

# THE RAIDER REVIEW

The Student Newspaper of  
Shiloh Middle School

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## The Raider Review

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## ***"We're back!" Newspaper returns to Shiloh***

**By: Olivia Sprock  
Eighth Grade**

Shiloh's own newspaper is coming back after almost 15 years! The principal of Shiloh Middle School, Mr. Griffen is excited that the newspaper is coming back to Shiloh. He thinks this is a great way for students to learn about what is going on in the building and will give a voice to those writing the articles. He went on to say, "I'm someone who thinks extracurriculars are extremely important to education, so having the ability to provide something else that students can participate in is great for the school."

There will be three issues of the Shiloh Newspaper published this school year, including this one. The 2nd issue will be published in February, while the rd and final issue will be published at

the end of the school year. We've decided to have the Newspaper return, as it can capture Shiloh history and it allows kids to commit to a leadership role within our community. Writing articles can also impact the future for them and teach them writing and communication skills. Mr. Griffen supported this by stating, "I think being a part of the school newspaper can definitely impact the future of students." He relates to the experience of writing a newspaper by stating he wrote for a local newspaper when he was in high school for four years. It was called the 'West Side Journal' in Akron, Ohio. He covered local sports and would have to interview coaches for their thoughts on teams, games, etc... He reflected on his experience, and explained, "This taught

me a lot about interacting with other people, researching, and writing. All that being said, I think being a part of the newspaper is a great way for students to learn how to cover topics and connect with the school community." He is ecstatic for the first issue of Shiloh's newspaper to come out!

Students from grades ranging from 5th to 8th are writing topics like: the recent fashion trends, types of sports, Shiloh's clubs, recaps from sports games, and even the Presidential Election. This won't be a one-and-done thing either, as it is planned to come back again next year as well.

### Shiloh Middle School

Parma City School District

Every year to celebrate the holidays we have 12 spirit days before going on Winter Break. This year we have themed days that we are encouraging all of our students and staff to participate in. Anyone that participates in the themed days has a chance to win a prize. Below are each of the themes:

Thursday, December 5: Mad About Plaid Day (Wear Plaid)  
Friday, December 6: Rudolph Red Day (Wear Red)  
Monday, December 9: Christmas Karaoke Day (Dress Like Your Favorite Christmas Song)  
Tuesday, December 10: Dress Like Your Favorite Christmas Movie or Character Day  
Wednesday, December 11: Warm Wednesday Day (Wear Winter Gear - No Head/Face Coverings)  
Thursday, December 12: Holiday Cheer Day (Wear Anything Holiday)  
Friday, December 13: PJ Day  
Monday, December 16: Grinchy Green Day (Wear Green)  
Tuesday, December 17: Tree Topper Day (Wear Holiday Head Gear)  
Wednesday, December 18: White Winter Wednesday Day (Dress Like a Snowman)  
Thursday, December 19: Ugly Sweater Day  
Friday, December 20: Candy Cane Day (Wear Red and White)

## **Trump "Trumps" Harris for President**

**By: Anna Shulga  
Eighth Grade**

On 11/05/24 the presidential elections commenced in the US. During this event, our two main candidates were current Vice-President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump.

Elections are held every four years in our system of democracy, where the people vote for their leader. To win, a majority of electoral college votes are required to become President.

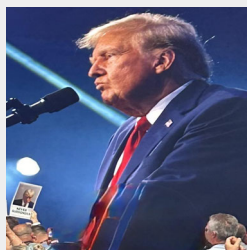
As many know by now, Donald J. Trump won the Presidential election. Trump had won by a significant lead of 312 electoral votes to Harris's 226. The popular vote was much closer though. Trump had about 76.8 million votes or 50%, while Kamala Harris had about 74.3 million votes or 48% of the votes.

Elizabeth Kuznetsuv, a worker from Turning Point USA (a Republican Party company), stated, "The elections went well... I feel that it was an honest election and both candidates did their best to show why they fit the position of President."

Of course, both Kamala Harris and Donald Trump had excellent reasons for becoming our next president. It is important to remain positive even if it's

not who you voted for.

Donald Trump is part of our Republican Party (represented by red coloring). Kamala Harris is part of the Democratic Party (represented by blue coloring). The Presidential elections went pretty smoothly this year as compared to our last election.



### **Shiloh's Winter Concerts**

**By: Olivia Sprock  
Eighth Grade**

Shiloh's Winter Concerts are fast approaching! Mrs. Poole was asked if she had noticed any improvement in her students' musical skills. She stated, "Yes, of course the groups are all getting better. This is especially true since we play every day and not every third day like two years ago and prior." She added

to that by listing some instruments that the band students play, including the oboe, tenor saxophone, French horn, tuba and percussion. According to Mrs. Poole, it is a good sign that we are getting better when we have students playing many different instruments. We even have students learning to play the timpani—you might recognize them as the big kettle drums. These instruments add color to the sound of the groups. The

timpani players had to be proficient on their original instrument and be secure enough to play their part when perhaps no one else is playing the same part or note near them. Did you know Shiloh now offers Jazz Band? In her interview she also included the new club stating, "New for the band concert is Jazz Band which meets before school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays."

## **Concert Schedule**

### **Choir**

Valley Forge High School  
Thursday, Dec. 12th  
7:00 pm

### **Orchestra**

Shiloh Middle School  
Wednesday, Dec. 18th  
6:00 pm

### **Band**

Shiloh Middle School  
Wednesday, Dec. 18th  
7:30 pm

*Music*

# SCHOOL LIFE



## Student Council Supports Shiloh

By: Alaya Davis  
Seventh Grade

This year, the student council is focused on boosting attendance and creating a lively school atmosphere through various activities that engage every student. Their dedication to making school fun and exciting has already brought the student body closer together through creative and inclusive events.

One of their recent successes was the Monster Mash, a festive gathering where students dressed up in their favorite costumes, enjoyed nachos, and spent time socializing with friends. The event was a hit, with students raving about the fun atmosphere. In addition to dances, the student council has hosted several spirit weeks, encouraging everyone to show off their school pride. Twin Day, in particular, was a standout, as it inspired many students to dress alike with friends, showing off creative and coordinated outfits.

Looking ahead, the student council is excited to plan even more activities and fundraisers to support school programs and events. One example of their efforts is the annual food drive, which kicked off the season of giving in a big way. Students and their families came together to donate non-perishable food items, which were distributed to people in need within the Parma community for Thanksgiving. The student council's hard work not only benefits the school but also strengthens the community as a whole.

Ms. Karakis, a student council director, praised the group's accomplishments so far, saying, "Student council is doing great so far. We have almost 30 students who attend our monthly meetings. In the future, the student council hopes to add fun activities to encourage student attendance and participation." She also shared that they are planning multiple pep assemblies, creative spirit weeks, attendance rewards, and team color



days to keep the school spirit alive throughout the year.

"Student council is fun and is complete awesome sauce!" Eliza D, a seventh grader and active member of the council states. Students can look forward to even more dances, unique spirit

weeks, fundraisers, and community-centered activities as the school year progresses. Thanks to the student council, Shiloh Middle School continues to be a vibrant and inclusive place where every student can get involved, have fun, and make a difference!

## Alumni Spotlight: Mr Shadrach

By: Allison Boggs  
Seventh Grade

Mr. Shadrach has been a Physical Education teacher to many of our students here at Shiloh Middle School. He is also an alumnus of our school which might come as a surprise to many of you reading this. He graduated from Parma Sr. and the University of Mount Union. Mr. Shadrach has accomplished a lot in his career. He's been working in the Parma City School district for 13 years. He has worked at Valley Forge, the former Parma Senior High School, and of course Shiloh. He currently coaches wrestling at John Carroll University. Mr. Shadrach was a great role model for his fellow Raiders and is now to our current Raiders. "As a student at Shiloh, Mr. Shadrach was a great example of what we would like all of our Raiders to be" stated Mr. Madison who was Mr. Shadrach's wrestling coach along with Mr. Gildone. "He was a great student and athlete, was kind to others and he was involved in many extra-curricular activities like Boy Scouts and wrestling". Mr. Shadrach stated that "he sees himself in the students often which he really likes to see." Mr. Shadrach is a perfect example of how great the people who graduate from our school district can be and that is why he was chosen for our first Alumni Spotlight.



## Staff Spotlight: Mrs. Nehr

By: Zahara Lindsey  
Seventh Grade

Mrs. Nehr is a Social Studies teacher who loves to share stories about history around the world and stories about herself. She loves her students and makes sure to let everyone have fun. She has been a teacher for 20 years and has taught in Shiloh for 14. Mrs. Nehr has always wanted to become a teacher; her parents were teachers in Parma, and she couldn't think of anything else she might be doing now.

"I have always wanted to be a teacher. Both of my parents are retired Parma teachers. My mom taught elementary school and my dad taught at VF. I used to 'play school' all the time growing up and can't imagine doing anything else."

Mrs. Nehr enjoys telling stories about her "kids", in other words, her cat, River, and Franny. Her favorite subject to teach is Social Studies, especially in the 7th grade.

"Social Studies is my favorite subject, specifically the 7th grade curriculum. I love history and seeing how it connects to our world today along with how societies have evolved. It's the stories and connections to the present

day. To me history is one big story and so I get to tell stories and hopefully, you & the other kids find some of it interesting. I'm a history nerd and I love current events too."

Mrs. Nehr loves her kids and enjoys knowing more about them. She adores seeing different sides of her students that she hadn't seen at the beginning of the year. She even calls students "My little angels."

"My favorite part about teaching is my kids (the students). I love getting to know my new students at the beginning of each year and seeing their different personalities. I like learning about their interests and letting them get to know me. I also like to have fun and my goal every year is to get my students excited about history because I know it's a subject a lot of students aren't interested in."

Mrs. Nehr continues to show how much she cares for her students daily. You'll never doubt in your mind that she will be there for you. If you don't understand a problem, Mrs. Nehr will help you out, no matter how many times you ask. Hopefully, Mrs. Nehr will continue to be a great teacher, and help the school.



## Doing the "Monster Mash"

By: Madison Robertson  
Eighth Grade

On Friday, October 25th, 2024, the Student Council held a dance for Halloween at Shiloh MS called the Monster Mash dance. The dance ran from the end of school, 2:50, to 4:15. Grades 5th to 8th were allowed to attend for five dollars per person. Additionally, students were allowed to dress up in Halloween costumes which were outstanding, showing their school spirit. Restrictions for costumes were enforced but there were some amazing costumes that were worn by the students.

One of the Student Council leaders, Ms. Karakis said "It took the Student Council two meetings to plan and make and hang the posters." This shows the time and dedication that the Student Council and PTA as well put into the dance to have a fun night for the kids of Shiloh.



## Shiloh Slang

By: Taryn Trumble  
Eighth Grade

| Slang Term | What it Means? | How to use in a Sentence?                     |
|------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Skibidi    | Weird          | "Stop being skibidi, bro!"                    |
| Sigma      | Cool           | "You are not Sigma!"                          |
| Alpha      | The best       | "I'm the alpha, you're not."                  |
| Beta       | The worst      | "Imagine being a beta, could never."          |
| Ate        | You did well   | "That outfit ate."                            |
| Cooked     | In trouble     | "Teacher caught you cheating, you're cooked." |
| Fanum Tax  | To steal       | "You fanum taxed my pencils!"                 |
| Rizz       | Charisma       | "I have all the rizz, I get all the ladies."  |
| No cap     | No lie         | "I can do the splits, no cap!"                |
| Fire       | Awesome        | "My new shoes are fire"                       |
| Blud       | Friend         | "Where are you going blud?"                   |
| Glaze      | Over hype      | "People glaze Pinterest too much."            |
| NPC        | Basic          | "That guy is an NPC for copying his friend."  |
| Opp        | Enemy          | "Voldemort is Harry Potter's opp."            |

# SCHOOL LIFE



# ATHLETICS



## Volleyball “Nets” Nice Season

By: Addie Abrams  
Eighth Grade

The 2024 Shiloh Raiders volleyball team had a solid season. The Raiders had a total of nineteen games, fifteen of them being regular games, two of them tournament games, and two scrimmages. Our team's biggest success was winning against both of our rival teams for both grades.

7th graders took on Greenbriar to get into the second round of tournaments. It had the coaches, the parents, the grandparents, the teammates, and the student section roaring while the ball got rallied back and forth between the Shiloh Raiders and the Greenbriar Yeomen. The 8th grade Raiders took on the Hillside Tigers as the first tournament game.

The first set we had lost, but we came back the next two rounds better than ever. The Raiders were very competitive and never gave up no matter what team we were facing or heard about. We have always been amazing with good sportsmanship.

“One key thing that I could say we did well this year was our sportsmanship. No matter the outcome of each game, every girl kept her head up, shook their opponents hand, and cheered on the next team that was up to play,” exclaimed one of the Raiders coaches, Coach Fesz.

Coaches Halaska and Fesz always encouraged us to keep our heads up and never look down on ourselves or each other. All the girls on each team were very skilled with multiple different moves or positions in volleyball. “Players such as Sophia Sabol, Taylor Shaw, Addison Abrams, Isabella Braine and others helped lead the team this season,” stated Raiders Coach, Coach Halaska.

All of the girls were a family. No matter what our record was we wouldn't have wanted to go through all of the wins and losses without each other or with any other coaches. “They secured crucial victories, showcasing their skills and resilience on the court such as our playoff victory against inner city rival Hillside. Through it all, the team displayed unwavering spirit and a commitment to improvement.



While the season may have had its ups and downs, it ultimately fostered growth and strengthened the bond among the players.” Coach Halaska stated.

We hope all of our 7th grade girls advance to doing volleyball again for 8th grade next year. We also hope that our 8th grade girls move forward to either the freshmen, junior varsity or varsity team of any high school they attend.

## Get Active and Stay Warm: Winter Sports

By: Alaya Davis  
Seventh Grade

Winter sports are a great addition to the Shiloh Middle School community. At Shiloh, the sports include wrestling, winter cheer, girls' basketball, and boys' basketball.

Wrestling is a fun activity students can join to stay fit during the winter, and the best part is that there are no tryouts! With 16 different weight classes, this sport is open to everyone, regardless of size or skill level. The team is led by two amazing coaches, Coach Furman and Coach Mastrobucchi, who bring experience and energy to every practice. Wrestling is not only about strength but also strategy and perseverance, making it an exciting way to challenge yourself.

Girls' and boys' basketball have tryouts, but they offer great coaching from Coach Mealy and Coach Loya. A player from the 7th-grade girls' basketball team, Falynn Gadowski, says, “Basketball is fun and is a great opportunity for Shiloh students to stay active during fall and winter!”

Another exciting program at Shiloh is basketball winter cheer. The

cheerleaders, led by Coach Brittney, bring energy and school spirit to every game. Their enthusiasm and dedication help motivate both players and fans, making basketball games even more exciting. Cheerleading is a fantastic way to be part of the action and show pride in Shiloh Middle School!

Beyond the physical benefits, sports at Shiloh help students develop character and life skills. Mr. Gildone, one of the school's 2 sports directors (along with Mr. Madison), explains, “These athletic activities offer an opportunity to develop skills and personal characteristics that include leadership, accountability, perseverance, commitment, respect, and pride, all while making friends and being part of a team. It can also be a source of entertainment and school connection for our fans.”

Winter sports at Shiloh Middle School provide an incredible way to stay active, make friends, and build lasting memories. Whether you're wrestling, dribbling, or cheering, there's no better time to get involved. Have some fun this winter and check out all that sports at Shiloh have to offer!



## Cheer Squad Brings the Spirit!

By: Grace Naylor  
Eighth Grade

The Shiloh Raiders have some really fun sports for students to participate in. Cheerleading is one of the sports at Shiloh that is very fun to do. Our cheerleaders did an amazing job during the football season and will continue to do great throughout the basketball season. The cheers these girls learn are harder than they seem. From the “Hello” cheers to the dances to even the crowd Cheers are just amazing. The girls on the team for 8th grade are Mckayla Covey, Liana Garcia, Grace Naylor, Sara Prokop, Riley Martinez, Layla Podmore, Taryn Trumble, and Mia Vargus. Our lovely ladies

on 7th grade are Alyssa Townsley, Angel Orr, Lillian Offutt, Peyton Karn, Aiyanna Johnson, Sophia Jenkins, Jadia Green, and Olivia Ellis. These girls are putting in so much effort!! Cheer is such fun and a sport that promotes school spirit. You get to represent your school and our players!! Come join us and cheer for your school. “From Jumps to spirit, our cheerleaders have shown incredible growth this season, pushing their skills and teamwork to new heights. Every practice brings them closer to excellence, and the support and energy from the crowd fuel their performances. With every cheer, they're reminded that together, we're unstoppable. Let's keep cheering them on!” exclaimed Coach Henry, our Raiders cheerleading coach.



# ATHLETICS

## Football Season Highlighted by Beating Rival Hillside

By: Zach Hahne  
Eighth Grade

The 24-25 Shiloh Raider Football team had an exciting and fun season filled with big wins and tough losses. Coach Martin, the Head football coach stated that "The football team worked hard all season and had some key players." These key players show that shiloh can beat everyone including Hillside and Firelands". Coach Martin stated " his players worked hard in both 7th and 8th grade; some of the top performers were Castiel Demarco, Kane Murray, Haiden Smalcer, Brayden Wojtkiewicz, Mayz Urbassik, Paul Belletti, and Cameron Maluk. Some seventh graders that stood out this season were Dakotis Allen, Christopher Guzmen, and Oziah Taylor. The Shiloh Raiders season was highlighted with their outstanding performances in their 2 dominant wins. Shiloh faced off against Hillside and they won by over 5 touchdowns. What an outstanding achievement for the football team! Coach Martin is

very proud of all of his players and they were always supportive to each and every one of their teammates. As a wise man once said, "It does not matter if you are the best, it matters if you have the courage and passion to compete in the activity". We hope we can get a great team for next year and we encourage all boys to play next year. We may see many familiar faces and hopefully some newcomers to join the team. Thank you football players for showing your Raider pride!

## Cross Country

By: Chloe Hill  
Sixth Grade

Cross Country is a sport where runners complete a course over various terrains and surfaces. Some courses are hilly while others are flat. Most Cross Country courses are on grass but can be on gravel, dirt or wood chips. Each runner completes the course as fast as they can. Team scoring is based on your finish in the race. So the lowest score wins, like golf. Our Shiloh cross country team coach is Mr Mealy also known as a STEM teacher and a seventh grade teacher. Coach has said that he loves coaching Cross Country and he loves to

share his passion with his team. The highlight of the team was when the teammates improved their running from the beginning to the end of the season. Coach Mealy said that "It's great to see kids get excited when they know they have run a fast time." Some of Coach Mealy's best runners this season were, Cortez Andujar, Nick Shaffer, Storm Katitus, Ekko Jusek, and Maddie Boose. Cross Country is a hard sport to play so the players this year should be proud of themselves for trying their hardest.

## Guardians Give Fans Exciting Season

By: Anna Shulga  
Eighth Grade

On March 28th, 2024 the MLB season officially started for the Guardians. The Guardians had a great season, winning the division and making it to the playoffs on October 5th.

However, this position wouldn't be easily earned. MLB teams have to go through spring training. This training would prepare the Guardians for a great season.

They had a great season, managing

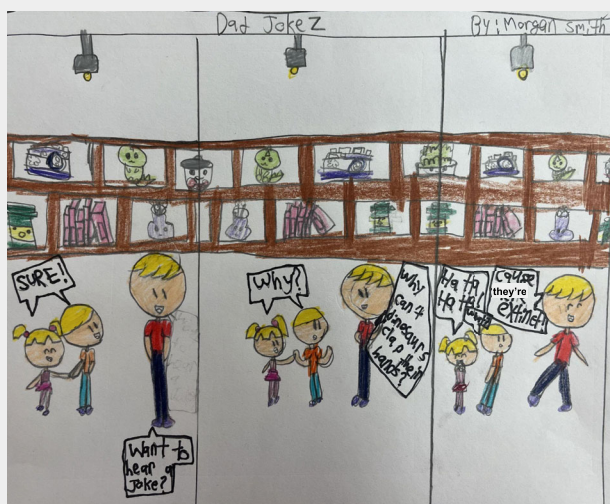
to last a long time in the Playoffs, but sadly losing on October 14th to the New York Yankees. Even with that loss, they managed to have a spectacular season.

Our 7th grade math teacher from Shiloh Middle School and baseball lover, Mr. Szeremet has said, "From the beginning of the season I thought the Guardians had a decent chance to make it back to the playoffs... They eventually won 92 games... I would love to see the Guardians improve their starting rotation."

With experts saying that the Guardians would win 70-80 games, they went over those statistics by a massive gap! This should count for a great season for the Guardians. From spring training to making it to the playoffs, we can all celebrate a successful season from the Guardians this year. It is great to see them have the skill and talent to get that far in the season.



By: Morgan Smith, Seventh Grade



By: Jayden Hopper Frazier and  
Lawson Williamson, Eighth Grade



## PS5 or Nintendo Switch???

By: **Anthony Sanchez**  
Seventh Grade

Many kids debate on whether the PS5 or Nintendo is better. Here are some of the pros and cons of the PS5 and Nintendo.

Pros of the PS5:

1. The graphics on the PS5 "are really" good.
2. Can load into games really fast
3. Dual sense controller with a built in microphone
4. Your games from the PS4 save into the PS5.
5. Can hold up to 1TB in storage.

Cons of the PS5

1. It is very big and can't travel with you on a trip.
2. The PS5 costs \$500.
3. The PS5 life cycle should last for six to seven years.
4. Some games are really expensive.
5. Takes a while to charge the controller

Pros of the Nintendo Switch:

1. The cost of the Nintendo is only \$300.
2. If you are going on a car ride then you can bring it with you.
3. Attachable and detachable joysticks.
4. Can play some games that are Nintendo exclusive

Cons of the Nintendo Switch:

1. The screen is very small
2. The Joysticks take very long to charge
3. The Joysticks are very bad
4. The Nintendo can hold up to 32GB of storage.
5. The Nintendo's battery goes down really fast.

In my opinion I think the PS5 is better because the PS5 is newer and has some better features (graphics and newer games) that the Nintendo Switch is lacking. Another benefit is the PS5 is more durable and will also last longer.



## How to be an 'It Girl' This Winter

By: **Haja Berry**  
Fifth Grade

Winter is a time we all know of and love for various reasons but do we all know how to dress for the occasion? Well let me help you. Winter is the coldest time of the year, so if you're anything like me, you are going to want to be warm and fashionable all at the same time. A crucial part to being an 'It girl' this winter is having a coat, specifically a puffer coat. Colors I would recommend are black or white to keep it simple along with boots to tackle the winter snow. Brands I would recommend are Uggs! I have a pair of my own and I can vouch they are comfortable, warm, and easy to find in store. If you are looking for a more affordable option, Bearpaw is also an amazing brand for winter boots. To finish up the outfit you might want a hat or earmuffs to cover

your hairstyles or ears from the cold, wind, or snow. Recommended colors for hats or earmuffs are light pink, white, black, or beige. When it comes to winter, color doesn't really matter much, it's more about warmth and how the items symmetry works together. Let the jewelry be the star of the show if you go for a more basic outfit with more neutral tones. And last but not most definitely not least, here's a word from our top fashion maven in 5th grade, Camryn Webbber. Her best advice for winter fashion is to always carry lipgloss since the temperature and lack of humidity can cause dry and chapped lips which is even painful to talk about! Winter fashion is inclusive to many styles and this article covers only one aspect of it. We will talk more about fashion in our next newspaper.

## Christmas Gift Ideas

By: **Camryn Weber**  
Fifth Grade

Hey PCSD!! Since Christmas is coming up, I thought some gift ideas might be helpful! For 10 year old girls, maybe some Converse or Nike Dunks, some clothes and some kid friendly skincare. For skincare brands maybe Ever Eden or Bubble, Nike Dunks should be Panda (Black and White) or their favorite color!

For 10 year old boys, possibly Legos, gaming consoles, or some type of video games. For a gaming console I recommend a PlayStation, but it really doesn't need to be super fancy. Lego sets could be Star Wars or Minecraft, and Fortnite. For any girls in sixth or seventh jewelry, phone cases, Uggs, or clothes are always good choices.. A good type of Uggs is

Tasmanian or ankle Uggs. Jewelry can be gold or silver. For any girls in sixth or seventh grade; jewelry, phone cases, Uggs, or clothes are popular.

For any boys in sixth or seventh grade Crocs, baseball caps, or video games are great ideas. I think they might like their favorite team's baseball caps! Video games are a very good gift! Eighth grade girls may want Stanley's or Owalas, Summer Fridays lip butter balm, and Summer Fridays lip oils.

Another gift idea could be perfume of any brand! Last but not least, eighth grade boys might like things like Yeezy Slides, AirPods, Nike Socks, and definitely cologne. Curve and Nautica are both good colognes!

I hope this helped and I hope you use this as a guide when Christmas shopping this season!

## What Are Those?!?!?

By **Daniel Catlin**  
Seventh Grade

Shoes are an important necessity to have in school. If you don't wear shoes to school it'd be weird. Also, you would probably be "dress coded." The most common shoes are Nike Air Force 1 Low. Look around to see how many people are wearing these shoes. "Shoes are important for fits, emotional health, and can help make friends with conversations." Jacob Kaufman says, owner of many shoes. Here are some fun facts about shoes: Did you know that high heels were originally

made for men? The oldest shoe known to man was dated back to 3500 BCE. Modern shoes are very sleek and comfortable. Back then, they were only made for protection in the wild. The #1 most popular running shoe brand is called Asics. Adidas and Puma were founded by rival brothers. Statistics say that every 8th person has over 200 shoes. Did you know that the founder of Nike actually intended the name of the company to be Dimension 6. In conclusion, shoes are a requirement to wear in school, so might as well look good while wearing them.

## Podcast Review

Emily Koch  
Fifth Grade

For Boys and Girls in 5th through 8th, I recommend the "LOL" podcast. I recommend this podcast because I think it is funny and helpful to kids our age.

The "LOL" podcast speaks openly about the mental health of students. They talk about stress and what it's like to be teenagers! Just like us. This can help you prepare in the future. I'm sure that they will help you just like they did to me. They told me to be more open to my friends. They tell you to be yourself. They are really funny too. If you are having a bad day then they can help you. They helped me become more confident in public speaking. They also helped me with my anxiety and how to not have anxiety affect my life. Last year I had a lot of anxiety about making friends, so whenever someone would come over and talk to me I would get so hot and sweaty I would just stand there. When I watch their videos, they are mostly about handling anxiety and stress. I would watch their videos and that would make me feel better.



## Best Christmas Movies to Watch During the Holidays

By **Taryn Trumble**  
Eighth Grade

Christmas is coming, so what do you want to watch? There are many Christmas movies, comedies, horror, and even ones that teach lessons. In this article, 6 Christmas movies will be explained. I will tell you the best ones to watch and what they are about without ruining it by giving spoilers.

**Home Alone**—This movie follows the main character, Kevin, as he is left home alone because his parents forgot him on vacation. It shows his adventures and robbers trying to steal his house.

**Nightmare Before Christmas**- This movie has always been questioned as if it was a Halloween or Christmas movie, I see it as both. This movie follows Jack, the pumpkin king of Halloweentown, who finds a place called Christmas Town and makes it his job to try to be Santa for Christmas.

**Frosty the Snowman** is an animated short movie about a snowman who comes alive because of a magician's hat named Frosty the Snowman. It's a nice movie to watch with your family.

**Krampus-** For horror lovers, it's a horror movie about a creature named Krampus, the opposite of Santa Claus who tried to attack naughty people, or even people who aren't naughty but have come in contact with naughty people, this movie is pg-13 so you may need parental permission.

**Elf-** A movie about a big elf who finds out he is not an elf and goes on a journey to find his dad. It's a very good comedy and fun to watch with the family.

**The Santa Claus-** The last movie on this list, it's about a family who witnesses Santa Claus's death and the dad puts on Santa's coat and becomes the new Santa. It seems weird by this explanation but it is a good movie.