

MUSTANG MONTHLY



Memorial Middle School - 1 Memorial Dr, Middlebury, CT 06762

This Month's Featured Teacher: Getting To Know Señorita Dripchak *by Daniela Ardino*

Have you ever wanted to get to know one of your teachers better? Have you ever had a question about your teacher, that you just haven't had the time to ask? Every month students at MMS vote for a teacher they would like to know more about.

This month's Featured Teacher is..... Señorita Dripchak! Señorita was highly voted by our 6th & 7th graders with a total of 19 votes. Multiple students had amazing questions that they wanted to ask Señorita. I hope you enjoy getting to know MMS's 6th Grade Spanish teacher.

Q: What is your favorite part about teaching/being a teacher?

A: **"The thing that I like the most about teaching is the kids. Seeing kids "get it" and helping them to get to that point makes everything else worth it."** Señorita described to me that just getting to walk into school and getting to see her 6th graders' smiling faces is the best part about being a teacher.

Q: Why did you want to be a Spanish teacher?

A: **"My Spanish teacher in high school (my junior and senior years) influenced me to become a Spanish teacher. She spoke 3 different languages and it always intrigued me and made me want to learn more and more Spanish. And hopefully more in the future!"** Señorita caught a passion for Spanish. When she met her Junior and Senior Spanish teacher, she knew exactly what she wanted her future to look like.

Q: What has been your funniest experience as a teacher?

A: **"My funniest experience so far as a teacher was when two of my boys performed the Flamenco dance for me in the beginning of one class. They practiced for that performance for about a week just so they could make me smile in class."**

Q: Who is someone that inspires you?

A: **"I am inspired by my best friend, Meg. She has a lung condition that inhibits a lot of the things that she can do in life but that has never stopped her from always doing what she loves and giving it her all every day. She often makes me stop and look at the bigger picture rather than just what is right in front of me."**



Señorita Dripchak, Grade 6 Spanish

Señorita's Favorite Candy:

Milky Way & 100 Grand

Señorita's Favorite Flower:

Lilies

Señorita's Dream Car:

Audi Q3

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A Space Dream Come True by Luke Bevilacqua

Even before Neil Armstrong stepped foot on the moon, the United States and many other countries have worked nonstop in a race; the race for space glory.

In the past couple of years, it hasn't been just countries, or celebrities, but billionaires who have started their own space companies. Elon Musk, (the founder of Tesla) has started SpaceX, Jeff Bezos, (the founder of Amazon) has started Blue Origin, and Richard Branson (businessman) has started Virgin Galactic.

These are the names many people know; however, one company that many have probably never heard of before has a plan to create something the world has only seen in movies...

Plans To Build

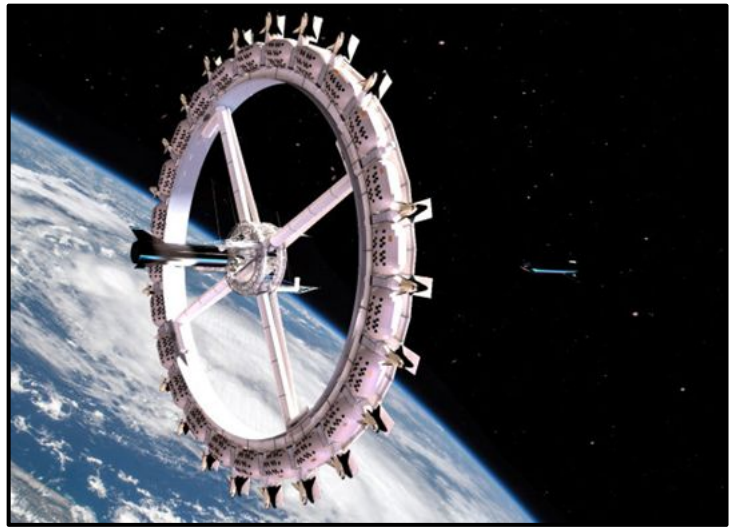
For decades, space exploration has been a top priority for many countries, especially the U.S. That is why a Sacramento company, Orbital Assembly Corporation (OAC) has decided to take a step from the common ground of space travel and exploration. Ceo Tim Alttore has recently released a plan to build and open the first-ever space hotel to the public by 2027. If created this would be a huge step forward for the world in the category of space travel. I interviewed one student here at MMS (Peter Deluca, Grade 7) and he had a strong opinion on the topic of space travel and exploration.

"Our government today is not putting enough money into space travel. Tesla and Blue Origin are coming out with space shuttles, it's revolutionary, it's a turning point in space travel. There are finally private companies with limited government control. I think we need to keep advancing space travel."

As you can see, Peter is one of the many in favor of space travel here in the U.S. Keep reading to find out more about the "Voyager Station."



A model of a room on the Voyager Station



A model of what the Voyager Station will look like

Inside the Station

Large enough to accommodate 280 guests and 112 crew members, fit with a bar, restaurants, a gym, and much more, news outlets such as Astronomy.com, CNN, and ArchDaily are calling the Voyager Station "Luxurious, Futuristic, Marvelous!" All these are very true, but how does it work?

The hotel is seemingly one large floating ring that spins, or as engineers call it a "Celestial Gateway", the spinning of the ring creates the force of gravity. At first, during boarding the gravity is more similar to the moon's than the earth ($\frac{1}{6}$ of earth gravitational pull). Over time, by increasing the speed of the ring, engineers hope to replicate earth gravity. As guests board on the loading dock, they will be brought to the 24 modules that surround the center of the voyager station.

From there, guests can practice dunking in zero gravity in the gym, go to the bar or a restaurant, watch live tv in the cinema, and of course eat foods like freeze-dried ice cream, nicknamed "Astronaut food." If you may not be a fan of astronaut food, don't worry, there is also hope to create foods that we have here on earth.

Million\$ or Hundred\$?

Aside from the astronaut food, only one thing will stop most people from coming to the Voyager System: that is the price. Unlike the 28 million dollar tickets to sit next to Jeff Bezos or Elon musk, OAC hopes to shockingly make staying at the hotel cost the same as a Disney cruise. "We want to make this an easy choice. If you want to go to Paris for a week or you want to go to space for a week, we want it to be a question of preference, not of money." Ceo Tim Alottore explained at a Live event in March 2021 (according to Astronomy.com).

Now, OAC and Tim Alttoree may have not decided on definitive pricing yet, but, they hope with the work of companies like SpaceX and new shuttle technology, who knows, maybe families will be going to space in just a few years. After all, anything is possible in the 21st century.

A Change in the Race Against Covid By *Maura Witkowski*

You probably know at least one teen or adult who has gotten the Covid 19 vaccine, or maybe you have gotten it yourself. The vaccine has been approved for ages 12-15 since May, and we are now ready to move up in this battle.

On November 2nd, 2021, the Covid 19 Pfizer vaccine was approved for ages 5-11. According to the CDC, the shots are being distributed nationwide this week. The CDC is trying to get as many people in this age group to get their shots! With this new approval, about 28 million kids are now eligible to get the vaccine.

So, what really are vaccines? A vaccine is a biological mixture that is given to those eligible so their bodies can fight the illnesses and stay healthy. It is often given as a shot. Vaccines are created to help protect the body against a virus. They create immunity, or a resistance to a particular disease. A false assumption made about the COVID-19 Vaccine is that when you get the vaccine, you are no longer able to get the virus.

Although that is not true, they are still proven to be effective and can reduce the risk of getting and spreading the virus. The vaccine also teaches our immune systems how to recognize and fight COVID-19. You may know of the flu or chickenpox vaccine. The Coronavirus vaccine is somewhat similar, but, it has its differences. One of which is that the covid vaccine comes in two doses, unlike the flu shot.

I questioned Anna Gilchrist, 6th grade student, how she felt about the vaccine. "I think the vaccine is completely necessary. Covid will eventually die down, but the vaccine is something that is needed if we are going to get through it... Although there are some symptoms to the vaccine, science is proving that there is nothing to be worried about."

Anna, like many others, is excited to eventually live in a world where we don't have to worry so much about COVID.



**Join our Google
Classroom Pages to read
our issues, participate
in our polls, and more!**

8th Grade: nfos4ji

7th Grade: 222r6p3

6th Grade: wttk112



Holiday Wishlist by Thomas Harris

Don't know what to get for the holidays? Want to get the perfect gift? I have just the list for you! With these gifts you'll be sure to be amazed. If you're looking for something for your siblings, then I have just the things you're looking for! Any books they're interested in? What about a nice set of pajamas? If you want to get something for mom or dad, then try some of these next options. If they want something to keep them warm on a cold winter day, then what about a new blanket! Not sure what to get in general?

Then how about a couple suggestions from some of our teachers.

"Buy things that you're into, like lego sets, a new bike." -Mrs. McConnon.

"Get books (Holiday themed, or ones that you prefer) and puzzles and other holiday themed things." -Mr. Gaipa.

Still want something new? Well why don't you see what some of the students say.

"Gift cards and headphones." -Mikey O.

"Newest gaming platforms, like the new PS5 or the Xbox series X, and the newest games like Halo Infinite and other new games." - Xavier C.

If these options don't satisfy you, then I'm not sure what will.



Case Closed? By Kassidi Houck

The Zodiac Killer... that name sends chills down people's spines and brings them back to a time where you didn't walk on the streets at night, you ALWAYS locked your door at night, and you constantly lived in fear. For those affected by this monster, the fear may come to an end, even though many won't get to see this day.

In late September and early October, media outlets blew up as a cold crime team claimed to have solved the 40 year old cold case. They claimed the infamous killer was Gary Francis Poste, and 80 year old man who died in 2018. As media outlets blew up, the allegations were shut down claiming there wasn't enough evidence to link an innocent man to such horrific crimes.

Until now. Reports as early as 11-21-21 say that there is new evidence linking this man to this series of crimes. News outlets such as Fox News, Daily Mail and Fox 8 claim investigators have hit a "goldmine" of new evidence including the fact that Poste got rid of ALL his weapons including pistol parts, gunpowder, bullets and shell casings shortly before his death. Keep in mind the Zodiac killer killed all his victims by shooting them. Another piece of evidence is a scar on Poste's head, which is identical to the scar on the Zodiac Killer's (this information is provided by a police sketch as no photos of the actual zodiac killer exist).

Given all this information the FBI still considers this case cold and having an ongoing investigation, "The FBI's investigation into the Zodiac Killer remains open and unsolved," "Due to the ongoing nature of the investigation, and out of respect for the victims and their families, we will not be providing further comment at this time."



The Debate of 2021 Public Health vs. Personal Freedom

By Ryan Murray

As 2021 is soon coming to a close, I think there is one thing we can all agree on... It has been a crazy year, a crazy controversial year. I think a lot of that controversy has come from one long lasting debate: Which should be put first? Personal freedom, or public health?

Well fear no more, I posted a poll to get the student body's opinion on this topic and I think I have found the majority opinion. Covid has agreeably pushed a lot of people's buttons, but it has also resurfaced a problem that started long before the 21st century.

The discussion on public health first notably began in the 1930's when due to a rapidly growing automotive industry, lap belts (known today as seat belts) entered the public's lives. Although seatbelt laws didn't become fully implemented until nearly 50 years later, people still questioned their personal freedom. But that is just the beginning...

Laws about smoking, driving age requirements, and other public health concepts have been placed over the last century. But there is still the argument over whether the public's health is worth more than one's personal freedom.

Recently, one of the biggest public health concepts has been Covid requirements. Things like vaccines, mandates, social distancing, and masks have been pressured upon the public by the government, peers, and most of society. But is it right?

Before seeing our own school's opinion, why don't we look at how some experts feel. One expert, Charles Everett Koop says, "Healthcare is vital to all of us some of the time, but public health is vital to all of us all of the time." Koop was the former United States Surgeon General from 1982 - 1989 during Ronald Reagan's presidential term. He was an extremely significant person in the public health vs. personal freedom debate due to his role in automotive public health and safety. He was Surgeon General, the head of public health in the United States and pressured laws for driving under the influence and tobacco.

Another expert of public health, David Kessler, was a pioneer in the controlling of tobacco. He fought to control the tobacco industry to support the health of the public. This was yet another revolutionary situation favoring public health, but let's see what our own student body thinks about public health.

Firstly, when asked their opinion on masks and a majority vote said they didn't really mind them. Students said that they can be irritable but they appreciate the feeling of safety that comes with them. Next, when asked about vaccines, 41% claimed that they liked vaccines and thought they were useful.

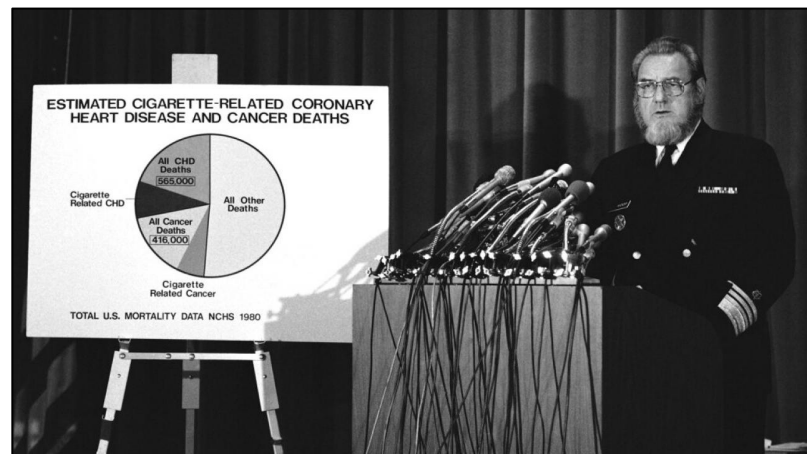
Although many claimed that they liked them, there were also many comments that were skeptical. Some students think it would be better if they were tested more and they knew what exactly it was they were putting in their body, however there seemed to be an agreement that they can be useful to prevent disease.

Another question asked was, "How do you feel about contact tracing?" A very close majority vote ruled that they didn't really mind it, with large counts of votes towards dislike and like coming in close behind. Some students stated that they wish contact tracing was a little bit more thought through, but if it keeps people safe it's the right thing to do!

Finally, we also asked for an opinion on seat belts. A wildly controversial topic over the last century. However, 77% voted that they liked them and there were 0 votes that disliked them. Students said they make them feel safe and protected!

Overall when asked which they find the most important, public health or personal freedom, it was a very mutual opinion. Students thought that public health is extremely important although personal freedom should also be taken into mind when enforcing public health rules. One student said that "if we work together we can make these requirements no longer feel like rules, just basic safety!"

In conclusion, there really is no right answer to the public health, vs. personal freedom debate. We all have our own opinions and it is important to take that into account. Public health is very important in order to keep everyone safe and personal freedom is important to uphold our democracy and individuality. This applies to our school as well... We can still have individual rights and keep everyone safe. We all just need to work together!



<https://www.newsy.com/stories/the-public-health-vs-personal-freedom-debate-isn-t-new/>



Standardized Testing...Is it really necessary?

By Marlo Gabriele

I think most students can agree that standardized tests are stress inducing. Parents can put a lot of pressure on you to get a good result on the tests, and even teachers can, too. But when asking why we have to do standardized testing, we usually get this answer... "It measures where you are academically." Some people think it can help with placing students in advanced classes, or getting the extra help that they need. Others also believe it helps the teachers to see how they can improve and if their curriculum is effective. But for students with anxiety or special needs, this isn't all that true. A lot of people struggle with really bad test anxiety and taking the standardized tests don't really show how good or bad people are at math or literature, they just show how good or bad they are at test taking.

So this brings us to a very important question... Do standardized tests favor a certain demographic?

I interviewed Senora Radlinski, 7th grade Spanish teacher here at MMS and a proud mom. "I feel like kids are stressing out that they don't have the strategies to test well," she said. And she's not wrong. Are these standardized tests really about math and literature, or is there a deeper meaning?

According to Procon.org, standardized tests can be classist, racist, and sexist. But why? Many wealthier kids have more access to enriching educational sources. For example, "Well-resourced students have far greater access to test preparation, tutoring and taking the test multiple times, opportunities not afforded the less affluent..." say experts.

Standardized testing has also been known to be racially biased. Minority and disadvantaged students are known to perform more poorly than their white counterparts, thereby leading to a gap in academic success. This also applies to women.

But how do you make a test that isn't biased against a certain demographic?

I interviewed a friend of mine, Zoni, asking her for her view on standardized testing. She responded with, "I think they're stressful and unnecessary. They help the teachers, but kids generally choose not to try as hard on them because they don't go to PowerSchool." I found that this was a common answer when asking this question, but some say that standardized tests are great. In a recent poll I conducted, one student said that it makes them smarter, but others said it just stressed them out. Roughly 80 students took this poll and these were some of the results...

46.3% said that standardized testing really isn't that bad and 41.5% of poll takers claimed they hate it. Do these results help prove that standardized testing maybe isn't all that necessary...?

If studies have shown that standardized tests aren't good indicators of student ability, due to its biased system, then why have we kept it going? Most could live without it and it doesn't show student progress accurately, although some may argue differently. But is there really a correct answer to whether standardized testing is useful? What do you think...?

Sites: <https://standardizedtests.procon.org/>



Is Social Media Bad? By Donald Scacco

In your perspective, what is social media? Is it an app that lets you connect with anyone, anywhere, anytime? Is it something used to get a hysterically funny video out there to the world? Is it a way to spread new trends to anyone who will listen? Most of all, is it bad?

Well the answer is yes, to all of those questions. The truth is, social media can be a fun way to do all of those things like chatting, posting funny videos or memes, photo sharing, filters, and a lot more. It is not a terrible function that is so bad it needs to stop immediately or something like that. It is what you make of it that determines the negatives.

We all know things in real life can escalate fast. Conversations, arguments, things like that. It only makes it worse when it is online. Chatting can escalate worse and can be considered cyberbullying, especially when people feel they can say whatever they want behind a screen. But it follows you. A digital footprint isn't some elementary term or "joke," used to make kids be nice on the internet. It is a real thing. It can control your future like a curse that can't be fixed. This means what you post, say, or share, can sometimes be viewed by friends, adults, teachers, strangers, and people who were not meant to see it. A post can sometimes be seen by later employers or colleges that can find it with a simple web search of your name. Therefore it is everything but a "joke."

Meanwhile, the negative aspects of social media is affecting OUR school. The bathrooms are being destroyed. It is rude, it is inappropriate, it is disgusting, it is **VANDALISM**. STOP. It is making people upset, and it got to the point where it can be a hate crime. The custodians at MMS need a break. If you are feeling upset or troubled, don't make them pay. Talk to someone. They can help you.

Not just in the bathrooms but throughout the people in our school, the disrespect and unkindness is embarrassing and sad. That is not the school we ALL want to have. We all know it. It's fine if you don't believe me. Don't take my word for it. Take the school's. According to a recent poll, 98% of people want it to stop. 98%!!! If that many people wanting a difference aren't enough to change the minds of vandalism, I don't know what will.

Let's go back to our first question. Is social media bad? Again, It's what you make of it. It is whether or not an individual has the ability to control their thirst for followers and popularity therefore making others hurt mentally or physically, that answers that. That is your answer.



Fine Line Review By Nora Santoli

Fine Line review. Yes I'm back. I know you missed me and thought about me all summer. My sour review is unmatched to any form of literature and made you shake the house boot down Houston. This is an official patent pending round 2, this time about the man, the myth, the legend hanging in my locker: Harry Edward Styles.

Golden: This song makes my hair fly off my head. Keep in my mind only Christmas music and Frank Sinatra have this effect on me. I'm illiterate and have been paralyzed from the ankles down and I think my frontal cortex or whatever part of your brain is utilized to think has shriveled to a raisin. 10/10

Fine line: Crying and throwing up this song makes me want to literally pull every single bristle out of my toothbrush and forcefully make myself watch an episode of Glee. If that doesn't explain my every thought about this song I don't know what will. 10/10

Adore you: This man is literally the smartest person in the Milky Way. He made a whole music video on a fish, a sea creature if you will. I have 1 and only 1 question for you, have you ever met a person that dislikes this song? The answer is no and yes. That was a Rhetorical question. 9.87910/10

Watermelon sugar: This is the most disliked song in the history of his career but honestly this man could sing happy birthday and I would still be on the floor. All this man sings about is fruit..... Yes, do I literally care. No and you shouldn't either go stream now. 9.1234567890/10

Lights up: This song in fact does show false advertising. Because Harold did not in fact lift the lights up, this song makes me want to sit in a very dark room and blast this song on full volume. That's it. 10/10

Falling: Literally shut the refrigerator door. The piano, the dress, the water, literally everything in this music video is superb. I would pay my college tuition for a jar of this water and risk my future for this song. 10/10

Cherry: He wasn't kidding when he said don't you call him cherry. Because if anybody called my bae Harold... 10000/10

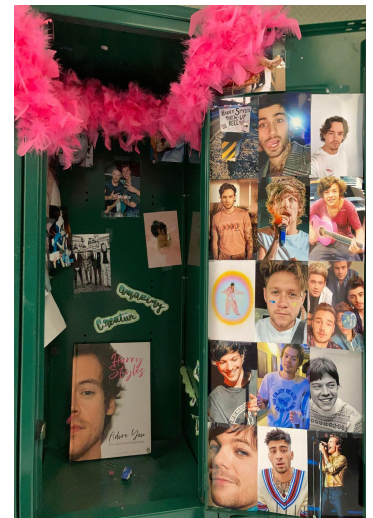
Sunflower: I would watch The Bee Movie on repeat for days, weeks, months, years, centuries to be able to even listen to a single note of this song. I would go as far as to put WHOLE MILK in my coffee to listen to this song. 12345678910/10

She: This song does in fact live in daydreams with me. I am not convinced I believe that this song is written about me. 4321/10

To be so lonely: I can't see, my ears are disabled, my mouth is glued closed and my body is dumbfounded. I am as lost as a chicken crossing the road and i've become deflated and a blob on the floor. 19191919/10

Canyon moon: why harold why I feel like Shakespeare writing this article yet i am at such a loss for words and i am aghast literally call the ambulance because my organs are dysfunctional 911/10

Twpk: (Treat People With Kindness) literally stop Harold.....crying



Happy, Free, Confused, and Lonely at the Same Time

By Lily Scozzafava & Emma Sander

“It never would have been possible to go back & remake my previous work, uncovering lost art & forgotten gems along the way if you hadn’t emboldened me. Red is about to be mine again, but it has always been ours. Now we begin again. Red (my version) is out.” Taylor Swift, November 12, 2021

Who is Taylor Swift?

Taylor Swift is an American singer-songwriter who is most known for her narrative songwriting which has gotten her a lot of widespread media coverage and critical praise.

What is Red?

Red is the 4th studio album by Taylor Swift which was released on October 22nd, 2012. It is ranked 99th in the Rolling Stone 500 greatest albums of all time. Red (Taylor’s Version) released on November 12th is following her first re-record, Fearless (Taylor’s Version) released in April 2021

Why is she re-recording?

Swift doesn’t own the masters of her first 6 albums so every time somebody tries to stream one of the albums, the profits don’t go to her, but instead they go to the owners of the master. Taylor is releasing these albums as her own dubbed “Taylor’s Version”.

Why is owning your masters so important?

Owning your masters gives artists legal rights. When an artist doesn’t own their masters they can’t license it to 3rd parties, meaning that they can’t put their music in any movies, tv shows, commercials, films, or even for sampling use by other artists. An artist should be able to have full control over their musical career. “A lot of artists, especially in the early days of their career, don’t realize that signing away your masters means selling the rights to their work - sometimes for all future,” says Diego Farias, CEO, and co-founder of Amuse. It’s not a big obligation to own your masters when some are just starting, but even big stars like Kanye West and Taylor Swift started at some point. For Taylor, not owning her master’s means she doesn’t have control over how and where her music is used, even performing songs live.

Taylor Swift in a “Red” photoshoot



What do people at MMS think?

We wanted to know what people at MMS thought about Taylor Swift, Red and her rerecording. 8th grader, Sara Gilchrist, was nice enough to let us interview her on her thoughts and opinions.

Q: Have you listened to red yet?

A: Yes I have.

Q: How has your experience been with it?

A: It’s been good. Red (Taylor’s Version) is an amazing masterpiece and should always be listened to at every time of day, and I’m so proud of Taylor.

Q: Were you excited for Red (Taylor’s Version) to come out?

A: Obviously, I completely lived off of *I Knew You Were Trouble* and 22 as a kid so obviously I was excited for it to come out.

Q: So what do you know about Taylor rerecording all her albums?

A: I do know that it means a lot to her to have ownership over albums, and I’m really glad we get Fearless and Red, hopefully we get 1989 too because she released Wildest Dreams (Taylor’s Version).

Q: Is there anything else you would like the people reading to know?

A: If you don’t like Taylor Swift then go stream Red (Taylor’s Version) right now.



Everything You Need To Know About Spider-Man: No Way Home By Shaivi Gaddam

“Web shooting, Universe saving, Acrobatic!” are all traits of one very well-known superhero and Idol for many. If you haven't caught on, I am talking about Peter Parker, or more commonly known as SPIDERMAN.

After we were left on a cliffhanger in the “Spider-Man” series latest movie, “Far From Home”, fans have been eagerly waiting for the next film, “No Way Home.” Peter Parker had left off finally getting the girl he loved, M.J. However, in the final scene of the latest movie, we also saw his identity get revealed on all big news platforms. For many fans of the Spider-Verse, this was a shocking ending. According to CinemaBlend, “A contract dispute between Walt Disney Studios and Sony Pictures called off the deal that allowed the beloved superhero to exist in the Marvel Cinematic Universe...” However, fortunately, those 2 studios soon came up with an agreement, letting “Spider-Man No way home,” start shooting and a date left to be planned. The decided date was later set for December 17th, 2021, making it the 4th Marvel Studios movie to come out this year.

Eager fan of Marvel Studios and movies, Senora Radlinski, says “I love how they tie one movie into the other, and they always have at the very end of the movie, a post-credits scene. I am very curious about the next Spider-Man movie, but sad about Tony Stark dying. Marvel always had a way to bring all the characters back, which is why the movies are so interesting and exciting.”

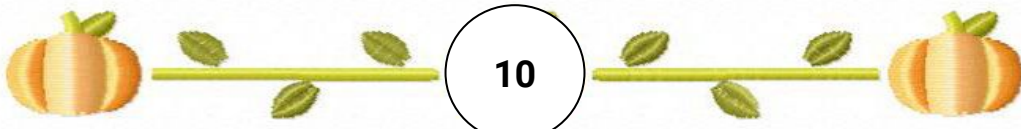
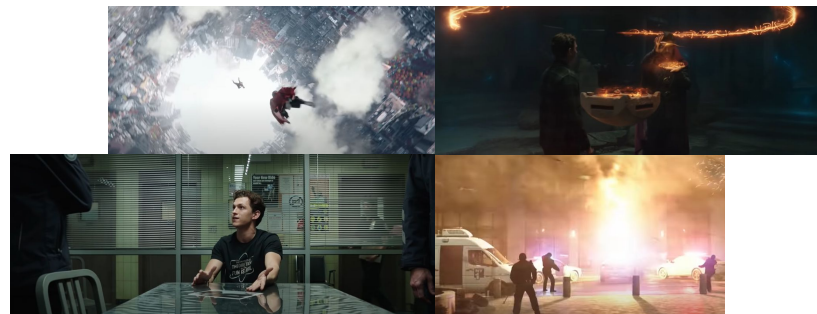
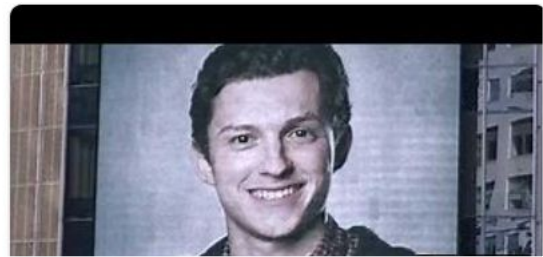
Keep reading to find out everything you need to know about the next Spider-Man movie.

What is the story of Spider-Man: No Way Home?

Multiple clues and plot teasers have been released on some articles and websites.

Based on what we last saw in the post-credits scene, Nick Fury wasn't really Nick Fury, but he was a shape-shifting green alien from Captain Marvel. “Spider-Man: No Way Home is going to open with the eponymous character being Public Enemy #1 and not even able to hide from the world by pretending to be mild-mannered high school student Peter Parker,” says CinemaBlend.

From the trailer, we see that Dr. Strange is involved and for some reason, the universe is fading out. The trailer starts off with Peter and M.J sitting on top of a building and talking about a magazine. We move on to see that he is the number 1 public enemy and is soon in jail. As we go further into the trailer, complications arise for Parker, his only hope is to reverse time itself. Little clips show us that the time spell that Dr. Strange had conducted brought many dangerous hazards to the universe. Unfortunately, the trailer left us on a cliffhanger, wondering what's going to happen next.



The First Thanksgiving By Ramin Qurbani



Thanksgiving was not originally a national holiday, it only became a national holiday around 1777. George Washington convinced the Second Continental Congress to make it a national holiday after the defeat of the British in the Battle of Saratoga; with America a new, independent nation. Though, Thanksgiving did not start here, it went back to the times America was first a couple colonies, back to the September of 1620.

In the September of 1620, the first Pilgrims arrived on the ship called the “Mayflower”. The ship landed in the Americas, which was called the “New World” as it was recently discovered back then. There were 102 passengers on the ship which landed near what is now Cape Cod.

The Pilgrims established one of the first settlements in the Americas, called the “Massachusetts Bay Colony”. The first town of the colony was being worked on, which would later be finished and called “Plymouth”. The first winter was brutal to the Pilgrims, but they survived, and received a visit from the local Native American tribe, the Abenaki tribe.

A couple days later after the visit, the Abenakis brought another Native American, Squanto. Squanto showed the Pilgrims how to cultivate American plants and how to use fish for farming. Squanto also helped the Pilgrims make an alliance with another local Native American tribe called the Wampanoag.

In the November of 1621, a year after the Pilgrims washed ashore, they had a bountiful harvest of corn and other American crops. The governor, William Bradford, organized a feast for the celebration of a great harvest.

He invited the local Native American tribes to celebrate with them. The first Thanksgiving lasted for three days, with feasts for each day.

The first Thanksgiving meals included turkey, which was probably stuffed with herbs, nuts and vegetables, as Edward Winslow wrote, “Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruits of our labors; they four in one day killed as much fowl.”

Another part of the first Thanksgiving meals were the American fruits and vegetables, such as blueberries, plums, grapes, raspberries, gooseberries, and cranberries to name a few fruits. The vegetables were mostly corn, carrots, spinach, onions, beans, cabbage, lettuce, and peas.

The third part of the meals were fish and shellfish, there were lots of lobsters and a variety of other types of fish, like Edward Winslow also wrote “Our bay is full of lobsters all the summer and afforded variety of other fish; in September we can take a hogshead of eels in a night with small labor, and can dig them out of their beds all the winter. We have mussels... at our doors. Oysters we have none near, but we can have them brought by the Indians when we will.”

Thanksgiving has a long and interesting history, traced back to the 1620s, when the States were still a bunch of colonies; but that did not stop it from becoming a national holiday in the United States.

How do you celebrate Thanksgiving with your family?



SPORTS

The End of a Season

By Akash Bajaj

As the fall comes to an end, so does this year's cross country season. The Memorial runners had many great races, with most races ending in victory.

The cross country team had a great season but, let's see what the runners thought about it. This was the question we asked: "How was the season and what was one thing you learned from it?" The biggest thing that the runners learned this year was sportsmanship and working together to achieve a goal. Many runners were able to learn from each other, they were taught to try their hardest no matter what and always persevere. Win or lose, this season was a big success for the cross country team and we are hoping for the next one to be just as amazing!

The Old Farmer's Almanac
When Do the Seasons Start in 2021? | Fall
Equinox, Winter Solstice, Spring Equinox,
Summer Solstice | The Old Farmer's
Almanac



MMS Field Hockey Ends Season Without Getting Scored on By Annie Greenwood



Top Row(left to right): Corrine Sartor, Payton Pentino, Sydney Hotaling, Maura Witkowski, Megan Widlar, Annie Greenwood, Mairead Power, Jordyn Fortier, Claudia Burrus, Sara Gilchrist.

Bottom Row(left to right): Ava Farley, Sadey Barret, Allie Leonard, Jordyn Kovach, Adri Dawson, Emily Lane, Maya Jaramillo

The Field hockey team had one of their best years to date this season. They ended not only undefeated, but were never scored on. We wanted to get some input from an athlete who was on the team this past year. So we asked a few questions to the goalie, Jordan Kovach from 7th grade.

We asked her how she felt about this past season. She really liked how she could play with her friends and she got to try a new position. She feels her biggest challenges were trying a new position and keeping the team undefeated. She thinks that next year's season will be different without the eighth graders, but she is very excited for the seventh graders to move up! She is looking forward to the next season to make more friends and also stay with the old friends and learn to work together as a team.

We are so happy we could get a great interview from a player on the team. The girls did an amazing job the past couple months, we wanted to highlight some of the stats of the 8th graders that lead them to a not only an undefeated season, but never getting scored on!

Goals:

Sara Gilchrist-7 goals
Maura Witkowski-6 goals
Sydney Hotaling-5 goals
Allie Leonard-4 goals
Anabelle Greenwood-3 goals
Megan Widlar-1 goal

Assists:

Megan Widlar-7 assists
Maura Witkosik-5 assists
Sydney Hotaling- 5 assists
Allie Leonard-4 assists
Sara Gilchrist- 4 assists
Anabelle Greenwood- 2 assists



MMS Basketball Preview

By Megan Widlar

With fall sports coming to an end, basketball season is fastly approaching. In the past, Memorial has had great success with all our school sports but particularly basketball. But sadly last year due to Covid-19 the basketball teams for both girls and boys did not have a season. For not only our 6th grade but 7th grade athletes this is the first time they have the ability to try out and represent MMS. Let's take a look at who will be playing for the Mustangs this year! Don't forgot to come out and sport our teams, you can find the schedule at Ciacsports.com.

Boys Team

Rylen Brennan
Andrew Brocksmith
Braedan Grieder
Dane Guinipero
Lucas Jordan
Brendan MacKenzie
Noah Pane
Nick Tarby
Jude Turner
Joe Flanagan
Bryce Buckley
Aiden DelBuono
Brandon Villadolid
Anthony Mancini

Girls Team

Mia Shaker
Lily Scozzafava
Claudia Burrus
Lily Masi
Valery Linstrum
Allie Leonard
Jordyn Fortier
Alana Drauss
Sophia Davidson
Eliana Dani
Allie McNerney
Megan Archibald
Kaelan Doyle - Holter
Daniela Ardino
Devin Mugavin
Jordan Kovach
Delilah Salcito

Memorial Soccer!

By Sophia Dickens and Ayla Feratovic



Our soccer season has come to an end, but we haven't forgotten about the amazing plays this year.

The girls team had a very successful season with their captains Jasleena Thind, Allie McNerney and Jillian Sieling leading their team to a record 6-5-0. There were lots of goals scored by many of their players. We also decided to ask their coach, Mr. Buckley, some questions about their season. We first asked him "How do you think the season went?" He said they had a wonderful season with wonderful leadership by the team captains. He also mentioned that he had an amazing group of girls. We next asked him if he could share an encouraging piece of advice. He said "Just keep having fun playing the game, that is why we play. When we have fun, winning is not the most important thing!"

For the boys team, they were led by captains Genti Ismaili, Breaden Greider, and Gabe Panasci all in 8th grade! With such a successful season, ending with a record of 6-3-0, we wanted to share some of their stats!

Goals: Genti Ismaili-7, Gabe Panasci-5, Kevin Weitkamp-4, Cam Funk-4, Braedan Grieder-3, Aiden DelBuono-3.



COMICS AND GAMES

Thanksgiving Trivia!

By Camila Reyes

1. Which Native American tribe taught the pilgrims how to use the land and were invited to Thanksgiving?
 - A. Apache
 - B. Wampanoag
 - C. Cherokee

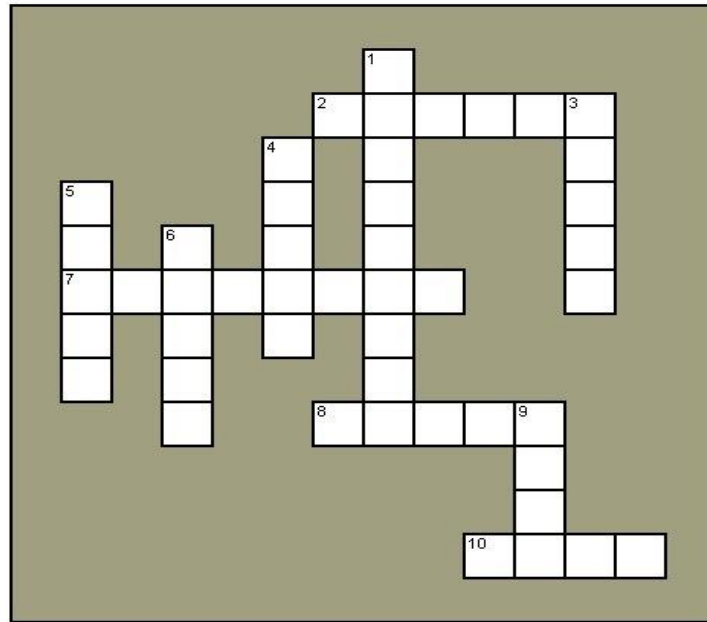
2. What day is Thanksgiving?
 - A. November 25 or 26 (Depends on the year)
 - B. Only November 25 each year
 - C. Fourth Thursday
 - D. Fourth Friday

3. What Was **NOT** At The Pilgrims Thanksgiving?
 - A. Cranberries, Corn, Mashed Potatoes
 - B. Rabbit, Chicken, Wild Turkey, Dried Fruit
 - C. Deer meat, Fish, Goose

**ANSWERS ON OUR GOOGLE
CLASSROOM!
GOOD LUCK AND GOOD JOB!!!**



Crossword Puzzle by Caileigh Callahan and Camila Reyes



Across

2. Bright, colored, twinkle.
7. Pull the sleigh.
8. Sleigh _____ ring!
10. Decorate with lights and balls.

Down

1. Get a kiss if you're under it.
3. Jolly man in red suit.
4. Cane, chocolate, & more.
5. Sing Christmas songs.
6. Better to give than receive.
9. At the top of the tree.

Created with the help of Wordsheets - www.Qualint.com

Turkey Talk by Amaris Fontanez and Elias Jabri



MUSTANG MONTHLY

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