

Laing News

*Laing Middle School of Science and Technology
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina*

NEED ADVICE? ASK TOTEM TALK!

Dear Totem Talk,

I wanted to wear my favorite crop top to school, but it doesn't fit the dress code. What should I do?

Signed Dress Code Dilemmas

Dear Dress Code Dilemmas,

We have all probably had this problem before. You want to wear a cute outfit to school, but dress code won't allow it! Here's our advice. Try to find a longer, similar colored shirt to keep that cute fit you wanted, or wear high waisted pants. If worse comes to worst, just wear your sweatshirt! -

~ Totem Talk

IF YOU WANT ADVICE FROM TOTEM TALK,
SUBMIT A QUESTION IN THE MEDIA
CENTER. LOOK FOR THE YELLOW LOCK BOX.



By Victoria Livermore

Next-Level News

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FREE

HALLOWEEN ORIGINS

By: Virginia Saunders



Halloween started as a festival by the name of Samhain, which was celebrated by the Celts of Ancient Britain and Ireland. On the Celts calendar, November 1st was the first day of the new year and when winter began. It was believed, on Samhain, that the spirits of the dead would return to their homes and those who had died during the year would go to the ghost world. People would have bonfires to scare away evil spirits and even wear masks and disguises so that ghosts would not think they were humans. It was because of this that other monsters like goblins, demons, fairies, and witches became associated with the holiday.

When the Romans conquered the Celts, they changed the day to Feralia to commemorate the passing of the dead and Pomona, the Roman goddess of the harvest. The Christian holiday of All Saint's Day was moved from May 13 to November 1st by Pope Boniface IV, and it became All Hallow's Eve (*hallow* as in holy). When Irish immigrants came to America, they brought their costumes and traditions with them, making what is now Halloween.

HALLOWEEN

vampires, werewolves, and zombies! Oh My!

By Serena Bostwick

In recent years, Halloween costumes have become not limited to creepy monsters. People wear costumes from movies, video games, and TV shows all the time. But what was the origin of some of the classic costumes like vampires, werewolves and zombies?

The legends about vampires originated in Eastern Europe, specifically Bulgaria, around a thousand years ago. Originally, the vampire was less Dracula and more ghost-like. They didn't drink blood or infect other people with their bite; instead, they were known as disease spreaders like rats. While the legend traveled across the world, the vampire lost its ghost-like appearance and became the supposed walking corpse we see in the media today.

Werewolves have always had some of the most diverse legends. The idea of werewolves likely started in ancient Greece, although opinions differ on that. The myth spread across Europe and evolved into the modern image of werewolves we now know. Today, historians believe that these so-called werewolves had medical conditions or were mentally ill.

Lastly, perhaps the most iconic of the monsters are zombies. It is generally agreed that the undead myth came from Haiti or Greece based on archaeological findings. There are actually some credible stories about people dying, being buried, and coming back to life- but most were paralyzed or in a coma.

So if you see someone dressed up as a vampire, werewolf or zombie for Halloween, remember that they are more than just a bedtime story.

Scary Good: NFL Performances

By: Kennedy Boss & Alex Buffum



Adrian Peterson's record game: On November 4, 2007, in a game against the Chargers, Peterson ran for 296 yards on 30 carries in one game, crushing the single game rushing record. With the modern NFL offenses being more pass heavy than the ground pounding teams of past, we may never see another terrifying performance like this ever again.

The Patriot's improbable comeback: It was February 5, 2017, Super Bowl LI. In the 3rd quarter, with 2 minutes and 12 seconds left, the Patriots were down 25 points. Then things changed. The Patriots scored 25 unanswered points in the 2nd half and stormed back to force the game into overtime. The Patriots got the ball first in overtime, converted on many third downs and then ran the ball into the endzone to win.

The Cheetah's best performance: On November 29, 2020, Chiefs vs. Buccaneers, Chiefs were leading the game 17-0 in the first quarter. Mahomes threw 75 yards to Tyreek for a touchdown. One minute and 40 seconds left in the first quarter, Mahomes throws 44 yards to Tyreek for a flip into the endzone for Hill. Then, both teams were playing their best with 7 minutes left in the third quarter and Mahomes throws 20 yards to Tyreek who was one on one with Davis. Tyreek caught 13 catches for a stunning 269 yards, which is the 5th most single game reception yardage in history. Tom Brady and the Buccaneers were no match for the Cheetahs with the final being 27-24.



Blobby's Halloween

By: Noelle Pfeister



Did you know why Blobby's picture has been in the newspaper for so long now? Well, for those of you who don't know who Blobby is, he is the blob that is drawn on each of the newspapers and whose surroundings are like the season we are in. Now that we all know who he is, get ready, because here is how the story begins . . .

One Halloween night, Blobby was walking around with his friends Bobby and Billy. They were having a great time until they saw the scariest house on the block... Miss Blackwood's house! Nobody had ever seen decorations, candy, and, most of the time, not even the outside of her house. Years before they would have all been too scared to even look at her house, but that year, Bobby, Billy, and Blobby felt braver and decided to go knock on her door.

Surprisingly, Miss Blackwood opened the door and had a full bowl of candy with her! They got their candy, and then she told them about something that was going on at her house that night. People from Blobby's town could get drawn on a newspaper by students from Laing Middle School in Mount Pleasant, Blobby said that he would love to do it.

That night, Blobby and his friends learned that Miss Blackwood was not scary at all, and Blobby became a part of the Laing News Team.

Blobby hopes he and all Laing students have a great Halloween this year!

A Halloween Limerick

By Gracie Cook

Once, on Halloween night

I came across a terrible fright

For my bestest chummy

Dressed up as a mummy

Though his costume didn't look right.

He thought that it was so unique

He believed that it was his peak

In his costume makin'

But he was mistaken

For he was unable to speak.



Candy Corn: The Scary Truth!

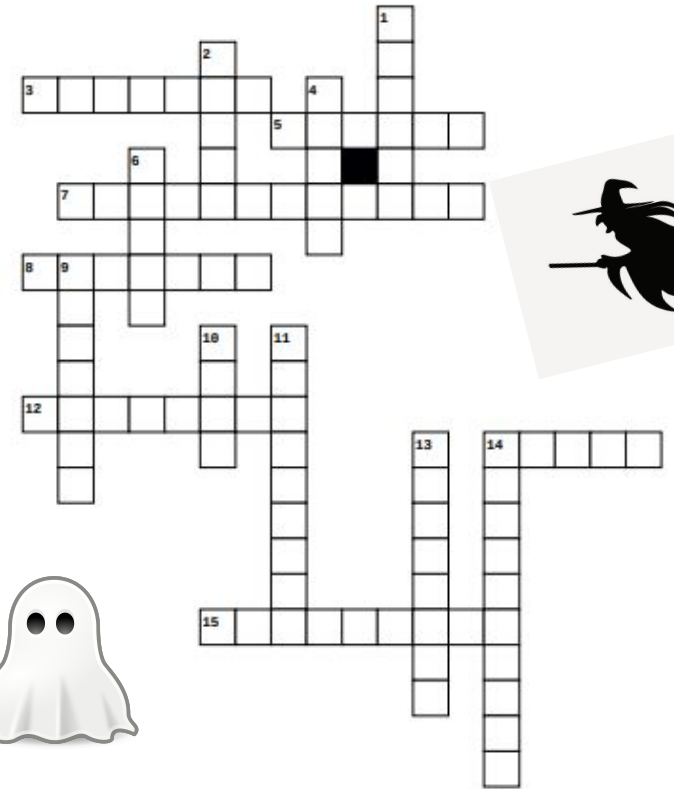
By Virginia Saunders

Everyone knows candy corn doesn't exactly taste... natural, but not everyone knows what is *in* candy corn. There is of course sugar, corn syrup, salt, artificial flavoring and food coloring. There is also honey, sesame oil, gelatin and confectioners glaze. What you may not know is that gelatin is also what makes glue, marshmallows, and jello! Gelatin is a colorless gooey substance produced from collagen, collagen is derived from animal bones. Confectioners glaze is made out of lac resin, a bug secretion. So, candy corn is actually made of sugar, bones, salt and bugs.

Halloween Crossword Puzzle

By: Miller Collins

Halloween Crossword



Across

- Well-known vampire
- Theme of Fright Night this year
- A green monster
- Creepy, crawly creatures
- "Spooky, scary _____"
- _____ Cat (bad luck)
- _____ Inc.

Down

- Girl's most popular Halloween costume 2020
- _____ Cat
- Casper the _____
- Trick or treat
- This is what you carve
- Nocturnal, flying creatures
- Most popular Halloween candy

(Generated with the help of Crossword Labs)