



The Purple Press

Adult to Blame
Leo Bickelhaupt

Editor-in-Chief
Paloma Leone-Getten

Copy Editors
Willia Campion
Nick Streng

Writers
Kyler Aldridge
Henry Bandelin
Atticus Brooks-Babcock
Willia Campion
Anna Carlson
Hazel Carroll
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Nora Crosby
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Meara Gunderson
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Paloma Leone-Getten
Mikko Liimatta
Aidan Lynskey Wells
Arlo Northrop-Kiel
Ghost Olatunde
Elena Patton
Amelia Ryan
Mintesinot Sisay
Lana Stevens
Nick Streng
Amya Wright
Hiroko Zeleke

12-period day

OWL to alter daily schedule

Ghost Olatunde
Staff Writer

In order to keep students more engaged in learning, the OWL Leadership Committee has changed the schedule to a twelve block period instead of an A and B schedule.

The OWL Leadership Committee had a meeting this weekend and noticed that lots of kids have short attention spans and can't handle the long classes. They seem to fall asleep and not submit their work on time, and they

also just don't listen to what the teacher has to say. So after a long debate they came to the conclusion that it would be a good idea to change the schedule to twelve periods with 28 minute long classes, which will be more engaging. People will be given more options on classes and then will be able to get more credit for high school as well.

This option might not work for everyone, but it works for a lot of people. Principal Dave Gundale stated, "After a long

debate, I think this will help most students in this school and will help them to get more credit." Teachers and students who are also in the committee have thoughts on this new schedule. Eighth grader Titus Galbreath said, "I think this new schedule will help me to be more focused in school and get more of my work done." Science teacher Sorcha added, "I think this will help out my older students to get more credit and get everything done because classes will get straight to the point."

OWL to crack down on lunchtime rules

Talking, turning around among actions onw restricted to slow COVID-19 spread in school

August Cheney
Staff Writer

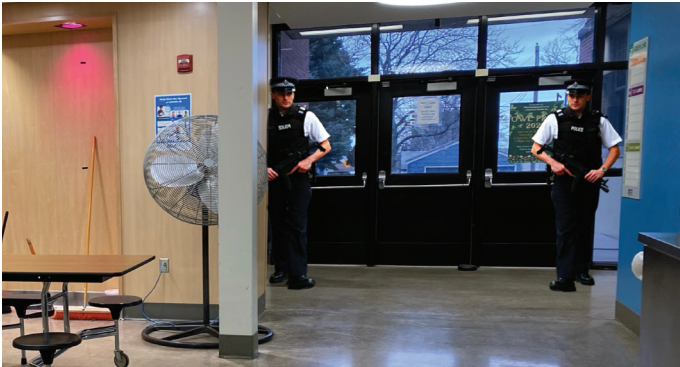
The OWL Leadership Group announced this Monday that lunch will be more tightly controlled for the remainder of the school year.

The Center of Disease Control formally stated that coronavirus cases have gone down by about 250,000 in the last few weeks, and that masks will no longer be mandated in most places. OWL principal Dave Gundale has claimed to have done his "own research," predicting that the next COVID wave "the size of a tsunami" will come by tomorrow.

These new guidelines will include no moving your head, no talking, and one student per table. Dave claims, "Turn-

ing your head side to side is the best way to spread germs." These new sets of restrictions will most likely last until the end of the school year. Those who break those rules will be removed from the cafeteria by the OWL Lunchtime Protocol Task Force.

Dave received funds from



The security guards will be enforcing Dave's new rules.



Purple Press Staff Photo

Writers picketing outside of Leo's classroom.

Writers on strike

Strike authorized on March 25

Arlo Northrop-Kiel
Staff Writer

After years of working tirelessly under poor conditions, Purple Press writers are planning on strike on Monday, April 11th right after spring break.

On March 25th the Purple Press writers union got together and held a vote to authorize a strike. 23 of the 30 writers (about 76%) voted to strike. "If you ask me, I don't think we need to have a strike. I believe we can come to an agreement during the negotiations without having to disrupt all the great unpaid labor I'm using to publish my newspaper," said Purple Press owner/adult to blame Leo Bickelhaupt.

Principal Dave Gundale is currently in hot water with

students after coming out and saying he is supporting Leo. "I just don't think the students at the Purple Press need to be paid any money because they are already being paid with knowledge and experience," said Dave.

The Purple Press writers have a few demands: any pay, health insurance, less issues published per year to ease their workload, and multiple goof around breaks. Protests will be held from 9:48 am - 1:01 pm outside of Leo's room. Students who attend the protests will be marked absent from class.

"After over 20 years of the Purple Press running and our countless hours of unpaid labor, we are finally going to take action and get what we want," said 10th grader Nora Crosby.

OWL gets caffeinated

Starbucks Coffee coming to the OWL lunchroom in fall 2022

Kyler Aldridge
Staff Writer

Fulfilling all students' hopes and dreams, OWL will be replacing the second lunch line with a Starbucks coffee shop this summer.

"I thought it was a joke until I heard Dave say it," said 7th grader Billy Jacobsen. Using OWL as a trial run, the district plans to add Starbucks to all SPPS schools soon. It will be open in the morning, lunch and during crew on Fridays. The big space makes it possible for this coming Starbucks

to have a seating area that will be open all day so that students can do homework during free periods or crew.

"I believe that this Starbucks coffee shop will not only make students want to get to school earlier, it will help students to be more focused," said principal Dave Gundale. Research shows caffeine boosts the production of dopamine, further helping the ability to concentrate and stay focused. Many students formerly excited for summer say that they can't wait for next year to start.



Auria Cha

An artist's rendering of the new Starbucks.

Passes, 1

The OWL Environmental Club knew taking away hall passes was going to be a risk. Students would have to be trusted more than usual. "A student skipping class isn't as bad as a worldwide paper shortage if we at OWL continue to use paper," stated the club leader.

The club explains that by

checking the recycling bins and hallways everyday and sorting through the remaining paper for the past few months, the most paper that goes to waste is 79.84% hall passes. "There were so many passes we started making paper mache people out of them," said an unnamed club member. Their crafts can be found in the display case on the first floor.

18 is the new 65

Jalen is a trailblazer for students looking to retire young

Mintesinot Sisay
Staff Writer

In a never-before-seen move, senior Jalen Bolton-Steiner—popularly known by the moniker 'BS'—



announced that he would be leaving the building for the last time on Wednesday, March 29th, in a formal retirement letter sent out the day prior. "My plan is to settle down. I'd like to spend more quality time with my family (and play video-games, I'll admit it), and I've been far too exhausted when I come home since I started this whole 'getting an education thing,'" he wrote in a statement to the Saint Paul Public School district.

Most people retire a few years after graduating high school, but BS decided to make that process hasty. He spoke with our reporters to explain his choices more extensively, saying that, "School just isn't cutting it. I'll never need to know about variables, or how to write an essay, by god!" While shedding a tear, he spoke about the longing he's felt for his lovely home life; "I love my games, and my kids, and I haven't seen them in hours!"

Some students (nerds) reacted with negative attitudes

which we shall not entertain with a quote, while others have been inspired by his story. "I think it's wonderful! We all see this school business as a tremendous bore that makes us all way too tired, and finally someone had the bravery to take action," gushed long-time friend, Spanish teacher Tim Leone-Getten.

Official documents show that while he hasn't actually played any video-games, Jalen has bought over \$80 worth of blueberry muffins from the local Holiday in his newly-found free time. Pastries. From a gas station. Who woulda thunk it?

Mario Kart can now be used for driver's education hours

Atticus Brooks-Babcock
Staff Writer

Pong Xiong, the director of the Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services Division, has decided to switch from requiring 50 hours of hands-on driving before you can get your license to 25 hours of Mario Kart DS. "It is

cheaper and safer," said Xiong. However, if you get first place 50 times, you can get your license without a road test.

According to the Minnesota Road Safety Group, Mario Kart DS "is the most realistic and best way to prepare to drive." With its hypersensitive game engine, astounding

graphics, realistic traffic simulation that is modeled off of the St Paul area, and self learning AI that changes based on your driving, Mario Kart DS is just about as close to real life as you can get.

After hearing that I had to try it again after many years of being afraid to play because of

how real it was. As I chose the Star Cup, I could feel myself being brought into the game. I started in 4th and had a battle to 1st. After playing Mario Kart DS, I had become the best driver in real life. If your driving skills are lacking, I would recommend Mario Kart DS.

Senior Spotlight

Paying Lor



What are your pronouns?
She/her.

How many years have you been at OWL?
My entire life.

What are your plans for next year?
I am hoping to get a job.

What’s been your favorite class in high school?
I really like Leo’s class.

What extracurriculars are you involved in?
I like hanging out in the teacher’s lounge.

Favorite field work experience or school trip and why?
College was fun.

If you had a walk up song, what would it be?
Never Gonna Give You Up by Rick Astley.

What are your pronouns?
They/Them

How tall are you?
About an inch.

What’s your favorite class so far and why?
Sorcha’s class because it’s the only one I’ve been in.

Who’s your favorite senior?
Mae because she swims a lot.

Where do you think you’re going to go for college?
What?

What extracurriculars do you plan on getting involved in at OWL?
I’m thinking about joining the swim team.

That One Little Kid

Sorcha’s Fish



Humpty Dumpty fell

Spring play has been postponed indefinitely

Hazel Carroll
Staff Writer

Open World Learning Community’s spring production of Alice in Wonderland will be indefinitely postponed due to the tragic news of Humpty Dumpty, OWL’s resident egg-spert, having suffered a great fall. Though all the principal’s horses and all the principal’s men are doing the best that they can, it remains unclear when Humpty Dumpty will be put back together again.

Last Friday, Humpty was walking along the wall bordering the Humboldt School Forest when he slipped on a patch of ice and fell, shattering. Five students and two teachers, including theatre director Rebekah Rentzel, rushed to his aid. “It was just terrible,” recalled Rebekah, “bits of shell everywhere, it was all we could do to contain the yolk.” Following this, Humpty was promptly rushed to Regions Hospital where they informed the concerned teachers that

“we don’t treat eggs.” While school nurse Colleen Richardson consults with the Tech Crew on how to repair the broken egg, Rebekah has made the difficult decision to postpone the show until Humpty has recovered. “It was a hard call to make,” said Rebekah, “but ultimately I’m not sure how the show could go on without its star. So we’ll be waiting for Humpty Dumpty to make a full recovery before continuing on with rehearsals.” As of press time unfortunately, that full recovery is looking less and less likely. Despite their best efforts, not all of Humpty’s shell shards were recovered and the Tech Crew’s

recommendations of “more duct tape” haven’t been quite able to put Humpty Dumpty back together again. Updates to come as the story develops.



Nick Streng

Grace didn’t watch Demon Slayer

Despite being a huge anime fan, Grace deceived her fellow Anime Club members

Hiroko Zeleke
Staff Writer

In a statement that created a shock wave across the OWL anime community, 10th grader Grace Moua reveals she’s never watched Demon Slayer, the anime she claimed to have loved, proving so by walking around with swag from the anime. This comes as a shock to Demon Slayer fans at OWL. “I know how many people at OWL I have disappointed,

and I feel so guilty about lying,” Grace said in an interview. “But to be fair, I read the manga which is probably better anyway, and I just don’t have the time to watch all the episodes right now with school and work.” “She is a disgrace to us true Demon Slayer fans!” said 10th grader Daryan Thao. “I thought I could trust her but it turns out I can’t,” said 10th grader Chanida Xiong.

“All this time I thought that her water bottle was because she liked Demon Slayer but nooooo, she’s just been using it as a shield!” OWL’s anime club has set

up protests around Grace’s locker every Friday at 2:30pm and will continue to do so until she decides to watch the anime.



Purple Press Staff Photo

Grace with her “beloved” Demon Slayer water bottle, just another lie.

8th grade eliminated

Current 7th graders will have to transfer for 8th grade

Lana Stevens
Staff Writer

After years of contemplating, principal Dave Gundale and the OWL Leadership Board have concluded that from the 2022-2023 school year and onward, 8th grade will be eliminated completely, and that OWL will have only 6th grade, 7th grade, and high school. It has been discussed for the past couple of years that 8th grade is the most annoying grade. The OWL Leadership Board has been adamant about this decision for the past few years, and said it is long overdue. “I don’t know what it is about them,” said a member of the OWL Leadership Board (they have chosen to stay anonymous). “8th graders are just annoying. In 6th and 7th they are alright, but suddenly when it comes to 8th, they just go bananas.” At long last, they have finally convinced Dave to correct the problem. “Even when me and my

class were in 8th grade, everyone was just plain irritating and childishly disruptive,” observed Elliott Gunderson, a former 8th grader. “But then onto 9th grade, and everybody calmed down.” In any case, Dave agrees with the Leadership Board that the best way to solve this problem is to get rid of the 8th grade from the school. “There will simply be no 8th grade. 7th graders will have to find a different school for 8th grade,” Dave said. He apologized for any inconveniences, and stated that “this is just the way things will have to be.” 8th graders attending OWL this year will be allowed to continue attending school, considering next year they’ll be in 9th grade. But the 7th graders will have to find another school to attend for next year. There will be a support group for kids who don’t have a plan for 8th grade.

The real reason SPFE didn’t strike

Paloma Leone-Getten
Staff Writer

Claiming that they “didn’t know they had to be on the picket lines so early,” the teachers settled their contract with the district on March 7th, avoiding a strike. All Saint Paul Federation of Educators union members would have had to report to

the outside of their school buildings by 7 AM each day of the strike, due to some district schools starting their days at 7:30. “I can’t believe they expected us to get up, let alone get to school, that early. I need my beauty sleep, so thank goodness we avoided that strike,” said English teacher

Strike, 5

What would you do to get the best seat in class?

8th grader accused of faking an injury to sit up front

Nina LaFerla
Staff Writer

8th grader Meara Sander-son has been accused of faking a broken ankle to get preferential seating in their classes. When new seats were picked for the new semester, Meara was seated in the back. A day later they came to school with an alleged “broken ankle” and requested that teachers seat them near the door in order to accommodate them. Right after all their teachers arranged for them to sit near the door, Meara’s ankle coincidentally got better according to students on the scene, but she did return to her previous seat at the back of the class. Teachers and classmates were suspicious. “They’re lying about their broken ankle. One time I saw their cast on the opposite foot,” said 8th grader Amya Left.

Meara denied these allegations. “I think it’s untrue. I very much broke my ankle,” Meara claims.

Many students say that Meara got the best seat in class and were angry. “They shouldn’t get the best spot just because they had a “broken ankle” for a couple of days,” said 8th grader Arlo Southrop. The OWL dispute committee says they will look into this matter.



Purple Press Staff Photo

Clickable pens banned

SPPS to provide custom fountain pens instead

Amelia Ryan
Staff Writer

This past Wednesday, the Saint Paul Public School Board announced that clickable pens have been banned as of today. Sources say that the reasoning behind this was that they distract students from their work. “It’s in the same line as banning phones. The pens take the attention of the students away from their teachers,” said superintendent Joe Gothard. “We believe this will have a positive impact on schools, and we hope that other dis-

tricts take this rule up.” Clickable pens, also called retractable pens, were first invented by John J. Loud in 1888, and perfected by brothers Lazlo and Gyorgy Biro 1931. Clickable pens have had their haters, but now, almost one hundred years later, they face some of their first true opposition. The decision seems to have its supporters in the schools, mostly among teachers fed up with students making noises. “The constant clicking just drives me nuts! I’m so glad

that clicking pens are being banned,” said English teacher Kevin Hansen. “This is the best idea the school board has had in years. Can’t believe they didn’t think of this sooner,” said social studies teacher Luke Turvold. Not everybody is happy with the ban though. “We’ve had clicking pens for years and we’ve been fine. I don’t see why they ban them now. It’s pointless,” said 12th grader Ella Stevens, who has been protesting against all decisions the School Board has made since 7th

grade. To make up for the ban, the SPPS system is supplying every student with custom fountain pens. The pens will be inscribed with the name of the school and the student it belongs to. If the student loses their pen, they will be fined \$50. Sources reported that Board member Jessica Kopp had to say on that matter, “Students lose stuff all the time. If they lose enough pens then they’ll give us enough money to pay the teachers’ wages.”

OWL robot on the rampage

The OWL Robotics Team still haven’t found their robot after the recent incident

Elena Patton
Staff Writer

In a shocking development, the OWL robotics team accidentally left their unfinished robot powered on and the robot went rampaging throughout the school. The robot (named Mitwo) left the robotics room and drove around the school. After driving around Spanish teacher Tim Leone-Getten’s room and making a mess, it fell down the stairs and disappeared. Currently no one has found the robot yet. Although there is evidence that it drove out of the robotics room itself, authorities still haven’t ruled out other possibilities, such as Mitwo being stolen or mis-

placed. “We must have left the door unlocked because our robot was gone the next morning,” said eleventh grader Joe Gorton from the robotics team. The robot that was programmed to drive forward “nine steps” after a three minute pause and turn right after “nine steps” made it into Tim’s room after school. Witnesses say that Tim’s room was a mess on Thursday morning before school. “Papers were on the floor and chairs were scooted around. There were even wheel tracks on the floor when I got to my classroom this morning,” said Tim. Evidence shows Mitwo lat-

er came out of the room. Faint wheel tracks were followed to the northeast stairs. It is thought that Mitwo fell down the stairs and is hidden somewhere. However, at press time, Mitwo was still not found after the incident. “Mitwo is likely not working anymore. But it is not impossible for it to still be driving

around the school,” said robotics coach Megan Hall. Mitwo was the robotics team’s only working robot, so teachers and students should keep a look out for the robot around the school. Mitwo is gray and about the size of a boot. If found, bring the robot to Megan in room 3215.



Auriah Chua
A surveillance camera view of the robot after its escape.

Sorcha outed as a student

OWL’s “science teacher” is really just a senior

Amya Wright
Staff Writer

OWL has to find a new science teacher after it was discovered that science teacher Sorcha Nix is just a really advanced senior, not an official teacher like students thought. Some students suspected Sorcha since day one, but

never came forward about it. Fellow senior Sophia Govrik finally outed Sorcha on March 6th. “Oh yeah, me and Sorcha have been friends since 8th grade. I didn’t even know she was running a science class till I heard rumors about it,” said Sophia. According to sources, the

first period science teacher never showed up so Sorcha, being the teacher’s pet, got up and started the class off. She ran the class just like a normal teacher would expect. She gave special treatment to all her friends and let them sit together and not do any of their work. “Me and my friends would

always sit together cause Sorcha gave us permission, it was all of our favorite class,” said senior Max Schibel. No one suspected Sorcha since it was her first day at OWL and many students didn’t know her. “I felt empowered, like I owned them, like I was the king of the hill and they believed I was their teacher. It was amazing!” said Sorcha.

Spiritwear tattoos offered

Tattoo artists will offer tattoos on the last Friday of the month

Meara Gunderson
Staff Writer

In an effort to increase school spirit, the OWL spirit wear committee has decided to offer permanent tattoos to students, available on the last Friday of every month, when the tattoo artists come in. If a middle schooler is interested in a tattoo, they will require parent permission to get tattooed, but if they are in high school they will just need to make an appointment ahead of time. When interviewed, 91% of students planned on getting a tattoo, 7% were unsure, and 2% left the school because of the tattoos. “I think its stupid to get a tattoo of a middle and high school, you’re going to graduate and then regret the

dumb decision you made as a teenager,” said former OWL student Deb Chamfire. While some students feel that OWL and those planning on getting a tattoo are making a mistake, most students are proud of their school pride, and doubt they will ever regret their decision. “Why would I ever regret this? The best years of my life were spent at OWL,” said 12th grader Agatha Fourdy. When asked how he felt about tattooing middle and high schoolers, tattoo artist Todd Bartly said “Eh, it’s their decision and not my problem.” The design of the tattoos is meant to achieve as much school spirit as possible. Tattoos will be of the OWL mas-



Purple Press Staff Photo
One of the options for spiritwear tattoos.

cot and are being offered in different colors such as black, yellow, orange, navy, and purple. Students are excited mainly because the tattoo is something that will always be with them and something they can be proud of all the time. “I always loved to show off my school pride, but it was all clothes and you have to wash clothes but a tattoo will always



Manatee to switch mascots

OWL frisbee now facing a lawsuit due to copyright

Mikko Liimatta
Staff Writer

Upon the discovery that manatees are in fact real living animals, the OWL Leadership Committee has changed the mascot of the school’s ultimate frisbee team to the Flaming Tiger Demons. OWL Leadership Committee spokesperson Leo Bickelhaupt said in an interview, “in lieu of recent events with the recent discovery of the fact that manatees are real, we have made the executive decision to change the mascot of the OWL frisbee team to a Flaming Tiger Demon.”

This comes after a series of investigations by the Federation of Animals in Tallahassee, or FAT. The discovery was made after a speedboat hit one of these creatures mid complaint, which screamed “man-a-eeee” and his friend mistakenly thought he said “manatee.” FAT kept the name because “ha ha funny.” They recently contacted OWL with the results of the investigation. 10th grader Mintesinot Sturm commented, “first you’re telling me that manatees are real, next you’ll be telling me that something as crazy as Ohio exists.”

This is a massive change as the frisbee team has been named the Manatees since it was started in 1998. In a statement from Kris Johnson, CEO of the nonprofit Amateur Sports of Minnesota said “sports teams named after something that actually exists always fail. Take the Vikings or the Timberwolves for instance.”

With all of the excitement over the changing of the name, a controversy has risen over the logo of the Flaming Tiger Demons. Kellogg has sued OWL for taking intellectual property. Steve Cahillane, the CEO of Kellogg, said in a statement, “we will shut down all amateur sports everywhere.” OWL principal Dave Gundale said in response, “All similarities are purely coincidental,” and vehemently denied all accusations. As of right now this case is still ongoing. Personally, I love the new mascot, but for some reason it makes me hungry.



FDA approves new procrastination vaccine

Lucy Keenan
Staff Writer

As of January, the FDA (Federal Drug Association) has approved and begun the distribution of a new vaccine that will halt the rise of procrastination in the U.S. Multiple breakthroughs have been made in the procrastination vaccine since cases shot up during state sanctioned quarantines addressing the lesser known Coronavirus. Middle grade, high school, and college students have been selected to be the first recip-

ients of this vaccine after a 2021 case report revealed that procrastination cases of persons 11-21 years of age nearly tripled that of any other age group. Despite the drop in procrastination since the vaccine’s release, many parents are protesting against student vaccination mandates, and the brunt of their disapproval is being directed at their children’s schools. “It is my child’s right as an American citizen to play video



Claire Hulson

Serena switches sports

The world-renowned tennis champion will put down her trusty racket and pick up a bat

Claire Hulson
Staff Writer

In an effort to “be better than everyone” 12 time ESPY award winning tennis player Serena Williams has decided to put down the racket and pick up the bat after making the switch out of professional tennis. After playing for 35 years and besting all of her competitors, she is going into the softball NFP (National Fastpitch League.)

“I think she had gotten so tired of the hype and so tired of the media that she wanted to find a place where she could play and really just have fun,” said Patrick Mouratoglou, her coach of 10 years.

Her last tournament will be the 2022 Indian Wells Masters, leaving the 2022 ESPY women’s tennis Award up for grabs, likely for Steffi Graf, the new MVP with 22 Grand Slam titles.

Serena stated in an interview with Jimmy Fallon that she “wished I would have

made the decision sooner to try out new opportunities especially because softball is easier tennis.”

After saying she allegedly wants a “quarterback position” in the NFP, Serena is training with Mid-Michigan Ice coach Lacey Turner from her hometown who is working to finish her community service hours to finally graduate high school. Lacey is now trying to teach her not to tackle the other competitors and get her ready for the USA Softball match against the Beijing Eagles. After three weeks of coaching Lacey said “maybe she should have stuck with tennis,” and “well all I can say is that her paycheck will definitely reflect her skill level,” referring to her two million dollar paycheck decrease, which is already affecting her home life. Her spouse Alexis Ohanian reportedly stated that he will leave Serena with their child for a “better player.” So much for a more enjoyable sport.

Eighth grader caught hacking Wordle game

Arlo has been banned from playing the popular game

Wyatt Kessler
Staff Writer

Eighth grader Arlo Northrop-Kiel was caught hacking on last Tuesday’s Wordle by the New York Times during crew hours. Sources indicate that he was decoding which letters were which by making a program to reveal the word before he made any guesses. English teacher Leo Bickelhaupt caught a glimpse of what happened, and he says that “He was making the letter slots look all glitchy and stuff.”

The New York Times is working on a way to reset his streak, but for now they have

soft-banned him from playing the game. Other Crew members saw what happened, and said that “He has been doing this for a while.” Arlo himself says that it was hard to focus during class one day, so he used his time to create the program to hack Wordle.

The program works by calculating the amount of 5 letter words usable in Wordle, then it begins to find the answer by narrowing it down when a letter is revealed. More information from sources reveals that Arlo’s programmer friend Halie Karre contributed with parts of the program.

Wordle class to be offered

Next year, you can improve your grade with just 6 tries

Adam Griffith
Staff Writer

Next year, Saint Paul, Minnesota high school Open World Learning will be introducing a WORDLE class where students will race to get the 5 letter word in the popular online game, WORDLE. WORDLE is a popular word game created by Josh Wardle in summer 2021 that has become a very popular internet trend in the past couple of months. Last week, OWL principal David Gundale said, “This game is too fun. We need to incorporate this fun tradition into our school.”

David talked to WORDLE creator Josh Wardle, who agreed to come teach the class at OWL. However, there are a few downsides to this class.

The classes will be on Fridays but they will be at 12:00 AM to ensure that no one cheats and looks up the word earlier in the day. Students will be expected to arrive at 11:45 P.M. and when the clock strikes 12, the teacher will count down from 10 while the students reload the WORDLE website and the competition will begin.

OWL dataminers have leaked a document that reveals the class’s grade scale. If the word is guessed in 2 tries or within 15 seconds, that will be an A+, 3 tries or 16-35 seconds will equal an A, 4 tries or 36-50 seconds will be a B+, 5 tries or 51-70 seconds will be a C+, 6 tries or 71+ seconds will be a C-, and failure to guess the word will be an F for that day (higher grade is used, for example if a student gets the

word in 5 tries, but does it in 40 seconds, their grade will be a B+.) If a student gets extremely lucky, and gets the word in just one go, they will receive an immediate A+ for the class. “I think it’s a great idea. It can help me learn so many new words and it will be a great class!” said OWL 10th grader Hiroko Zeleke.

Principal David Gundale also enforced a new rule that teachers are no longer allowed to snatch iPads from kids if they see WORDLE on them. Most teachers at OWL have stated their excitement for this new class, however a couple teachers said that they would still like to be able to confiscate iPads if they see a WORDLE tab on it, open or not. The class will begin starting in fall of 2022 and will have 10 openings per grade, 6-12. There will be a 6-8 grade class, a 9-10 grade class and an 11-12 grade

class, all in separate rooms. But don’t worry if you don’t get in, because there will also be 2 more classes based on WORDLE knockoffs next year.

OWL Geography teacher Luke Turvold is making his own version of the class, where students will race in Globble, the country guessing version of WORDLE, however you need be a serious geography nerd for this one, as some of the countries are very obscure. OWL Spanish teacher Grant Boulanger will also be creating a Spanish WORDLE class that includes accents and will have words with up to 12 letters. Details of these two are still being worked out and they may not start until winter of 2023.

So if you’re like everyone else and you just can’t get enough of WORDLE recently, make sure to sign up for this class in the fall.

The Hate U Give book banned

The book’s talk of video games has proved to be too much for OWL students to handle

Hiroko Zeleke
Staff Writer

In an effort to discourage students from playing video games, The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas has been banned and removed from the OWL curriculum. The book is known for its themes of race and police brutality, but it also includes scenes of video games.

English teacher Leo Bickelhaupt uses this book as part of his 8th grade English curriculum. “We do not in any way encourage students to play video games in class, in fact we discourage students from gaming during work time,” he

said. 8th grader Sincere McConnell said, “the book in no way would encourage me to play video games since I already play them, and Chris’ taste in games is trash.” “What video games?” said 8th grader Wyatt Kessler, sounding genuinely confused.

“Although I do not agree with the reasoning, I will make sure students have the right books to read,” said librarian Caryl Mousseaux. “I must also add that even though this book gets banned in many places, it is very unusual to see a book being challenged for this particular reason.” “I wonder, do these parents real-

ize that the book is not about video games? There are much more serious topics to be handled in The Hate U Give, and so I wish they would not try to draw attention to something in the book that doesn’t impact the story,” said Leo. “But oh well, I guess I’ll just teach The Giving Tree, a book with no video games.”

The parent that challenged the book and wishes to remain anonymous said, “I don’t want my child to be brainwashed. I want to protect my child and their classmates. My goal is to eradicate the existence of video games, and that does not mean that I have no heart like



ANGIE THOMAS

Goodreads

many are accusing me of.”

Caryl, the Student Library Advisory Council, along with Leo and the 8th graders are fighting very hard to keep this book on shelves and in the classroom. You can show your support by spreading word and reading the book.

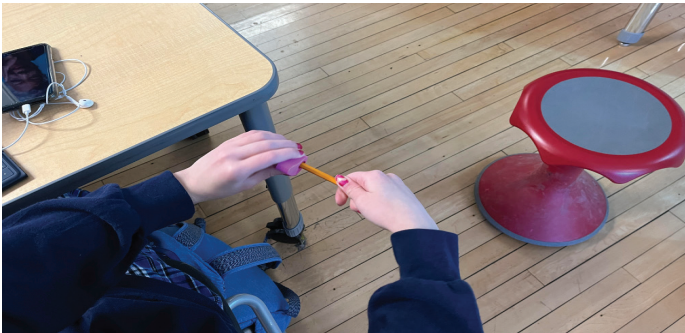
New interims leaked early

Pencil sharpening among riveting new interim options

Aidan Lynskey Wells
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday, a mysterious internal source released the new interim information

ahead of schedule. While the choices weren’t supposed to come out until after spring break, the Purple Press was able to obtain this exclusive information. Here are the leaked



Purple Press Staff Photo

A student tests out one of the most highly anticipated interims offered this May.

interim choices:

Pencil Sharpening

This interim is for students who wonder what the most efficient way to sharpen a pencil is, what sharpness is ideal in different situations, how pencil sharpeners work and much much more.

Instructor: Leo

Sailor moon drawing

This interim teaches you to draw the popular anime character, Sailor Moon with exact precision. You will draw every single line exactly as seen in the stunning anime. It’s sure to be a fun-filled week!

Instructor: Nora

Pokémon Go

A replacement for the city exploration interim that was taught by Dan. Unlike the

previously stated interim, this city-exploration-style event will focus completely on capturing new pokemon instead of visiting important locations; the only important locations you’ll be going to are the ones with pokemon to capture!

Instructor: Dan

Doom-Scrolling

Are you happy all the time?

Do you have trouble fitting with your angsty, depressed peers? This meditational interim is guaranteed to make you depressed. Because happiness is overrated.

So come to the only interim that teaches you to only focus on the depressing pieces of social media.

Instructor: Grant

Strike, 3

Leo Bickelhaupt.

This astonishing discovery was made after an exhaustive search of internal documents showing that members of the bargaining team claimed that “it just wasn’t worth it.” After months of bargaining, the new contract is essentially the same as before, with the teachers just gaining a bit of extra sleep.

Procrastination, 4

games and be on their phone,” states concerned mother Karen when asked about the vaccine, “if they can’t find time to do homework then the schools should just change their curriculum, not stick a needle in them. My child should be able to act irresponsibly without the threat of a shot in the arm.”

In opposing news, the vaccine will soon become available to a larger part of the pop-

ulation.

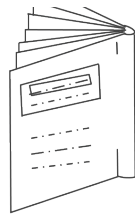
At a press conference in February, an FDA representative stated, “Receivers of phase 1b of the procrastination vaccine will include the following: pajama personnel, frontline essential scrollers, long-term care bed residents, and persons with medical histories of gaming addiction and extensive online shopping. If you wish to receive the vaccine then come down to the clean-

ing supply aisles at your local Target, where you will be given a quick booster and a sticker reminding you to do the laundry.”

Researchers report that with the help of the vaccine, procrastination will eventually begin to resemble the common flu, with cases estimated to surge primarily during exam season, spring cleaning, and at 11:59 pm.



Reviews ‘n’ stuff



The worst movie of 2022

“The Batman is an unredeemable cinematic atrocity”

Nick Streng
Staff Writer

You may not know this about me, but I have always been a huge fan of DC Comics. From a very young age, I grew up watching classic DC superhero films like Iron Man, The Incredibles, The Lorax, and of course, Batman. So I was ecstatic to hear that a new Batman movie directed by Matt Reeves and starring Robert Pattinson was coming out in 2022, and eagerly anticipated its release.

But whatever I say will never be able to properly describe the profound sense of emptiness and disappointment I experienced watching this travesty of a film. The Batman is not only the lowest point of 2022 cinema as of now, but it might just be the worst movie I’ve ever seen in my entire life. I do have to acknowledge that being the massive Batman fan that I am, my expectations were absurdly high, but even if you go into this movie with absolutely no standards of your own whatsoever, you’ll still be disappointed and feel like you’ve wasted three hours of your life.

And that leads me to my

first big criticism of this movie - the runtime. The Batman is three hours long. THREE WHOLE HOURS. How can any sane and sensible person be expected to pay attention to anything that long, let alone watch a movie that long? We all saw how badly movies like Avengers: Endgame and Titanic turned out with their long runtimes, and this one is no exception. It results in the plot being way too complex and fleshed-out, and I really think the movie would have benefited from being shortened by around an hour or two. Sure, maybe that would result in the plot being incoherent and rushed, but I don’t really care about a silly thing like that. It already had me dozing off multiple times because of how boring it was, so that decision could have only made things better.

That brings me to my next point - the already-tedious plot is led by an egregiously dull main character. Robert Pattinson was perfectly fine as Batman in the Twilight saga, but here, he gives an extremely lacking performance and on top of that, he’s hysterically miscast. It baffles me to no end

that the filmmakers did not cast an actual bat as Batman. Clearly their level of incompetence cannot be overstated as “bat” is quite literally in the character’s name. Granted, all the previous Batman movies have made this mistake as well, casting humans instead of bats, but at least the previous stars actually acted like bats and gave convincing performances. Pattinson did the same in the Twilight movies as well, perfectly capturing Batman’s vampire-bat-like personality, but for some awful reason, Matt Reeves decided to just have him act like a normal guy in a suit. This decision alone is enough to make me hate this movie, but it’s just the beginning of the long list of flaws here.

The other characters are insufferable. I could go on and on about how even more confounding it is that Zöe Kravitz was cast as Catwoman instead of an actual cat, but what I’d like to focus on instead is the villain of the movie, the Riddler. In the previous Batman movies and comic books, he’s always been a threatening and intimidating antagonist, but in this movie, he’s just an unhinged doofus with a green ski mask. I understand that

we were supposed to take this guy seriously, but if the movie was trying to do that, why did he ditch the iconic neon green spandex covered with question marks and the bright purple domino mask?

Another infuriating aspect of this movie is the fact that it’s way too well directed. The cinematography is stunning, the editing is clean, the well-choreographed action scenes are easy to follow despite taking place in the dark or with flashing lights most of the time, and as you can imagine, this makes for a completely intolerable viewing experience. There’s one scene in particular where Batman chases a bad guy in the Batmobile, and it was just too perfect and exciting for me to care. What enjoyment can possibly be found in watching a movie if you can’t find any filmmaking mistakes to nitpick and criticize?

I will say though, the one good thing about this movie was the ending. I loathed this dumpster fire of a film the whole way through, but I do have to admit I really enjoyed it when....when it.....when it ended.

But overall, The Batman is an unredeemable cinematic atrocity that I will despise with a burning passion for the rest of my life. 1/10. Go watch The Emoji Movie instead.



PBS

Daniel Tiger is a groundbreaking television series.

Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood

A moving PBS show that highlights common teen issues

Elizabeth Hallanger
Staff Writer

Let’s face it, television shows and episodic series nowadays just aren’t quite what they used to be. Sure, we’ve gotten a lot of great stuff from Netflix and HBO as of recently, but none of it, save for Euphoria, is quite on par with the sort of thrilling and dark television shows that teens love nowadays.

However, a truly shocking and revolutionary show has gone under the radar as of late. One with a series quality on par with “House of Cards,” “Stranger Things,” and even “Black Mirror.” I am, of course, referring to “Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood,” the shocking hit series from well-known public network PBS kids, which proves to us that their shows aren’t just for kids anymore.

The show is directed and produced by famous and genre-defining series director, Angela Santomero, and it truly shows. She’s known for other, highly controversial and widely praised projects such as television series “Super Why” and the incredibly successful thrilling arthouse film “Blues Clues & You!”

The series follows the titular Daniel Tiger, who lives in his neighborhood with his friends Katerina Kittycat, O the Owl, Prince Wednesday, and Miss Elaina. Under the surface, Daniel’s “Neighborhood of Make Believe” may seem normal, however, within the first few episodes, it quickly becomes clear how wrought with dysfunction it truly is.

The neighborhood, filled with constant conflict and tension, is ruled by the militant King Friday XIII, and the rest of the Royal Family, whose clear neglect of their citizens causes dysfunction and crime within the community. Within each episode, Daniel faces extreme and tense situations, and struggles with not only the intense drama within his friend group, but also the effects that the tension within his community is having on him and his family.

Don’t let the bright colors, cute characters, and simple

animation fool you, as they mainly serve as a juxtaposition to the harrowing teen crime drama the show truly is, a genius way to lure fans in. The show features serious and gritty themes of crime, violence, and juvenile disobedience, which can be seen in many of the series’ stand-out episodes.

Take for example S2 EP19: Daniel’s Day of Many Feelings; When Katerina Kittycat commits the heinous crime of larceny, stealing Daniel’s favorite stuffed toy, and being allowed to get away with it. This gives us our first look not only into how corrupt the Neighborhood’s justice system truly is, but also into Daniel’s series-spanning arc of distrust of authority, which can be seen in many later episodes, such as episode 23, when he disobeys his mother by refusing to clean up his toys.

Or the harrowing S3 EP25: Circle Time Squabble; When Daniel’s friend group falls apart at circle time after tensions between them bubble over, culminating in this harrowing season finale episode, in which Daniel gets into his first bloody, physical fight, pushing Miss Elaina over at circle time. This highlights not only the heart-wrenching decline in the two’s relationship, being called the “Modern-day Cain and Abel” by many viewers, but also how the show doesn’t stray away from displaying realistic violence and thrilling action.

All and all, this series has proved to be a truly high quality, dark, and moving television series, with many critics raving about its high quality. Well renowned critic Rex Reed called it “A masterpiece of television on par with the Sopranos, truly an incredible piece of animation.”

More importantly though, another famed critic, my young cousin Tyler, stated. “Goo goo, gaaaaa, goo goo.”

Overall, I give the series an 11/10. If you’re looking for a new, groundbreaking TV show, then Daniel Tiger’s Neighborhood is definitely for you.

Pro-gamer reviews COD

Latest season has its pros, but disappointments still overshadow

Willa Campion
Staff Writer

Sitting on a beanbag in my basement, I cradle the Xbox controller in my hands as I watch the clock. Five minutes to the launch of the latest season of Call of Duty. Surrounded by uncooked pizza rolls and monster energy, I prepare for 24 hours of intense gaming.

As a professional gamer who has won thousands in esports tournaments, I have long awaited season 4 of Call of

Duty. And after a disappointing latest season of Fortnite, another one of my favorite first person shooter games, my hopes were even higher. Yet, I was let down once again. Even with advanced graphics, trigger lag time affected how I played leaving me with some disappointing finishes.

Call of Duty is a video game distributed by some software developer in California that involves shooting people. Its latest season was released on

March 2, 2022 on PlayStation 5, becoming available on other gaming consoles the following week.

With the skill set I have gained playing Cupcakes 2048, I was able to expertly navigate through the game and shoot things. The advanced graphics of this level really differentiated it from other versions of Call of Duty, despite having the same premise and essentially being set in the same location. However, I did experience

lag at certain points and had trouble switching between different modes, which clouded my overall gaming pleasure. Despite this, I was still able to skillfully shoot lots of things and win multiple times.

Even with these cons, I would recommend everyone check out the latest season of Call of Duty. For more reviews and videos of me playing video games, subscribe to my YouTube channel @willa_games.

10/10 for video game Kirby

Kirby and the Forgotten Land is the greatest shooter game

Henry Bandelin
Staff Writer

The new Kirby game, “Kirby and the Forgotten Land” is the greatest first-person shooter I’ve played in years. Kirby being able to jump infinitely brings a truly unique, fast paced experience that brings it even to the level of the all-time greats such as Goldeneye, Fortnite or Bioshock.

The thing that sets Kirby apart from these more contemporary shooters is the fact that your projectiles are actually enemies that you have killed previously, leading to an interesting game flow where

you have to shoot enemies in order to turn them into ammo. Truly inspired mechanics from the great mind of Masahiro Sakurai.

This game changes the long time musical identity of the Kirby series from standard VGM (Video Game Music) to Metal. This change is very welcome, as it helps distinguish this game from others in the series. The game was at its best when the Chainsaw sound was featured to its fullest. For every track, they used the edited sounds of a Chainsaw or a Lawnmower in place of a guitar, which just leads to

a heavier, more weighty feeling throughout every stage.

The greatest part of the game was the “Glory Kill” system, where by getting an enemy to a low enough health, you could swallow them whole in order to gain their abilities. My favorite ability at the start was Waddlegun, but by the end of the game the ability I was a die-hard fan of was the Deededee-9000, as the power and energy it gave to every fight was incredible.

All in all, this is the most unique entry Kirby has ever had, with fast paced fights taking the place of the slower combat of the previous entries, and the verticality is much more emphasized. This is a

game I look forward to playing again and again, and I hope that they stick with this formula going forward. I give this game a heartfelt 10/10, and I recommend anyone looking for some intense action and realistic combat scenarios to give it a try.



Nintendo

Kirby is available on Nintendo.