



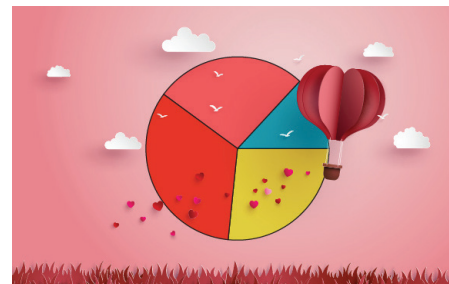
ELEMENTARY NEWS

What have some of the elementary students been up to? Go to **PAGE 3** to find out about their latest projects!



MY GRANDPARENTS: COUPLES GOALS

On **PAGE 9**, read about how both sets of Sophie Clark's grandparents have kept their marriages strong for over 120 years combined!



HIGH SCHOOLERS AND DATING: WHAT THEY REALLY WANT

Turn to **PAGE 6** to see what highschoolers want in a romantic partner!

THE INLET

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SHELTER ISLAND SCHOOL

February 2021

S.I. ISLANDERS

MAKE A COMEBACK

By Jalill Canter



After nearly a year of school sports being suspended due to COVID-19, high school sports seasons are starting back up! Without school sports, students have been left bored, frustrated, and oftentimes depressed. Getting sports back is a major event in normalizing life for high school students once again. Even if the sports seasons are not exactly "normal," hitting the gym and getting back to sports with teammates is very exciting for so many kids.

At Shelter Island School, the winter sports season is very abbreviated, with only a month of play. High school students may choose to participate in boys basketball, girls basketball, cheerleading, or winter track. The sports season that usually happens in the fall, which includes girls volleyball, cross country, and golf, will begin in March following the end of the winter sports season. Unfortunately, junior high school students will not be permitted to play sports (other than intramural) this year.

Obviously the pandemic is not over, so sports are starting back up with many new safety regulations. Players will be required to wear masks while playing, social distancing while sitting in the bleachers/on benches; and all objects

that come in contact with players must be sanitized at certain times during the game, and fans are not permitted. Suffolk County also requires students participating in sports to undergo a weekly coronavirus test. Though this might not be ideal, most students will do whatever it takes to get back to playing their favorite sports. The season will be a mix of league games and non-league games. Cheerleading also will be quite different this season: cheerleaders will not be allowed in the gymnasium at the same time players are on the court, instead they will cheer during breaks and at halftime.

The return to sports has both coaches and players ready to go. Cheerleading coach Ms. Corbett is, "so happy the students are being given the opportunity to have a season." Senior Jane Richards says, "I am extremely excited to get back in the gym. Volleyball

season is the best time of the year. Wearing the masks and getting the tests is completely worth it if it means we get to play again. I've been waiting all year for this!" Varsity basketball coach Mr. Miedema takes it a bit further saying, "I've been released from solitary confinement!" After all, he continues, "All good things are wild and free."

For the class of 2021, these final seasons will be the last time many of them put on a jersey, so the return to sports is more than just a chance to play, it is a chance to make memories and get a little bit of normalcy back.

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RE-MOTIVATING

BY MYLA DOUGHERTY

When thinking about what to write my editorial on for this issue, I was struggling. While I am usually excited to write my editorial because it can be on anything that interests me, I couldn't come up with an idea. Even with suggestions from Mrs. Treharne (thank you!), it was harder than usual to just start writing. I couldn't find the motivation within myself. I've realized that this lack of motivation is a larger problem facing many of us during the pandemic. Many of my friends and classmates have also expressed that they don't feel as motivated as they used to, and have found it harder to do the things they need to do. As many others around me have remarked, every day feels the same: wake up, go to school, trudge through your work, go to sleep, and do it all over again. This year with the lack of activities and events that we have to look forward to, there can seem to be no end in sight to the pandemic, especially for us young adults who are missing out on so much. In a time when things can change at any moment, it's difficult to have any kind of expectation for what the future looks like, and this can be very discouraging.

The combination of identical days and an unguessable future can make it hard to do necessary work. So how do we gain back some of the motivation we've lost?

The lack of motivation for many of us can feel like laziness, and can be frustrating when we genuinely want to be able to work hard. Getting frustrated by your lack of motivation can be counterproductive however. If you believe you are not doing enough, and get angry with yourself, you could be contributing to your demotivation. Stress and anxiety are two things that have been heightened during the pandemic, and they kill inspiration. By adding the stress of worrying about keeping up, we are making it harder to actually do so. If we want to feel better and try to gain back some productivity, we need to accept and acknowledge that it's okay not to feel motivated. So many people these days are feeling the same way, and it's perfectly normal. By doing this, we can alleviate some stress, and the pressure to work at the same pace we used to be able to work at, because it's okay to be working at a different pace.

Combatting the intensified stress and

anxiety during these times is important in helping us regain motivation. One way to do this is to look to your support system, whether that is your friends, family, or teachers, who can give you coping mechanisms for the stress we are all dealing with. After quarantine, I think we've all realized how important human interaction is for our mental health and stress levels, so being able to be in school is definitely helping to alleviate some of that stress. Taking small breaks from work to relax and refocus can also reduce some of the stress and anxiety caused by pressure to complete work. By reminding ourselves that we are capable, and by relaxing, we can regain motivation and reduce stress.

Unlike the beginning of the pandemic, where everything felt like chaos and it was important to establish a routine, now we are almost at the year mark, and our routines are causing a different kind of stress. The sameness of every day can be depressing, and is a large factor in the loss of motivation. With sports coming back, we are gaining some more normalcy in our lives, and some breaks in the monotony of pandemic life.

Games and practices give us something to look forward to, and can help motivate us not only to participate in sports, but also in other aspects of our lives. It's things like this, things that we enjoy, that can help us gain some inspiration in our lives. Finding things we like and want to do that can help break up the routines we've fallen into, can give us the inspiration we need to do the things we have to do. And, no, I don't mean watching that same show you've watched 20 times, or playing your favorite video game again, try something new! Even some things you like to do can become part of the routine that's holding you down, so look for something different that can give you some joy and inspiration and break up the uniformity.

Though we want to, we can't go back to life like it was before just yet, so don't expect your mind to be able to perform as it used to, and your motivation to be at the same level as before either. If you aren't feeling motivated, take a break, do something you love, and come back to your work, it will still be there for you.

SENIOR THESIS TOPICS 2021

BY CALEB LAMBERT

It is that time of year again! The seniors are hard at work on their thesis papers, which will culminate in Oral Comprehensive Exam presentations. It is always interesting to learn what seniors choose to research each year, so read on to find out!

Jason Green: While running is widely considered a healthy and positive activity, there are negative long-term consequences of the sport that need to be exposed.

Zeb Mundy: Anxiety is categorized as a debilitating disorder that must be treated so the patient does not suffer; however, anxiety can be useful to those affected by it in that they develop skills of keen observation, intuition, and pattern interpretation.

Wyatt Congdon: Contrary to the popular belief that engine building is merely putting parts together, it is actually a highly complex, mathematical process.

Daniel Schultheis: Public schools should have a mandatory morning period of wellness practices including meditation, exercise, peer groups, reading and art, based on the many benefits these practices provide.

Matthew Strauss: The mental health benefits of physical fitness exceed the benefits to one's physical health.

Lydia Shepherd: Teachers should be trained in the theory of "Multiple Intelligences," and schools should be required to teach according to students' specific learning styles.

Aroldo Pantaleon Castro: Social media has lasting negative effects on teens. Teens must be educated on these dangers, and steps must be taken to address them.

Caleb Lambert: Orcas should not be held in captivity as forms of entertainment due to the stress inflicted upon them and the detriment to their health.

Victor Costa: The American public school system has much to learn from the Finnish school model. Therefore, public schools in the U.S. should model themselves after schools in Finland.

Bradley Batten: In addition to the regular high school curriculum, Microsoft Excel should be mandatory for students in grades 10-12 due to the demand for this program in the workplace.

James Lupo: U.S. gas and oil companies have prevented the electric car market from developing and expanding. Measures must be taken to let electric car technology freely develop so that natural resources can be conserved.

Jane Richards: Jane Austen's novel *Pride and Prejudice* innovated the story architecture for the cinematic romantic comedy genre.

Emma Teodoru: Media regularly depicts characters with mental illnesses as villains, thus creating false stigmas for those who suffer from mental illnesses.

Theo Olinkiewicz: 3D printing needs more regulations to protect its users and benefit society in an ethical and responsible way.

Tyler Gulluscio: The professionalization of high school sports is detrimental to the mental health of teens.

Brandon Velasquez: First generation Hispanic immigrant high school and college students are part of "the immigration paradox" which makes them vulnerable to mental illnesses of which educational communities must be more aware.

Nicholas Mamisashvili: Quantum computers will exceed classical computers in subsequent generations.

Emma Martinez: LGBTQ Youth: Why they are more at risk for mental health disorders and how schools should help.

Jalill Carter: Students should receive regularly-scheduled mandatory mental health counseling/therapy in public schools.

Grace Olinkiewicz: Phthalates affect the human body in a variety of negative ways. These dangers must be identified and made known so that they can be monitored and avoided.

We would love to hear from you!
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A TRIBUTE TO AMANDA GORMAN AND BLACK HISTORY MONTH
BY EMMA MARTINEZ

There are countless ways to observe Black History Month, a month dedicated to celebrating African American culture, music, art, fashion, literature, and more. After being so moved by Amanda Gorman’s inaugural poem “The Hill We Climb,” I felt compelled to compose a companion poem of my own. With this poem, I hope to honor Ms. Gorman, the inspiration she sparked in me, and to recognize Black History Month in my own small way

THE GROWTH
OF A FLOWER

by Emma Martinez



When day comes, we ask ourselves, where can we find light in this never-ending shade?
We reread our history books expecting to learn, yet we experience the same events now.
We’ve entered combat that clash with our conceited consciences.
We’ve ignored our people who plead with pain. We falsely force back foreign figures.
We complain and argue almost everyday amongst ourselves--who matters and who doesn’t?
No one had an answer at that hour.
The world was ours, yes, but we could not decide who deserves to share it.
We began to tear it apart with our bare, desperate hands.
Our beautiful differences are what makes this earth spin, they are gifts bestowed upon us not meant to chagrin.
Yet, we were all hidden behind headstrong hypocrisy and we could not agree that all life is equal.
We seemed to search for some sign to start a struggle, an argument, a reason for division.
And there we were, fighting our family and friends from day-to-day, causing counterproductive conflict:
a Divided States of America.

Then it entered--the threat of war, followed by a flaming fire that filled the forests of a dry land.
The infamous impeachment, etched into our memories, of an immoral man.
The shattering word: pandemic. That word crushed our country with panic and perturbation.
We were flooded with fear and devoured by uncertainty. We laid alone in our voids.
Then the moment struck to take to the streets for a long-lasting fight for the justice of our brothers and sisters of color, where we read about, marched for, and shared the message of equality.
Soon we would use our power, to help grow the flower that our beautiful earth is, to VOTE.
And we did not fall short.
We the people accepted the noble, nurturing words of our new president
and felt a shift in the atmosphere.

In this era of new promises, we must hold ourselves accountable for past catastrophes.
We are the makers of history, molding it like clay to fit into the palms of our hands.
This is our story, the one we write, edit, and reread.
Welcome all to our new chapter where we take our earth
and wrap her in our handwoven blanket of hope and prosperity.
We live off of each other’s energy, so why not produce the most positive and passionate of auras?
Take a deep breath and admire this deserved peace.
When day comes, we step out of the shade aflame and unafraid.
If you are an advocate for change and you see none,
rid yourself from complaints and thoughts of what “ they could have done.”
If you see no change, do it.
If you see no change, be it.

ELEMENTARY NEWS
BY AROLD PANTALEON

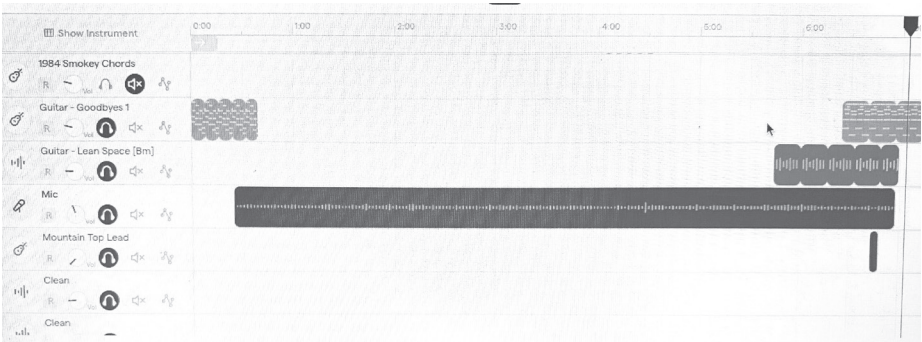


PHOTO BY MRS. TREHARNE
A VISUAL OF WHAT A PODCAST LOOKS LIKE WHEN IT IS PLAYING ON THE PROGRAM 5TH GRADERS USED TO CREATE THEIR OWN.

6TH GRADE PODCASTERS!

In the week school returned from winter break, Ms. Yirce and Mrs. Farkas teamed up to host a “podcast listening party” to reward their 5th graders for their hard work. The 5th grade class recently completed a podcast project which required them to produce personal narrative podcasts. Final podcasts had run times of between 2.5-6 minutes. Ms. Yirce supported students with their scripts, while Mrs. Farkas assisted with audio and music content. Each student decided on a story they wanted to tell in podcast form. Jasper Samuelson’s podcast was about “when over the summer I got a new sailboat.” Lily Brigham’s was decidedly less cheery and tells the story of “how once it was snowing and the other class could go outside, but we couldn’t go outside like the other class.” Danielle Rasmussen’s podcast started tensely about “the time my dog bit my dad,” but it had a happy ending, with Danielle “cuddling her dog and it learning its lesson.” Students enjoyed podcast production thoroughly and shared why: Makayla Cronin loved “hearing how different everyone’s stories were,” while Violet Simms liked “hearing how other people describe things.” Danielle Rasmussen agreed with Violet, saying, “others’ ideas give me ideas for new stories!” Alma Metlitsky found “adding the sound effects and music and making it [the podcast] different and special” her favorite part of the project. Ryan Sanwald enjoyed how “when you record your voice, it sounds a lot different than you expect it to.” These 5th graders, with

the help of their innovative teachers, found new ways to share personal narratives that utilized technology, writing skills, and creativity. Great job, 5th grade!

1ST GRADERS LEARN ABOUT
NATIVE AMERICANS

1st graders in both Mrs. Woods and Ms. Regan’s classes have completed research culminating in projects about Native Americans. According to Mrs. Woods, “Students learned about how Native Americans used natural resources to build their homes and how throughout the United States Native American homes look differently based on where they lived and the natural resources available to them in nature.” Students also learned about land and water features (oceans, lakes, rivers, hills, mountains) and cardinal directions. Bella Cronin proudly showed off her project and shared that her “favorite part was using clay and mixing the clay colors together.” She also explained that she never knew that Native Americans “had different kinds of houses.” Noah Lava also really liked “using clay for my houses,” while he learned that Native Americans were “really old people.” Tess Metlitsky’s favorite Native American dwelling was her “Earth mound” and she learned “how Native Americans made their houses and how different life was back then.” These first grade projects were informative, creative, and colorful! So cool, 1st grade!



BACK IN BUSINESS

BY JALILL CARTER

Math teacher Mr. Theinert has introduced a new class this year for Shelter Island students to experience: Virtual Enterprise. Virtual Enterprise is a course in which students create a fictional company to “run” and learn all the ins and outs of the corporate world. During a class like this, students become “employees” of their own “company.” Businesses in Virtual Enterprise classes have mock budgets and assign various corporate positions to class members. Shelter Island’s V.E. class has created a company called Zap Tech this year. Zap Tech stands for “zero accessibility platform,” and “is designing and producing” a product which improves wireless charging.

In V.E. class, the daily schedule almost never the same. Employees of Zap Tech are assigned tasks that are due at a certain time of the week. Different parts of the company are responsible for different things; Zap

Tech has accounting, finance, sales, marketing, design, information technology, and human resources departments. The seven groups all work together to make the best of their business plans. When running a busy company, there always needs to be someone in charge. This year there are actually two: co-CEOs and seniors Junior Gil and Tyler Gulluscio hold the leadership roles at Zap Tech. Junior Gil says, “It’s great and fun to replicate an entire business from scratch and build it up, and it’s a career-oriented class, so if you’re interested, you should look into it.” Tyler Gulluscio loves the camaraderie of the class and the Zap Tech project, saying, “It’s our responsibility to encourage others to do their best. We have a group of awesome, hardworking homies, so we make sure to have as much fun as we do success.”

Of course, when you are operating

a business, opportunities to build relationships with other companies are also very important. The purpose of working with other companies is to make sure your business is relevant and recognized. In other words, for a business to be truly successful, allies and partnerships are key. Zap Tech cooperates with business partners from other schools to learn even more; a few of the other V.E. business collabs Zap Tech has going are with Summit Energy drinks, Baconology, and Apollo.

Students in Virtual Enterprise even participate in mock trade shows. A trade show is when a business meets up with other businesses from different regions or local areas to showcase their products. Due to COVID-19 restrictions this year, students are participating in virtual trade shows along with other local school districts’ V.E. classes. At the trade shows, a variety

of businesses showcase their products, starting with their sales pitches. Everyone knows that when you want to sell something, you have to state a great sales pitch! After that, the customer would make a decision deciding whether or not they would like to make a purchase. Senior Brandon Velasquez feels, “The trade show is a great experience to communicate with other schools, it gives you better learning opportunities.”

Virtual Enterprise is a unique and exciting new addition to the course offerings at Shelter Island School. Students with an interest in business, marketing, or anything related to those fields, should definitely consider taking it. Not only does V.E. teach real life skills, it does so in a cooperative learning environment that makes learning fun and exciting!

STEPPING AWAY FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

BY MYLA DOUGHERTY

Social media has become an ever increasing part of many of our lives. It can be fun and entertaining, as well as a tool that allows for easy communication and the sharing of information and ideas, but can it also be detrimental to our health and well-being. Teenagers especially tend to get wrapped up in the world of social media, and it can begin to dictate our lives, how we spend our time, and can take a toll on our mental health. Some Shelter Island students have been taking breaks from social media in order to improve some of the issues caused by it.

A few months ago, the junior class was discussing how social media had become a detrimental part of our lives during Spanish class. “We all felt like something was off because of our social media use,” said Valeria Reyes. Franny Regan added, “we talked about how we were wasting so much time and not doing our work, which just ended up making our work take so much longer.” The class spent the period discussing how the pandemic had magnified our addiction to social media, and how our mental health was suffering. This conversation inspired a few juniors to take breaks from social media to see what would improve.

Valeria Reyes is one of the juniors who wanted to try breaking away from social media. For Valeria, the problem was with the apps Instagram and TikTok, because of which she was “procrastinating my work and doing it last minute due to going on my phone and being on TikTok for hours.” Valeria also said that her “Screen Time” (an iPhone feature that displays how much time is spent on your phone and on what apps) was incredibly high. She made the decision to quit TikTok and Instagram because “if I had nothing to do or didn’t want to do my homework, I went on the apps and I didn’t realize how much time was passing. I just was checking them constantly.” Valeria also commented on some of the ills that come with social media. “Being on these

apps makes you compare yourself to other people, and makes you think that what you’re doing isn’t as good as others, and it’s not healthy,” she explained. Valeria’s life away from social media does, however, seem healthier. She has been taking breaks on and off for about 3 months, and says that it’s been pretty easy to stop using social media, which may be because “I’ve been watching Netflix instead, which also might not be healthy, but I can multitask while I’m watching shows.” Valeria does add that it’s harder to not open social media on the weekends. One big improvement has been in Valeria’s sleep schedule: “I’m not staying up really late anymore because I put down my phone at a reasonable time, which helps me go to bed earlier.” Another significant change is that Valeria doesn’t “have to rely on my phone to entertain me anymore,” and has more time for other things in her life. She says that she would recommend taking a break from social media because “it’s a good refresher and reminder to not always be on your phone and to engage with the people around you, and it helps you get things done.”

Dayla Reyes decided to take a break from TikTok after her sister Valeria and other classmates did as well. She ended up quitting the app for about two weeks, but came back to it because “I had been really productive and finished all my work, and had nothing else to do.” At first, she said, staying away from TikTok was difficult: “I always wanted to open it compulsively, so I had to take it off the home screen on my phone.” Despite the difficulty, Dayla saw a lot of change in how she spent her time: “Instead of procrastinating, I caught up on my work and tried to get ahead of it so I wasn’t stressed out. I also watched a lot of Netflix.” During her break from TikTok, Dayla’s “Screen Time” went down from 8 to 2 hours a day! With this extra time, Dayla said, “I talked to my parents more, because I’m usually in my room, but my boredom

made me come out of my room.” She even tried to convince her parents to quit TikTok as well, “but they said no.” Dayla did have one exception to her break from TikTok, which was that she could make videos, because her problem with the app was the time she spent scrolling through other’s videos, and she still wanted to enjoy making her own videos. On the negative aspects of social media, Dayla said: “there’s a lot of comparing yourself to other people, which can be really harmful. Also, young kids are getting phones so early, and are easily influenced by what they see on social media, which isn’t good.” Though Dayla isn’t currently on a social media break, she said she may try it again “during the school week, because it helps me focus on my work.” She adds that she would recommend trying breaks from social media to others “because it’s good to look away from our phones and focus on what’s in front of us.”

I was also inspired by our conversation in Spanish class to quit TikTok and Instagram. During quarantine I fell into a habit of spending way too much time on these apps because there wasn’t much else to do. Summer helped me get out of this habit, but once school started back up again, I began to fall back into it. It was a way for me to procrastinate schoolwork and was taking up way too much of my time that could have been better spent doing something productive. I also felt that TikTok had shortened my attention span and made it harder for me to focus. So, I deleted TikTok and Instagram and have been on a break for about three months. It was difficult in the beginning, and I found myself opening my phone a lot to look for the apps even though they were gone, but now I find that I use my phone much less in general and pick it up less often when I am bored. The time I gained back from social media has allowed me to do more of the things I enjoy, like making art and reading, but I also have watched way more Netflix than is healthy.

My attention span and focus have improved, and I feel more on top of my schoolwork. I’m planning on continuing my break from these apps, and I would urge others to try taking a break, even if it’s just for a day, to see what improves.

Senior Jane Richards has also been taking a break from social media, and has deleted the apps TikTok, Instagram, and VSCO. She says she decided to start this because “I was spending a lot of time on social media, and it wasn’t very productive.” For Jane, it’s been “easier than I thought” to step away from social media, saying that “once I stopped I didn’t have cravings for the apps, but I definitely did replace them with Netflix.” Quitting these apps has given Jane more free time in which she’s been able to do other things she likes, like reading, watching shows, and even just talking to her family more. The biggest change Jane has seen is in her ability to focus: “I’m able to stay focused longer, and I don’t have to take breaks every 5 minutes while doing homework.” Before, Jane felt as though most of the time she spent on social media wasn’t even fun, and was only to fill up time. Now, “when I’m on the ferry I actually look outside instead of looking at Instagram. I’m looking at real life instead of filling up tiny amounts of time.” When talking about the negativity of social media, Jane said though it wasn’t a problem for her, she “could see how it could become extremely harmful.” Jane has been off of social media for three months and is “definitely going to continue.” She doesn’t believe everyone has to “go cold turkey, delete everything, and stop using social media completely, but periodic breaks could be beneficial.”

Think about your own relationship with social media, is it a positive one? If not, maybe consider taking a break and see how it feels. Maybe you’ll find some benefits!

PLANT MOMS & LANDSCAPE DADS: WHAT A FEW OF OUR HORTICULTURALLY INCLINED ALUMNI HAVE TO SAY ABOUT MAKING YOUR GARDENS GROW

BY JANE RICHARDS

The ongoing changes made due to the coronavirus outbreak have forced our school and community to put a hold on our usual activities; this has left a lot of people feeling bored and restless. So, here is something to help cure a little of our quarantine boredom: plant care! I know it might not sound that exciting, but once you hear what two of our school's alumni have to say about their, as Walter Richards puts it, "passionate love for plants," you might change your mind.

For Lauren Gurney, Class of 2020 Shelter Island Alumni, being a plant mom has consumed her life. What is a plant mom you may ask? A plant mom is someone who owns a significant number of indoor plants and cares for them deeply. When asked about the plant mom lifestyle, Lauren said, "I feel like for me, being a plant mom is all about the learning of taking care of plants. I find it super interesting how each plant works and how they all have their own necessities, which can be crazy at times, but still fun nonetheless." Lauren was introduced to indoor plant care by her cousin, another Shelter Island Alumni, Camryn Page. Two years ago Camryn gave her her first plant, and her collection has only grown since then. Lauren adds enthusiastically, "I still have that spider plant!" In the time her collection has grown, she has acquired roughly 40 plants, but she notes that she only takes about 18 of those with her when she goes up to college at the University of Maine. Of these 40 plants, her favorite is the *Monstera Deliciosa* because of the unique way the leaves split.

Lauren is a pro, and has been practicing the art of indoor plant care for a while now, but for us beginners she suggests: "Start off with a big plant, which usually tends to be easier to take care of, because they're well rooted." She also recommends browsing Reddit for any questions you might have, or advice you might need. She explains, "Reddit is a really helpful tool, you can join plant

groups and if something's going wrong with your plant, there's most likely a person on there who can tell you how to fix it." Another highlight is that you can use indoor plants as decor, but there are some accommodations that you must make when you design where you are going to set up your plant family, according to Lauren. "Certain plants need more light than others, so I use grow lights to cover that, especially in the winter. Also, you are supposed to move your plants further back from windows due to the cold temperatures which when really bad could cause frost damage." Lauren also warns against going for a succulent right away because they're harder to take care of than you may think. However, succulents aren't the most difficult to deal with, and after you get some experience, they are a really great addition to your indoor garden. The most difficult plants to take care of in Lauren's opinion are orchids. "They're very picky with the amount of water they need, but they also don't show warning signs as much as other plants do." A typical plant "warning sign" is when leaves start to turn yellow or brown, that's how you know there's a problem. Despite these sometimes frustrating plants, Lauren prefers indoor to outdoor plant care because she can have a bigger array of plants inside. She explains that "because New York is in zone 7, you can't really plant any tropical plants outside because they'll just die once the temperature begins to go down, whereas tropical plants inside will survive year round." With Lauren's expert advice, you now have the basics to start your new life as an indoor plant mom!

If the plant mom lifestyle doesn't sound like the right fit, Walter Richards, also a Class of 2020 Shelter Island Alumni, is a full-time landscaper, studying landscape contracting at SUNY Cobleskill. Walter discovered landscaping at a very young age because his father owns a landscaping business, which Walter has been a part of since he could

walk. Walter describes outdoor plant care as being generally pretty simple, however it gets a little more complicated when you live on Shelter Island. His first piece of advice to local landscape beginners is: "it's all about deer-resistance. If you plant plants that are not deer resistant, you are essentially just buying food for the deer." He says if you look at local properties, you can see that the most common plants are boxwoods or privet hedges, because these are the ones that don't get eaten. He says that it's important to be aware of how much you are watering your plants. He notes that "in the summer time especially, we tend to drought a lot here, so keeping water on them is good, but not too much water, because you don't want to drown your plants either." Lastly, he notes that the soil plays a huge role in your landscape success. "The healthier the soil, the healthier the plants." Walter explains that outdoor plant care is often easier than indoor plant care because there are a lot of natural factors that aid in the plant growth. The example he gives is: "if you plant something outdoors and then ignore it, chances are it will survive, whereas if you plant an indoor plant and never water it, it is going to die." He does agree with Lauren that the advantage to indoor plant care is that you are not limited to plants that can survive in Shelter Island's outside environment.

As for landscape design, the biggest thing that Walter says is that "you need to remember how big plants get." He says people often try to get results as quickly as they can, so they will plant multiple big trees right on top of each other. This is a big mistake because the trees cannot grow when they are so close together, so within two or three years of planting them they will kill each other. He says to keep the same thing in mind when planting near your house: "usually professionals will tell you that you need to look up its mature size

and then account for that." He says that if you plant a tree next to your house, but its mature size is 90 feet tall, the tree is going to grow into your house. He also adds that there are ways around it, "if you commit to the expense of cutting it every year, then sure, you can plant whatever you want, but if you want a maintenance-free landscape, you have to account for these kinds of things." Walter shares that his favorite trees are the big white pines or "*Pinus Strobus*" to be technical, because he has a big grove of them in his backyard. He also likes river birches, "because they have a really cool exfoliating bark, that's *Betula Nigra*." As for landscape plants, despite the "weird smell that their leaf releases," he really loves the boxwood bush because you can sculpt them into whatever size or shape you want. While in school, he learned that the most difficult to work with is the box elder tree (or *Acer Negundo*, by the way). He says, "this is because it has a weedy appearance and it is not very stable either, it is constantly breaking and falling apart." And for plants, his least favorite is "tall grasses in general because, first they are invasive, and second they are difficult to maintain."

The beauty of the plant care hobby is that you can experiment with both indoor and outdoor plants, and there is such a variety to choose from that you are sure to find something you like. Whether you become a plant mom like Lauren or a landscape specialist like Walter, a new plant care hobby is a great long term cure to the COVID blues.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-CARE

BY CALEB LAMBERT

During these pandemic times when everything feels more stressful, self-care has never been more important. Many people think "self-care" is just a contemporary buzzword, but it is actually an important activity people should understand and value. Self-care can range from elaborate activities like a planned spa day, to the simplest things, like establishing a routine. There are also many types of self care: mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual.

Self-care is all about taking a few minutes out of a busy day to pay attention to yourself and recharge in some manner. Small

examples of self-care could be lighting your favorite candles after a long day, taking a bubble bath, establishing a sleep routine that recharges you, keeping a journal, practicing meditation/yoga, or having a healthy diet. Leaving space for other things you might like is also an important aspect of self-care. I personally enjoy listening to music when I am feeling stressed or when I feel I need to pay a little extra attention to myself. Senior Grace Olinkiewicz's favorite way to practice self-care is to remember not to skip a meal. Senior Emma Martinez practices self-care with "meditation,

walking, baths with candles and crystals, and skincare." Sophomore Mary Gennari likes going "on long walks, hanging out with friends, sleeping, and watching Netflix." Eighth graders Janet Carbajal and Danae Carter also understand the importance of self-care. Danae enjoys "baking because it gives me an activity to focus on and get my mind off of other things." Janet is lucky enough to live near the beach, so that is where she heads when she needs a few moments to herself because, she says, "I love the sound of the waves, they are relaxing."

If we do not take the time to build moments of self-care into our schedules, it can cause an imbalance in our lives. I think that self-care should be a part of our schedules because it can improve mental health better, make us feel happier, and make our bodies healthier. Self-care can give you the motivation to do things on days you don't want to do anything and can heal you on the days when you have done too much.

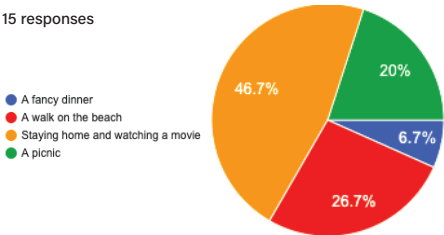
HIGH SCHOOLERS AND DATING: WHAT THEY REALLY WANT

By Valeria Reyes

Are you single and ready to mingle? We polled a group of high school students about their dating preferences...see below to give yourself an education.

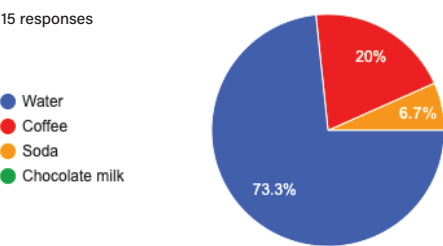
1. Which best describes your ideal date?

15 responses



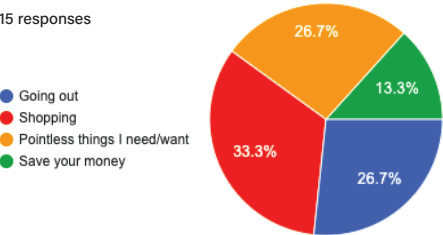
2. What is your favorite drink?

15 responses



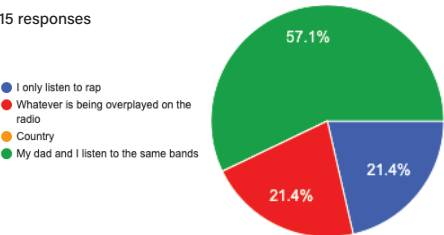
3. What do you spend most of your money on?

15 responses



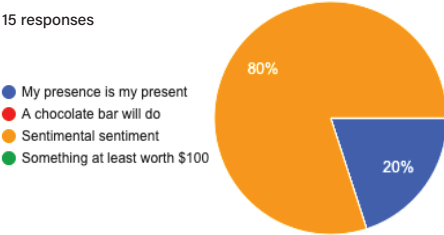
4. How would you describe your musical taste?

15 responses



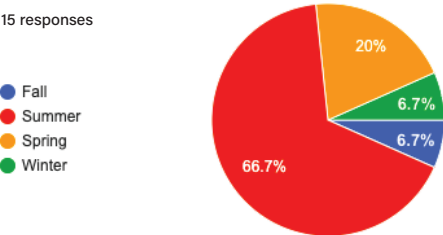
5. What would you give as an anniversary gift?

15 responses



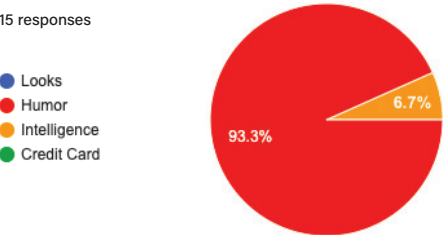
6. What is your favorite season?

15 responses



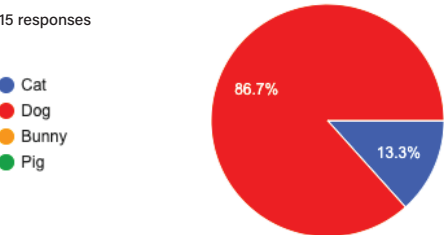
7. What do you look for in a partner?

15 responses



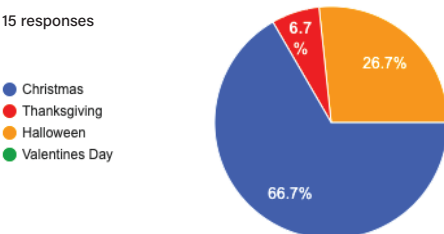
8. What is your favorite pet?

15 responses



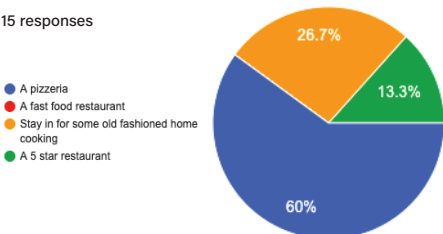
9. What is your favorite Holiday?

15 responses



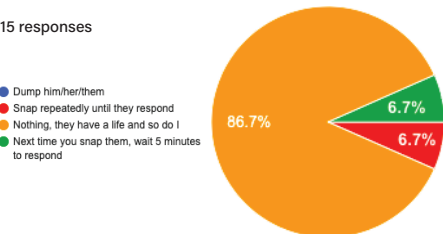
10. Where would you want to go on a date?

15 responses



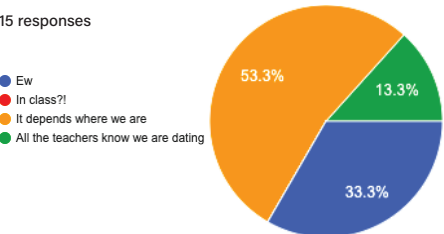
11. If bae doesn't respond to your text / Snapchat in 5 minutes, what is your reaction?

15 responses



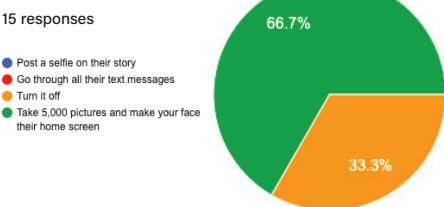
12. What is your opinion on PDA?

15 responses



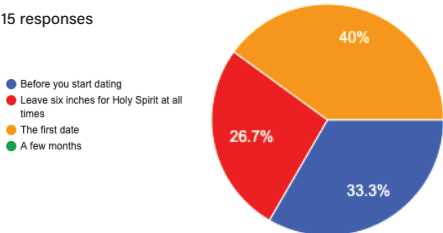
13. Your partner leaves their phone unlocked on the couch, what do you do?

15 responses



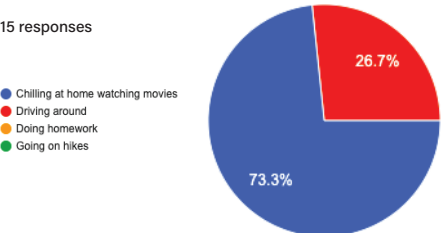
14. When is the right time to start kissing?

15 responses



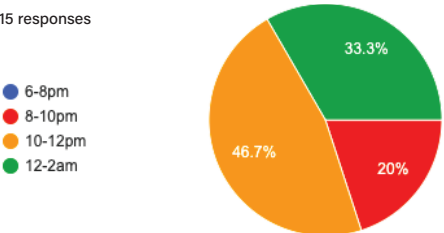
15. After getting in an established relationship, what do regular date nights look like?

15 responses



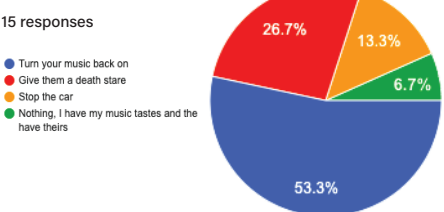
16. What is your curfew?

15 responses



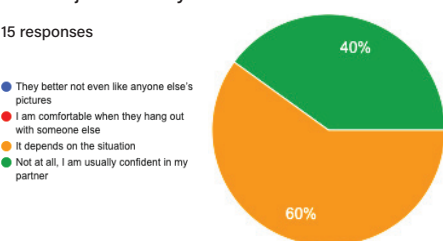
17. Your partner turns off your music, what do you do?

15 responses



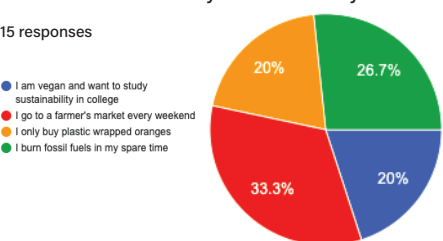
18. How jealous are you?

15 responses



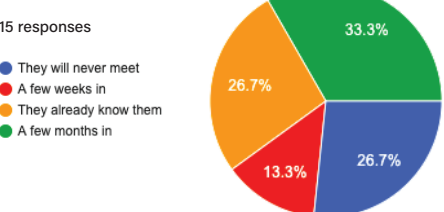
19. How environmentally conscious are you?

15 responses



20. When is a good time to introduce your partner to your parents?

15 responses



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

BY AROLDO PANTALEON CASTRO

The winter is the perfect time to cozy up with a new read. We asked around for some recommendations... maybe there is something you should add to your TBR (to be read) list below!

JALILL CARTER (GRADE 12): “Mamba Mentality: How I Play by Kobe Bryant. First, I would recommend this book because he did pass away and he had a lot of personal experience you can learn about reading this and because the way he thinks and how he played basketball was just not the same as everyone else.”

MRS.TREHARNE (ENGLISH TEACHER): “The Snow Child by Eowyn Ivey is a book I loved. It is set in Alaska and I loved the descriptions of the landscape and the homesteading lifestyle. I also got very attached to the characters. The book has a magical realism aspect to it that I really enjoyed.”

JANE RICHARDS (GRADE 12): “I would recommend Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen because it is a classic and it is one of those stories that when the end comes, you don't want to keep reading. Even though it is an older book, it is easy to follow and has a fun storyline.”

MYLA DOUGHERTY (GRADE 11): “I recently read Stephen King's new collection of short stories If It Bleeds, and I would recommend it to anyone who likes the strange and creepy. It was fun to read because you get a few different storylines and a whole lot of characters to enjoy, and the settings of the stories are more modern than King's classics.”

NURSE MARY (SCHOOL NURSE): “A Time for Mercy by John Grisham. This is a story about a boy who killed his mom's boyfriend who was also a cop. The boy killed him because he thought the man beat up his mother and killed her. The boy is charged with murder and there are twists and turns... it is a good page turner.”

MS.MAYO (ENL TEACHER): “Plants over Processed by Andrea Hannemann. It's an informative cookbook, so I would recommend it to anyone who wants to eat healthier meals.”

MS.LANG (GUIDANCE SECRETARY): “Before We Were Yours by Lisa Wingale. It's just a great story about families and never losing hope.”

EMMA MARTINEZ (12 GRADE): “The DaVinci Code by Dan Brown. It is difficult to read at times, but it keeps you on the edge of your seat and teaches you to ‘put puzzle pieces together.’”





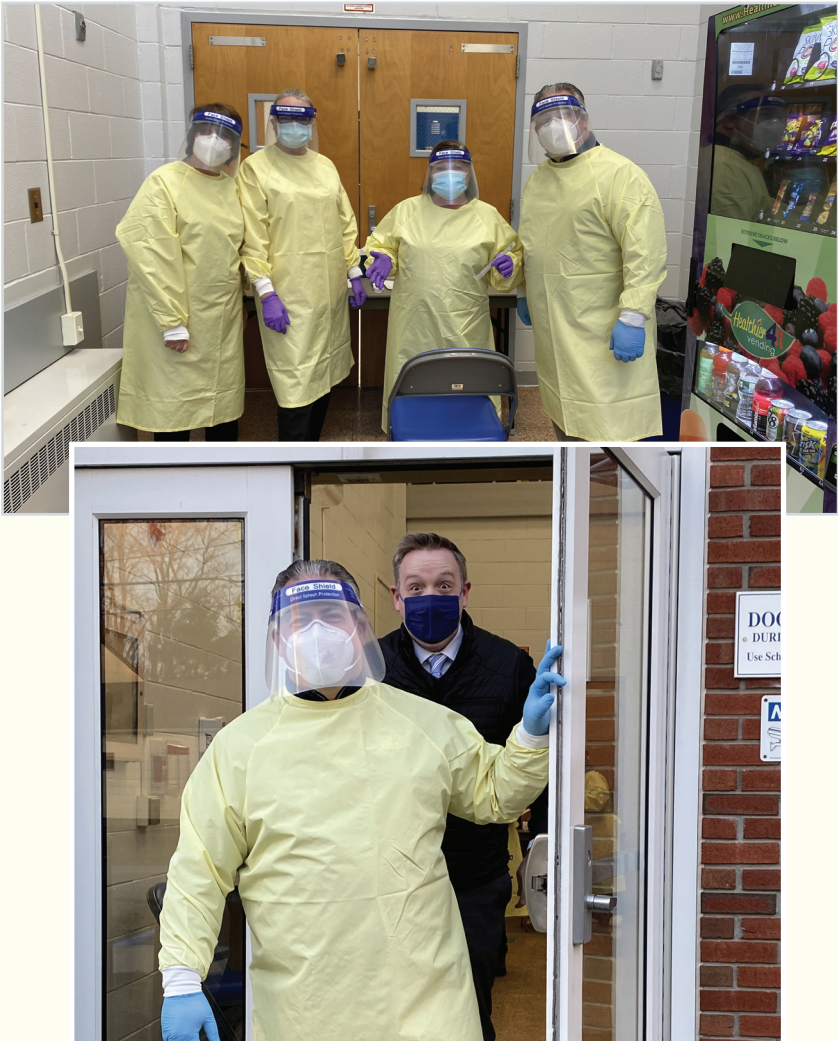
Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs. Manarel, our school's Preschool / Reading teacher! Austin Ross Manarel was born on January 25th at 10:16am. Baby Austin was born 8 pounds and 15 ounces and 19 inches. Austin is the first baby for Mrs. Manarel and her husband, and we wish them the best of luck!



COVID TESTING

On January 19th and 25th, Shelter Island School tested a total of 60 students, staff, and faculty for COVID-19. The school was overjoyed to report 0 positive cases. Dr. Doelger, along with Nurse Mary Kanarvogel, Mrs. Chrys Kestler, Mrs. Donna Clark, and Mr. Todd Gulluscio coordinated testing efforts. A big thank you to all who participated.



If the shoe fits...

By Franny Regan

Our shoes are something that often identify us. Everyone remembers Dr. Emmett and his red hightop Converse sneakers. We thought it might be fun to see how hard it is to guess the person by their footwear. Below are some of the most colorful and unique shoes we could find...can you match them to their owners? After you are done, turn to **PAGE 3** to check your answers!

DAYLA REYES | MRS.FARKAS | OLIVIA OVERSTREET | NURSE MARY | ALFIE BRIGHAM | ZEB MUNDY | MRS. LEEVER | LEONARDO DOUGHERTY | VALERIA REYES | MR. BRIGHAM



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



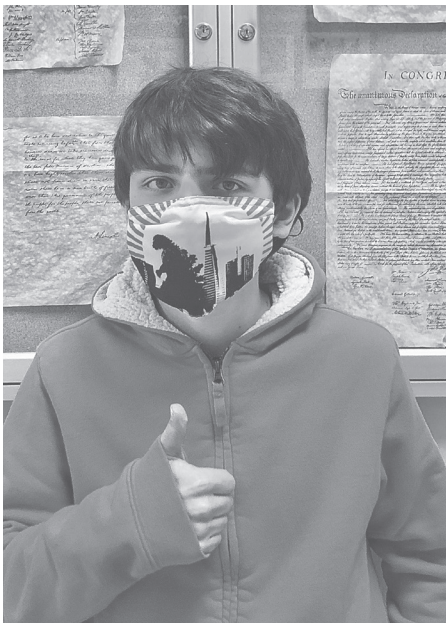
10

SCHACK ATTACK
EMMA MARTINEZ

Who is a dinosaur expert, author of a novel about Godzilla, and names orange as his favorite color? If you guessed Evan Schack, you guessed correctly! A 16 year old junior, Evan spends almost all of his free time unleashing his unmatched creativity by writing stories. Evan has written two whole books so far, and around 10 unfinished drafts. “Of course, the next step--getting the books published and out there--is going to be hard, but for right now I’m enjoying being creative as I write,” Evan says. He says that his favorite story that he’s written so far is called “Mutants” and is about “a mutant monster in a group of other monsters, who after the birth of another mutant, whom he develops a deep affection for, is torn between his feelings and his duty as he encounters hardship after hardship.” Evan made it clear that he usually struggles with first-person narrative, seeing as he’s a very descriptive author and a big fan of imagery, but with “Mutants,” he nailed it. He would love to turn his after-school hobby into a legitimate career, and to inspire other writers to channel their

imaginations, Evan does. When he isn’t writing, Evan loves to spend time with his English Black Labrador, Chelsea. He has had 2 dogs, some guinea hens, an “uncountable number of chickens,” and very briefly--a snake. He obviously loves animals, and admits that if a writing career doesn’t work out for him, he would love to work with animals or another nature-related job. Where does the color orange come in? If you’ve ever walked through the school halls and noticed a thick Godzilla face mask and an iconic orange zip-up hoodie, you’ve seen Evan Schack. Evan’s orange sweatshirts are a trademark, and even he admits that he doesn’t think he has enough. “A lot of beautiful things in nature tend to be orange,” he explains. “Such as the rising and setting of the sun, and oranges are one of the best fruits (in my biased opinion).” Evan’s love for animals and writing has influenced him immeasurably, but there’s another detail about him that everyone has been curious about for a long time--where did his admiration for Godzilla start? Evan says that it began

years back, when he was 6 years old and happily trotting around a movie store with his parents. They supposedly picked up a movie called “Godzilla vs. The Sea Monster,” and Evan’s eyes grew wide. “My parents saw a rubber dinosaur fighting a stiffly constructed giant lobster. I saw an ancient god known as Godzilla battling his ancient enemy Ebirah for control of the world. From there, my obsession only grew, and it’s led me down a whole new path of creativity that still inspires me to this day,” he says. When thinking back to quarantine, Evan found himself spending a lot of time going back in time and doing things he used to do when he was younger--reading old books, listening to old songs, and watching old movies. Looking back at himself when he was younger, Evan confesses that he always cringed in embarrassment, but experiencing all of his old hobbies, he says “reminded me that I HAD grown as a person, and that if I had grown this much outside of quarantine, I could do it inside as well.” A good trip down memory lane always does the trick. However, Evan (along



with the rest of us) is very excited that he now is back in school for his junior year, even if there are many different rules to follow. “School is definitely a different experience right now. Everyone is wearing masks. I find myself washing my hands a lot. The arrow-marked staircases often force me to take huge detours to get where I need to go.” But despite the many new precautions, Evan admits that it’s all worth it if he gets to come to school everyday and see his friends.

JAMES DURRAN: “THIS” OR “THAT”?
BY VALERIA REYES



Freshman James Durran has just joined the class of 2024 and relocated full-time to Shelter Island from England. In attempts to get to know him better, we decided to play a little game with James: “This or that?” We asked James simple questions and he had to choose one answer. Read on to get to know James a bit better.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1) Nights in or nights out?
“Nights in” | 8) Open-minded or close-minded?
“Close-minded” | 15) Rain or sun?
“Sun” | 22) Sweet or savory?
“Sweet” |
| 2) Dogs or cats?
“Both!” | 9) City or beach?
“Beach” | 16) Breakfast or Dinner?
“Dinner” | 23) Player or spectator?
“Player” |
| 3) Stubborn or easygoing?
“Easygoing” | 10) Coffee or tea?
“Coffee” | 17) Early bird or night owl?
“Early bird” | 24) Pancakes or waffles?
“Pancakes” |
| 4) Organized or messy?
“Messy” | 11) Snow or sand?
“Sand” | 18) Wizard or ninja?
“Wizard” | 25) Christmas or Halloween?
“Christmas” |
| 5) Sensitive or tough?
“In-between” | 12) Day or night?
“Night” | 19) Pizza or tacos?
“Pizza” | 26) Comedy movie or scary movie?
“Scary movie” |
| 6) Indecisive or decisive?
“Decisive” | 13) Books or movies
“Movies” | 20) Mexican food or Italian?
“Mexican” | 27) English or math?
“English” |
| 7) Motivated or lazy?
“Motivated” | 14) Spotify or Apple Music?
“Spotify” | 21) Tv shows or movies?
“Movies” | 28) Art or music?
“Music” |

OSCAR DURRAN
BY DARIA KOLMOGOROVA

Oscar Durran (younger brother to James Durran also profiled in this issue) is a new fifth grade student at Shelter Island School. Oscar moved full-time to Shelter Island from England. Before joining our school, Oscar attended Junior King’s School located in Kent, England. Oscar and his family have come to Shelter Island every summer for the past 5 years, so living here is not a completely new experience. Oscar says that

he likes that “there are a lot of trees, flowers, and nature here and that Shelter Island isn’t polluted.” He adds, “And, the teachers are really nice here.” Oscar’s previous school “was twice as big” and he is enjoying the smaller size of Shelter Island School. His favorite sports are basketball and soccer; Oscar played rugby and soccer at his old school. His favorite class at Shelter Island so far is Physical Education because he gets to

“run around and have a lot of fun.” When he is not in school, Oscar loves to “read books and watch television.” When asked what Oscar would like people to know about him, he replied, “I used to live in the city and when I grow up I want to be a vet because I love animals. Also, I really like to play basketball. It’s one of my favorite sports.” Welcome to our school, Oscar!



MY GRANDPARENTS: COUPLES GOALS

BY SOPHIE CLARK



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARJORIE AND KEN BRINSLEY
MARJORIE AND KEN ON THEIR WEDDING DAY IN 1961.

Ed and Ann Clark and Marjorie and Ken Brinsley all have one thing in common: both couples have been married for over 60 years. They are also my grandparents. The Clarks and Brinsleys have been through ups and downs, but both couples have stuck together no matter what, making them a perfect profile for the Valentine’s Day season.

Ed and Ann Clark are local Shelter Islanders and they are coming up on their 61st wedding anniversary on February 13. They let us in on some of their happiest moments in their relationship and also how they met way way back then. Ann explains that they met when she was only 10 years old; Ed was Ann’s eldest brother’s best friend. So, Ed grew to be a part of Ann’s life too over time. About Ed, Ann says, “I thought he was tall, dark, and handsome.” Ed remembers thinking, “Ann was Spike’s [Ann’s brother] sister and she came into the picture a few years after we [Ed and Spike] met, I thought she was quite a tomgirl, she was always interested in horseback riding, hunting, and fishing and wanted to hang out with the big boys all the time.” As they grew older, their friendly feelings developed into something more; Ed and Ann started

dating when she was 15 and he was 19. When Ed asked Ann on their first date, he says, “I asked her to go with me to a movie, because there would be a show that would play every Saturday night.” That was all it took; Ed and Ann have been together from that moment. They married five years after that first date, just as Anne was finishing nursing school and Ed was in his last year in the Coast Guard. “He proposed to me at my high school graduation with a shiny new ring,” Ann remembers, “and when I saw him get down on one knee, I knew that he was the one who I was going to spend my life with.”

When asked to recount a favorite moment together, both Ann and Ed agreed it was the birth of their first child. Ann and Ed were excited to start a family and Ann planned on having three children. Things didn’t quite work out that way! After their firstborn son, Ann and Ed were expecting again 18 months later...little did they know it would be twins this time. Without sonograms at that time, they had no idea until the delivery that Ann was carrying identical twin boys! Ann and Ed went on to have one more son after the twins, and finally, a daughter. The Clarks raised their family on Shelter Island,

where many of their children’s families still live. Ann and Ed now have 18 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren with another on the way, so their family tree has grown tremendously. Ed and Ann report that their secret for a long marriage is “love, honesty, and patience.”

Marjorie and Ken Brinsley, my maternal grandparents, live in Corby, England and have been married for 59 years and 6 months. They met in 1957 when they were co-workers at the post office in Ken’s home town of Oundle, England. Marjorie worked at the counter and Ken was a postman; together they each worked their way up to management. Marjorie describes thinking Ken “had nice eyes and was kind and considerate” when they first met. Ken thought that Marjorie was “beautiful and fun.” After they met in 1957, Ken worked up to asking Marjorie on a first date. Like the Clarks, it was to the movies. Ken explains, “I suggested that we should go to the cinema.” Also like the Clarks, that first date was all it took and the Brinsleys have been together ever since. Four years after meeting, Ken completed his National Service during which he was a Royal Engineer in the British Army and he thought that would be the perfect

time to propose, so after asking permission from her parents, he did just that. About that proposal, Marjorie says, “I was on the back of his scooter and he asked me if I wanted to marry him, and of course, I said yes.” After a honeymoon in Dublin, Ireland, the Brinsleys settled into married life. Marjorie and Ken went on to have two daughters. Their first child was born in 1966 and the second was born in 1970; these were their happiest moments, they report. As they reflect on their time together, one moment that really had them laughing was when, as Marjorie explains, “We got lost in Germany and the politzie took us to an English section of the country; we had to climb over a fence and landed in someone’s back garden. With all the commotion, the owners came out and kindly put us up for the night.” It seems a sense of adventure and humor is part of the Brinsleys secret to staying together for so long.

They may be my beloved grandparents, but 121 combined years of marriage should be impressive to anyone. It seems that a commitment to family and each other, a sense of humor, and love may be some of the ingredients in the secret recipe for a long marriage.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ED AND ANN CLARK
ED AND ANN ON THEIR WEDDING DAY IN 1960.

FAVORITE TV SHOWS/MOVIES KEY:

- | | |
|--|--|
| “One Tree Hill”: Dayla Reyes | “Jurassic World”: Jackson Surerus |
| “Stranger Things”: Mason Mannino | “The Flash”: Buck Robinson |
| “Forensic Files”: Elijah Davidson | “Grizzly and the Lemmings”: Jose Rodriguez |
| “Property Brothers”: Mrs. Goody | “Spiderman”: Nolan Sandwalds |
| “Food Network: Beat Bobby Flay”: Mrs. Lang | “Soul”: Ms. Gheering |
| “Cobra Kai”: Mr. Theinert | “Rick and Morty”: Jalill Carter |
| “Bridgerton”: Mrs. Sears | “Grey’s Anatomy”: Valeria Reyes |
| “Pup Academy”: Dylan James | |

SHOE MATCHING KEY:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1: Zeb Mundy | 6: Mrs.Farkas |
| 2: Alfie Brigham | 7: Mrs. Leever |
| 3: Dayla Reyes | 8: Nurse Mary |
| 4: Leonardo Dougherty | 9: Olivia Overstreet |
| 5: Mr. Brigham | 10: Valeria Reyes |

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?: SHELTER ISLAND ALUMNI ADRIAN SULAHIAN

BY JANE RICHARDS

Adrian Sulahian graduated from Shelter Island School in 2016. He is the son of one of our current maintenance staffer Greg Sulahian. After graduating high school, Adrian took a different path than most, foregoing college, Adrian decided to move to Colorado and take on the “mountain lifestyle.” Adrian explains, “Moving was definitely nerve racking, having spent all my life living on the island. Once I actually was living in Colorado though I felt extremely liberated like I was finally able to feel like myself and at home.” Adrian didn’t just move on a whim, he had a plan for when he got there. He explains, “I was lucky enough to move there with a job set up with a nonprofit called Mile High Youth Corps.” At first on the job, Adrian was spraying pesticides on invasive species, but then he worked his way up to being on a chainsaw crew felling pines in mountain towns. He decided



on Colorado as his destination because his sister Katie lives there and offered him a place to stay, which Adrian adds he is “still very appreciative of.” The experience of living in Colorado and working in the outdoors was life changing for Adrian. Unfortunately, his lifestyle in Colorado proved too costly, so he was forced to move back to Shelter Island where Adrian knew that he could save more money and maintain a more stable lifestyle.

Since moving back to the Island on February 13, 2019, Adrian has been working at Picozzi’s Gas Station while attending Dutchess County Community College online. Adrian is on a liberal arts path with no specific major yet declared. When Adrian reflects on his time at Shelter Island School, he shares that

many of his favorite memories took place on the multitude of field trips the school sent his class on, especially the schooner trip. He also says that if he could retake one class from high school he would “retake geometry, as I didn’t pay nearly enough attention in that class and could use a refresher.” His advice for current students is, “don’t feel pressured to go into college right after you graduate if you don’t feel ready, I took time after graduation to gain working experience and found that time invaluable in my search for a career path.” Thanks to Adrian for participating in our “Where are they now?” series!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?: SHELTER ISLAND ALUMNI KRISTIAN CLARK

BY SOPHIE CLARK



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KRISTIAN CLARK

Kristian Clark is a Shelter Island High School alumni from the graduating class of 2011. Kristian has led an eventful life since graduating high school, having graduated from college and opened his own landscaping business with many different areas of expertise. Though it may be hard for him to believe, Kristian Clark is coming up on his 10 year high school reunion in June.

Following high school, Kristian attended UMass Amherst, earning an associate’s degree in Landscaping. About his chosen path, Kristian shares, “I decided when I was 17. I was talking to Mrs. Treharne about what I wanted to do and I felt I knew what I wanted to do. I had been helping my dad with landscaping for around 15 years prior and I knew that it was something I was passionate about.” After graduating college, Kristian knew that he immediately wanted to open his own business, so he got down to it, and only 2 weeks after graduation he opened his first business on Shelter Island called White Oak Farm & Gardens.

White Oak Farm & Gardens is a garden center where customers can purchase plants and flowers, but also provides landscape contracting including maintenance, designing, installing. Becoming a business owner at such a young age did not come without challenges. Kristian explains, “There have been many difficulties in owning my business, such as time management, and I don’t have a lot of time off, especially in the beginning. Uncertainty is the worst one, because you don’t know what is going to happen at any given time.” No time has

been quite so uncertain as this past year with the onset of the pandemic. Kristian saw COVID impact his business in a few different ways. He says, “In the early stages of lockdown, non-essential work was shut down, which put a damper on scheduling and other things. However, we made the best of it.” And, when restrictions lifted, business began booming once again due to the increase of people coming and staying on Shelter Island.

Looking back on high school, Kristian thinks, “I have been kind of the same person since high school, but my travels and work have made me more well rounded as a person.” As for advice he would give to high schoolers, Kristian says, “1. Stick with what you are passionate about and don’t take no for an answer. 2. I recommend traveling as much as possible.” Kristian values a sense of adventure and true to the advice he gives, he has traveled all over globally, which has expanded his understanding of life and creative work opportunities.

Kristian has noticed how Shelter Island School has “become more diverse and socially unified” since his own graduation, both of which he thinks are good things. Today, he still keeps in touch with many of his high school friends (to be fair many of them are his family) and Kristian continues to work very hard operating his business and pursuing new work opportunities.

LATE BOATS ON HOLD

BY ZEBULUN MUNDY

When you think of Shelter Island from an outside perspective, one of the first things that comes to mind is the fact that you need to take a ferry boat to get here and those ferry boats do not run all night. Until this year, on weekdays in the winter, ferry boats would take their last trips at 11:50 p.m. On weekends, final trips would be at 1:50 a.m. In the summertime, final boats would

be 1:50 a.m. all week long. So, despite boats not running 24 hours, people still had plenty of time to get where they needed to go, especially on weekends.

Unfortunately this pandemic has changed many things in our lives, and the ferry boat schedules are no exception. Currently, the last boat returning back to Shelter Island leaves at 11:50 p.m. every night. This left

some people unhappy during the summer months and it is definitely a setback for the winter weekends. So, why did the ferry companies make this change? According to Keturah Green, employee of the South Ferry Co., “there isn’t any current discussion on bringing back the late boats because not enough people were using them, so with the pandemic, they became too expensive

to run.” So, in short, keeping the late boat running was costing more money than it was making. There is currently no planned date for late boats to return. Hopefully by the summer things are back to normal and we can all stay out a little bit later, but until then, make sure you’re on the ferry line by 11:45!

WANDERLUST WISHES

BY MACKENZIE SPEECE

This year, due to the pandemic, people were forced to stay home and travel has been very restricted. This inability to travel has been difficult for many people. It means not being able to see family and/or friends, missing out on that family vacation that you may have had planned, and spending school breaks close to home. Many of us are starting to feel wanderlust. So, in this issue of The Inlet, I asked people if the pandemic disappeared and they could travel anywhere with no budgetary restrictions, where would they go?

- Mae Brigham (Grade 7):** *“I would like to go to Greece because I think it’s pretty and has nice scenery.”*
- Danae Carter (Grade 8):** *“I would like to go to South Korea because I’m a fan of K-pop.”*
- Haleigh Miller (Grade 9):** *“I would go to Alaska because I want to see the northern lights.”*
- Janet Carbajal (Grade 8):** *I would go to Los Angeles because it looks interesting to me.”*
- Emma Teodoru (Grade 12):** *“I would like to go to Ireland because it seems like a fun atmosphere.”*
- Mr. Brigham (Math/Technology):** *“The Bay of Fundy (in Canada) because it has the highest tidal change of anyplace in the world and I’d like to see that.”*
- Jeremy Stanzione (Technology):** *“Antarctica because there are no people there.”*
- Mr. Brennan (Social Studies):** *“I would go to Normandy, France so I could follow in the footsteps of the Allied Powers.”*
- Mr. Theinert (Math):** *“I would want to rent a luxury catamaran or sailboat and travel around the Adriatic.”*
- Mr. Miedema (Social Studies):** *“I would go on an African safari to Botswana because I have always wanted to do that.”*
- Kaitlyn Gulluscio (Grade 9):** *“I would go to Italy because I love the scenery.”*

LATEST TV SHOW MOVIE FAVORITES

BY DARIA KOLMOGOROVA

With less after school activities being held and more quiet time at home, you might have found that you have more time on your hands to kick it back and watch a show or a movie. Here are some recent favorites people around our building have been indulging in. See if you can match the person to the show they have been loving. When you’re done, turn to **PAGE 3** to check if your answers were correct!

“One Tree Hill”	Jalill Carter
“Stranger Things”	Elijah Davidson
“Forensic Files”	Mason Mannino
“Property Brothers”	Jackson Surerus
“Food Network Beat Bobby Flay”	Buck Robinson
“Cobra Kai”	Dayla Reyes
“Bridgerton”	Valeria Reyes
“Pup Academy”	Jose Rodriguez
“Jurassic World”	Mr. Gearing
“The Flash”	Dylan James
“Grizzly and the Lemmings”	Mrs. Goody
“Spiderman”	Mrs. Lang
“Soul”	Mrs. Sears
“Rick and Morty”	Mr. Theinert
“Grey’s Anatomy”	Mrs. Sears

TV SHOW GUIDE

BY EMMA TEODORU

Winter calls for some cozy TV time. Read on to check out my latest recommendations.

TITLE : “Unbelievable”
GENRE : Crime TV Drama
RATED : MA (Mature audience)
“Unbelievable” is a limited series on the streaming platform Netflix. This series has a total of eight episodes each about forty-five minutes long and is based on true events. “Unbelievable” is a dramatized version of the real life serial rape cases that haunted Washington and Colorado from 2008-2011. The mini series opens with Marie Adler, a teenage girl from Washington, who claims she has been raped, but the lack of evidence found causes investigators to doubt her claim. Marie eventually tells them she made the whole thing up, but things get much more complicated when an eerily case occurs in Colorado. I absolutely loved this series, it had me captivated from the very beginning to the very end. I often found myself trying to solve the case with the detectives, matching up clues they found and trying to put the pieces together. I highly recommend this powerful series to anyone who loves binge watching suspenseful crime shows, however beware that there are some graphic scenes that can be sensitive to certain viewers.

TITLE : “The Crown”
GENRE : Historical Drama
RATED : MA
The Netflix original series “The Crown” is back with its latest season. “The Crown” showcases the young and innocent Queen Elizabeth II and follows her journey to becoming one of the most iconic rulers in the world. Throughout the four seasons, viewers get an insight into just how much was bestowed upon young Elizabeth and dives into the depths of her personal life and the sacrifices that came along with balancing both her personal and political responsibilities. As the seasons evolve, they take us through many of the hardships that Elizabeth had to endure and how she had to evolve alongside her country. In the most recent season, the focus shifts for some time to Princess Diana and Prince Charles and their own complicated life story

Netflix’s most expensive series to date, with a budget of over \$130 million, truly pays off. “The Crown” allows viewers to get lost in another era, while learning a lot about history, even if some of it is dramatized. This series is a perfect fit for history junkies, but I would personally recommend this to anyone.

TITLE : “The Queen’s Gambit”
GENRE : Historical Drama
RATED : MA
Another Netflix original series, “The Queen’s Gambit,” centers on a young female orphan named Beth, who becomes intrigued with the game of chess. She quickly learns that she has an exceptional ability when it comes to the game and is given the chance to display her rare talents to the rest of the world. As the seven episodes unfold, viewers watch Beth struggle with addiction and relationships while her aptitude for chess only grows. “The Queen’s Gambit” is far from just a chess story. You need not like chess or know anything about it to be captivated by Beth’s journey from orphan, to addict, to chess champion.

TITLE : “The Outsider”
GENRE : Crime/mystery/thriller
RATED : MA
Based on one of Stephen King’s novels, “The Outsider” does a very good job at hooking viewers from the very beginning. The first episode draws you in with immediate suspense. Following what seems to be a straightforward investigation of the murder of a young boy, the crime soon takes a sinister turn into the dark unknown. Several detectives and investigators team up to try to solve this mind boggling mystery, but it’s much more complicated than anyone understands. This series, found on HBO Max, will have you on the edge of your seat the entire time. Over the course of ten episodes, the suspense builds and bingeing the series is the only option. I highly recommend “The Outsider” to those who enjoy dark sinister movies, but beware, this series is unsettling and not for the faint of heart.

CAN’T LIVE WITHOUT IT!

BY MACKENZIE SPEECE

Many people have one thing in their life that they could never live without. Obviously we all need the basic necessities, but beyond that, what else do people say they just “need”? We asked around to find out.

- MRS. GULLUSCIO (SPECIAL EDUCATION):** “Walks on the beach.”
- MARLON HUERTAS MALDONADO (GRADE 8) :** “I could never live without pizza.”
- HALEIGH MILLER (GRADE 9):** “I can’t live without my phone.”
- LYNNE COLLIGAN (ENGLISH TEACHER):** “I can’t live without my kitties.”
- ZEB MUNDY (GRADE 12):** “Hoodies. I need hoodies.”
- CALEB LAMBERT (GRADE 12):** “I can’t live without my friends.”
- KAITLYN GULLUSCIO (GRADE 9):** “My family.”
- PHOENIX BLISS (GRADE 9):** “My dog, Paisley.”
- JALILL CARTER (GRADE 12):** “I can’t live without playing basketball.”
- AROLDO (GRADE 12):** “I can’t live without white socks...they are the only ones I wear. I don’t like black socks.”
- EMMA MARTINEZ (GRADE 12):** “I can’t live without candles.”
- OLIVIA OVERSTREET (GRADE 11):** “Music because it brings me happiness.”
- LILY PAGE (GRADE 11):** “My dog Ginger because she’s a part of my family.”
- IZZY FONESCA (GRADE 11):** “Travel because I want to be able to see the world...”

DO YOU REALLY KNOW YOUR FRIEND?

BY EMMA TEODORU

It is the return of The Inlet friend quiz! We asked close friend pairs to answer questions about their best buds...let's see just how well these friends really know each other! Perfect matches gain one point, if only one of the pair was correct, that gains ½ point, and no match is zero points. A perfect score would be 12.

QUESTIONS POSED TO THE FRIEND PAIRS:

- 1. What's my full name?
- 2. What is my zodiac sign?
- 3. What's my favorite TV show?
- 4. Am I more of a cat or dog person?
- 5. Who's my celebrity crush?
- 6. Have I ever broken any bones? Which?
- 7. If I could choose where to eat, where would I go?
- 8. What's my favorite kind of candy?
- 9. How do I spend my free time / one of my hobbies?
- 10. If I could travel anywhere, where would I go?
- 11. What am I most afraid of?
- 12. What is my biggest pet peeve?



OUR FIRST FRIEND PAIR IS FRESHMEN
PHOENIX BLISS & LEONARDO DOUGHERTY
OVERALL FRIEND QUIZ SCORE: **5.5 POINTS**

STRENGTHS: These two knew each other's hobbies: sailing for Phoenix and skateboarding/music/videogames for Leo. They also knew each other's full names and that they are both dog lovers.

WEAKNESSES: Leo's celebrity crush is Kendall Jenner, which Phoenix didn't know, but impressively, Leo called that Phoenix would answer the same question himself with "I don't know." This pair also needs to brush up on each other's fears: Leo says he is afraid of "spiders," which Phoenix did not specify, while Phoenix's biggest fear is "not being successful," but Leo guessed it would be "mold."



THE NEXT FRIEND PAIR IS SENIORS
TYLER GULLUSCIO & JASON GREEN
OVERALL FRIEND QUIZ SCORE: **5.5 POINTS**

STRENGTHS: These two friends nailed each other's zodiac signs, knew exactly where their friend would love to travel: Italy for Tyler and the Northwest (specifically Oregon) for Jason, and unsurprisingly these track and cross country teammates both declared running as their favorite hobby.

WEAKNESSES: Tyler didn't know Jason's middle name is James (he guessed Toby, which was a good guess), they had no idea who each other's celebrity crushes are: with Tyler guessing Scarlett Johanssen for Jason when his actual celeb crush is Selena Gomez, and Jason declaring Tyler's crush to be Bebe Rexa, when it is actually Scarlett Johanssen. And, just like Phoenix and Leo, these two must not discuss their fears, because they didn't match up on those either!



TIME FOR THE LADIES; JUNIORS
DARIA KOLMOGOROVA & ANGIE RICE
OVERALL FRIEND QUIZ SCORE: **9 POINTS WOW!**

STRENGTHS: These two ladies know each other very well! With exact matches in 8 categories, they know each other's favorite restaurants, favorite candies (pink Starbursts for Angie!), and even their fears: for Angie it's "throwing up" and for Daria it is "failure."

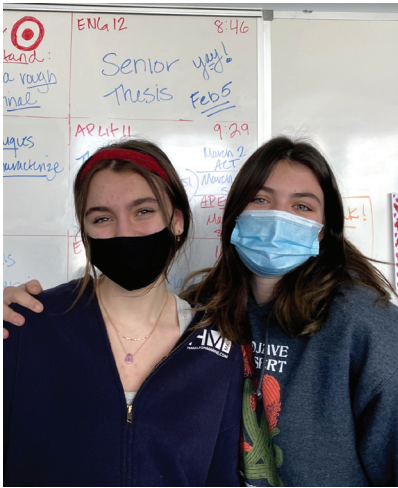
WEAKNESSES: These two didn't know each other's favorite TV shows, with Daria guessing "My Little Pony" for Angie, when it is actually "Bachelor in Paradise" or "Jersey Shore." And, despite Angie being able to list 5 celebrity crushes for Daria (including, but not limited to Joe Biden and Machine Gun Kelly) Daria declared her own celebrity crush to be Pete Davidson, which is one of Angie's crushes....uh oh girls, let's not fight over Pete!



NEXT UP ARE JUNIORS
LILY PAGE & OLIVIA OVERSTREET
OVERALL FRIEND QUIZ SCORE: **10 POINTS!**

STRENGTHS: These good friends had the highest score, and surprisingly didn't have any questions in which they both guessed incorrectly! They know almost everything about each other, from their celebrity crushes (Harry Styles for Lily, Robert Pattinson for Olivia) to their hobbies (do you really like cleaning your room Olivia?), and had perfect matches in 8 of the questions. Another indicator of their compatibility, neither of these ladies likes candy, as both correctly answered.

WEAKNESSES: Olivia didn't know Lily's favorite TV show, which she incorrectly guessed was "Bubble Guppies" while it really is "We Are Who We Are." And despite Olivia correctly guessing Lily's favorite restaurant was Chipotle, Lily was off the mark when she guessed Olivia's favorite place to eat was The Islander, when she prefers Agave. Both girls seem to be a fan of Mexican food, however!



LAST BUT NOT LEAST, JUNIORS
FRANNY REGAN & BELLA SPRINGER
OVERALL FRIEND QUIZ SCORE: **5 POINTS**

STRENGTHS: Both friends know each other's full names and zodiac signs (Franny a Virgo and Bella an Aries), as well as their favorite candies: Franny likes sour gummy worms, while Bella prefers Reese's. Bella also correctly guessed Franny's celebrity crush, Harry Styles (watch out Lily!).

WEAKNESSES: With the lowest score of the group, these two need to brush up on each other's favorite restaurants, fears, and places they want to travel, because they didn't match up on any of those questions. Though Bella doesn't know who her own celebrity crush is, Franny made a good guess: "Future Emmett Cummings." Ironically, both friends guessed that the other's pet peeve was them! Fortunately, these guesses were incorrect, with Franny's pet peeve being "objects in front of the tv" and Bella's being "when someone tells me to do something I'm about to do."

