



Masthead design by *Jessica Leek* / Read our newspaper online at: eischools.org/schools/middle_school

Unity Day By Grace Micali

On November 21st and November 22nd, the middle school participated in UNITY DAY! Unity Day is celebrated to promote anti-bullying and kindness. To show our support, students and staff wore orange. The school also held a raffle run by Student Government. Raffle tickets were handed out along with orange ribbons. The prizes were \$10 dollar gift cards (winner's choice).

Cohort 1 winners: Jude Harbison and Sean Gilligan
Cohort 2 winners: Juliana Marchetti and Eric Ritter



From left to right, wearing orange ribbons: Zeynep Oztas, Danielle Simonetti, Grace Micali, Claire Murphy, Sarah Pepp

Photos by Mrs. Avella



How coronavirus affects the life of a kid By Aadil Ali

Coronavirus can affect the life of a kid in many ways. For example, not being able to meet up with your friends, having to help your parents with their work, being isolated at home and many other things. Coronavirus could also make you feel sad or depressed because there might be no one around to talk to or play with.

Some things you can do if you are at home by yourself is go online and play video games with your friends or family. Planning party or board game nights at home could also help you out in many ways. You should spend more time outside (with your mask on). Do some running or jogging to get some fresh air once in a while. With all these combined ideas, you can have a lot of fun at home. Stay safe.

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2020 ELECTION: *really* the most important election

By Reese Sinkevich

Every four years, the presidential election takes place in the United States and it usually is valued as the most important election of our time. This year, the election is more important than ever since we are in the middle of a global pandemic and events that have created an uproar of racial injustice.

The two main presidential tickets this year are Joe Biden/Kamala Harris and Donald Trump/Mike Pence. These candidates have presidential backgrounds, with Biden having served as Vice President for two terms, and Trump/Pence being in office right now. The debates did not bring out the best in the candidates, showing enormous bickering throughout the first one, so much so that adjustments had to be made for the next debate where microphones were muted.

The candidates have different approaches to the pandemic, with Trump very focused on a vaccine, while Biden strives for more masks and safety precautions. Nickelodeon recently had a voting poll on the candidates and Joe Biden seemed to win over the kids because he won the election. Would this influence the adult voters, and would it give Biden more confidence? That is the election situation this year, so many questions.

Absentee voting was much more popular this election along with early voting. There were very long lines of people waiting at in-person polls due to limited occupancy in the building. This election is very different from others and very important. Tune in to any news channel and that is really all they are talking about.

The Associated Press (AP) declared Joe Biden and Kamala Harris winners on November 7, 2020, four days after the election. The AP is an American non-profit news agency headquartered in New York City. They have been tracking vote counts in U.S. elections since 1848. Donald Trump refuses to concede to these results. He has demanded recounts in some states and filed lawsuits in other states. He was especially focused on Pennsylvania, which has 20 electoral votes in the election. A federal judge dismissed the PA lawsuit on November 21, 2020. President-elect Biden has started the transition process. The inauguration is scheduled for January 20, 2021.



New Supreme Court Justice: Honorable Amy Coney Barrett By Adam Menendez

The newest member of the Supreme Court is 48-year-old Justice Amy Coney Barrett. She was President Donald Trump's 3rd nominee to the Supreme Court during his presidency. She was selected after Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away in October of 2020. After being nominated, she quickly gained the favor of most Republican Senators. Only one voted to oppose the nomination along with Democratic Senators.

Barrett graduated from Notre Dame Law School at the top of her class and then went back to her alma mater to be a professor of law. In her early legal career, she was a clerk for Judge Laurence Silberman of the D.C. Circuit US Court of Appeals from 1997 to 1998, and then for the late Justice Antonin Scalia from 1998 to 1999. She worked at a prestigious law firm in Washington D.C. from 1999 to 2002. As a mother of 7, her personal and professional accomplishments at age 48 are quite impressive.

Judge Amy Coney Barrett gathered attention over the years for her conservative and Catholic beliefs. She was confirmed by the US Senate after several days of intense interviews and also rigorous investigations from the FBI.

The swearing in ceremony was held on the South Lawn at the White House on October 26, 2020. Trump said, "Justice Barrett made clear she will issue rulings based solely upon a faithful reading of the law and the Constitution as written, not legislate from the bench."



Image from <https://law.nd.edu/directory/amy-barrett/>

Covid saves lives of hundreds of pets By Jessica Leek

In January 2020, the Coronavirus was brought over to America. No one thought it was a big deal at first. We thought it would be like the flu. Many people get it seasonally and unfortunately, it can be fatal for some, but no one expected COVID-19 would result in 6 months of quarantine. Schools, some stores and public places were closed. People sat around and did nothing all day until someone thought "Hey, let's go get a pet from the adoption center!" and it certainly occupied them.

Hundreds of families welcomed new dogs or cats into their homes. At the Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control Center in Florida, for the first time ever, all kennels were emptied. The center went from over fifty dogs to zero in less than 5 months. The rates of fostering dogs and cats increased by 90 percent, saving multiple animals from being euthanized in shelters.

Not only is adopting good for the pet, it's good for you as well. Stroking an animal's fur is relaxing and calming and it may improve your health. Experts say that the relationship you have with your pet can lower your stress levels, increase exercise and physical activity, and bring overall joy to you and your family. It can decrease your blood pressure and cholesterol levels and increase your socialization opportunities with people. Best of all, you have a friend who will live with you for many years, giving you and the pet happier lives.

COVID-19 is a terrible virus, but out of every storm, is a rainbow. More pets can live a happy and healthy life with a forever family. So why don't we all just adopt a pet?



Image from <https://www.charlestonanimalsociety.org/>

In-school vs. virtual By Reese Sinkevich

We can all agree that 2020 has been a year like no other, with COVID-19 turning the USA upside down resulting in a compromised remote learning environment. But we are getting somewhere now, with an organized schedule and virtual lessons, plus going to school two days a week. Both in-school and virtual learning have their pros and cons, but which one is better? I asked some students here at EIMS.

Christian Horeis, 7th grader, prefers in-school learning “because you are sitting with your friends and a teacher that is willing to help you anytime you need.” Another student who did not want to be named replied “in-school because I find virtual hard to concentrate and you’re with your friends and teachers in school. Plus the teacher is right there and you can ask a question without having to wait for an answer.”

These are the opinions of real students here at EIMS. You might have a different opinion about hybrid learning and that’s okay. The most important thing that you can do right now is to be open-minded.

To wrap this up, here are some quick computer tips to make your virtual learning experience easier in a Google Meet.

- Press ctrl+d to turn on your mic.
- Press ctrl+e to turn on your camera.
- Click settings to choose what layout you want, and how many people you want to see in a meet.
- Click “pin” on the person you want to see and the camera will only show that person.



Image from <https://classroom.google.com>

How to Select A Mask

When selecting a mask, there are many choices. Here are some do’s and don’ts.

For more info, visit the CDC website:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

DO choose masks that



Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric



Completely cover your nose and mouth



Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don’t have gaps

DO NOT choose masks that



Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl



Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape



Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators or surgical masks

Reddit – The Rabbit Hole of the Internet

By Lee Daubaras

In 2005, Steve Huffman, Alexis Ohanian, and Aaron Swartz created a little-known website in the early Internet called Reddit. Little did they know it would become a home for many things, good and bad, over the span of fifteen years into present day. In the beginning, it was a spitting image of the early Internet. It was like its own Internet inside the Internet.

When Reddit first launched, it spoke the title many failed websites once did, which was free speech for all, no matter what idea, thing, or person it was referring to. Many shady characters were drawn to this website, which consisted of different chat boards for different topics. It attracted so much attention they called it the “front page of the Internet”, which still stands true given its overwhelming popularity. Surprisingly, it wasn’t supposed to be this way in the beginning.

Originally, Reddit was designed to be a sandwich delivery app, which is a far cry from what it is now. Of course, like most things when they start out, it wasn’t very popular. The three founders of Reddit decided to create fake posts on botted accounts to make it look like things were going on, until suddenly, things *were* going on. There was a major mix of good and bad, and a whole lot of conspiracy theorists, cultists and drug dealers made their homes there.

Reddit never got much mainstream news coverage and even when it did, it was only the bad parts. Even now, only so much of it is safe from the evil that waits if you delve too far into Reddit, things that most people don’t want to get into. It was a haven for illegal things in the beginning, like live murders and fugitives who need places to lie low for a while, even people discussing a planned mass shooting.

Thankfully, Reddit now has a team of moderators across subreddits, who enforce rules, while the main group of people running the website have cracked down on the more illegal parts. This activity cleaned it up quite a bit for new arrivals to enjoy. The only bad part is that they’re quite slow to react to certain things. In all honesty, Reddit is a crazy place, filled with paranormal encounters, nice things, and a whole lot of people. Whether you have been on Reddit before, are planning to check it out, or are a regular user of it like myself, stay safe while on there. Do not post any personal information. If you’d like to check it out the link is right here: <https://www.reddit.com/>



Did You Know?

5 Interesting facts you didn't know

By Michael Tramaglino

- Newborn dolphins have a very small patch of hair on their chin.
- A few dinosaurs had feathers on their skin.
- The covers on the end of your shoelace are called aglets.
- The world's hottest temperature was recorded in Libya in 1922 and it was 136 degrees Fahrenheit.
- In Los Angeles, CA, you can buy a hot dog wrapped in bacon and then fried and topped with mayo.



Images from www.latimes.com

Simple Sweets

By Annelise Marra

Strawberry Mascarpone Tart

Crust:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup graham cracker crumbs
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup almond flour
5 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
3 tablespoons almond butter, melted

Filling:

16 ounces mascarpone cheese, at room temperature
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup powdered sugar
1 teaspoon real vanilla extract
1 teaspoon almond extract
16 ounces fresh strawberries
2 tablespoons honey
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sliced almonds
Fresh mint leaves, for garnishing (optional)



Steps

1- Prepare the crust: Hand mix the graham cracker crumbs, almond flour, butter, and almond butter until combined and it's all moistened. Press the crust into a 10-inch round tart pan. Place in the freezer while preparing the filling.

2- Prepare the filling: In another bowl stir the mascarpone, sugar, vanilla extract, and almond extract until combined and it is nice and creamy. Evenly spread over graham crust, then refrigerate for at least one hour.

3- While the tart is in the fridge, slice the strawberries: cut off the stems and cut lengthwise into thin slices. Remove the tart from the refrigerator and place the strawberry slices onto the mascarpone filling in any fashion desired. Drizzle the tart with honey, then garnish with sliced almonds and mint if desired.

4- Serve immediately or keep refrigerated, loosely covered, until ready to serve.

(Recipe from <https://www.powered-by-mom.com/no-bake-strawberry-mascarpone-tart/>)

World Series 2020

By Michael Kraft



The time has come for the Major League Baseball (MLB) 2020 World Series between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Tampa Bay Rays. Let's find out how each team made it there.

The Tampa Bay Rays had 40 wins and 20 losses for the season, clinching the #1 spot in the American League. The Los Angeles Dodgers had 43 wins and 17 losses, clinching the #1 spot for the National League. The Dodgers were led in the regular season by Corey Seager having a .307 batting average and A.J. Pollock having the most homeruns (16) for the Dodgers. The Tampa Bay Rays had an excellent pitching staff led by Tyler Glasnow and Blake Snell. They both combined for 9 wins, 3 losses and 154 strikeouts.

The playoffs started in late September. Both teams played in the Wild Card series. The Tampa Bay Rays played the Toronto Blue Jays and won the series in two games sweeping the Blue Jays. Standout players were Randy Arozarena who had two runs and three hits along with an RBI (runs batted in) and pitcher Blake Snell who had an amazing game. He pitched for 5.2 innings and only gave up two walks but had nine strikeouts.

The Los Angeles Dodgers played the Milwaukee Brewers in the National League Wild Card series. The Dodgers also swept the Brewers winning two games to none. Standout players were Mookie Betts who had one run, two hits, and one RBI. The standout pitcher was Clayton Kershaw who threw 8 innings and gave up one walk but had 13 STRIKEOUTS! Both teams went to their divisional rounds.

The divisional playoff rounds began. The Dodgers played the San Diego Padres starting October 6th and they swept the series, winning three games to zero. Standout player on offense was Mookie Betts who had three runs, one hit and one RBI in game three of the series. Standout pitcher was Julio Urias who pitched 5 innings and had six strikeouts. The Tampa Bay Rays started a playoff series with the New York Yankees on October 5th. Tampa Bay won the series three games to two. This was one of the closest playoff series of this season. Standout Rays' player Charlie Morton pitched 5 innings, giving up four hits, two runs and six strikeouts. There was not that much offense in this series.

Now it was time for the final playoff series which would determine going to a world series or going home. The Tampa Bay Rays played the Houston Astros in the American League Championship Series (ALCS) starting October 11th. The Rays won the series four games to three. This was another close series, but the Rays ended up winning the last game and moved themselves to their first World Series since 2008. Charlie Morton pitched five innings, gave up no runs and had five strikeouts. Manuel Margot hit a three-run homerun in game two.

The Los Angeles Dodgers played the Atlanta Braves in the National League Championship Series (NLCS) starting October 12th, winning the series four games to three. This might have been the best comeback in MLB history because the Dodgers were down three games to one and then came back, winning three games in a row. Highlights for this series include Max Muncy who hit a grand slam in game three leading to a Dodgers win of 15-3. Dodgers pitcher Walker Buehler threw for 6 innings and had six strikeouts in game six.

So that set the World Series of 2020: Tampa Bay Rays vs. Los Angeles Dodgers. The series started October 20, 2020 and went back and forth for 6 games out of a possible 7. The Dodgers won the first game with a score of 8-3. The Rays took game two (score 6-4) but the Dodgers won game three (score 6-2). The Rays won out in game four by a score of 8-7 with a crazy finish. Rays player Brett Phillips hit a single into right centerfield driving in one run, but it was not so simple. The Dodgers centerfielder threw the ball to the catcher. The player who was running to home plate tripped and fell and the catcher missed the ball so the runner was able to score! Game 5 went to the Dodgers with a score of 4-2 and the Dodgers finished it off by winning 3-1 in game 6 of the World Series. Since the Dodgers won 4 playoff games, they became the 2020 World Series champions on October 27th! Who do you think will win next year?

~Recipe: Tik Tok Milk Balls

By Zeynep Oztas <3

Ingredients:

- 30 grams corn starch (4 Tbs)
- 85 grams milk of your choice (1/3 C)
- 13 grams sugar (3 tsp)



Directions:

- Mix all the ingredients in a small bowl.
- Use a colander to strain it into a pot.
- Mix it occasionally on low heat for 90 seconds or until it turns into a sticky dough.
- Take it off and knead it for about 1 minute.
- Make into 6 little balls.
- Use cocoa powder on top to make it a little tastier!
- Eat them while they are warm <3

Enjoy ^-^



Staff List

Aadil Ali
Jaliya Capers
Daniel Carroll
Emilia Cicale
Lee Daubaras
Madelyn Halter
Michael Kraft
Quentin Kuhn
Jessica Leek
Annelyse Marra
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Ava Sanchez
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Michael Tramaglino
Emily Ulrich

ADVISOR: Mrs. Avella



EIMS Administration

Principal:

Mr. Brennen

Asst. Principal:

Mr. Thorley

Asst. Principal:

Mr. Nolan

Fall Word Scramble

By Quentin Kuhn

Unscramble the words below.

(See page 9 for answers.)

1. lafl _____

6. aveesl _____

2. ekar _____

7. cosorl _____

3. clod wehrtea _____

8. inwd _____

4. epalp iep _____

9. arni _____

5. pimknup _____

10. tho ocoac _____



Fall Word Search
Joseph Micalizzi



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

ACORN

FOOTBALL

NOVEMBER

APPLES

SEPTEMBER

HALLOWEEN

SWEATER

CANDY CORN

OCTOBER

LEAVES

PUMPKIN

THANKSGIVING

Answers to word scramble on page 8:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. fall | 6. leaves |
| 2. rake | 7. colors |
| 3. cold weather | 8. wind |
| 4. apple pie | 9. rain |
| 5. pumpkin | 10. hot cocoa |

Find The 7 Mad Faces
By Joseph Micalizzi

