



COMPATIBILITY QUIZ

Want to know which high schoolers are compatible? Turn to **PAGE 7** to see Leo's compatibility quiz results!



Turn to **PAGE 9** to find out why Fortnite has made a comeback.



Check out Spirit Week fun on PAGE 6!

THE INLET

Vol. 10, No. 3

SHELTER ISLAND SCHOOL

MARCH 2022

NO MORE MASKS...?

BY EVAN SCHACK

Masks. How long have they been a part of our lives? 2020 was full of them, 2021 gave a glimmer of hope we might be done with them, early 2022 brought the Omicron variant, and now, 2 years post the beginning of the pandemic, we have been told they are no longer mandatory in school. Don't get me wrong, masks helped keep us in school, but sometimes it felt like the masks would never come off, and, now that they are: will it feel normal?

A few weeks ago, in the state of New York, the mask mandate in public places was dropped. This meant businesses no longer had to "police" mask wearing in their establishments. The reasoning for the change was the drop in reported cases and the general understanding that the Omicron wave has crested and fallen. However, students in schools in NY were still required to wear masks at that time. This became a point of contention in some districts across our state. New York State Governor Houchul said she planned to "re-evaluate" masks in schools in late February-early

March. For some students, parents, and community members, the idea of waiting to be "unmasked" has been oppressive, yet to others, the mere thought of not wearing masks in a school setting is frightening. Some districts have seen protests in which parents hold aloft signs reading, "Unmuzzle my child." While other parents have attended school board meetings imploring districts to keep mask mandates in place to protect their children.

The issue of masks in schools is a very sensitive and personal one, and as I write this, on the eve of the mask mandate in schools being officially dropped, I have heard many mixed feelings from my classmates. There are some who are very excited to leave their masks at home, while others are not so sure. Senior Valeria Reyes says, "I think I will continue to wear a mask to school because I currently know 4 or 5 people from our school who have COVID and I don't want to take the risk." Senior Angelina Rice also likely will remain masked, saying, "I think I will continue to wear my mask because I

kind of feel more exposed without one and I have gotten used to hiding my reactive facial expressions behind my mask, so taking it off might be an issue for me." Sophomore Sophie Clark will be coming to school without a mask, explaining, "in my opinion COVID is just another virus and before it there were other viruses we dealt with, so I feel totally comfortable coming to school without a mask."

Many students could not decide whether they would show up with a mask or not on the first day of the dropped mandate, some even noting they might feel uncomfortable being unmasked if a classmate of theirs has chosen to remain masked. Like so many things about this pandemic, masks have become an emotional and complex topic.

The end of the mask mandate indicates how far we have come in this harrowing COVID journey, and for many, will be a cause



for celebration, but let's all be sensitive that for some, the end of masks in schools will be a cause for concern, anxiety, and adjustment. After living with masks in school for so long, for some students and teachers it won't feel quite that simple to just throw them away, while others have been waiting for that day for a very long time. Hopefully, our school community will take this next step together and support everyone in their right to choose what feels best for them: to mask or not to mask.

HOW I GOT HERE: MRS. JANINE MAHONEY

BY SOPHIE CLARK

Janine Mahoney, a local teacher at Shelter Island School, was not born and raised on Shelter Island. So, how did she get here?

Mrs. Mahoney is originally from Shoreham, NY and did not move here full-time until late 1996. In Shoreham, Mrs. Mahoney attended high school at Shoreham-Wading River High where she graduated with a class of "just

over 200 students." She shares that she was "involved in theater, track and the newspaper—The Wildcat Pause. After graduating, Mrs. Mahoney went to Saint Joseph's College in Patchogue for her undergraduate degree in elementary and special education with a concentration in speech communication. She continued her education at SUNY Stony

Photo provided by Janine Mahoney
Janine Mahoney enjoying Hay Beach (Menhaden Lane) during her first weekend visit.

Brook for her master's degree, and later earned a post-graduate certificate in school administration.

Mrs. Mahoney took a big step closer to Shelter Island when she got her first teaching position at Oysterponds School in Orient, NY. It was while teaching in Orient that she ventured to Shelter Island for the first time. She remembers, "My husband and I came with our toddler Corrine for a quick weekend trip for Labor Day in 1996. We stayed a night at the Kaasik's Azalea House and a night at Dering Harbor (the only rooms available with air conditioning, as I was 8 months pregnant). While we were visiting, we looked in the local paper and saw that real estate was reasonable. So, we seriously considered the idea. We spoke to a real estate agent and drove by a few potential homes."

After that first visit, the Mahoney family became serious about Shelter Island; in fact,

it was only 6 months later that they moved into their own home on the island. Mrs. Mahoney continued to commute off-island to her job at Oysterponds as the family settled into island life. In 2001, Mrs. Mahoney was thrilled to find out that a part-time job was opening up at Shelter Island School. At the time, "Keri Ann was ready for kindergarten," she explains, "and I was eager to avoid before and after school childcare for my girls, so I applied. I have been excited to come to school here every day since."

Mrs. Mahoney's favorite thing about Shelter Island is, "The quiet in the winter and the hustle and bustle in the summer. I love the beaches, the stars at night, and of course the school and the community." She adds, "My least favorite part is the ferry lines and the loss of Fedi's." Living in such

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WHEN TRENDING IS TOXIC

BY MYLA DOUGHERTY

Social media has long been known for its ability to create and promote trends in just about every category one can think of, from the newest fashion items, to the hottest movies, to emerging political beliefs. Online platforms have an amplified ability to create subgroups within popular culture, and for our generation, Generation Z, which has grown up alongside technology, this has greatly influenced the way in which we view aesthetics and design, what we think is "in" or "out" of style, and how we define our creative identities.

If you opened TikTok today, it's more than likely you would come across a video tagged with #cleangirlaesthetic of a girl showing you her no-makeup-makeup routine, or an outfit video inspired by The Dead Poets Society with #darkacademia in the caption. These hashtags are just two examples of the hundreds upon hundreds of "aesthetics" that exist on social media and influence the personal styles of most of Gen Z.

But what exactly are "aesthetics" as Gen Z understands them? And where did they originate? Online, aesthetics are concerned with the traditional definition of the word: "a particular taste for or approach to what is pleasing to the senses and especially sight," but also are associated with the community that is created around this specific perception of beauty. Aesthetics are largely about fashion, but can also be about music, art, culture, and lifestyle. They can be defined specifically, for example with references to particular cultural movements, colors, or media, or they can be defined very obscurely and generally, for example by the "vibe" one gets from a collection of images. The suffix "-core" is one that appears everywhere in social media spaces that discuss aesthetics. Originally from the hardcore punk scene, which was named so to distinguish itself from mainstream, commercial punk, the suffix has ironically become pervasive in pop-culture. It can be seen tacked onto just about any word or phrase to turn it into the name for an "aesthetic," for example: Cottagecore, an aesthetic that romanticizes traditional European farming life, simple living, and harmony with nature, or Gorpcore, an aesthetic that focuses on the functionality and utilitarianism of clothing.

The path to reach internet aesthetics as we know them now can be traced roughly through four stages: the pre-social media age, the Tumblr age, the Instagram age, and the TikTok age. Before the internet and social media, one's personal style and taste

could be referred to as their "subculture" rather than their "aesthetic," and was largely based around one's music tastes, lifestyle, and values, and evolved organically through physical interaction within a subculture. With the rise of the internet, and the way we socialize shifting online, the focus on personal style became much more surface level and cosmetic since it existed in an online space, giving way to aesthetics as we define them presently. In the early 2010s, when Tumblr was at its peak relevancy, the imagecollecting social media site was popular for curating personalized blogs through finding images by using tags that described the image itself, and a few popular aesthetics ruled the site. The late 2010s saw Instagram take over in the world of aesthetics, where millennial pink and a "perfect," curated feed were a must have, and where the communities around aesthetics began to grow and become a larger part of what an aesthetic meant. In both these eras, there were many popular aesthetics, but now, in the TikTok age, the variety has exploded. There are literally countless aesthetics and sub-aesthetics to discover and ascribe to, and more are being created every day.

Some might argue that social media's creation of aesthetic micro-categories is beneficial, that it is expanding our capacity for creativity by increasing exposure to new concepts of design, and that may be partially true, but I believe that this categorization is doing more harm than we realize. As our generation has grown up with technology and social media as such integral parts of our lives, they have shaped and continue to shape our stylistic sensibilities. Gen Z has been characterized by our unique fashion and self-expression, we are all about creating our own niche identities, and we live in an age where we have the most freedom and more outlets to express ourselves than ever before, which is exciting, but there are aspects of social media's influence on our creativity that I find concerning. Under almost every Pinterest (a social media site for saving and sharing images) post I see, someone has commented under it "what is the name of this aesthetic?," as if every image must go along with a named category, and cannot just exist by itself, or as if that person cannot come up with their own ideas about the image, and must have someone else tell them what it means. None of these images innately belongs to an aesthetic, and yet people feel the need to categorize them all the same. Comments like these are rampant across social media sites, as well as harsh comments that tell the original poster that their particular categorization of their content under an aesthetic is wrong, that their version of the aesthetic isn't good enough, or that they are not the right type of person (whether because of race, gender, body type, sexuality, looks, etc.) to portray that aesthetic. It's comments like these that demonstrate the toxic, exclusionary nature of the internet's aesthetic communities, and how much they are truly stifling creativity, not helping it to thrive. The whole point of aesthetics, and the reason so many teenagers are drawn to them, is to find an avenue for self-expression and community, but I believe that they actually do the opposite. Instead of promoting out-of-thebox thinking, they create more standards and rules to conform to, and limit one's idea of what is considered "aesthetically pleasing." I often see posts from conflicted individuals who are drawn to more than one aesthetic, and feel the need to choose one instead of reconciling with the fact that they might not fit into a box. In reality, the abundance of microcategories of aesthetics on social media is conformity disguised as individuality.

Recently, the cycling of fashion trends has increased exponentially due to platforms such as TikTok and Instagram, fueled by an obsession with aesthetics, where trends seem to come and go so quickly that a new term has even been dubbed for them: "microtrends," referring to the fast nature in which these trends move. Aesthetics go in and out of fashion sometimes in the matter of a few days, and trends are now moving too fast for stores to even keep up; by the time an "in-fashion" garment has made it into stores, the internet has already moved on to its newest obsession, and the in-store items have become dated. The rapid changing in consumers' interests has led to a shift in how we shop, with more and more people preferring to shop online rather than inperson because of both the convenience and the ability to find more specific, "on-trend" pieces. The pandemic significantly increased online sales as well, with more people staying home and not going out to shop. With the popularity of online shopping increasing, the popularity of brands like Shein and AliExpress has increased as well. These types of brands are online apparel companies that pump out new products to keep up with the current trends, selling inexpensive, but also extremely low quality clothing items often made from polyester and nylon that will not withstand normal, long-term wear. They

cheaply made products, and yet they are allowed to get away with this and maintain their popularity with consumers because of their close following of trends. Because their products are so readily available, on trend, and extremely affordable, they are appealing to young people. In looking at the home page of the Shein website. I saw shirts on sale for as little as \$2.99, and even a necklace being sold for only 49 cents. These exceptionally low prices bring up questions about how ethical the labor being used to create these garments is. Fast fashion brands are notorious for their use of sweatshops for their labor, and yet even this has not seemed to impact their popularity. The conglomeration of social media's quick trend cycling, fast fashion companies, and their creation of almost "disposable" products, has created a fast fashion industry that is dumping waste into the environment. In an interview with Forbes in 2020, Shein CMO Molly Mio said that the company "drops 700-1,000 new styles daily." This overproduction of goods is creating tons and tons of textile waste and pollution. This presents consumers with a tough choice, they can either participate in the endless micro-trends and contribute to the fast fashion industry, or become out of style. For most, it's hard to keep up, it takes a certain amount of wealth and privilege to be able to get a completely new wardrobe every month when the popular aesthetic changes, and it is pointless to do so when a new trend will inevitably take the place of the old one yet again. If Gen Z wants to be the unique, selfexpressive generation that we think we are, the value that we place on aesthetics and trends has to fade, and give way to truly individual views of style and beauty that are driven by inner motivations, and are not categorized by labels, which restrict ideological freedom and promote exclusionary groupthink. Instead of searching for comfort in the conformity of categorization, Gen Z needs to break free from traditional standards of beauty and think for ourselves.

are widely known on the internet for their

HOW I GOT HERE: MRS. JANINE MAHONEY

BY SOPHIE CLARK -- CONTINUED

a small town and raising a family here can be much different than in other areas, but Mrs.

Mahoney says, "I loved raising my family in a small town. I cherish our years cheering PBA soccer, Little League baseball, and school plays, riding scooters and bikes at the courts, also love all

small town and raising a family here can be hiking in Mashomack, and endless days at have his sights set on Florida-perhaps as a such different than in other areas, but Mrs. the beach "

Does Mrs. Mahoney plan to live on Shelter Island forever? That remains to be seen; she says, "While I do love warm weather, I also love all four seasons. My husband may

have his sights set on Florida-perhaps as a snowbird?" Shelter Island has been good to the Mahoneys and the island is fortunate to have had the Mahoneys join the island community nearly 25 years ago.



Janine Mahoney and her daughter Keri Ann on "Sharky" durin their first summer on Shelter Island.

We would love to hear from from you!

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SAT GOES DIGITAL IN 2024

BY FRANCIS REGAN

Last issue, my editorial explored the controversial college admissions requirement of SAT/ACT test scores and how the pandemic had shifted perspectives on just how vital these standardized tests are. Since my last editorial, the College Board has announced that they will make the SAT entirely online and shorten it from 3 hours to 2 hours, beginning in 2024. The College Board claims, "The digital SAT will be easier to take, easier to give, and more relevant."

So, according to the College Board, a digital SAT will expand accessibility. I wonder, however, will public schools in low income districts have the technology and equipment necessary to administer a high-stakes digital exam to hundreds or even thousands of students at once? The College Board also notes that the test will be "easier to take." This will not be true for many, many students. Yes, we are computer literate, but high school students do not regularly

take exams on computers. This will be a completely new and foreign experience for SAT takers in 2024. As for how this shift will make the SAT more "relevant," that remains to be seen. Will question types change? Or, does the College Board simply mean by shortening the test, it is more appropriate? Who knows.

My takeaway is, this is a desperate attempt by a dying business to stay relevant. The College Board saw how disposable standardized testing was during the pandemic, they heard public criticism about tests being discriminatory and antiquated measures of determining college success, and now they are "rebranding" to try to remain vital. My hope is, the slow death SATs are experiencing right now continues, and students in the future will be untethered to these exams which are not proven indicators of academic capability on a college level.

THESIS TOPICS 2022

BY FRANCIS REGA

Every year, seniors are required to complete a researched-based thesis paper on a topic of their choice. Getting to see the variety of topics chosen by students is always interesting. Here are this year's topics:

ANGELINA RICE: Instead of being ridiculed by the public/media, Kanye West should be supported for being open about his struggles with mental health.

VALERIA REYES: People should stop supporting fast fashion brands and support the slow fashion movement to benefit the environment, their budgets, and more.

MYLA DOUGHERTY: American political extremism is similar to organized cults, has been reinforced by the internet/social media, and is weakening independent thought and democracy.

EVAN SCHACK: Deep sea exploration has more opportunity and potential than space exploration and deserves more focus.

FRANNY REGAN: Emetophobia (fear of throwing up) is more than an irrational fear, it is an anxiety disorder that requires more research and correct diagnoses for sufferers.

EMMETT CUMMINGS: Targeted advertisements harm consumers through price increases,

decreased competition, invasion of privacy, and overall lack of regulation.

ARIANA CARTER: The impacts of harmful and unrealistic beauty standards for black women.

LILY PAGE: Plant based diets have lesser known, surprising health benefits that help debunk the misconception that the vegan diet is inadequate.

OLIVIA OVERSTREET: There are many therapeutic benefits to simulation video games.

DARIA KOLOMOGOROVA: Positive thinking, affirmations, and meditation should be included in school curriculum as essential life skills.

DAYLA REYES: Public appearances, for media purposes, should not be mandated by professional athletes.

IZZY FONESCA: Females with ADHD are being misdiagnosed due to sexist stereotypes.

TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: FACULTY/STAFF EDITION

BY EVAN SCHACK

How well do you really know your teachers and the school staff? Below are some facts about people you may see everyday. However, some of these facts may be a bit... exaggerated. See if you can spot which are the truths, and which are the lies...

Mr. Brigham:

- 1. I'm the oldest of three siblings.
- 2. I enjoy reading romance novels.
- 3. I was born in the Bronx.

Mrs. Mulrain:

- 1. I hate broccoli.
- 2. I'm the oldest of three siblings.
- 3. I'm a physical education teacher.

Mr. Stingo:

- 1. I know Muay Thai.
- 2. I have written a novel.
- 3. I drive a classic car.

Mrs. Treharne:

- I once broke my left arm the day I got my right arm out of a cast.
- 2. I walked Tom Cruise's dog.
- 3. I am a downhill skier.

Nurse Mary:

- 1. I love cats.
- 2. I grew up in NJ.
- 3. I used to work at the Islander.

Mrs. Colligan:

- 1. I have traveled to at least six countries.
- 2. I am the youngest of six children.
- 3. I have six cats.

Mrs. Weir:

- 1. I have my motorcycle license.
- 2. I've been skydiving.
- 3. I've been an auctioneer for NASCAR.

Mrs. Lang:

- 1. I never had a pet growing up.
- 2. I am a certified SCUBA diver.
- 3. I have a twin sister.

Dr. Doelger:

- 1. I lived in NJ.
- 2. I lived in Chicago.
- 3. I lived in a monastery.

Mr. Theinert:

- 1. I could dunk a basketball in high school.
- 2. I have been to 50 states.
- 3. I have a scar from a marshmallow burn.

NURSE MARY: FASHION ICON

BY SOPHIE CLARK

everyday as our school nurse, but that does not mean she doesn't express her own unique style! Nurse Mary's scrubs collection is extensive, featuring everything from animals, to tv shows, to seasonally inspired prints. Nurse Mary began building her scrubs collection long ago. She explains, "It all started when I first began working here. Ms. Edie was the school secretary and

Nurse Mary may have to wear scrubs she would dress up in extravagant clothing for the holidays and I felt pressured to dress up on the holidays, too." Then, Nurse Mary realized, "The more outrageous the scrubs prints are, the cheaper they are! So, I began to build a collection." She may have "over 50 scrubs tops and pants in every color of the rainbow, but my favorite are a pair of Halloween scrubs I have because I really like Halloween and they have a cool design." It

is not just scrubs Nurse Mary has collected over the years, however, she also has a large pin collection. It is another way she expresses herself each day. She says, "My pins all have a deeper meaning. Not many people know, but the people who do know, can tell what kind of day I am having or mood I am in just by looking at my pin." In the mornings, Nurse Mary, stands in front of her pin board to see which pin "calls out" to

her and "that will be the one for the day." Her favorite pin is a "two cent pin I made myself and my close second favorite is a volume knob I have because I can turn it up and down," Nurse Mary shares. The next time you see Nurse Mary in the hallway, take a minute to appreciate her fun scrubs and don't forget to take a peek at her pin of the day to get some insight into how her week might be going!



TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: STUDENT EDITION

John Torres:

- 1. I said, "I want to paint the world blue, but I am stuck as the Duke of Paris".
- 2. I can bench press 90 pounds.
- 3. I have 4 brothers.

Angie Rice:

- 1. I love reality TV.
- 2. My favorite season is winter.
- 3. My favorite color is green.

Nathan Cronin:

- 1. I am a natural blonde.
- 2. I love legos.
- 3. I have 2 brothers.

Myla Dougherty:

- 1. I can shake my eyes.
- 2. I can touch my nose with my tongue.
- 3. I can't bend one of my knuckles

Luca Martinez:

- 1. One time I got lost in the school.
- 2. I love the album "Whole Lotta Red" by Playboi Carti.
- 3. I scored a buzzer 3 pointer.

Valeria Reyes:

- 1. I flew out of a golf cart going down a hill.
- 2. I stood one foot in front of 2. Sewing is my favorite Billie Eliish.
- 3. I met Kendall Jenner at Sunset Beach.

Daria Kolmogorova:

- 1. My favorite food is Asian food.
- pastime.
- 3. My favorite movie genre is 3. I've watched the One comedy.

Harrison Weslek:

- 1. I went to a Jacob Sartorius concert.
- 2. I crashed my dirt bike into a barn.
- Direction documentary 5 times.

Emmett Cummings:

- 1. I have 2 brothers.
- 2. I am 6 foot.
- 3. I like cheese.

Dayla Reyes:

- 1. My dog drowned in the water near the ferry.
- 2. I committed to Michigan State.
- 3. I took crochet lessons.

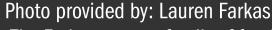
Leo Dougherty:

- 1. I have had 12+ pairs of glasses in my life.
- 2. I've had stitches 3 times.
- 3. My most listened to album is Ice Dancer by Bladee.

BABY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BY BELLA SPRINGER





The Farkases are a family of four! Congratulations to Mrs. Lauren Farkas, Mr. Michael Farkas, & new big brother Ray!!! Their newest addition, Mallory Kate Farkas, was born on February 7, 2022 at 10:07 pm, weighing in at 6 lbs., 9 oz., and measuring 20 inches long. Congratulations Farkas family!



Photo provided by Mrs. Kerri Knipfing The Knipfing brothers: William Knipfing (5), Luke Knipfing (2), and new baby Matthew Knipfing.

Congratulations to the Knipfing family on their newest addition, baby Matthew! Mrs. Knipfing reports that baby Matthew is "the sweetest little man and a wonderful addition to our family. Matthew is adored by his big brothers and proud parents."

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF JAMES DURRAN

BY LEONARDO DOUGHERTY

Ever wonder what your classmates do all day? Some of us go to school, go home, do homework (or not), and repeat. Others have a lot more going on. Here is a day in the life of sophomore runner James Durran.

James sets his alarm for 7:00 am, but his passion for running gets him up by 6:30. James heads out for an impressive two-mile run, returning at 6:45 am for a shower and banana. He does any homework that he didn't do the night before and then gets on the school bus at 7:40 am with his brother Ozzy Durran. When James gets to school and says goodbye to Ozzy, he heads to his

1st-period Biology class.

On the day I caught up with him, James was learning an impressive array of information. In first-period Biology, James learned about the reproductive system, then headed to 2nd period P.E. to participate in cosmic bowling. Then, it's on to 3rd period British Literature, in which, on this particular day, James had to write an essay. 4th period AP European History had James looking into imperialism in Africa, China, and India. In 5th Algebra, he solved square root functions. 6th period Spanish found James studying "family" vocabulary.

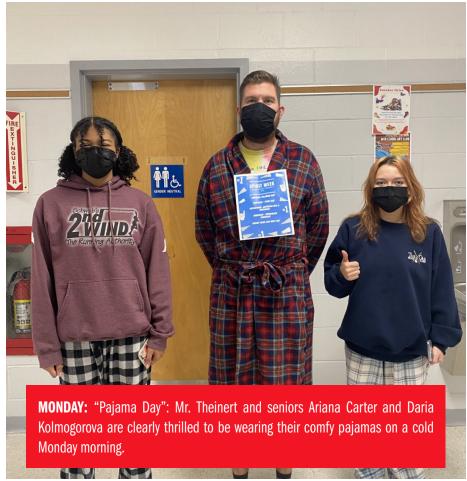
Finally, it was time for James's lunch period. On B days, James enjoys lunch and heads to the basketball court if it is nice outside. On A days, he heads to an elective class called "Science Research" during which he is learning about the effects of estrogen on fruit flies. 8th-period Health class was up next where James learned about the effects of vaping. James ended his day with Chorus.

When classes are done, James does not typically leave school. He either chats with teachers during their extra help periods or hangs out with friends until track practice begins at 3:15 pm. James again runs until

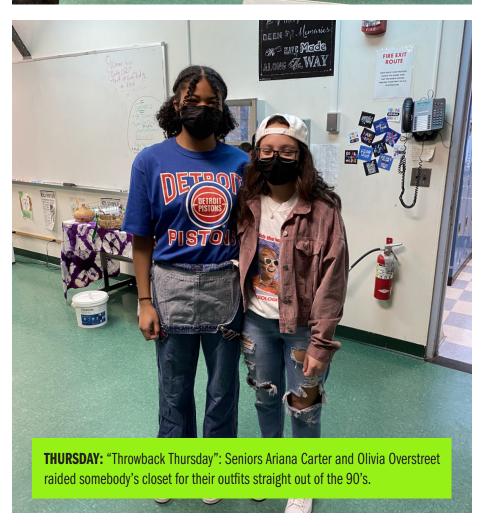
4:30 pm. Next, if there are any junior high sports games, he will go, and if not, he will go to the library and hang out.

James then heads home, studies for any upcoming tests (on this day it was AP European History), and is out the door again by 6 pm for play practice. When practice ends at 7:30 pm, James finally chills out and eats a nutritious meal for dinner. After letting himself digest, James goes on yet another 1.5 mile run to end the day, then showers and relaxes until he goes to bed sometime before 11:30 pm. That is an (exhausting) day in the life of James Durran.

BY ANGELINA RICE & FRANNY REGAN











Compatibility Quiz

By Leonardo Dougherty

This Valentine's Day, instead of spending time with a romantic partner of my own, I spent my time creating a compatibility quiz that calculates the likelihood of the quiz takers to be a perfect match, whether friends or maybe more. The test has 20 questions, including what music you listen to, how to ask out a crush, where you would like to travel, and what to look for in a new friend.



>35% match

they were a couple.

Sophomore Noah Green and senior Emmett Cummings would both travel to Japan if they had the chance. Freshman Johanna Kaasik and senior Angelina Rice consider an ideal date heading to their favorite artist's concert.

Juniors John Febles-Torres and Sebastian Romero both hit up the Shelter Island Pharmacy for breakfast whenever

Sophomore Hayden Davidson and junior Andrea Napoles would dress up as Shaggy and Scooby for Halloween if

Senior Myla Dougherty and junior Luca Martinez Netflix and chill with "The Office."

A majority of quiz takers responded: they enjoy every type of music, they would prefer to hang out with friends on a day off, and that consider themselves not too introverted or too extroverted, but someplace in between.

The question to receive the most varied answer was #17: What gift do you get your partner on Valentine's Day?

WINTER SPORTS WRAP-UP

BY ANGELINA RICE

The winter sports season has come to an end and spring sports are about to start up! Let's take a look back at the basketball, cheer, and track season.

Varsity Basketball: Islanders basketball was anything but traditional this season: beginning the season with a mixed boys and girls JV squad and an all-boys varsity basketball team, which then gave way to an all-boys varsity team, which transitioned yet again when the team closed out the season's last two games playing as JV team. To clarify, since there were not enough girls to have a girls basketball team this season, girls combined with the JV boys team at the beginning of the season. With COVID complications and other challenges throughout the season, the JV team then merged into one varsity team, unfortunately excluding the girls who wanted to play. As a varsity team, the boys hustled their way through the season coming out with no wins, but lots of lessons learned. Yet, the season

officially came to a close when the team slid down to JV designation and notched a thrilling home court win against Greenport for Emmett Cummings' senior night, which sent the crowd and cheerleaders into roars of excited screams and celebration. About the season, varsity starter Harrison Weslek says, "I enjoyed practicing and working on my personal game and I'm looking forward to next season." At the pep rally hosted by the cheerleaders, Coach Michael Mundy urged the younger kids in the school to participate in future seasons and keep supporting the team as much as possible. Captain Elijah Davidson piggy-backed on his coach's request of future high schoolers saying, "This season was key preparation for next season." Although it wasn't a winning season, the entire Shelter Island community always looks forward to supporting the team all season long.

Winter Track: It was another successful track season for the girls and boys track

teams. Last year their meets took place outside due to COVID-19 protocols, but this year, their meets took place inside over the weekends at Suffolk County Community College. The trip was worth it for them, as the team broke multiple school records this season. Sophomores Kaitlyn Gulluscio and Sophie Clark both broke shot put school records, Leo Dougherty broke a 55-meter dash school record, and almost everyone on both teams broke personal records in their events. Teams are now training in between seasons for spring track that will be coached by Toby Green and Ms. Erin Mulraine. With Mr. Green coaching the boys and Ms. Mulraine coaching the girls, next season should be another great track season for Shelter Island.

Cheerleading: After two seasons with under 10 girls on the team and an unprecedented COVID season of cheering to an empty gym, this year the varsity cheerleading squad had a total of 14 girls, which created

what seemed like endless possibilities for Coach Michelle Corbett. New floor cheers, sideline cheers, formations, and stunts were performed in between periods at basketball games, keeping the morale and team spirit up during challenging games for the boys. "I am so proud of all the cheerleaders who worked so hard this season," Ms. Corbett shared. Captains Lily Page, Ariana Carter, and Margaret Schultheis worked so hard and did a great job this season keeping all the girls motivated through the ever-changing rules and regulations of this winter season. Senior cheerleaders including, Lily Page, Olivia Overstreet, Francis Regan, Angelina Rice, and Ariana Carter were sent off at the final home game with some younger girls on the team giving heartfelt speeches for them. A mix of happy and sad tears were shed, but overall, it was a joyous night in the Shelter Island High School gym.

MYSTERY MONDAYS

BY HAYDEN RYLOTT

The last couple of years were just flat out miserable. COVID made school remote, friends remote, and motivation to do much of anything remote. It has been difficult to get back into a school routine and feel energized. The winter season has not been helpful, either. So, in response, the social-emotional team at Shelter Island School pitched "Mystery Mondays." The head of the Social Emotional Team, Jennifer Rylott, explains: "Mystery Mondays came out of a conversation the social emotional team

had with teachers who were concerned about students who were expressing that they didn't want to be in school. Teachers were seeing very little class participation, a lot of unmotivated students, and students expressing a desire to be at home and do remote learning." The goal of "Mystery Mondays" according to Mrs. Rylott is to "improve morale in the building. We wanted everyone to look forward to coming to school and Mondays seemed to be the common day people didn't want to come

into school." So far, "Mystery Mondays" have included a Monday when no homework was to be assigned, one during which a few periods of the day were replaced with a "Super Smash Bros." video game tournament and/or movie, one on which there was a raffle for student prizes, and a Monday on which all students got a baggie of doughnut holes. The most recent "Mystery Monday" canceled students' first period classes to enjoy an open gym period with classmates. The response to "Mystery

Mondays" has been positive. Sophomore James Durran shares, "I like 'Mystery Mondays,' they're interesting and it's something new." Freshman Nathan Cronin added, "My favorite "Mystery Monday" was the Smash Bros. tournament because it gave us something to look forward to and we could have fun with. I liked that we spent three periods out of class playing." No one knows what the next "Mystery Mondays" will bring, but the idea seems to be motivating students, which is a good thing.

SOPHOMORES VISIT BOCES

BY SOPHIE CLARK

On February 2nd, the sophomore class went on a trip to the Riverhead BOCES campus to check out possible programs they could take during their junior and senior years of high school for credits in a trade they might be interested in. Guidance Counselor Ms.

Martha Tuthill set the trip up to help sophomores get a first-hand look at the site to get an idea if the programs could be of interest in the future. Programs "toured" included: Nursing, Culinary Arts, Mechanical Engineering, Education, Auto Engineering,

Automotive Tech, and Animal Science. Sophomore Harper Congdon reflected on her experience at BOCES saying, "The programs were well thought out and offer great hands-on experience. Though the program isn't for me, the trip was very informative." Sophomore

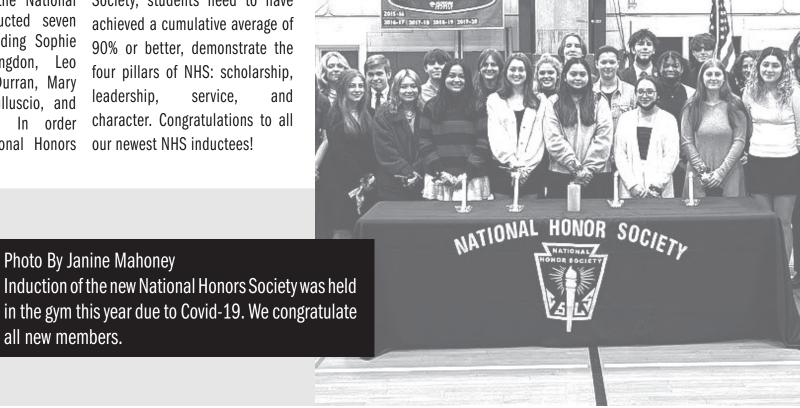
Kaitlyn Gulluscio, another sophomore who does not plan on following the BOCES path, nonetheless thought, "It was a great experience and was very informative and I liked how it was a real-life experience students get to learn from."

NATIONAL HONORS SOCIETY INDUCTION

BY VALERIA REYES

On January 27, the National Honor Society inducted seven new members including Sophie Clark, Harper Congdon, Leo Dougherty, James Durran, Mary Gennari, Kaitlyn Gulluscio, and Mackenzie Speece. In order to qualify for National Honors

Society, students need to have achieved a cumulative average of 90% or better, demonstrate the four pillars of NHS: scholarship, leadership, service, character. Congratulations to all our newest NHS inductees!





in the gym this year due to Covid-19. We congratulate all new members.

SOUL-GNOSIS: SHELTER ISLAND'S FIRST METAPHYSICAL SHOP

Photo By Janine Mahoney

BY ANNABELLA SPRINGER

A small pop-up is coming to Shelter Island. The mother-daughter owned business, Soul-Gnosis, is one of Shelter Island's first metaphysical stores and will be located inside the Dirt Beauty Landscape & Design Studio next to Stars Cafe. The store will offer a variety of items including many different types of crystals, candles, plants, herbs and even artwork from local artists. When asking the owner, Katherine Franzoni what her vision is for the store, Katherine replied, "I hope to make Soul-Gnosis an experience where you can come and cleanse your energy into a positive light. Where the weight of the world just falls away and you leave with more than you came with." Soul-Gnosis is an interesting name for a business, Katherine Franzoni explained the origin: "The word 'Gnosis' is the title of spiritual magazines that first came out in 1985, it is also a common Greek noun for knowledge. More specifically, 'gnosis' is defined as 'knowledge of spiritual truth essential to salvation." Katherine chose this name because, "It inspired me, I wanted to have a name that no one else had, something that captures the importance of knowing yourself and the powers of the universe. Similar to a spiritual awakening." Soul-Gnosis will be open Saturdays and Sundays 11am-3pm. However, hours and days are subject to change and will be posted outside of the store. Follow their Instagram @soul_gnosis. Hope to see some of you soon!



THE RESURGENCE OF FORTNITE

BY HAYDEN RYLOTT

Fortnite, a battle royale game which can be played individually or with up to 4 people, reached peak popularity in 2018. The ultimate goal of Fortnite is to win the "victory royale," which means you are the last one standing after battling and defeating rivals. In 2018, Fortnite boasted 78.3 million monthly players. Then, from 2019-2021, Fortnite declined in popularity due to game changes and fan base fanaticism that did not appeal to some players.

more popular than ever with more than $80.4\,$ million Fortnite monthly active users and up to 4 million concurrent players every day.

Fortnite has more players now than ever before, but why is this? I interviewed a few people who used to play Fortnite and now have recently started playing again to see what they had to say. Ninth grader Harrison Weslek said, "I stopped because fools devoted their life to Fortnite and became

Yet, now, as of 2022, Fortnite is back and sweaty and started to crank 90's on me. added, "Harrison and Dayla got me back [Meaning, players were trying too hard to be too competitive and were building unnecessarily over the top defensive structures.] I started playing Fortnite again because there was a new chapter with a new map and Dwayne the Rock Johnson was added into the game. Also, Dayla Reyes convinced me to get back into the game. So, I made my New Year's resolution to play Fortnite." Tenth grader Hayden Davidson

into playing Fortnite. The reason why I stopped playing was because the game became completely terrible, but now the game is fun again." Will this resurgence of Fortnite last? That remains to be seen, but for now, there are millions of people chasing a victory royale.

HAYDEN'S HOT LIST * * * *



With winter coming to an end and spring right around the corner, let's see what shows there are to watch for the upcoming spring season.

"PEACEMAKER" "Peacemaker" is a spin-off series of "The Suicide Squad" on HBO Max. The show follows Chris Smith, aka Peacemaker, who has been hired by the government to join a task force that is fighting against an alien invasion. "Peacemaker" is definitely one of the best DC shows ever made and probably has the greatest opening sequence out of any show. "Peacemaker" is a comedy, but it still has fantastic and emotionally deep scenes. "Peacemaker" is written by James Gunn who also wrote "The Gaurdians of the Galaxy" movies and "The Suicide Squad." So, if you enjoyed any of those movies, then you should watch "Peacemaker".

RATING: 5/5 STARS

"DICKINSON" "Dickinson" imagines Emily Dickinson as a budding writer, using her outsider's perspective to explore the constraints of society, gender, and family in the 19th century. The show is hilarious, yet very inspiring at the same time. It leaves me wanting to write poetry as a hobby. "Dickinson" also cleverly explores problems of the 19th century including slavery and women's rights. The show's third and final season has recently concluded on Apple TV + and I highly recommend this series. The show is great to binge watch and is a fantastic tv comedy show that straddles the genres of romanticism and realism.

RATING: 5/5 STARS

"THE BOOK OF BOBA FETT" If you are a fan of "The Mandalorian" then there is no reason for you to not watch "The Book of Boba Fett." Since there was no new "The Mandalorian" season this winter, we got "The Book of Boba Fett." The series takes place on the sands of Tatoonie, where bounty hunter Boba Fett and mercenary Fennec Shand navigate the Galaxy's underworld and fight for Jabba the Hutt's old territory. The series just wrapped up its first season on Disney + and it was a decent show. I find that the first half of the season was a bit slow and lackluster, but it definitely got better at the end. If you are a fan of any of the Star Wars movies or shows, or sci-fi in general, then I recommend watching "The Book of Boba Fett." RATING: 4/5 STARS

"SCREAM" The newest "Scream" movie takes place twenty-five years after a streak of brutal murders shocked the quiet town of Woodsboro, California. A new killer dons the Ghostface mask and begins targeting a group of teenagers to resurrect secrets from the town's deadly past. The new "Scream" movie isn't good, if I'm going to be honest. The plot is fairly weak and the characters are very uninteresting and boring. It's always interesting watching a murder mystery, so maybe if you are interested in those types of movies, you can watch "Scream, but don't put it at the top of your list.

RATING: 2.5/5 STARS

COOKIE DEALER

BY VALERIA REYES

Recently, I took a trip to Tanger Outlets in Riverhead, and got the chance to test out a new pop-up shop called My Cookie Dealer which is a family company run by Karen and Juan Morel. It all started when Karen started making cookies for Juan and all it took was one of those cookies to be packed as a snack for Juan at the gym. People wanted to know how they could get their hands on the cookies, so Karen made more. The requests from friends and family were more than their kitchen could handle, so Karen started baking in her best friend's bakery in the middle of the night and selling out of the back of her blacked-out SUV in the parking lots of bodybuilding competitions Juan participated in.

My Cookie Dealer's cookies weigh about half a pound each, which makes it difficult to eat in one sitting, especially without a

drink in hand. The flavors range from a huge classic chocolate chip cookie to a variety of stuffed delights including creative cookies like: "Chuckles Overload" (chopped Snickers & chocolate chip batter, stuffed with a funsized Snickers bar, dipped in chocolate icing with chopped Snickers candy on top), "Cannoli Cheesecake" (cheesecakeflavored cannoli shell batter with chocolate chips, filled with a chocolate chip cinnamon cream cheese frosting, (topped with cannoli shell pieces, dusted with powdered sugar), "Hot Fudge Sundae Toaster" (hot fudge sundae Pop-Tarts & chocolate chips, filled with vanilla creme, dipped in vanilla icing with rainbow sprinkles), "Peanut Butter Jelly Time"(chopped peanuts & peanut butter chip batter, filled with strawberry jam), and many more.

On my visit, I picked out a "Red Velvet

Crumb Cake" cookie, "Rainbow S'mores," and the classic "Chocolate Chip" cookie. Their prices range from \$5 dollars to \$7 dollars per cookie. That may seem a bit pricey for a cookie, but I think it's worth it because of the size (they really are huge!) and experience of all the cool flavors.

Ok, let's get into the taste part of this review. I personally think a perfect cookie is made up of a crunchy outside and soft inside. My Cookie Dealer's cookies nailed this one because each cookie is warmed in the oven right before they give it to you, so the inside melts in your mouth and is the perfect texture. I personally like a balance of sweet and salty and these cookies were definitely more on the sweet side. So, that balance for me was lacking. But my personal favorite was "Rainbow S'mores." It was so good because it didn't have an overloaded amount of chocolate chips like the other two had and it tasted like a sugar cookie with sprinkles, along with a s'more you just took off the fireplace. The cookie itself filled me up after two bites, so it would be best shared or plan to save some for later. Also, be mindful that each cookie is right around 1000 calories or right under, so this is not a light snack. Even though I would not rank these in my top cookies ever tasted, the experience of "My Cookie Dealer" was a lot of fun. There are so many flavor options and the pop-up store is very unique. If you are in Tanger, definitely give it a try. Overall, I give the cookies I had from "My Cookie Dealer" an 8/10. They were delicious, just too sweet for me.

WORDLEOBSESSED BY VALERIA REYES

The new big thing around the school (and the country) is Wordle. Wordle is a web-based word game that gives players six chances to guess a randomly selected five-letter word. Part of the appeal of Wordle is its simplicity: it is free, it is easy to access, anyone can play, and for many people it has become a communal experience. When playing Wordle, you are trying to guess a five-letter word and you have six total tries, meaning you can enter up to five "burner words" from which you learn hints about the letters and their placements. If you have the right letter in

the right spot, it shows up green. A correct letter in the wrong spot shows up yellow. A letter that isn't in the word in any spot shows up gray. The goal is to "solve" the word in as few chances as possible. There is a new Wordle everyday, but only one, and you only get 6 guesses each day, so it is also a minimal commitment. All Wordle players get the same word, so it's best if you don't give friends hints so you can have bragging rights that you guessed the word in less tries than them. You can even Wordle-brag to your friends by sharing your "solve" which does

not show the word, but does show how many attempts it took you to discover the word. Wordle also keeps track of your winning streak, so that is added pressure to not fail the Wordle of the day.

Wordle was created by Josh Wardle, a software engineer from New York. He originally created the game for his partner, a big fan of word games while the country was in lockdown during the pandemic. After Wordle went viral, Josh Wardle explains that it became "very overwhelming." From just November 2021 to February 2022, Wordle went from 90 daily players to over 2.5 million and is still growing exponentially. It is no surprise then that the announcement came in early February that the New York Times is in the process of purchasing Wordle for a reportedly low 7-figure deal. That is a pretty sweet deal for Josh Wardle; for the rest of us, let's enjoy our time with Wordle while it is free before the Times undoubtedly puts it behind a paywall or fills it with ads.

NEW YORK FASHION WEEK STREETWEAR: A TRIBUTE

As the school days get longer and graduation approaches. I find myself scrolling through Vogue.com (when I should be paying attention in class), stalking the streetwear from New York Fashion Week. From February 11 to February 17, the 2022 New York Fashion Week took place with fashion shows displaying designer brands like Coach and Michael Kors while celebrities sat in exclusive front row seats. But, what always catches my eye during fashion week, is the streetwear being worn by those attending fashion shows. Fashion appreciators come from all corners of the globe to show off their most meticulously planned outfits in front of endless cameras and even potentially important figures from the fashion industry. It's incredible to see the

season's trends interpreted through each individual's expression of their personality.

This season, because of the weather in New York and this winter's trends, there were endless examples of jackets and unique layering. I'd say the biggest trend right now in fashion is puffer coats, puffer scarves, puffer everything. The next trend would have to be long trench coats. Sometimes paired with a belt to cinch the waist, sometimes layered with a pop-of-color button down or zip-up hoodie, and most commonly worn with cargo pants and army boots. Color coordination has a special place in my heart personally, and I'm happy to say there were endless creative, cohesive examples of it on the streets of New York this week. Sunglasses matching shoes, vests matching dresses,

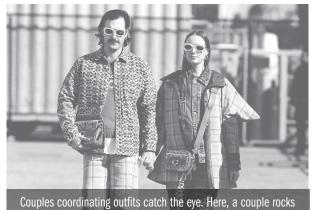
bland shirts livened up with coordinating statement pants or accessories, the list goes on. My favorite example of color coordination is a good monochrome moment. I think a full outfit of one color is so sophisticated and can hardly ever go wrong. Another version of coordination I've seen in my research is couples coordinating patterns, which is absolutely beautiful and very pleasing to the eye. One couple, on their way to a Coach show coordinated looks flawlessly: the man wore a Coach symbol denim jacket with yellow, orange, green, and brown wideleg plaid pants and pink, square shaped sunglasses. Next to him, his lady reversed his look: she wore a jacket in the same pattern as the man's pants, and her pants matched the plaid of her man's jacket. She

also donned even chunkier square shaped

Streetwear strikes me especially because I just know how long each person has waited to show off their best outfits while they attend the shows. All in all, Fashion Week, regardless of its location, provides millions of people around the world with inspiration, excitement, and entertainment. What I believe is the best part is that there is a place in the world of fashion for anyone and everyone. If you don't enjoy runway, you may love to see what show-goers wear. If you don't love streetwear, you may find the art and beauty in the design aspect of it all.







Coach patterns in reverse, creating a gem of a fashion moment.

TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: STUDENT EDITION KEY: SEE BELOW THE LIES OUR STUDENTS TOLD US.

Emmett Cummings: I am 6 foot 4.

Luca Martinez: I love the album "Whole Lotta Red" by Playboi Carti.

John Torres: I have 4 brothers.

Harrison Weslek: I've watched the one direction documentary 5 times.

Leo Dougherty: My most listened to album is Ice Dancer by Bladee.

Valeria Reyes: I met Kendall Jenner at sunset beach.

Davla Reves: I committed to Michigan State.

Myla Dougherty: I can touch my nose with my tongue.

Danae Carter: I love the snow.

Daria Kolmogorova: My favorite movie genre is comedy.

Angle Rice: My favorite season is winter

TWO TRUTHS AND A LIE: FACULTY EDITION KEY: SEE BELOW THE LIES OUR FACULTY/STAFF TOLD US.

Mrs. Mulrain: I hate broccoli.

Mr. Brigham: I enjoy reading romance novels

Mr. Stingo: I have written a novel.

Mrs. Colligan: I have six cats.

Nurse Mary: I love cats.

Dr. Doelger: I lived in NJ.

Mrs. Treharne: I once walked Tom Cruise's dog.

Mrs. Weir: I've been an auctioneer for NASCAR.

Mrs. Lang: I have a twin sister.

Mr. Theinert: I could dunk a baskethall in high school.

SHELTER ISLAND SPECIAL DAYS CALENDAR

BY MYLA DOUGHERTY

HOLIDAYS ARE SOME OF THE BEST TIMES OF YEAR, FROM CHRISTMAS TO HALLOWEEN, THEY ARE TIMES THAT PEOPLE CELEBRATE AND HAVE FUN! BUT DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE HOLIDAYS AND SPECIAL DAYS THAT MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT? FROM "PUT A PILLOW ON YOUR FRIDGE DAY" (FOR GOOD LUCK) ON MAY 29TH TO "INTERNATIONAL TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY" ON SEPTEMBER 19TH, THERE ARE COUNTLESS SPECIAL DAYS TO CELEBRATE. WE DECIDED TO MAKE OUR OWN CALENDAR OF SHELTER ISLAND SPECIAL DAYS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL. SEND IN PICTURES OF YOU CELEBRATING OUR SPECIAL DAYS TO MYLA.DOUGHERTY@ SHELTERISLAND.K12.NY.US TO WIN A PRIZE AND GET FEATURED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					Prank a Teacher Day	Socks 2 Awareness Day
Find a 3 Rainbow Day	Anything 4 But a Car Day	Nap 5 Everywhere Day	Compliment a Teacher Day	7 Go viral on TikTok Day	8 Wordle Day	Read a Book Day
Meme Day	Pet Appreciation Day	Weird Hat Day	Do a 13 Grouch a Favor Day	Denim Day	Vending 15 Machine Day	Name 16 Yourself Day
Turkey 17 Admiration Day	Spring Sports Appreciation Day	Favorite Song Day	20 Watch SITV Day	Secret 21 Handshake Day	Island 22 Clean Up Day	Friend 23 Appreciation Day
Awkward 24 Moments Remembrance Day	Breakfast Every Meal Day	Step in a Puddle Day	Plant 27 Appreciation Day	Favorite Subject Day	School	Make Your

