



Masthead design by Ethan Fitch, Ryan Geraghty & Joshua Peckholdt
Read our newspaper online at: eischools.org

What I learned from Rohan Murphy
By Hasan Luqman

We all know about the lives of some disabled people. We may know people who are blind, deaf, or born with life-threatening illnesses. If you had one of these conditions, how would you feel? Some people would just think of giving up. Others take what they have and move on, becoming incredible people in their own right. No example of this kind of person shines brighter than Rohan Murphy.

Rohan Murphy was born with extremely severe birth defects. He was missing a hip joint on his right side and half a joint on the other. These conditions led to his legs to being amputated at a very young age. What's left are his tiny thighs, so he can't walk. He walks on his hands, but only at home. In public, he uses a wheelchair to move around.

So, why does all this matter to me? As you may know, I joined the East Islip Wrestling team in January. Since then, we have participated in (and won) 7 matches. In February, we were

surprised with a special guest: former East Islip student, Rohan Murphy.

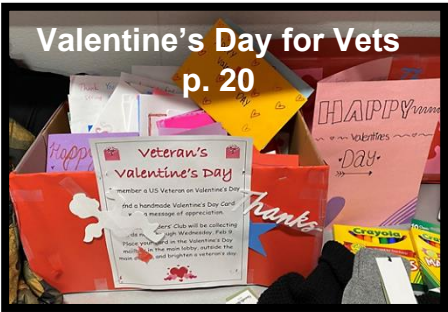
Murphy's career comes has lead him to become a motivational speaker. He travels and speaks to students across the country. He told us that he would choose no other job. Murphy stands at approximately 3 feet tall and weighs in at 118 pounds (56 kg). He couldn't participate in sports at first, even with prosthetics, which he stopped using because they were heavy. His thighs couldn't support them, and they were uncomfortable.

While a student at Islip Terrace Junior High, Murphy was an equipment manager for various sports teams. With the help of our own Mr. Croteau, he started wrestling as a 9th grader at EIHS and went on to wrestle in college at Penn State.

By the time I arrived at practice on February 17th, he was there, and wrestled almost every kid on our team, including me, and won. We asked him many questions. See page 2 for the Q&A session.



Photo courtesy of Rohan Murphy



<p>In this issue:</p>	<p>War in Ukraine p. 5</p>	<p>Encanto Review p. 19</p>	<p>PB Cookie Recipe p. 26</p>
------------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------------------

**Continued from page 1 - Rohan Murphy interview
(questions posed by the members of the EIMS wrestling team)**

Q: “Can you drive?”

A: “I have to get the car specially modified. Instead of pedals, my steering wheel is modeled to work one-handed while my other hand operates a lever that I can pull or push to brake or accelerate, so when I’m driving, it looks like I’m playing a video game.”

Q: “Were you in the Olympics?”

A: “I did do Olympic weightlifting, but I don’t do that or heavy bench pressing anymore to prevent damage to my arms.”

Q: “Does everything in your house have to be downsized to accommodate you?”

A: “Actually, I live in a pretty decent sized house. I really don’t use the high kitchen cabinets as much, but at first glance, it looks like any other house.”

Q: “What do you like to do?”

A: “Well, I like watching sports, especially wrestling and football, and I obviously wrestle, but other than that, I’m kind of a boring guy honestly.”

Q: “What would your reaction be if you suddenly had legs like a normal person?”

A: “I think I would just be shocked, then go for a walk in a public place, like a park or something.”

Q: “How did your parents feel when you tried out wrestling? Were they worried or nervous?”

A: “I guess they were a little apprehensive at first but calmed down when they knew I was going to be ok.”

Q: “What was your quickest match?”

A: “I think at some point in college, I was going against a big person, but he wasn’t well conditioned, and I pinned him in 9 seconds.”

Q: “Were you ever badly injured in wrestling?”

A: “Not really. I’m pretty sure most of the injuries in wrestling come from being slammed into the ground from standing up. With me, you have to wrestle on your knees, so that can’t happen.”

What he spoke to us about especially was the effect some things can have on your mentality, and what effect your mentality can have on the things you do. “I think the hardest thing about wrestling is that it’s an emotional sport.” He told us. “If you don’t have the mindset, the determination, you can’t succeed.” He goes on: “When I was in wrestling camp, it was a lot of hard work. I had the mindset, the willpower. I *wanted* to do it. And I got it done. My first match was scary. But I thought I could defeat the other guy, and when I did, it became constant. *I can win. I will win. I will succeed.* And now, here I am.”

To wrap things up, Rohan Murphy is an amazing person. He saw the light in his own situation. Sometimes I wish some of us could be like that. He inspired me. I hope he inspires you too. Thanks to Coach Croteau for arranging this visit.

Until next time!

حسن لقمان-

(Hasan Luqman)



School News

By Reese Sinkevich

Happy March! There were lots of events this quarter, including BINGO, Student Government elections, and more in this issue.

Student Government Election Winners:

President: Sahil Patel

Vice-President: Peter Gernand

Treasurer: Nick Lindstrom

Secretary: Sage Lyons

6th Grade Representatives: Evan Sambo & Casey Flad

Good luck, officers!



Photo by Mrs. Nolan

Winter Guessing Jar:

The winner was 6th grader, London Villanueva with a guess of 350, when there were actually 348 candies in the jar. London won the candy jar and a \$10 Starbucks gift card. Congratulations!

Bingo:

A fun night of virtual bingo was held on February 17th. Four games were played. There was also a DJ and dancing! We asked a participant what he thought of the event (Steven – 8th grader): “It was good. I liked the gift card prize and trivia.”

Raffle:

Congratulations to the winners of the PS I Love You Day raffle, conducted by Student Government: John Kilfoil, Natalie Foley, Olivia Ulrich, and Marco Badala. They each won a \$10 gift card (choice of Target or Starbucks).



Ms. Huether looking festive!

Photo by Mrs. Doyle



Try Your Luck for a Buck!



Buy a "Lucky Duck" Egg for \$1

and win a prize!

Prizes include:

Rubber ducks

St. Patty's Day Bracelets

Gift Cards



Photo by Mrs. Avella

What about our mental health?

By Sophia Eason

We all know that many kids have to juggle between sports, homework, school, friends, and sometimes family issues. But what about our mental health? It seems like kids these days barely get enough sleep. They go to bed around 1 am and get up around 6 or 7 am for school. You might think it is the student's fault for going to bed so late every night but the only reason this is happening is because we have to go to all of our sports, get tons of homework done, take showers and do whatever else has to be done that night. Then when we finally get everything done around 7 or 8 pm, we can relax and do the things that we want to do. Some sports like competitive dance don't even start until 7 pm and end around 10 or 10:30 pm.

There was a study done that shows teenagers need more sleep than the average adult. They need 8 -10 hours of sleep to be fully functional. Anything more than that is too much. Schools wonder why students are always sleeping in class or often coming in late and not doing their best.

Now I'm not blaming this on the teachers for giving us all of this homework. I think the school itself should be held responsible for this, getting a bunch of teenagers up at 6 or 7 am. My sister's bus comes at 6:40 am every day and she doesn't go to bed until 11 pm because of her schedule.

It has been shown that a teenager's brain isn't fully functional until 10:00 am. Imagine having a test in math at 7:54 am - now that's harsh! Some other countries don't go to school until 9:00 am. I think that if we push back the starting time for middle school and high school, more students will thrive, and schools will see a big improvement in grades and mental health. The only problem would be school sports since buses may be shared with the elementary schools. Their times may have to be adjusted too.



You're not the only one

By Brianna Moore

Some people, when going through things, take their anger out on other people. Some just stop talking to people and shut the world out. Many people act like everything is fine and put a smile on their face. If you have a friend that might seem quieter than usual or they're not acting like themselves, try and talk to them. If they don't want to talk to you about it, you shouldn't force them to. Give them some time and make that friend feel like they can trust you and like they are in a comfortable environment. Things like this can be hard to talk about or explain.

A friend of mine was recently in a group chat. Another girl in the group was basically explaining how they don't know what she goes through, and then she told my friend to shut up because of this reason. The entire group in the chat started agreeing with this girl and going against my friend. My friend told the group that they didn't have any idea what was going on in her life too. They all said that my friend doesn't have the right to talk, and that she shouldn't be fake hating things that go on in her life just because other people do. This shows how cruel people can be, and always assume that nobody is going through the same things that they're going through. Everybody in the group chat felt the way that my friend did, hurt underneath with no idea what other people felt too.

We all know at least a little bit how it feels to be in pain. No, not physical pain like when you fall and get a cut but rather mental pain, when you hurt on the inside. We all experience it in different ways. We should all remember to respect others and treat them kindly, even if they're being mean. They might be going through something too.

The War in Ukraine

By Liliana Pasha

You probably heard on the news or from someone that Russia is at war with Ukraine. Most of the U.S. population most likely does not know exactly what happened or why the war started.

In the fall of 2021, in areas near the Ukraine border, such as Belarus, Russian troops had huge military drills. Putin denied invasion plans on Ukraine. He wanted a promise that Ukraine would not join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). He also wanted a reduction in NATO troops and equipment stored in Eastern Europe. NATO denied this request.

On February 24, 2022, Putin started an invasion of Ukraine and many leaders of nations spoke out against this. Anti-war protests have been going on around the world, including in Russia and neighboring countries. NATO has been activated and sent troops to help. The worst thing is that Putin controls the world's largest number of nuclear weapons and threatens anyone who tries to interfere. Now allies are sending aide to help Ukraine fight this war with Russia.

Look for more in-depth coverage and an update on the situation in the April issue of the *Redmen Reporter*.



Taste Tokyo

By Peyton Zusmer



Have you ever wanted to taste snacks from the other side of the world? Then I recommend you try Tokyo Treat! It is a subscription box that arrives every month filled with a bunch of treats. The box comes with Japanese drinks, Ramen, rare Kitkat bars, chips, candy, cookies, cakes, and bread. In the next box (sign up by March 31st), you will find peach Kit-Kats, Pocky Heartful Cherry, White and Yellow Fanta, Choco Sakura Matcha, Sakura Snack Set, and more.

Each box has a theme and comes with a guide to the Japanese snacks. February had all strawberry flavored items following Valentine's Day and the December box had all Christmas themed candies. My favorite treat in every box are the different drinks and shakes.

Tokyo Treat was started by a woman named Ayumi. She spent time in her living room hand-picking Japanese candies and snacks that she thought people would love. She realized she couldn't do it by herself, so she started her business.

I highly recommend you look into purchasing a Tokyo Treat if you are looking for a snack adventure!

For more information, visit:

<https://tokyotreat.com/>

TOKYO TREAT

Cookie Run: Legendary and Ancient – Contributors: Diana Sobel and Catherine Sause

By Diana Sobel, Furry, Level 35 and almost at 100,000 power

Frost Queen Cookie: *“You cannot defy the cycle of life.”*



Frost Queen Cookie was released on November 19, 2021, along with **Cotton Cookie**. She is currently the best magic cookie in Cookie Run Kingdom. She has legendary status and is also the most sought-after cookie in the game. Frost Queen is in the middle position and has a **0.054%** chance of being pulled from the Gacha, and her soulstones have a **0.308%** chance of being pulled. Her event was called the **Frost Crystal Gacha** and you use Frost Crystals that you get by completing missions. Frost Queen’s attack freezes enemies and pauses their cooldown times and does **67.8** points of damage (**+0.9 for each level**), called **Freezing Squall**. In the event story, she is known as the Frost Witch who took Cotton Cookie’s friend, Sherbet Cookie so he can become one with the life force of cookies that is a Giant Snowflake. I don’t get it either.



Sea Fairy Cookie: *“I feel the warmth of your heart.”*



Sea Fairy Cookie was revealed on January 21, 2021 and became playable on June 21, 2021 in the first half of the **Tropical Soda Islands Update**, along with **Sorbet Shark Cookie**. The event to pull her was called the **Tide Shard Gacha** and was available from June 22 to August 3, 2021. You used special currency called Tide Shards that you collected by completing missions. She is currently the best Bomber cookie in the game, legendary status, and in middle position. She has a **0.054%** chance of being pulled from the regular Gacha and her Soulstones have a **0.308%** chance of being pulled. Soulstones are things used to upgrade her and bake her if you have 20 of them, for



you poor people that didn't randomly get her like I did. Her backstory is very mysterious, saying that she was “frozen from a curse long, long ago, but perhaps, because of her grieving heart, her soul was frozen beyond magic.” What’s also interesting is that in the failed animation, she is frozen once again and her sword has fallen, suggesting that her life force is tied to it.

Continued on next page

Dark Cacao Cookie: *“Great strength leads to bitter consequences.”*



Dark Cacao Cookie is the 3rd playable ancient cookie in the game. He is the strongest charge cookie, leading your team into battle (he is front position) with his **GIGANTIC** sword and weird shoulder square Oreos. **Dark Cacao** was released on February 24th, 2022, along with **Affogato Cookie**. His event is called the **Nether Gacha** (still going on right now) and you used items you got from completing missions. For the special gacha, he has a **0.301%** chance of being pulled, and his soulstones have a **1%** chance. But in the regular one, he only has a **0.054** chance. He is **Dark Choco Cookie's** father and is much better than him. (NOTE: Choco is an epic cookie that isn't good - if you get Choco, don't upgrade him!) His special skill is **“Solemn Judgment”** which is an area of attack effect where he hits everyone with his giant GrapeJam Sword which causes zap damage and just generally does a lot of damage. (His soulstone is pretty judgey too.)



By Catherine Sause

Hollyberry Cookie: *“Blow the horn! Hollyberry Cookie has arrived!”*

Hollyberry Cookie was revealed on January 21, 2021 and was released September 2, 2021. In the storyline, she is one of the five ancient heroes, released with **Raspberry Cookie**. She was the second **Ancient Cookie** to be released. She was part of the Heart of Courage and Passion Update, having her own event called the **Light of Passion Gacha**. She has a 0.301% chance of being pulled in the normal gacha, while her soulstones have a 1% chance of being pulled. Before, she was the rarest cookie in the game, but her title was snatched by some very cold hands, none other than **Frost Queen Cookie** (see info on previous page). In the storyline, she also has two granddaughters, **Princess Cookie** and **Tiger Lily Cookie**. She is a defense cookie who proudly sits in the front of the team, giving her allies moral support and cleaning her shield. Her skill, called **“Oath on the Shield”**, summons a shield effect to her allies, absorbing a portion of their DMG but does not apply to indirect and continuous DMG, and does 185.5% single hit DMG (+2.53% DMG per level). Now, that's impressive!



Pure Vanilla Cookie: *“The truth always prevails!”*

Pure Vanilla Cookie was revealed on January 21, 2021 and released 3 months later on April 8, 2021. In the storyline, he is one of the five ancient heroes, with **White Lily Cookie** (non-playable), **Dark Cacao Cookie**, and **Golden Cheese Cookie** (non-playable), and king of the **Vanilla Kingdom**. He is the first ever **Ancient Cookie** and is a fan favorite. When released, he had his own event called the **Light of Truth Gacha**. Meanwhile now, he only has a 0.054% chance of being pulled in the gacha, while his soulstones have a 0.308% chance of being pulled. He is known as **Healer Cookie** earlier on in the storyline. He also founded the **Vanilla Kingdom**, and after it falls, he goes undercover as **Healer Cookie**, and helps **Gingerbrave**, **Strawberry Cookie**, **Wizard Cookie**, **Chili Pepper Cookie**, and **Custard Cookie III** find the vanilla kingdom, along with **Black Raisin Cookie**. His special attack, **Love and Peace**, covers your party in shields and replenishes their health. He stands proudly at the back of the team, while he makes sure he will not falter.

Hurricane safety and preparation

By John Haanraads

I am sure everyone who is reading this has heard the word **Hurricane**. When you think of hurricanes, you might think of some clouds and rain but, hurricanes are much worse than that.

Hurricane effects

Hurricanes can be deadly. They bring high winds and **torrential** rain. For a storm to be called a hurricane, it has to have winds of at least 75 mph (miles per hour). Hurricanes create big, strong waves called **storm surge**. Storm surge can bring flooding as high as 20 feet. Hurricanes can also bring over 1 foot of rain. Thunderstorms are another part of hurricanes. Thunderstorms usually form on the back end of the storm.

How a hurricane forms

Atlantic hurricanes tend to form off the west coast of Africa. Storm systems travel west across the Atlantic Ocean. As they travel, they go over warm waters which gives the storm energy due to the moisture. The storm forms into an area of low pressure. When more energy comes, it turns into a tropical disturbance with winds at least 20 mph in the center. When the storm forms a clear area of low pressure, it turns into a tropical depression. A tropical depression has at least 30 mph winds. If the winds go to 40 mph, then it is called a tropical storm and the National Hurricane Center will give the storm a name. If the storm stays over warm waters and doesn't hit **wind shear**, then it will form into a hurricane. When the storm goes over land, it dies down due to less moisture.

How to prepare for hurricanes

If you live near the ocean, you should watch out for hurricanes. Board up your windows to protect them from high winds. If you need to evacuate, bring your pets, important documents, and some money. Bring a toy and treats for your pets. Bring food and water as well. If a hurricane is forecasted to hit, keep watching the weather forecast for updates. Make sure you have a flashlight and that your mobile devices are charged in case the power goes out. Remember, never underestimate the weather.



Vocabulary

Hurricane - a storm with violent winds, a type of tropical cyclone

Torrential Rain - falling rapidly and in copious quantities

Storm Surge - a rising of the sea as a result of atmospheric pressure changes and wind

Wind Shear - variation of wind velocity occurring along a direction at right angles to the wind's direction and tending to exert a turning force

The Beatles

By Kate Habel



The Beatles were an English rock band formed in 1960. The members included Paul McCartney, George Harrison, John Lennon and Ringo Starr. They were originally from Liverpool, England. Some consider

them the most influential band ever. Lennon and McCartney are among the most iconic artists and songwriters of all time.

The band evolved from Lennon's old group, the Quarrymen. They began as just a small group playing at clubs around Hamburg and Liverpool. A man named Stuart Sutcliffe also played bass for the group. The group of 3, McCartney, Lennon and Harrison went through many drummers before they asked Starr to join them.

In 1962, producer George Martin helped them succeed after their first hit, "Love Me Do." By 1964 the boys were stars! From there, they only got bigger. They soon came out with albums such as *Rubber Soul*, *Revolver*, *A Hard Day's Night*, *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club*, *The Beatles* (also known as the *The White Album*) and the iconic *Abbey Road*. They helped to make further advancements in album art, music videos and electronic music.

In 1970, the group broke up but each member went on to have a solo career. Some of their solo songs include "Wonderful Christmastime" by Paul McCartney, "Imagine" by John Lennon, and "Got My Mind Set on You" by George Harrison. Paul McCartney even sang a song with Michael Jackson called "The Girl Is Mine" in 1982.

Some members are still performing. In September of 2021, Ringo Starr released an EP called *Change the World*. In February of 2022, McCartney announced his **Got Back** tour which includes many dates in the U.S. this spring and summer.

Lovejoy- A look into indie rock

By Jasmin Law

If you're into indie music or listen to the indie playlists on Spotify, you might have heard of Lovejoy. Now, if you're reading this and wondering "Who is Lovejoy?", then let me bring you down a rabbit hole. Lovejoy is a British indie band that consists of four

members: lead singer and guitarist Wilbur Soot, guitarist Ash Kabosu, bassist Joe Goldsmith, and drummer Mark Boardman. Most Lovejoy fans know about the band through Wilbur and his work from the album *Your City Gave Me Asthma* or the song "Your New Boyfriend". Not only does Wilbur make sad songs but he streams them on Twitch for 4.3 million followers with content like chat, Minecraft, and the geography game GeoGuessr.



The official Lovejoy Twitter account was created in November of 2020 and seemed to start out as Wilbur's alt account. But on May 8, 2021, Wilbur announced that the account would turn into a platform for his new band. With some behind the scenes beforehand, Lovejoy released their first EP, *Are You Alright?* on May 9, 2021 with 4 tracks. They also released two music videos on the Lovejoy YouTube channel at that time for *One Day* and *Taunt*, featuring fellow Twitch streamer, GeorgeNotFound.

The band then worked for five months to bring the release of a mini album called *Pebble Brain* on October 13, 2021. This album has seven tracks, including a remake of an old Wilbur Soot song, "It's All Futile! It's All Pointless!" and three music videos to go along with it. The first music video was for "Model Buses", a song about the Prime Minister of England, Boris Johnson. The second music video was for "Concrete", my personal favorite on *Pebble Brain*. The third, and final music video for the mini album was for "It's All Futile! It's All Pointless".

Lovejoy's most recent project was "Knee Deep at ATP", a single that almost became an EP which is a cover from one of Wilbur's favorite bands, Los Campesinos! The single was released in December and the official video, created by Wilbur's old thumbnail artist Anni Scivious, was released in January.

As of March 2022, Lovejoy has 1.9 million monthly listeners on Spotify. Sooner or later, they'll have another song out and I strongly encourage anyone who likes indie music to listen to them because they're probably my favorite artist besides Mitski, which is another story and I'm out of time so goodbye for now!

SCP

By Fabrizio Escobar

SCP, what is it? Well, to begin with, SCP is an abbreviation for Special Containment Procedures. Their motto is Secure, Contain, Protect. It is a fictional horror game that is about a foundation who scavenges the world to find anomalous objects, creatures, places, or events. They have established sites to do research on the anomalies and give them a containment and a classification. This is all a work of fiction, but the game and fandom has increased and has more information on the SCPs. In this article, I will talk about one of the strange creatures that the foundation is in possession of.

SCP-001 Prototype

Description: SCP-001 is a humanoid creature roughly 6'5 feet tall and weighing in at 97 lbs. It has four limbs and usually walks on all four to move faster. All the rest of him/her (gender still pending) looks normal, until you look at its face. There are no eyes present where there should be, and no eye sockets. And where the mouth is, there are 21 sharp teeth, spread out randomly. In the middle of the mouth, surprisingly, is the creature's big singular eye.

Abilities: This can sprint/run at very high speeds (current speed unknown) and is extremely agile. It is immune to inflicted damage such as bullets, sharp objects, and blunt force. It can also create a seemingly tiny black hole on anything, and it will black all light around an object and will absorb/suck the object in. This is a painful process if inflicted on a living creature because it will make the object contort into a ball-like shape and make it disappear into the black hole. What happens to the object or living creature after it is absorbed is unknown.

Weaknesses: If light is introduced to the creature, like an electricity or a flashlight, it will cry out loud and curl up to a ball. This will affect it greatly if its mouth is open because that's where the singular eye is. It does not seem like it wants food, like vegetables or meat. It prefers human flesh.

Goals: It seems to have no singular goal, but it usually hunts for prey for it to eat. It is unknown if it does it to survive or just for fun.

Conclusion: It has the ability to be controlled with light, but it is not known if it will wake up at any second. Due to this unpredictable behavior, it is assigned to the category of Euclid.

SCP 
SECURE. CONTAIN. PROTECT.

SCP-001

	AGGRESSIVE
	TELEPORTATION
	RADIATION RISK



--Time--
By Heba Luqman

This gets published in March, and it was written in January... who knew the time in between would be so short?

Time is a difficult thing. Any moment that you would have thought was taking forever was just the same amount of time as one that felt like a picosecond. *Nothing* can keep track of time. Every watch and every alarm clock must be set, and even so, they have their malfunctioning days. Even though the clock is blacked out, time doesn't stop. It waits for no one, it stops for no one, it slows for no one - even if it feels like it does.

School demonstrates many of these occasions. It's like those times in the middle of a math period that's taking forever, though it's the same forty minutes as it is in science class, which seemed to go by in a flash. In the morning, you're groaning to get on the bus for what you think will be an "endless six cruel hours" though before you know it, it's two-thirty and kids are piling in buses to go home. A whole school year itself starts only in September and suddenly, you're halfway through May and are already thinking of goodbye gifts for your teachers. Past moments in life, even if it was something that happened *that* day, will now feel like history. Yesterday, last month, September, fifth grade, fourth grade, third grade - they all went by. It won't be long until this moment will go by as well.

Everything in the world takes time. Even if it's something as fast as blinking, it's not faster than time. Nobody has control over time, nobody lives forever. Don't waste your time, and don't go down the path of procrastination. Your time is limited.

Just something small and short from me <3

Till the end of time
By Kevin Colleran

To live is to take upon a challenge called life and expand upon the relationships that we make. This place we all call earth is expendable. It doesn't mean anything in the grand scheme of life. This planet is going to die out - that is set in stone, no matter what you believe. We are going to be gone one way or another. We all might as well create a fond memory in the hearts of our peers and get to know each other.

It's good to listen to your peers and follow the rules. If you are clinging on to the past, let go. If you worry about the future, think about the present. Change fate, challenge the future, live in the present and forgive the past. If you love your parents or family or cousins, tell them you love them and do what will benefit society. Love yourself and the people around you. When you accept that love is better than hate, you will live better than anyone who insists on hating people.



Video games of 2021

By Madelyn Halter

The year 2021, while being scary with the pandemic still ongoing, was also incredibly boring. However, people found some ways to entertain themselves. In this article, we will review some of the most played games and newly released games of 2021. (Please note that these are not in any specific order.)

Minecraft

Minecraft gained popularity again in 2021 with YouTubers like Dream and others starting to create SMPs. (SMP stands for Survival Multiplayer.) It had garnered success starting in 2013, but these YouTubers started to skyrocket in popularity and the game with it. *Minecraft* is an open world sandbox game, which means that it gives the player lots of freedom. There are no quests or side jobs. The goal is to get to the “End” dimension and kill the Ender Dragon. How you get there is up to you. *Minecraft* has become a smashing success since its final release in 2011, and it is still gaining more interest to this day.



The game blew up as being a funny roleplaying game and a meme hub. Fox’s comeback was definitely a good one.



Genshin Impact

This game was developed by Chinese game developer miHoYo and was released in 2020. However, it gained popularity in 2021, becoming one of the most popular games of the year. *Genshin Impact* is an RPG that involves a traveler exploring the world of Teyvat to find their sibling. This game was a smash hit, reaching the top of the most popular apps on the iTunes store, and being awarded 1st Place in the PlayStation 2021 Partner Awards and 1st runner up for Music Awards. miHoYo also makes games like *Honkai Impact 3rd* and *Tears of Themis*. They were definitely a huge contributor to gaming in 2021. (If you would like to learn more about this game, read my analysis of *Genshin Impact* in the January 2021 issue.)



Deltarune Chapter 2

Deltarune is a game created by Toby Fox in 2018. After the success of *Undertale* in 2015 which was also a game Fox created, he decided to release *Deltarune* in 2018. *Deltarune* was originally a project thought up in 2012 before *Undertale*. Back then, Fox was just a kid creating bad ROM hacks and dumb games. He was originally going to make *Deltarune* but put it on the backburner when *Undertale* kicked off. *Deltarune* was massively successful when the first chapter was released. In September of 2021, for *Undertale*’s 6th Anniversary, *Deltarune* Chapter 2 was released in a livestream event. Its success was almost immediate.

There were a lot of smash hits this year, way more than I could list. However, I believe all of these games were highly respected among the gaming community, and we are awaiting more great games in 2022!

Images from <https://logos.fandom.com>

Women role models of past times

By Christina Manzi

Elizabeth The First

Elizabeth I was the 3rd female queen of England. She was from the Tudor dynasty. She was known as the Good Queen Bess and Gloriana. She was born September 7th, 1533, to Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. Her mother was beheaded when Elizabeth was 3. She claimed she would never marry after she saw the fate of her mother and her five stepmothers.

Elizabeth was Queen of England and Ireland from November 17, 1558, until her death in 1603. She is most famous for establishing Protestantism in England, defeating the Spanish armada in 1588, never marrying, and keeping peace in her country (which was previously divided). She did have a lover, Sir Robert Dudley, but never ended up marrying him. She was not in the line of succession and only became Queen under the King's third succession act.

She spoke and read at least seven languages. She was the last Tudor monarch since she had no children. Having the need for an heir, she made James VI, her cousin's son, heir to the throne. Because of this, he ended up becoming the first ruler of England to rule two countries. Unfortunately, in 1603, Elizabeth I died. Many believe it was due to blood poisoning from using lead-based makeup for years.

Catherine the Great

Catherine the Great was known by many names: Sophie Friederike Auguste, Prinzessin Von Anhalt-Zerbst and Russian Ekaterina Velikaya, or Catherine II. She was also known as Yekaterina Alekseyevna meaning Ekaterina Alekseevna in English. She was born May 2, 1729, in Poland, to a poor prince/general and duchess. Catherine was raised Lutheran but converted to the Russian Orthodox faith so she could marry Peter III, the heir to the throne of Russia.

Catherine and Peter's marriage was not a great one. They loved each other at times but also hated each other and it was mostly a loveless situation. Catherine also believed Peter was childish. Catherine was sick of her husband's temper and



hearing him humiliate her. On June 28, 1762, Catherine rallied troops to support her and her lover, Grigory Orlov, in a coup to overthrow and kill Peter III. She ended up feeling bad for her husband and only imprisoned him, but Orlov killed him. Catherine named herself Empress Catherine II, and her son Paul was to be her heir. Catherine died November 17, 1796, from a stroke.

Catherine the Great is famous for using a coup to gain power, changing the law code, expanding Russia's territories and being a great military leader. To this day, she is the longest reigning female ruler in Russian history. She successfully led the Russians against the Ottoman Empire (which was believed to be the most powerful empire of their time). She greatly improved Russian education. She established the first institute of formal education of females.

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

You may wonder who this woman is and how she is a role model. Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz was the first female feminist of the new world. She was born on November 12, 1651, during the Spanish colonial period. She was the illegitimate child of Spanish Captain Pedro Manuel de Asbaje and Isabel Ramirez.

Soon after her birth, Pedro left her, her mom and her sisters. Luckily, Juana's mother was a strong woman. She moved in with her very rich father and did things that were deemed manly at the time and not something a woman should do. This made men gasp when they saw what she was doing, like owning land and being outspoken about politics. This may have pushed Juana to be more outspoken and a feminist.

She grew up at her maternal grandfather's home. She started following her sister to a school for girls and convinced her sister's teacher to teach her how to read when she was three. She then started reading books in her grandfather's library. She begged her mother to send her to school dressed as a boy because girls were not allowed to go to a prestigious school at the time. Her mother refused.

Juana was taken under the wings of a noble lady, and she became a lady in waiting. She stayed with them for five years. She joined a convent because she wanted to be free and be able to study anytime. Juana started writing poetry. She sent a poem to Sor Philothea, in which she wrote about her

intelligence, and how she believes in a woman's right to an education. She was forced to give up her writing by the bishop of Puebla. Juana died in 1695 after catching the plague while caring for her sick sisters.

Dian Fossey

Dian Fossey was born in 1932 and loved animals from a young age. She visited Dr. Louis Leakey and later said it was a pivotal moment in her life. They both shared a belief in long term field studies on great apes. She then went on an expedition to Virunga mountains. It was there she had her first encounter with gorillas. She went back to her home so she could work to earn more money to pay back loans and save for another expedition.

On her next expedition, she set up camp and saw a lone gorilla sunning himself. The gorillas used to run and hide from her when she watched them from a distance but eventually, after mimicking their vocal commands and imitating their daily activities like scratching and feeding, she earned their trust. To recognize who was who, she drew their unique "noseprints" for each gorillas. She also kept a record of their daily interactions and learned a lot from their behavior.

She became more aware of the threats faced by gorillas from cattle herders and poachers; they are normally not targets, but they could still get stuck in traps meant for other animals. Dian fought both poachers and herds of cattle getting into her research area through uncommon methods like wearing masks to scare poachers; burning snares, spray-painting cattle to discourage herders from bringing them into the park, and occasionally taking on poachers directly, forcing confrontation. As a last resort, Dian used her own funds to help

purchase boots, uniforms, food and provide better wages to encourage park wardens to be more active in enforcing anti-poaching laws. These efforts spawned the first Karisoke anti-poaching patrols, whose job was to protect the gorillas in the research area.

During her research she made an incredibly close bond with a gorilla called Digit. He had a damaged finger on his right hand, which was how he got his name. Digit was important to Dian because she saw him as playful and curious while also being gentle and trusting. Tragically, on December 31, 1977, Digit was killed by poachers while protecting his group. That was when Dian declared war on the poachers.

Sadly, a few weeks before her 54th birthday, Dian was murdered in her cabin. It was obvious someone broke in but it seemed robbery was not the motive. The case has never been solved, and she was buried with Digit and the gorillas she befriended.

It's important to look after these animals. Nearly 3000 gorillas, chimpanzees, orangutans, and bonobos are illegally killed or stolen from the wild each year. Through persistent and brave commitment, Dian made positive changes. Now let's help keep her changes.



These women are important because they led the way for others. It's great to have role models, especially when growing up, but it's also important to know that you are your own person. At least we live in a world where people have paved a way for us and can help motivate us to keep going. Sor Juana de la Cruz did not give up when people took everything she loved away from her.



Dian Fossey, Image from <https://www.gorillas.org/>

Interview with 106.1 WBLI's Ally Ali

By Charlotte Stabile

I was lucky to be able to interview one of my idols Ally Ali of 106.1 WBLI. Ally Ali is one of the most positive, funny, beautiful (inside and out) people. She has such an amazing personality. My mom and I listen to Syke and Ally in the morning as we get ready for our day. We also listen to her show "Ally Ali After Dark" in the evening.

1. **Were you always planning on becoming a radio broadcaster?**

Ally Ali: I originally was looking to pursue television broadcasting at Hunter College in Manhattan.

2. **How did you get into the radio business?**

Ally Ali: I ended up needing to complete internship hours. I had been doing an internship with CBS broadcasting. I discovered that WBLI offers internships as well. I started out as a member of WBLI's street team and Al Levine trained me. Radio literally fell into my lap and I love it.

3. **What should someone do if they want to work in radio (college, intern, etc.)?**

Ally Ali: Look into internship opportunities with radio stations. WBLI does offer internships for high school students. Get involved as much as possible in school with their clubs.

4. **What role does radio play in people's lives today?**

Ally Ali: Radio is important because of the personalities/entertainment aspect, contests on the radio every day, as opposed to streaming services.

5. **What is your favorite part about working for WBLI?**

Ally Ali: I love getting to know the listeners. Getting to meet people listening to their stories and interviews with celebrities. Learning about new music.

6. **Who has been your favorite celebrity to interview?**

Ally Ali: Sofia Carson. Sofia is one of the sweetest people.

7. **Who is the musician or band you'd like to interview?**

Ally Ali: I am a huge Jonas Brothers fan and I've been lucky to interview them. But the one person I'd really like to interview is Taylor Swift. (I'd have to agree with her on this choice.)

8. **What advice do you have for middle school students like me?**

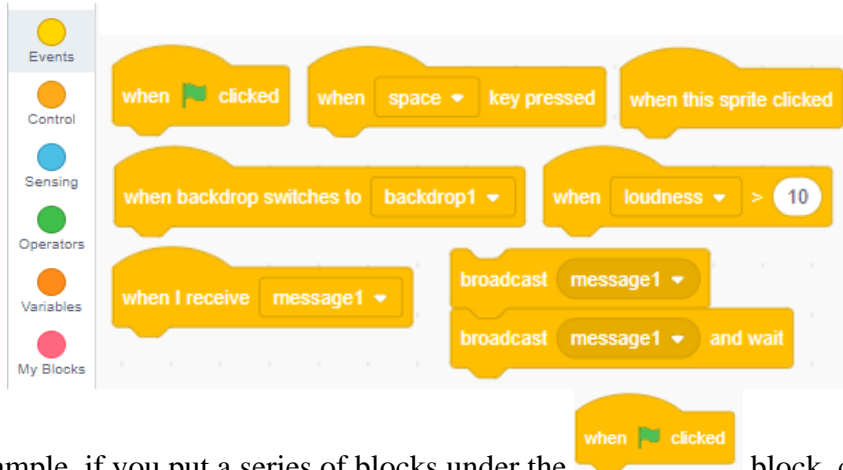
Ally Ali: To believe in your dreams because you really can achieve them. Don't let anyone tell you no.

You can follow Ally Ali on Instagram @allyalionair or on Facebook at Allyalionair. If you'd like to listen to her, you can tune into 106.1 WBLI as early as 6:30am or in the evenings during the week 7 pm -12 midnight.

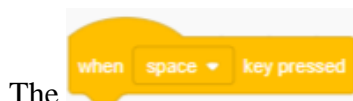



~Coding Lesson 3: Event Blocks~ By Hasan Luqman

This is the third installment in our coding lesson saga, and probably the most important. Today we're here to talk about Scratch Event Blocks, which are in the yellow slide on the side of your screen. There are 8 different Event Blocks (see below). Event blocks are like a trigger. They cause scripts (strips of code attached to it) to happen.




For example, if you put a series of blocks under the  block, clicking the green flag above the sprite window will trigger the script (or scripts).




The  block allows you to pick from many different triggers: the arrow keys, the number keys, the spacebar, and every letter key. The Sprite Clicked block will start a script that is attached to it if the sprite is clicked.



The  block (it can also have "timer" instead of "loudness") goes in tandem with the lesson we'll do on variables, sensors, and operators.



 blocks are in my opinion, the most useful block in the game. The "Broadcast" block on the right allows a sprite to send a message to another sprite. This block can also be attached to scripts. The message can have any name you want, and there can be multiple. The "When I receive" block can have a script attached to it. So we can tell a sprite to send a specific message to another sprite, and the sending and receiving is instant. When the other sprite receives the message, if it has a script connected to the receive block with the same message entered, it will carry out that script.

This might be confusing at first, but do try it out for yourself, and you'll quickly get it. And we will discuss how to make scripts later, so don't worry!

Until next time!

حسن لقمان -
(Hasan Luqman)

Memes that changed the generation: VIDEO EDITION By Peter Gernand

In case you aren't caught up with the last memes article, let me catch you up. We reviewed different kinds of memes as well as some of the most popular memes. Today, we are going to do something somewhat different: video memes. Yes, we will be covering famous YouTube, Instagram, and any video memes in between, including famous vines. With no more intro talk, let's get to it!

A popular three-second "clip" meme is from the famous show, "The Office". In this meme, we have Michael entering his office building, and Toby says something to him. Then, Michael shouts, "No God please no!" This is a popular meme for stuff that is bad, or stuff that you just straight up don't want to hear.

Another popular meme in the vine category is a guy driving on the highway comes upon a sign that reads "Road Work Ahead". The guy says it out loud and adds "Yeah, I sure hope it does." This is one of the most popular vines and it has been used for a bunch of certain memes. Some people changed the sign to say something different and then add the "I sure hope it does."

Another famous vine meme is a guy in a tuxedo who steps out of a limousine. The camera goes to the guy's shoes, which are sneakers, not dress shoes. Another guy says asks in a loud voice, "What are

those?!" This is also one of the most popular vines and can be used for when you want to indicate something that doesn't make sense or is inadequate, or just plain doesn't belong.

One of the most famous memes in recent times on YouTube is called "Mr. Incredible Becoming Uncanny/Canny." In this meme, it shows Mr. Incredible, from the movie, *The Incredibles*, becoming very easy or uneasy from certain facts, POV's and many more. This meme has also been developed so that each member of his family becomes canny/uncanny. You can use this meme to express facts you don't know, either bad, or good, stories, and stuff you just want to express to the world to see.

Another famous meme everywhere is called the "Coffin Dance" meme, which shows six men in black suits and sunglasses carrying a large wooden coffin overhead. They then do a lot of dance moves, regular movement, and more with crazy music playing in the background. This is a very famous meme that you can find almost everywhere on the Internet. You can use this meme if you want to express a death with disrespect, like a disliked character, animal, or certain things that moved on.

Those are all the video memes for today. Like I said, nearly everywhere you go, you can find pretty much all the memes I mentioned in the article. I'm going to have to be going for now, but if you would like to see more, just let me know and I'll make another article next time.

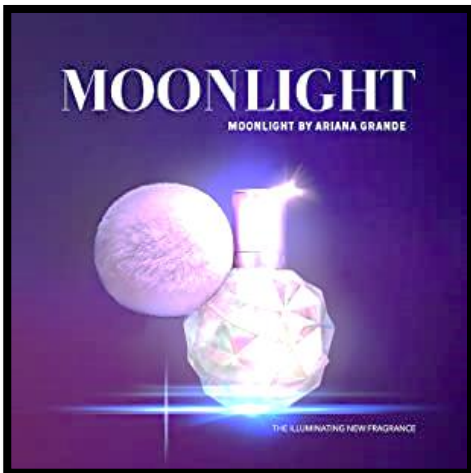


Ariana Grande Perfumes

By Ace Green

Perfume Line

Have you ever tried an Ariana Grande Perfume? If not, you have so many choices to choose from. Since 2016, she has released a new fragrance every year. Sometimes she named the perfumes after her songs such as “REM,” “Thank You Next,” “Moonlight”, and many more.



Scent of an Ariana Grande fragrance

When talking about an Ariana Grande fragrance, you might want to know what it smells like. Usually, it smells sweet, juicy, and fruity. Sometimes the sweetness can be a bit too much.

Personal Favorite

While there are many fragrances to choose from, my favorite is Cloud. Here are some notes from the fragrance.

Top: Lavender Blossom, Juicy Pear, Bergamot

Heart: Crème De Coconut, Indulgent Praline, Vanilla Orchid

Base: Sensual Musks, Creamy Blonde Woods

Perfume Bottle

Back in 2016 and 2017, Ariana would put little decorative things like fur balls on her fragrance bottles. But in 2018, that changed when Ariana used a cloud shaped bottle for the Cloud perfume. For her Thank You Next perfume, she made a broken heart shaped bottle. Then in 2020, Ariana's REM fragrance had a space vibe and she used many elements from her “Break Free” music video. In 2021, Ariana decided that for her God Is a Woman perfume, she would make it a Rome/Goddess themed bottle. Ariana also has small versions of her perfumes and they are super cute.



2022 Fragrance

While a new perfume is not confirmed yet for 2022, fans have already started making predictions on what this new fragrance will be. A lot of fans speculate that the next fragrance will be for a song from her album *Positions*. I would personally love to see her make a fragrance for her song “Obvious” from that album, but who knows what we may get next.

Images from <https://www.theperfumegirl.com/>

My *Encanto* review

By Daniel Kenedy

Who: A Colombian family with magical powers. One girl has no dang powers. (NOOOOOOOOOO!)

What: A search for who the heck is taking away the family powers.

When: Now? I don't know LOL

Where: Look at the first sentence!

Why: To "save the family," like your generic Nick Jr. cartoon.

How: By interviewing family members. Weird but OK.

My Thoughts: C-



Hey, do you want to see 2 hours of Colombian characters singing generic pop songs looking for magic? Well, we have a film for you. It is called *Encanto* and it is Disney's newest, grandest and weirdest movie since, well, who cares? The story is about a Colombian family with magical powers but one girl has no dang powers. (NOOOOOOOOOO!) I felt a rip-off coming. Oh, there's also Bruno... wait, we don't talk about Bruno! But still the plot is generic, the "let's save the family" idea is dull, and that "magic is in danger, no more fun" stuff is the stupidest thing I have ever heard in cinematic history. You would think the animation is OK, right? Ha ha. Oh my, Disney looks more like Saturday morning cartoons or a little kiddie show. This animation is poppycock. Anyway, this film is the weirdest, stupidest tommyrot I have ever seen. No more, Disney. NO MORE!

Air charging

By Gabriel Williams

The world has seen a lot of great inventions but the coolest invention by far is air charging. With air charging, you can walk within a certain distance and then your smartphone and a few other gadgets will start charging automatically. The company that created this technology is Xiaomi and they call it Mi Air Charge. According to [usmobile.com](https://www.usmobile.com/), air charging is not harmful to people because it uses non-ionizing radiation. It does not have enough energy to do damage to your skin.

The only problem with this technology is that air charging will take a little bit longer to be released than many hoped it would. There is no specific date on when devices will be available that support Mi Air Charge. All I can say is that I know that Xiaomi and many other companies, including Motorola, are trying to make air charging a thing.



Image from <https://www.usmobile.com/>

Sugar Cookie Recipe By Alison Coppinger

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 cup softened unsalted butter
- 1 egg
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 Tbsp vanilla



Photos by Alison Coppinger

Recipe from: <https://www.cookingclassy.com/sugar-cookies/>

Instructions:

First, preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Next, in a medium bowl whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. In a separate large bowl, use an electric mixer to cream together butter and sugar. In the same bowl you used for the butter and sugar, mix in the egg, egg yolk, and vanilla. Then add the dry ingredients to the large bowl and mix until combined.

Put parchment paper on a cookie sheet and place your cookie dough in little balls 2 inches apart on the cookie sheet. Bake the cookies into the oven for 9 -11 minutes. Let them cool down and enjoy!

Review:

My opinion on this recipe is that it was easy and hard to make. The only hard/confusing part for me was separating the egg yolk. What you can do is use an empty water bottle to help. First, crack an egg into a bowl. Then squeeze the empty water bottle and place over the egg yolk. When you release your grip, the yolk will be sucked inside the bottle. Next, put the water bottle over the bowl you'll need to put the egg yolk into and squeeze the water bottle again. The rest is pretty easy. I thought these cookies were the perfect amount of chewy and crunchy. They were delicious.

The Girl's Leaders' Club collected 220 Valentine's Day cards and over 60 wish list items for residents of the Long Island State Veterans Home. Thanks to all who participated!

Photos by Mrs. O'Donnell



***Spider-Man: No Way Home* Easter Eggs**

By Daniel Varley

Easter eggs in movies aren't your typical bright, colorful round eggs. They can be hidden references to, well, pretty much anything! It doesn't matter if it's a reference to another franchise, a reference to the origin of a character, or just a reference to anything in general. Easter eggs in movies are fun references to find in many films, and *Spider-Man: No Way Home* is absolutely no exception.

A Really Good Lawyer

Charlie Cox made a cameo as Matt Murdock (aka Daredevil, a blind lawyer) in this movie. He played the character from 2015 to 2018 on Netflix's *Daredevil* series. In his cameo scene, he catches a brick that is tossed into Peter Parker's apartment; however, this is surprising because Matt Murdock is blind. When Peter asks how he caught the brick, he responds, "I'm a really good lawyer."

I Can Do This All Day

In the opening minutes of the film when Spider-Man and MJ are swinging through Times Square, you can see a billboard for *Rogers: The Musical*. This fictional musical appears in *Hawkeye* on Disney + and is based around Captain America (aka Steve Rogers), who was played by Chris Evans in the Marvel films.

Electric Mayhem

In the final battle, Electro gets a new design, which now has yellow energy instead of blue energy. If you look closely, you can see that the energy around his face makes a star shape that resembles Electro's mask in the Spider-Man comic books, which were released in the mid to late 1900's.

Familiar Faces

When the sky begins to "crack open", familiar faces from Spider-Man history can be seen in the cracks of the sky. Among them are Rhino, Scorpion, Black Cat, Madame Web, and even Kraven the Hunter, who is set to be played by Aaron Taylor-Johnson in an upcoming movie set to release in 2023.

After Credits

In the mid and post-credits scenes, there is a ton of information that could change the Marvel Cinematic Universe, possibly forever! In the mid-credits scene, Eddie Brock/Venom gets teleported back to his original universe, but leaves some of the Venom symbiote behind, possibly setting up *Spider-Man 4*. The post-credits scene is the trailer for *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness*, a movie about Doctor Strange and more Marvel characters exploring the multiverse, which leads them to face dangerous consequences...

And that's only a few of the Easter eggs in this film, so watch the movie to find even more!



NHL midseason recap

By Michael Kraft



As of February 17, 2022, the National Hockey League (NHL) season hit the midway point. Most teams are now hunting for a playoff spot. Meanwhile, teams like the Islanders, Coyotes, Canadiens, and Kraken are at the bottom of the league rebuilding so that next season they might have a chance.

Teams that shocked me this year with how well they played are the following: New York Rangers, Vegas Golden Knights, Buffalo Sabres, and the Minnesota Wild. The division leaders at the midway point were Carolina Hurricanes, Tampa Bay Lightning, Minnesota Wild, and the Vegas Golden Knights.

The player with the most goals scored as of that time is Chris Krieder with 33. He also led the NHL in power play goals scored. Top Goalies in the NHL this season are Igor Sherstirkin of the New York Rangers, Andrei Vasilesky of the Tampa Bay Lightning, Jeremy Swayman of the Boston Bruins, and Marc-Andre Fleury of the Vegas Golden Knights.

My predictions for the Eastern Conference right now on who makes the playoffs are the following teams: New York Rangers, Carolina Hurricanes, Pittsburgh Penguins, Washington Capitals, Boston Bruins, Tampa Bay Lightning, Toronto Maple Leafs, and the Florida Panthers.

For the Western Conference, my predictions are the following teams: Vegas Golden Knights, Minnesota Wild, Dallas Stars, Los Angeles Kings, San Jose Sharks, Edmonton Oilers, Winnipeg Jets, and the Calgary Flames.

There is your mid-season recap.

Harry Potter Trivia Quiz

By Sofia Caviedes

Test your memory with these fun questions from the books and movies of Harry Potter. Good luck!
(Answers on page 27.)

1. Which brother asked Death for the Resurrection Stone?
2. What was the name of Ron's owl?
3. Who were the creators of the Marauder's Map?
4. How many Horcruxes did Voldemort create?
5. In what decade did the Harry Potter stories take place?
6. How many schools and students participated in the Triwizard Tournament?
7. Who was Harry's godfather?
8. What is the core of Hermione's wand made of?
9. What fear does Ron have?
10. What does Tom Marvolo Riddle become when it is scrambled?

Harry Potter

Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics

Reese Sinkevich

This past February, the biggest spectacle in winter sports took place: the Olympics! They were held in Beijing, China. The opening ceremony was a great introduction, using lasers and other technological wonders to welcome the athletes. In this article, I will be providing coverage of highlights for Team USA and beyond.

There were lots of USA success stories in this Olympics, but Mikaela Shiffrin's skiing performance wasn't one of them. On her two best events, Slaloms, she fell within the first ten seconds of the run. Unfortunately, she never fully recovered from the devastating falls. Her other events, such as the Super G, weren't as impressive as expected.

In the snowboarding department, Shaun White had a bittersweet end to his career. His final placing in the Halfpipe was 4th, a tantalizing single place off of the podium, which is great, considering his age. He had a positive attitude. On the women's side of the event, Chole Kim took home the gold medal in style, easily defeating the competition.

Some other gold medal highlights were Lindsey Jacobellis' Snowboard Cross victory, the undefeated mixed Italian Curling team title, USA's mixed Team Aerials, the German sliding takeover (bobsled), Erin Jackson's Speed Skating, and Nathan Chen's Figure Skating victory.

In Big Air, Eileen Gu, a Chinese freestyle skier, won gold. She also had a dominant performance in the Slopestyle (silver) and Halfpipe event. Additionally, China won the newest Short Track event - the mixed team relay.

The Overall Medal Count:

1. Norway	37 medals
2. ROC (Russian Olympic Committee)	32 medals
3. Germany	27 medals
4. U.S.A.	25 medals
5. Sweden/Austria	18 medals
6. China	15 medals



For more information, visit
<https://olympics.com/en/beijing-2022/>



Rainbow Loom Creations

By Erin Kolensky

Rainbow Loom is a fun and creative way to make jewelry, and little characters or objects out of colorful and flexible rubber bands. Anything you can think of that you desire to make, you can most likely find a tutorial on YouTube or by doing a search with Safari or Google. Animals are my favorite things to make! What's yours?

To make a bracelet, animal, object, or any other creation you will need materials. You can buy a Rainbow Loom kit from Amazon and have it delivered to your door. You can also find one at your local Target, Marshall's or Walmart.

Your kit should include:

- The pegboard (to make your creations on - you can also break this apart in pieces to help you create the specific design you want)
- A Rainbow Loom hook
- C or S clips (these attach to the ends of you rubber bands to keep everything together)
- 500+ rubber bands in an assortment of unique colors

Once you have your materials, all you have to do is find something you want to make. You can find a tutorial, use your imagination, or look at the instructions on the Rainbow Loom package. It will show you two simple ways to make basic Rainbow Loom bracelets. Then, create! The photo below of the penguin is one of my creations. Have fun! :)



Photos by Erin Kolensky

Winter Olympics 2022: Figure Skating By Danna Perez

Figure skating is one of the most popular and fiercest sports at the Winter Olympics. One slight error during a performance and not only the chance of winning an Olympic gold medal goes up in smoke but also the probability of getting injured, considering the speed reached when they execute a spinning jump.

Figure skating began in 1850 when skaters started experimenting with different jumps and spins on ice. Figure skating was first included at the London Summer Games in 1908 and then again in 1920 in Antwerp, Belgium before being moved permanently to the program of the Winter Games.

This year, the 2022 Winter Olympic Games were held in Beijing, China. There were five events in the figure skating competition: men's single skating, women's single skating, ice dance, pair skating, and the team event. Let's take a minute to read more about this amazing sport that keeps the audience with nerves on edge!

Women's and Men's Singles

Women's and Men's Singles are very similar. At the higher levels, competition is divided into two parts: the short program, which is skated first, and the free skate. Both programs display the perfection, athleticism, and talent needed with the sport of figure skating. The flow and motion of the skaters must be graceful. The competitors receive scores based on their performance from a board of judges.

Ice Dance

Ice dance, like pairs skating, features a male and female skating in unison, which means their

BEIJING 2022



The ice dance competition consists of two segments: a rhythm dance and a free dance. The rhythm dance has required elements, while the free dance features step sequences.

Pairs Skating

At first, skaters in pairs events simply danced on ice but over time this discipline became more "acrobatic". It includes the athleticism of singles skating with the challenge to combine throw jumps, twist lifts, overhead lifts and other acrobatic moves. Each movement is performed at the same time, requiring a significant amount of timing, perfect synchronization and trust between partners. Skaters can perform a number of elements at a distance. Pairs Skating includes a short and free program.

Team event

The team event has the same judging system as the rest of the skating events. This event has eight parts: a short program and a free skate for all four categories (men's singles, women's singles, ice dance, and pairs). Points are awarded in each category for the short program. Teams with the five highest point totals move on to the free skate portion. Of course, the team with the most points overall is named the gold medal winner.

Figure Skating is my favorite sport to watch in the Winter Olympics. What I like about it is the amazing and beautiful performances. The skaters are perfectly synchronized in every move, but behind those few minutes of ice skating are countless hours of training.



This is a very difficult sport, lovely to watch but it takes a lot of discipline, hard work and perseverance for the athletes. These are qualities that are required to succeed not just in a sports competition, but in life itself.

What is your favorite sport in the Winter Olympics?



"An athlete gains so much knowledge by just participating in a sport. Focus, discipline, hard work, goal setting and of course, the thrill of finally achieving your goals. There are all lessons in life"

Kristi Yamaguchi, American figure skater and 1992 Olympic champion



Peanut Butter Cookie Recipe

By Cailin Melody

Oven Temp: 375° F

Ingredients List

- 1 1/4 cups flour
- 3/4 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg, beaten



Photo by Cailin Melody

Step-by-Step

- Sift the flour, then measure and put in a mixing bowl. Add baking soda, baking powder, and salt, then sift again.
- In another bowl, cream the shortening and peanut butter together with an electric mixer. Gradually add the sugars and cream together thoroughly. Add the well-beaten egg. Mix together thoroughly.
- Combine the dry ingredients with the creamed mixture and chill for 1 hour.
- Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.
- Form the cookie dough into balls about 1 inch in diameter. Place them 2 inches apart on a lightly greased and floured cookie sheet.
- Flatten each cookie ball with a fork dipped in flour, making a criss-cross pattern.
- Bake for 8-10 minutes.
- Cool for 10 minutes. Remove from the pan to a wire rack.

Thoughts

I personally really enjoyed this recipe and highly recommend it. It was easy to make and my family loved it but, I also think that it lacked a good peanut butter taste. I would recommend increasing the peanut butter from 1/2 cup to 3/4 cup.

Staff List, ADVISOR: Mrs. Avella



James Blaschuk	Michael Kraft
Sofia Caviedes	Steven Kudrick
Lila Centauro	Jasmin Law
Kevin Colleran	Hasan Luqman
Alison Coppinger	Heba Luqman
Gianna DeSantis	Christina Manzi
Brianna DiMaria	Paige Mathers
Sophia Eason	Cailin Melody
Fabrizio Escobar	Molly Montalbano
Anna Fantauzzi	Liliana Pasha
Ethan Fitch	Joshua Peckholdt
Casey Flad	Danna Perez
Ryan Geraghty	Catherine Sause
Peter Gernand	Reese Sinkevich
Sienna Graber	Diana Sobel
Brycen Grant	Charlotte Stabile
Cadence Grieve	Anna Sweet
John Haanraadts	Mateo Ullah
Kate Habel	Emily Ulrich
Madelyn Halter	Daniel Varley
Aubrey Hilbert	Gabriel Williams
Daniel Kenedy	Peyton Zusmer
Erin Kolensky	

**Answer Key to Harry Potter Trivia Quiz on page 22
DON'T CHEAT!**

1. Cadmus Peverell
2. Pigwidgeon
3. Moony, Padfoot, Wormtail, and Prongs
4. 7
5. The 90s
6. 3
7. Sirius Black
8. Dragon Heartstring
9. Arachnophobia (the fear of spiders)
10. I am Lord Voldemort



Newspaper Club Officers:

President: Madelyn Halter
Vice-President: Gianna DeSantis
Co-Secretary: Brycen Grant
Co-Secretary: Molly Montalbano
Senior Editor: Michael Kraft
Senior Editor: Reese Sinkevich

EIMS Administration

Principal: Mr. Brennen
Asst. Principal: Mr. Thorley
Asst. Principal: Mr. Seifert

**Answer Key for Spring
Crossword Puzzle: on page
31**

Down:

1. Butterfly
4. Rain
5. Garden
6. Bee
8. Pool

Across:

2. Sun
3. Spring
6. Bicycle
7. Greenhouse
9. Flower

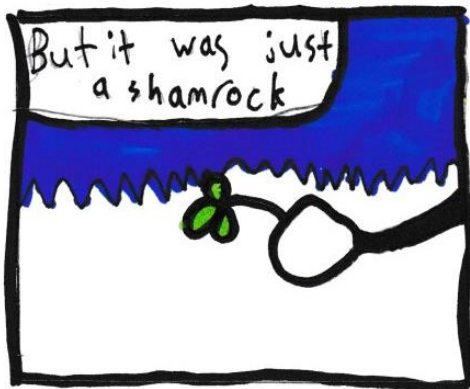
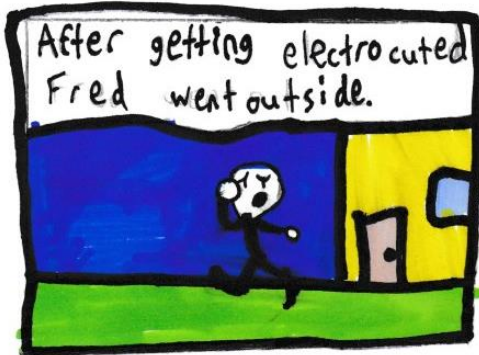
The (Hurting) Adventures of

FRED # 4

The Stickman



By Ryan Geraghty



The
End!

DETECTIVE

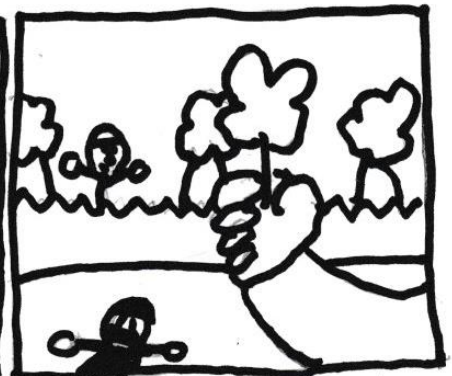
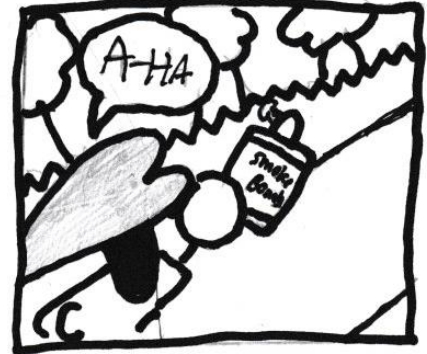
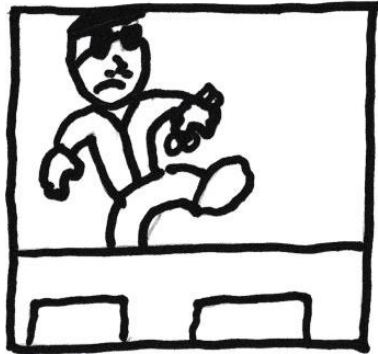
ISSUE 3

DAVE

Joshua Peckhardt

Ethan Fitch

AND THE CASE OF THE MISSING CLOVER



CASE CLOSED

Word Search By Ace Green

Ariana Grande Songs

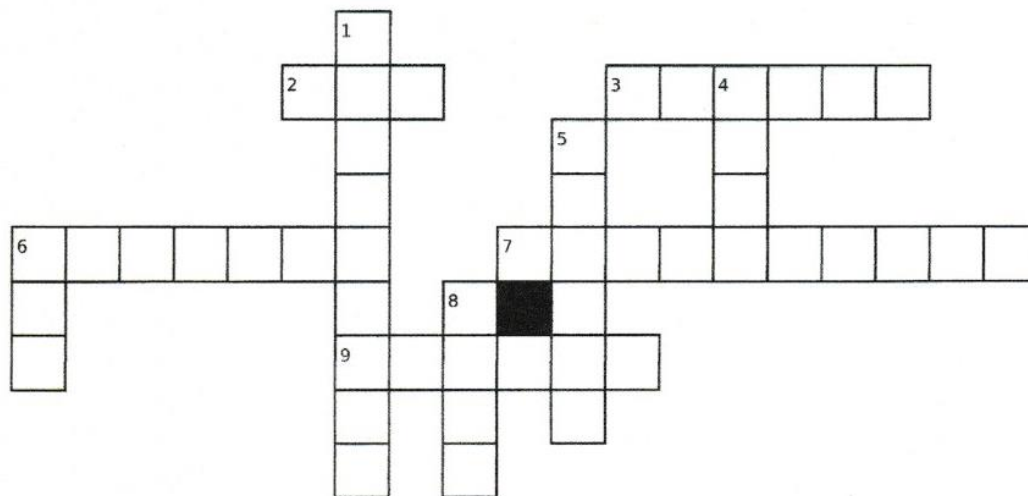
E	B	E	N	O	E	I	L	B	T	D	T	V	F
N	N	O	P	A	N	T	U	E	B	A	H	N	F
I	G	E	R	E	S	H	O	M	O	N	E	E	O
H	O	E	O	V	S	A	A	Y	S	G	W	E	R
T	O	R	B	O	A	N	K	B	U	E	A	O	E
A	D	F	L	L	N	K	E	A	C	R	Y	O	T
E	N	K	E	E	T	U	E	B	C	O	M	N	T
R	I	A	M	U	A	N	N	Y	E	U	F	A	E
B	G	E	G	R	T	E	O	F	S	S	O	I	B
Y	H	R	R	T	E	X	Y	G	S	W	C	P	G
D	T	B	E	R	L	T	L	N	F	O	U	M	E
E	N	E	E	G	L	W	N	H	U	M	S	A	L
E	G	N	D	I	M	Y	O	T	L	A	O	K	E
N	O	L	Y	S	E	E	N	G	E	N	O	A	E

- DANGEROUS WOMAN
- SUCCESSFUL
- PROBLEM
- BREAK FREE
- NASA
- BREATHIN
- ONLY ONE
- BE MY BABY
- GOODNIGHT N GO
- THANK U, NEXT
- PIANO
- FOCUS
- SANTA TELL ME
- NEEDY
- TRUE LOVE
- BETTER OFF
- GREEDY
- THE WAY

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/520207/>



Spring Crossword By Steven Kudrick



Down:

1. Colorful and pretty insect
4. Condensation from the sky
5. Where flowers grow
6. Yellow and black insect
8. Refreshing to jump into

Across:

2. Ball of fire in the sky
3. A season after winter
6. A 2-wheeled vehicle
7. Building to grow flowers
9. Grows from the soil

See answers on page 27

Spring Word Search

By Aubrey Hilbert

W E B W J N L S W Y A M N Y D
O G G E I H T B R U E C M I D
E G I A V S X L Z T P L I C B
Q S R D T O I O U S V G N B S
Z F H W X J I V D B J V B B I
B U N N Y I S H M U E D Y J R
C R N U E T R M M W I C M E W
E T U Y W J E R G H J K L A W
S P J S E G W T R X O X V I R
M G S E A Z O R H E M V P Y A
C R S P O W L F M F T W H I V
S Q R L D I F O L B Q S W P N
A I M J D N F C K N I Y A M N
L N A B M P G J Q Y S R L E D
R T V C X S Y J V N K Y D T H

April **Bird** **Bunny**
Easter **Eggs** **Flower**
May **Rain**





Spotlight School Store



East Islip Middle School 2021-22
Spiritwear for Sale with EI logo on the item (plus tax)

T-shirt, short sleeve (black, red, or white)		\$15
T-shirt, long sleeve (black or red)		\$20
Pennant T-shirt, long sleeve (grey)		\$35
Pennant ¼ zip fleece w/lighthouse logo (black)		\$35
Hooded sweatshirt (red or grey)		\$35
Hooded sweatshirt, zip-up (black)		\$35
Crew Neck Sweatshirt (grey), white lace, lightweight		\$35
Hooded sweatshirt (black), 2 laces (red/white)		\$45
Charles River Jacket with hood (black)		\$60
EI string backpack (black or red)	\$14	
EI baseball hat (black or red)	\$24	
East Islip socks, white	\$3	
<i>EI Knit hat with Embroidered logo</i> <i>(Fundraiser for Community Family Support)</i>	\$15	

***Sales Tax will be added.**

Payment → Cash or checks are accepted.

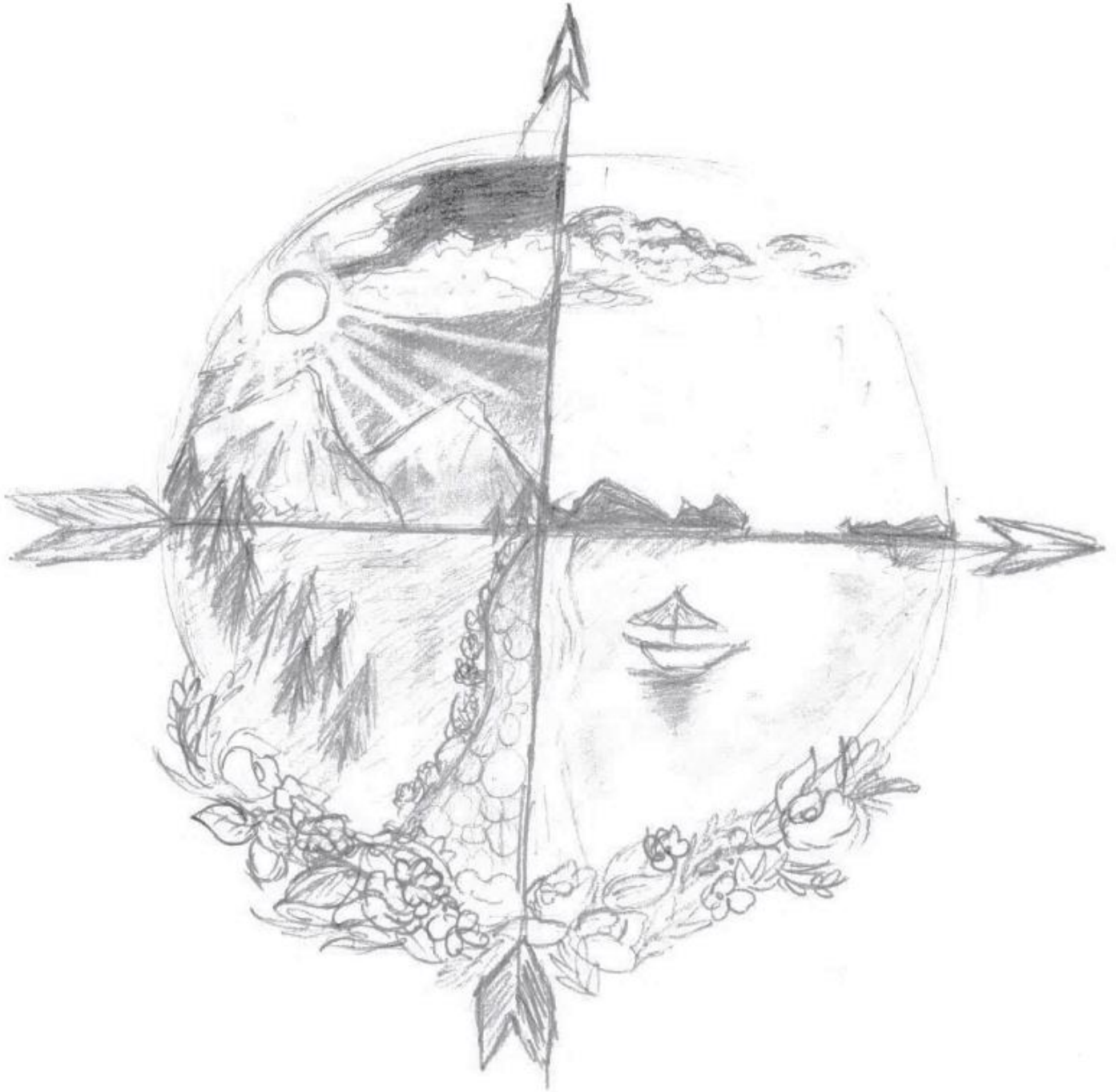
Please make checks payable to: *East Islip School District* and write Spotlight School Store in the memo.

Proceeds from the Spotlight School Store are used for student activities right here at the middle school. Thanks for your support!

Questions? Contact
Diane Doyle:

didoyle@eischools.org

Sizes range from Youth
Large up to 3XL for
some items.



Original Illustration by Heba Luqman