission from the CDC and The Utah state board of education." Christian Sawyer from 7th says, "the school's cleanliness is great, but he thinks we should have kids using hand sanitizer more."

"Recently Covid numbers have been increasing causing many to ask: Will schools close down? Christian Sawyer predicted, "Sometime before the end of the first quarter."

So when will students be able to take off the masks? Tonya from the district said, "It depends what the state of Utah says. It depends what the government, CDC and Utah State Board of Education say."

It seems to be the prediction of many students and teachers that school will not last that long this year before going back online. Still students, teachers and administrators all hope that as long as we do as we are told, sanitize, and wear masks then we might be able to stay longer.



TIKTOK

By: Evelin Acosta, Kaylie Trujillo, Natalie Sanchez

What is TikTok? TikTok is an app and a really big community. It is a video sharing app that millions of people have downloaded and use for entertainment

TikTok has many features that make it user friendly. There is something called the "For you Page" which gathers info on what types of videos you like and recommends new videos to you based on that.

There is the "Following Page." That's all the people you follow. Every time they post a new video, it shows up on your watch list.

You also can post your own content. When posting you can choose to keep your content private for specific people that want to follow you, or you can go public and then everyone on the app can see it.

Recently the question has come up of: Can US citizens trust TikTok with their information? There have been some issues with people taking other users' information using the app. Families are actually suing TikTok for privacy leaks.

The safety of TikTok has turned into a major debate in federal courts. Dozens of minors and parents were shocked to know that the video sharing app collects information about facial characteristics, locations and

close contacts, likes, dislikes, etc. and quietly stores that data to a server in China.

Twenty separate but similar federal lawsuits were filed over the past year on behalf of TikTok users in California, where the company has offices, and Illinois, which requires that technology companies receive written consent before collecting on a person's identity.

The controversy grew to get national recognition from President Trump. It got so big that many people wondered: Are they going to ban TikTok?

Trump issued an executive order on August 6 "That would effectively ban TikTok unless it was sold to an American buyer." He did not want American's information to be stored in China, where the Chinese government could legally access it.

Did someone end up buying TikTok? Yes. The companies Oracle and Walmart bought enough stock in the company to prevent it being banned in the U.S.

There's 800 million people that use TikTok 41 percent of TikTok users are aged between 14 and 24. TikTok has been downloaded 611 million times in India, which is only 30 percent of the app's total global download.

Do you like TikTok? Well whether you like it or not it looks like for now it will be sticking around.



How the NFL Is Handling the COVID-19 Pandemic

By: Mason Reeves & Jordan Vigil

The NFL started during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is seen as a risky move by many health officials. Everyone has been asking this question with anything in sports: How long will it be till any sports get shut down including the NFL?

From the Las Vegas Raiders, Tim Hughes, who works as an in-stadium announcer had this to say about the precautions the NFL is making to ensure that their staff and players are safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The NFL is requiring all people who go into a stadium to have their temperature checked and fill out a five-question health review to make sure they don't have symptoms or have been in contact with anyone who has had COVID in the last 14 days. All must wear masks and nobody but essential personnel are allowed on the field except players and coaches".

Many people wonder how the overall energy is with no fan there to give reactions/interactions. Hughes response to this was, "The feeling in the stadium is

really weird without fans! First, the NFL is requiring that all music and announcers do not exceed a certain decibel level because of the acoustics in the buildings being so poor with no fan bodies to absorb the sound, a lot of echo, echo, echo for the announcer, there is no

"cover" of making any mistakes because there is no fan reaction, cheering or booing after a big play. It's 100% on the announcer to create the right energy in their voice to match the play for the team."



It is known that there is a rule in place that states all players and coaches must wear masks or face coverings while on the sideline during NFL games. Regardless of the rule, 3 coaches have already been fined over 100k for not wearing a mask on the sideline. The teams also take a hit from this rule, teams whose players or coaches defy this rule will be fined at least a million dollars.

NFL fans have different opinions about the changes this year to the game. Isaiah Reiser and Cooper Gallagher are two students at WHMS. They both enjoy the NFL a lot, and watch every single Sunday.

Their favorite team is the Seattle Seahawks. They said they have been watching since they were young but have never been to a game. They say they never miss a game of the Seattle Seahawks.

These lifelong fans do not hold out much hope for a full season of football they said the "NFL season would get canceled, because this virus spreads quickly even though it's not very deadly to younger people it can get people really sick though."

They said that this year they would not want to go to a game if they had to wear a mask. They wouldn't go to the game even if everybody had to wear a mask.

"What's the point of going to see a game and have the chance of getting the coronavirus when you can stay home for free and watch the same football game but from home".

In conclusion While the NFL is back on, for many fans it is better to just enjoy it from home, and hope that the season doesn't get cut short.

Skateboards Have Gone Electric

By: Isaiah Rasmussen and David Gonzalez

Have you ever ridden a skateboard? Most people have tried it, but how many people can say they have ridden an electric skateboard?

What is an electric skateboard? In the late 1990's, Louie Finkle (aka Electric Louie) invented and patented the wireless electric skateboard. From handmade electronics, a 100% original brushed motor design, to the world's first 'torsion' trucks – Louie's first boards were truly revolutionary. An electric skateboard is like an electric bike. It is motorized and guided by a remote. This skateboard goes 22mph and has a distance range of 12-20 miles.



Should it be allowed on School grounds? According to Jay Huff, assistant director of Safety and Transportation, skateboards have been prohibited because students tend to break the rule of acrobatics on campus. ... He said there has been an increase of users on campus of self-propelled transportation devices.

How much Does an Electric Skateboard cost? The prices range anywhere between \$400-\$750.

Which is the better skateboard: Regular or Electric skateboard? The electric skateboards has bigger wheels than normal skateboards which make it a smoother ride. You go at a speed of 15–25mph. You are relying on there being no big rocks or anything on the ground to throw you off. If there is a bump or obstacle it is harder to stop, and greater injuries can happen because of the speed. They are not very practical for doing tricks with because of how expensive they are. They are better for going long distances. Regular skateboarding is safer IF you are not doing tricks. However, most kids use regular skateboards to go down ramps and rails, many more injuries happen doing this than do on electric skateboards. Regular skateboards are cheaper and easier to flip and do tricks with.

How dangerous are electric skateboards? Skateboard accidents happen all the time. Electric Skateboards have the added danger of speed. The reason that electric skateboarding is so dangerous is we ride these boards on hard pavement. If a person falls on the street their body will get injured more than it would at a slower speed. .

Do you think that it is safe for teens to have electric skateboarding? Electric skateboards can be ridden very safely, but due to its attraction to beginners, Eboards are not very safe. It is very tempting for an unskilled rider to try out electric skateboards.

Cop Controversy

By: Braylon Brock, Daniel Lopez

Police have been receiving a lot of hate and criticism recently because of cases like Jacob Blake and Breanna Taylor. These cases and others like it are being looked at because they are examples of a white cop killing someone who is black.

Some consider these to be racist police killings. This belief has led to protests. The protests have led to some people thinking that the police should be defunded or disbanded. Others think that there are no changes that need to be made. According to Gallup 15% of the population wants to completely get rid of the police. While a lot of others don't want any changes to be done or want more policing.

Depending on your race you might have different opinions on the police. 88% of black Americans think the police need major changes 10% said minor changes and only 2% said no changes should be made. 52% of white Americans think they need major changes, 42% think they need minor changes and 6% think they need none.

Politics also come into play 89% of democrats think that major changes are needed. Only 14% of Republicans agree that major changes are needed.. All of these statistics come from Gallup news.

Those who support the police system say there are no racist laws, rules, or practices in the police department. If there is racism, it is the racism of the individual, not the police as a whole.



ual, not the police as a whole.

The other side argues that the racism is in who is more likely to be pulled over, and in how arrests are handled. It is shown during the arrest with cops being more aggressive or physical with a citizen because of their race.

With all of these protests, another argument that has come up recently is that some of the protests have turned into dangerous riots. 7% of the BLM protests have turned into riots. This may look like a small number but considering how many protests there have been, it is a lot of riots.

How do WHMS students feel about everything that is going on with the police and with the riots? Eighth grader Caiden Bailey said, "I don't think the riots should happen. I'm ok with the protests because it's for a good cause but the riots just cause damage."

Oswaldo Beccera, an 8th WHMS student says, "I think that it is case to case. I don't think that the police are bad people, but there are bad people who become po-

lice officers."

One shooting that has recently been receiving a lot of attention is Jacob Blake, a 29-year-old black man who lives in Kenosha Wisconsin. Jacob had been charged with 3rd degree sexual assault, domestic abuse and trespassing. The cops were called when he stole his girlfriend's keys.

While being arrested, Jacob was tasered, but was able to shake off the affects. Jacob resisted arrest and walked to his car. While reaching inside (Where a knife was later found) the police thought he was reaching for a gun so Officer Rusten Shesky shot him 7 times in the back.

Both defenders and accusers of police have used this case to make their points.

Defenders say the police responded the same way they would with anyone else who was resisting arrest and going for a weapon.

Accusers say that the force used was excessive.

Eighth grader Mason Reeves said, "I would have never shot him, I would have just arrested him. I would never shoot him, especially in front of his kids."

In conclusion, there were plenty of cases this year that are controversial. Which side do you agree with when it comes to the police?

Should Fans Be Allowed Back at Sports Games?

By: Garrett Gibson

As you may know, the coronavirus has shut down many businesses in the United States. One of these businesses is sports. But with many other things opening up, players are getting back to work training as hard as ever. This season has changed in many ways. With the coronavirus everyone not playing has to wear a mask.



And there is little to no fan attendance. With this pandemic people want to know, should fans be able to go to the actual venues for the games?

Recently the NFL started its 2020-2021 season. In one of the season openers, the Texas Texans vs the Kansas City Chiefs, the NFL made the controversial decision to allow fans into the stadium. Even in this game there was limited attendance but people want to know if we can hold a game with more attendance.

"We can sit in every other

seat." says Luke Nordgren, an NFL fan. "We can reduce ticket cost too. It's not a risk, it's a choice."

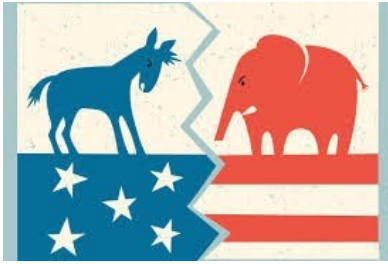
So far this year no game has had non-limited attendance. And the seats aren't easy to get. Last season tickets for a patriots home game cost about \$75 last year. This year they cost about \$110 per-person.

This year's season has changed a lot. There are many ways it has changed including, limited attendance, coaches and subs wearing

masks on the sideline, traveling crews can only have 70 staff members, and only one person from each team will

participate in the coin toss. But still even with all of these other changes and guidelines, the NFL still plans to have a full schedule season. Even with all of these guidelines "anonymous" still thinks that we shouldn't have a season . "It's too much of a risk of another breakout. "It's better safe than sorry."

Even with all of these guidelines and procedures "anonymous" still thinks that there shouldn't be a 2020-2021 NFL season. "It is too big of a risk of a super-spread of the coronavirus.



Democratic and Republican Views On Major Problems

By: Asia George

There are many different problems in society today and there are many different viewpoints on them. With elections coming up, you need to know both sides of the story. Some of the most controversial topics today are: What should be done about the Black Lives Matter movement and racism? What should be done when protests turn into rioting? And Should there be laws about who can own a gun? What does each political party say about each?

The Black Lives Matter movement and racism.

The BLM rallies have continued for several months, are demanding changes be made to ensure equality of all minorities in America, specifically black Americans. What do Democrats and Republicans have to say about racism in America?

- **Democrats-** Democrats support this organization. They state that there is systemic racism in the U.S. that has no place. They are calling for major changes to Police, business, and government to correct this. They support affirmative action.
- **Republicans-** The Republican party does not support the BLM organization. They state that the laws and government organizations are not racist, but there are racist individuals in different organizations, and that is where effort needs to be placed. They do not support affirmative action.

Protests turned riots:

While many protests were done in the correct and peaceful way, many others turned into rioting, endangering many people and destroying businesses with their violence. What do Democrats and Republicans have to say about what should be done about the riots in America?

Both Democrats and Republicans have denounced the riots. But they have different views on how to stop them.

- **Democrats-** Democrats want to meet the demands of the protesters for change and believe that the riots will end when the people don't have reason to rise up.
- **Republicans-** Republicans want all rioters to be arrested and charged for their crimes. They believe states should make use of the national guard if needed to put a stop to riots immediately.

Policing:

One of the messages that has come out of the BLM protests is "Defund the Police." Depending on who you ask, this means different things to different groups. Some want the policing system completely removed, others want to limit police, some want to change what policing is and who responds to different 911 calls.

- **Democrats-** Democrats agree with protesters that the police institute is racist and needs to be limited, changed, and/or defunded.
- **Republicans-** Republicans believe that while

there can be some minor changes to policies used in arrests, the police system itself needs to be upheld and supported.

Gun rights:

Guns are a weapons that have caused many deaths. However, The right to bear arms is also included in the second amendment. What do Democrats and Republicans have to say about gun rights in America?

- **Democrats-** Democrats are for stricter government control and limiting of gun selling, buying and ownership. They want there to be more checks and balances in who can buy and own a gun and where they can buy it from.
- **Republicans-** Republicans support gun ownership and the right of citizens to buy them. They believe that the government has no right to limit or deny law abiding Americans guns.

These are just a few of the hotly debated issues in politics this year. There are dozens more. From Healthcare to Abortion; Illegal immigration to Schooling and Vouchers. Brush up on the issues before November 3rd, because that's election day and it will be here faster than you think.

California Wildfires Rank Among States Largest On Record

By: Laura F. , Teayia R.

In California there are lots of wildfires going on. Why are they happening so much lately? How bad are they really? Well, this year 4,142,656 acres have been burned just in California. There have also been 8,320 fire incidents that have occurred. Why are they so bad this year? How much longer until they are put out?

Wildfires start for a lot of reasons, from poor land control, climate change, wind conditions, to how dry of a year it has been.

Emily Ramirez, an 8th grader who lives in California, said that with one of the fires, "It all started with a



there is another fire, it goes up to 100 degrees."

There were a lot of evacuations because the fires were too close to people's houses. Hundreds of people have lost their homes due to the wildfires. Firefighter Liam from California said over the phone that it is pretty hard to put out the fires because of how big they are and how much stuff is burnt.

Tayia, another student in California, was asked if the

gender reveal firework that started a big fire and they couldn't turn it off for a long time. The sky was turning orange and reddish, there were more injuries than deaths. There were 30 deaths and 37 injuries. When

sky is really blackish orange or if there is lots of smoke where she lives in California and she said, "Yes, half of the sky is black and orange and the other half is blue and sunny. She says it is pretty hard to breathe since she lives kind of close to the wildfires."

People have had many different reactions to the wildfires. Some people became so scared they left California for a little bit, some even moved permanently. Lots of people have gotten sick because of the air. A lot of people have also said that it would smell like a campfire so they would put their mask on but it would still smell like it. One Californian even said, "I don't know if I'm wearing a mask because of the Coronavirus or these wildfires." That's how bad the wildfires are getting.

Why are the fires so bad this year? It is partly because of how hot it is and how dry it has been. When will they put the fires out in California? No one knows for sure yet, but they try everyday and with the changing weather it will hopefully be under control soon.



EDITORIALS



BLM Protests

By: A politically obsessed girl

I just want to start by saying that I am in full support of the idea of Black Lives Matter, but the message and the organization are two very different things. I want to tell you what the organization is not.

The first thing is it is not giving money to poor black people. Let's talk about the donations. When people donate to the Black Lives Matter organization, they may think that the money is going to Black education and helping black people get out of poverty, but this isn't true. Instead, a lot of the money is going to Biden's campaign fund, to the leaders of the organization themselves, and to bail money for people who are arrested for rioting.

BLM takes a backwards route to helping black lives. Instead of helping Biden become president maybe they should go directly to the people themselves.

The second thing is BLM is not a place for different views. BLM tries to eradicate and silence those who oppose or don't support them. On their website they have a place where they ask their supporters to report any news articles, social media posts or other things that are speaking out against them.

The third thing BLM is not is a group of peaceful protesters. Thousands of "mostly peaceful protests" have devolved into riots and looting. The rioting and looting have changed people's minds towards BLM, just in the opposite direction. BLM protesters say that blacks are treated unfairly and are unequally viewed as criminals. But then the rallies turn violent, and even though many protesters are not black, the idea of violence and rioting gets mixed in with the BLM message.

When people want to see change they need to do it peacefully. Think of Martin Luther King. He said, "I have a dream that one day my four little children will live in a country where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." This is pure truth. People should be judged on their actions and who they are not what they look like.

The fourth thing is BLM is not an organiza-

tion fighting for equality. They talk of racial injustice being ensuring that people of color are in congress or in powerful positions. This is not judging on character this is you judging the people in power by the color of their skin. If you are saying we need to just choose black people to lead you are not looking at their values you are not looking at the content of their characters you are looking at what race they are what color their skin is.

This idea of giving extra help or lower qualification expectations is called affirmative action. It is basically you saying that it is too hard for people of color to be in power or be successful, so we need to go in and make it happen, whether they are qualified, or the best person for the job or not. This is racist.

Think of Barack Obama. He was able to become President of the United States. He didn't need anyone to fix the system for him to do it.

The fifth and final point is that BLM is not calling out racism in the police. They are just vilifying them. There is the problem with police brutality. However this is a problem that affects all races. More White men or Latinos are killed than black men. While the rate of killings is higher in the black community, the number of violent crimes police are called to help with is also higher. When you look at both numbers, killings and crimes, blacks are actually killed at a lower rate than whites and Hispanics.

Even if you want police reform, that does not mean defunding the police. They Having more police in communities lowers the crime rate.

Just because an individual police officer is racist doesn't mean all of the police are racist. Do I believe that there are racist police who do horrible things, yes. Do I think that means that all police are racist, absolutely not.

Today BLM is completely denying Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s teachings. He deserves more respect. They are following a plan that will not and would not work. Malcolm X thought that violence was the way to gain equality but in reality he didn't get much done, whereas Martin Luther King Jr. was able to move mountains and break down barriers. We should heed his methods because he is the example for all those wanting equality. Thank you for listening.

What is the Best NBA Draft Class in the Last 4 Decades?

By: Jaxton Harrison and Connor Stevens

With the 2020 NBA Draft coming up soon, some people might be wondering where this draft class would compare to all of the other draft classes like the 1984 Draft Class with MJ, the 2003 Draft Class with LeBron James, the 1996 draft with Kobe Bryant and Allen Iverson, or even the 1985 draft class with Karl Malone and Patrick Ewing? With the top 10 picks in the 2020 NBA draft being Anthony Edwards, James Wiseman, Lamelo Ball, Deni Avdija, Obi Toppin, Tyrese Haliburton, Onyeka Onkongwu, Devin Vassell, R.J Hampton and Cole Anthony. Does this get anything close to the All-Time Drafts?

First we need to jump back a few years to the 2017 NBA draft. This is probably the best draft class of the past 10 years. It had Lonzo Ball, Jayson Tatum, De'Aaron Fox, Bam Adebayo, John Collins, and of course... Donovan Mitchell. This is the best Draft class in recent history because it features a bunch of young stars. Jayson Tatum was on the All-NBA third team, that is basically saying that he is one of the top five small forwards in the league, Donovan Mitchell who... well, he averaged about 40 in the playoffs, and Lonzo Ball is one of the better playmakers in the NBA. You get it, the list keeps going on and on.

There are a few more in the 2000s like the 2013 draft with Giannis Antetokounmpo and Rudy Gobert. But the best in the 2000s, is the 2003 draft. Listen to this real quick, LeBron James, Dwayne Wade, Chris Bosh, and Carmelo Anthony. We can skip over LeBron, you all know what he has accomplished, Dwayne Wade is probably a top 5 shooting guard of all time, Chris Bosh was just a all around amazing player, and Carmelo has fallen a little bit in recent years, but in his prime he was one of the best players in the league. All 4 of them are going to be hall of famers, no question.

Let's think way back to 1985. This draft's highlights are Patrick Ewing, Chris Mullin, Karl Malone and Arvydas Sabonis. Patrick Ewing was one of the most dominant centers in his time, he also won Rookie of the Year, in his rookie season of course. Chris Mullin was an all around star for

the Golden State Warriors. If you don't know who Karl Malone is then you live under a rock like Patrick from SpongeBob. Karl Malone has won MVP over Michael Jordan once and won another MVP while Michael was retired for the first time, is a 14 time all star, and was nominated for the all-NBA first team 11 times. Arvydas Sabonis also was probably one of the luckiest picks of all time. With the 77th pick in the 4th round the Atlanta Hawks selected Arvydas Sabonis. He was 21 years old at the time of the draft, got drafted and then went and played in Europe for 10 years. During his 10 years in Europe he dominated the league over there. But as a 31 year old rookie he took the NBA by storm and dominated for the Portland Trail-Blazers.

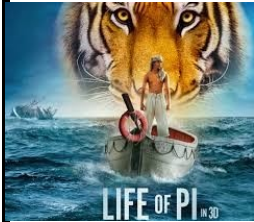
The last draft class that we will be talking about is the 1984 NBA Draft. This draft class consisted of some of the most talented players of all time, with no question. Hakeem Olajuwon, Charles Barkley, John Stockton, and Michael Jordan. Hakeem Olajuwon is one of the top 3 centers of all time. Charles Barkley is in the top 5 power forwards of all time. He is also on "Inside the NBA" with Shaquille O'Neal, Ernie Johnson, and Kenny Smith. John Stockton is in the top 3 point guards of all time, ahead of players like Stephen Curry, Steve Nash, and Chris Paul, however it's possible that it can change. Do we even have to talk about Michael Jordan? He is the best NBA player we have ever seen, 14x All Star, 10x Scoring Champ, 6x NBA Champion, 6x Finals MVP, 5 time MVP, and 11x All-NBA, and most importantly, his largest accomplishment ever... he was in Space Jam with the Looney Toons. If you haven't seen it, you should watch it on Netflix.

Now back to the question, what was the best NBA draft class of all time? There are a bunch of great draft classes, but if we are trying to find the best draft class ever, it is easily the 1984 NBA draft. You can't beat a draft class with Michael Jeffery Jordan.



Top 5 overrated movies

By: Mason Reeves & Jordan Vigil.



There are a lot of overrated movies. Here are the 5 we think were the most overrated and why.

The top 5 overrated movies, how come they are and why do people say they are over-

rated.

The first overrated movie is the *Life of Pi*. It is overrated because the acting could be way better. It is overdone. However, it has an 85 percent on Rotten Tomatoes.



The second overrated movie is the *Avatar*. The reason *Avatar* is overrated is because the only reason why this movie is good is because of all the technology and world building. The acting in it is terrible. It has 78 percent on Rotten Tomatoes. This movie could get a whole lot better with better acting and more inspiring scenes.

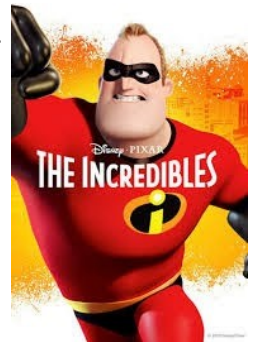
The third most overrated movie is *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*. With a 93 percent Rotten Tomatoes. This movie could be way better if it had a better storylines. Adding a more interesting plot and maybe this movie could be one of the best off all time.

The fourth overrated movie is *Avengers Endgame*. This movie made it so one of the main char-



acters died: Iron Man, and he's the Avenger that got the whole thing going. He's been there from the start now if they make anymore movies people think there's no point in watching it/

The 5th overrated movie is the *Incredibles*. This is one of the most famous movies of all time it has been one of the biggest movies for a long time and still being played in some movies to this day. However this movie isn't as good with animation as more recent movies. If they remake the movie now with all the



technology they have this could be the greatest movie of all time.



Minecraft Tips

By: Bradon Hepworth

Hello! I will give some tips for Minecraft on the newest version. I bet a lot of people reading this editorial don't know these tips.

My first tip is get a water bucket, Yes, water buckets might just save your life! If you're falling from a very tall height, try to get your water bucket in your Hotbar switch to it and rapidly click the floor and if you are pretty good you can do it with just one click! Just be careful with the one click you can easily die.

A different way of surviving a really high fall is to use hay bales for villages and you can even craft them with I think 9 hay.



Here is a combat tip, Axe's are better than swords. If you hop up and down with an axe you have a really good chance of getting a critical hit and it does more damage than a sword, because this tactic doesn't work with a sword.

Also, the more you trade with villagers, the better the trades get.

Instead of taking forever trying to find a stronghold, Right click with your eye of ender and it'll point in the direction that the stronghold location that it's at.

So if you have enough boats and people are trying to kill you in the nether, if there's a short lava pool that covers a little bit of ground and you think you have enough boats, you can actually place it under your feet and hop off of it, which brings us to our next tip:

Turn On Subtitles In Settings. You can hear exactly what is coming at you and you can hear stuff you can't even see.



DEAR ABBY



Dear Abby,
I want to buy a camera, but my parents wont let me get one, what can I do to convince them?

Signed Arrow

Dear Arrow,
It's hard not having money for the things you want. If I was you I would show your parents how responsible you can be with nice things such as this camera. Take care of the things you have. Clean your room. You just need to show them you are mature enough to get it. You can also try saving part of the money yourself to show them how important it is to you.

Hope this helps. Your friend, Abby.

Dear Abby,
I have a little poodle who chases me from the basement to my room and makes me jump on my bed.

Signed anonymous

Dear Anonymous,
Having a dog is a fun and challenging thing. Unfortunately chasing thigs is one way dogs play. If I was you, I would show my dog that I do not like this game by not running. He probably thinks you like the game, so don't participate. If that doesn't work you should just try retraining the dog with rewards for when it chases toys, and a squirt bottle or time in it the backyard when it disobeys.

Hope this helps. Your friend, Abby.

Dear Abby,
I need money and I have none. Please tell me a way to get money, I can't work because I'm too young.

Signed, the one who needs money.

Dear The one who needs money,
Finding ways to make money when you are young is a challenge, but with a little creativity you can bring in the dollars. Start by thinking of something you like doing but others don't. you could offer to walk peoples dogs, mow their lawns, grade papers for elementary teachers, babysit, put up Christmas lights, Clean cars/garages, etc..
The ideas are endless. People will pay to get out of doing work they don't like. If you like it, it's a win-win.

Dear whoever is reading this,
Lately I have been having a lot of anxiety. I want to give you some examples, first school, my brother at St. George for college, I don't know how to tell my carpool crush I like them, and I feel I am losing my best friends. These masks are not helping. Every time I get too hot or too much anxiety I have a mini panic attack because of my anxiety. PLEASE HELP!

Wishing for help, Dying slow

Dear Dying slow,
You have a lot to deal with. I'm sorry you are struggling. A few ideas that could help are to find a time and place where you can destress and just relax. You could ask to step out in class when it gets to be too much to take a breather to help your anxiety. Calm yourself down, breathe, count to ten. Find a calming system that works for you.
For your brother, find ways to stay in contact. Call your brother and talk about everything you are feeling. Let him give you frequent reassurances.
For your carpool crush, try being good friends first before trying for anything more. Ask to hang out and when you are more comfortable the right time will come to tell him you like him.
Hope this helps! Signed, Abby

Dear Abby,
On Sunday I played 14 hours of video games and it hurt my eyes, although I was having fun, my eyes were not having fun.

Signed, The Police

Dear Police,
Fining a balance in life is hard. When you do something you love you can lose all track of time. I don't know what you guys were doing playing video games that long while on duty (JK), but I would suggest limiting yourself.
Find other things to do. Force yourself to go into other rooms or outside. If you are playing with other people ask them to help you quit playing after a certain amount of time.
You should also try doing some eye exercises such as looking around in circles with only moving your eyes, that helps with the sore feeling and helps train your eyes. You may also want to look into glasses that limit the glare from screens.

Hope this helps. Best regards, Abby

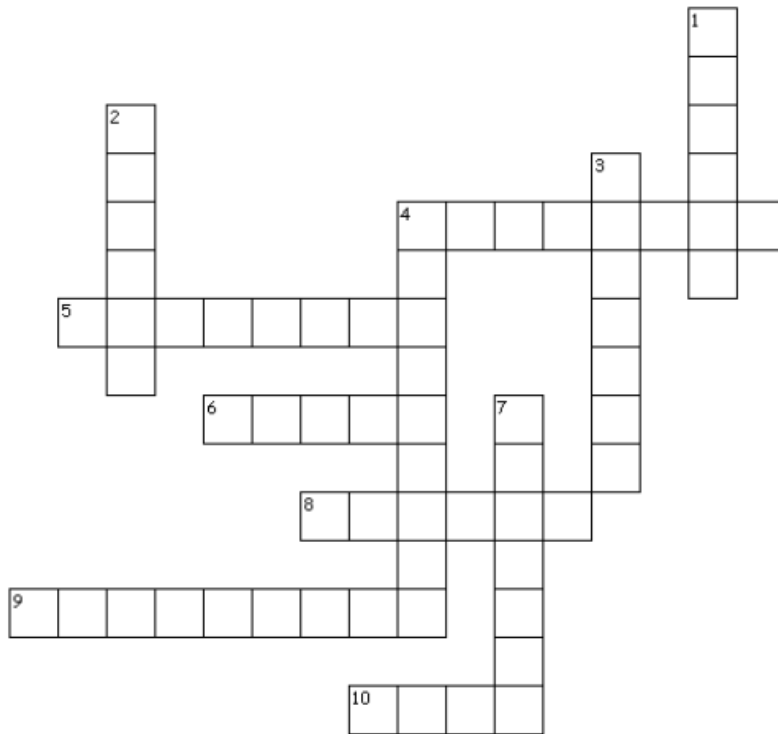
To: Abby
I have struggled fitting in. Every time I come to school I am nervous of how people think of me. I know, I know you shouldn't care but it's hard to just be myself when I pass 100 new kids every day. Do you have any advice for me to open up? I want to make friends.

-The Unknown Girl

Dear Unknown Girl,
I understand completely. I used to constantly think about what people thought of me too, and instead of telling you to not care like everyone usually does, I think instead you should just try to improve! If you improve on the things you are self conscious about, then you will feel less self conscious about them!
About making friends, you don't have to try super hard or put on a show, you just have to be yourself and the people who you feel support you are the ones who are your friends.
There are a lot of kids here who would love to be your friend, but they are too shy too. Try to say hi and learn the names of at least one new person each day. The more people you meet and get to know, the better your chances are of making friends.

Hope this helps and good luck, Abby

Halloween Cross Word Puzzle

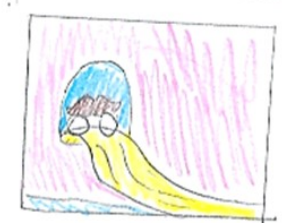
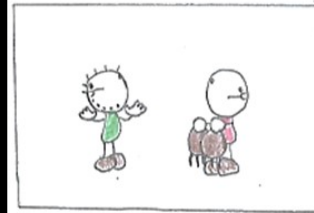


Across

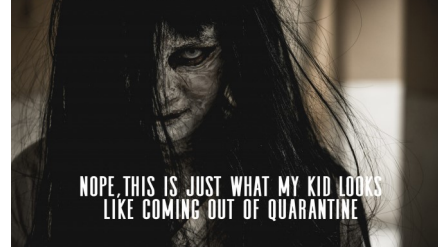
- 4. Dress ups
- 5. Bony
- 6. Something handed out on Halloween
- 8. White and transparent
- 9. A holiday in October
- 10. Flying blind, black

Down

- 1. Eight legged, furry
- 2. Another word for scary
- 3. Orange
- 4. Orange white and yellow candy
- 7. Scary flying old ladies



HALLOWEEN COSTUME?



2020 Halloween Approved Costume List

