



The Paw Print

Oxford Middle School
Oxford, MI

January 2019

By: Wyatt Ashley

From Battle Creek Michigan To Los Angeles California

The Oxford Robotics program has competitors all over the world. 5291 and 11320 both when to the Michigan States Championship. At the state championship, both teams did very good but were just not enough to get them to the world championship. The robotics team work very hard on the robots spending hundreds of hours building, programming, fixing, and wiring. The Michigan State championship was held in Battle Creek Michigan on the other side of the state. Michigan has the most teams for its size so large that they need to make a sperate district just for Michigan. The program that the robotics teams play in is FIRST of Michigan. Oxford Middle school has four robotics teams. Each team has to find at least three thousand dollars to run. FIRST robotics is very far-reaching and is all around the world. The next thing that the robotics teams are looking forward to is the lottery, yes the lottery. FIRST world program each year holds an event where they randomly pick a team that registered into the lottery and they get to go to the World Championship. This program also gives students an idea of what it is like in the engineering world and it also gives scholarship opportunities. The High School team is just starting there new 2019 season. The High school is much larger at over 50 students on the team.



Fired up after their last match the robot in the middle of the picture is 11231, one of the Oxford Middle School Robotics team, at the Oxford FIRST competition. This event had 42 teams show up and each team is made of a max of 15 students (theorangealliance.org). This competition is apart of a world wide program called FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). "FIRST Robotics is more than robots. The robots are a vehicle for students to learn important life skills. Kids often come in not knowing what to expect - of the program nor of themselves. They leave, even after the first season, with a vision, with confidence, and with a sense that they can create their own future"

- Dean Kamen.

Kate Rostuni in 8th grade said that it is a great program. She added that so many people got to see our school. Kate said that the FIRST program is great and the school should continue this wonderful program. Katie was one of the volunteers at the event. Kaite was a volunteer getting teams from one spot to another on time.

Alex Foster in 8th grade said that the robotics program was a great program. She also said that it was a great opportunity to show off the school. Alex also wanted to add that it is a thing that the school should continue year after year. Alex was a volunteer at the event.

Mr Hinks that teaches 8th-grade science thought that this is a wonderful program that should be continued each year. He thought that this advertised the school in a good way by host an event with almost a thousand showed for. He thought that the school should continue to grow this program if the interest expands.



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Artists in the Making



By: Sarah Mojek

Art club is a great place for kids to have fun and create amazing art. The art club meets twice a month in the art room and is run by Ms. McNeill. They meet the second and third Wednesday of every month.

6th grader Jack Grant is not in art club but said that he would like to join because he says, "When I grow up I want to be an artist and I think it will help my art skills." He thinks that the value of art club is "Working together and making art."

7th grader Mckenna Bovve says that she joined art club "because drawing is really fun and you get to create things." She also said that she would consider art as a career, but will probably not do it. When asked about the best thing about art club, she said, "The best thing is probably the people there that make it fun because drawing with them and creating things makes things fun."

8th grader Ava Kopitzki says, "I joined art club because I like to do creative stuff and my friend said I should join. In art club you can bring your art supplies and do whatever you want or the teacher will have an activity for us to do, like one week we made ornaments. I like art club because you can do whatever art activity you want and we can talk to each other and it is fun. The best thing about art club would be the freedom to do what we want that makes us happy and it's not as controlling as other things."

"Art club is a place where kids can finish work or create there own art." - Ella Cordes



Some students at OMS are very talented, using the time in art club to create beautiful things and practice drawing. According to www.americaforthearts.com A student involved in the arts is four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement. Former president Barack Obama once said "The future belongs to young people with an education and the imagination to create."



COMPETITIVE CHEER

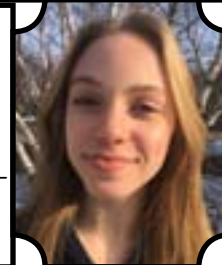
Competitive cheer is one of the many sports OMS provides to the students. In competitive cheer participants learn two rounds of routines that consist of tumbling, stunting, motions, splits, and jumps. In January and February they go to Participants all over Michigan. The first competition they go to is in Anchor Bay, Michigan.

Competitive cheer isn't all fun and games like everyone thinks. It involves a lot of hard work and effort. For example, every week there is 7 and a half hours a week of practice, including an hour and a half gymnastics session with a professional gymnastics coach. They spend hours learning two rounds of routines that they have to memorize before the first competitions in January. The rounds are usually 2 minutes and 30 seconds long and take hours of preparation outside of practice. The coaches alone have to choreograph two 2' minute cheers that fit the rules of the MSAA. For example, an extension in cheer without a front spot is illegal which means you will get a large penalty against your total score. Each competition has approximately 8 teams that attend the competitions. Teams from all over Michigan come to the competition to compete to hopefully get first place. The competitions they go to are Anchor Bay, Clio, Middle School Mashup in Fraser, Grand Blanc, All Country Spirit, and Oxford. In conclusion, these cheerleaders are spending hours on end working hard to make 2 rounds perfect before performing them every weekend in January and two weekends in February.



6th grader Lilly Bunton says, "My favorite tumbling pass is a round off back handspring because I just got it recently. Also my favorite stunt is a twist cradle. I am also most excited for the middle school mashup competition cause it sounds fun."

7th grader Madison McGuire says, "I like competitions because they are really exciting and everyone is really loud and excited to cheer. Also I like to do extensions because its a more complicated stunt. I am also really excited to go to the Anchor Bay competition because it is a bigger school and they have a lot of cheer leaders."



8th grader Alana Gizinski says, "I like to go to competitions because they are really fun and you have all your friends with you. Also, my favorite stunt would have to be an extension or a lib. I am also excited for the Grand Blanc competition because we did really good at the competition last year. Also, my favorite tumbling skill would be a front tuck."



By Hailey May



Stunting is the most dangerous thing you do in cheer. If a flyer falls they could break a bone, get a concussion, and maybe even end up in the hospital. According to BetterBraces.com "Back injuries are also common in cheerleading, largely from tumbling and stunts. Back injuries can be caused by twisting and rotating in stunts or tumbling passes and from lifting, catching, or falling during stunts." Personally I have pulled multiple muscles, sprained my ankle, sprained my knee, and have had flyers fall on my head multiple times but the pain was worth it in the end.





BASKETBALL TEAMWORK



By: Katherine Lewis

According to www.sfia.com, over 15.5 million people play basketball, and every single team works together to block a pass or to score a point. Teams with talented players have an (obvious) advantage, but they are not guaranteed success. Talent is not enough by itself to win a championship. Basketball is a team game. Thus teamwork is an essential ingredient to success. Players must put the team first.



8th grader Brody Burns says teamwork and motivation is an important aspect in a basketball game. “We all have to work together during a basketball game if we want to do good. My buddies Cam Jarrett and Ricky Green always yell at me to score a point or something.”



8th grader Jacob Bouren says, “My teammates and I are all really good friends, so we automatically push each other to do our very best to score some wins.” Bouren really enjoys playing basketball because he says that the game is always in the moment, and fast-paced.



8th grader Tate Myre enjoys playing basketball because he likes being able to play with his close friends. Myre’s teammates all look out for one another during their games, “My teammates are always watching out for one another. We remind them to do their best.” says Myre.



8th grader Jacob Bouren enjoys playing basketball during open gym. He is also on the 8th grade boys basketball team. “I like basketball because you get to play or play against your friends. You all work together.” says Bouren.

“A BASKETBALL TEAM IS LIKE THE FIVE FINGERS ON YOUR HAND. IF YOU CAN GET THEM ALL TOGETHER, YOU HAVE A FIST. THAT’S HOW I WANT YOU TO PLAY.”

MIKE KRZYZEWSKI

ELECTRONIC TEXTBOOKS?

Dominic Crocenzi

Should we rely on paperback or start heading towards the future with digital textbooks. The good thing with digital textbooks is that if students forget them they can pull up the website or app but with a paperback textbook, students will have to go back to their locker to get their book rather than rather using their device to open the online version.



Advantages of paperback are that they are reliable if the power goes out or the internet goes down or the devices were not charged. Disadvantages are that they are not portable, take up a lot of space and can't be updated to the newer version without having to spend a large amount of money. Advantages of having Digital textbooks are the storage, portable, stay updated but will become unusable if the power or internet shuts down and they need to be charged they won't be usable.

8th grade Math Teacher Mrs. McDonough prefers online textbooks because "They are More reliable but Electronic textbooks offer an advantage so if students forget theirs they can look it up online."



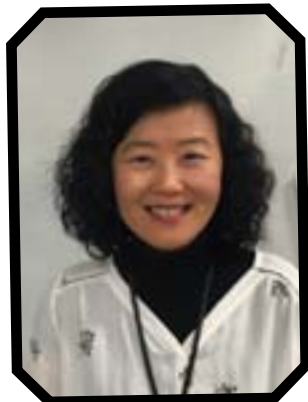
7th grader Kyle Kavc declares that "I would preferably use the electronic textbooks because they are easily storable and are faster." He currently uses online textbooks for 3 of his classes.



6th Grader David Hixon states that his favorite over the two is the "Electronic textbooks because they are easier to read and are less heavy and easier to carry around"



What Did Teachers do?



6th grade Chinese teacher Mrs. Liu was asked what after school activities she did in high school, and she said, "I was a member of newspaper group and also poem club."



7th grade teacher Mrs. Gibson was asked when she was in Middle school if she played or did any school activities/sports. She said, "I played volleyball in middle school for a couple years. I loved it."



Elizabeth Rice
8th grade history teacher Mr. Clark was asked what sports did he play in high school. He said, "I played football and power lifting. I loved them."



Most people don't think about what activities teachers did in high school or middle school, but three teachers were singled out and asked what activities they did in high school/middle school. If you think about it most teachers were like us when they were in middle school, they played sports, did after school activities, hung out with friends and did homework. Just because some classes aren't interesting to you, it doesn't mean the teacher can't be. They were also a kid at some point too.



To be a teacher you need to have a lot of social skills. According to classroom.synonym.com to be a good teacher you have to go to schooling for 5 years, but to be a great one you should go to school for 6. To gain those social skills playing on a sports team or being in an after school activity may have helped teachers become better. I asked 8th grader Cece what she thinks about the teachers also being kids once, she says, "It is weird to think about that they were just like us at one point."

COLLEGE

Life

By: Olivia Clark

College is not only a time to study hard and learn new things, it can also be a time to make memories. Going to college can give you new experiences that you'll carry with you forever. It's also a period in your life when you get a chance to prove you can be responsible. For example in college can open your mind up to what it's like to be an adult. Also, college is a great time to make form new friendships and meet intersteing people. Overall college is a great learning experience. Many of staff here at Oxford Middle School attended college and learned a lot from it. So what were some highlights for some our teachers?



Looking back at her college experience, Mrs. Kimec feels proud to be a Michigan State graduate. According to the official Michigan State website, there are 563,000 total alumni worldwide! When asked what her favorite part of college was Mrs. Kimec answered, "Meeting a lot of awesome people that I'm still friends with today."



Go bears! Oakland University is just one of the amazing colleges in Michigan. Oakland has been going strong since 1957 . The school has a total of 15,901 students according to www.usnews.com. "I think it's a pretty good college because it's local and my aunt went there" says 8th grader Leilah DeGaspris.



Getting a full ride to Eastern Michigan wasn't easy, Mrs. Daversa had to put in a lot of hard work. According to CBC News, less than 20,000 students get full rides to college world wide! When asked what life lesson she learned from college Mrs. Daversa responded, "Work hard, and you'll succeed."



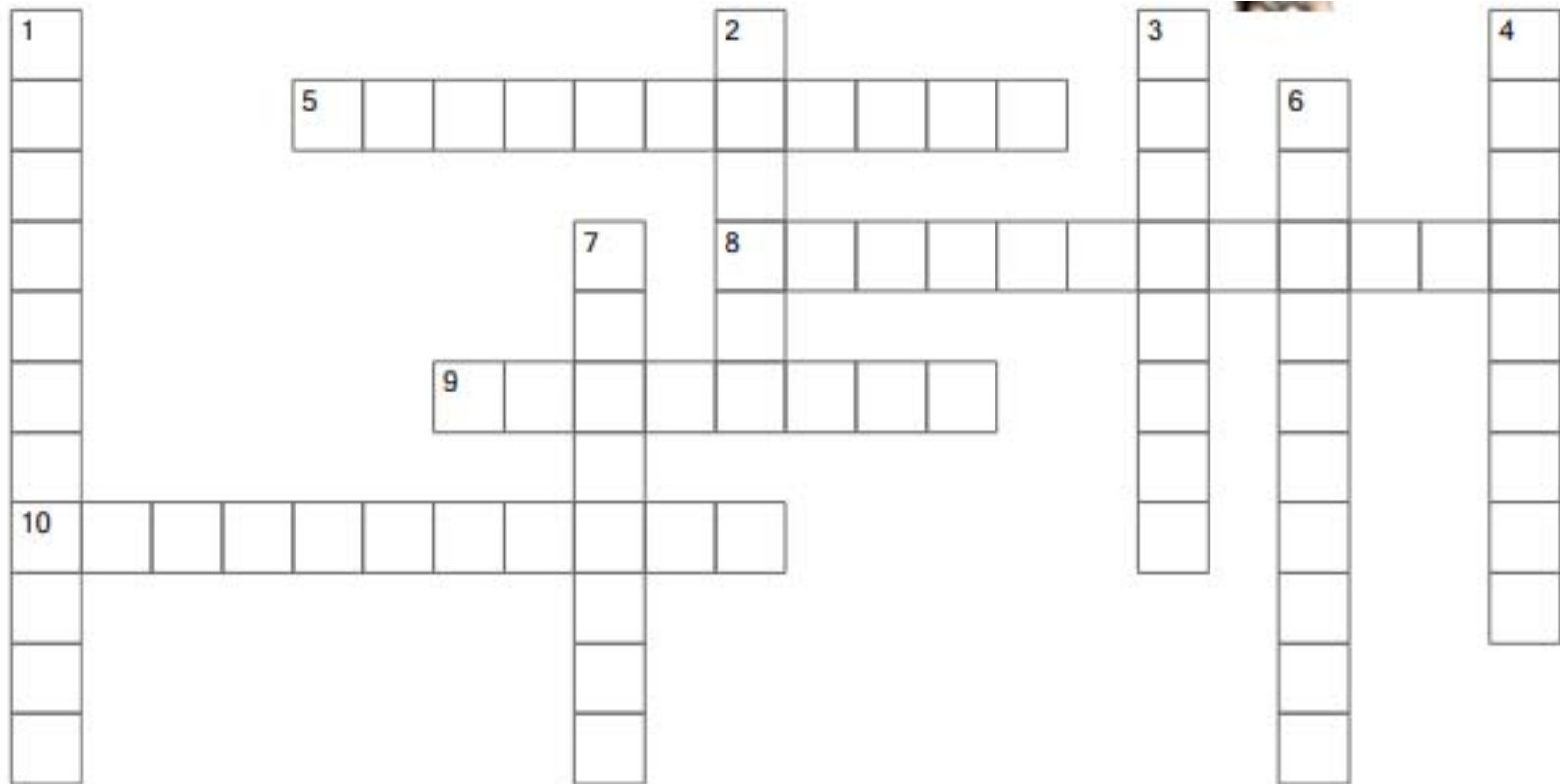
Although the Savannah College of Art and Design is a small school, Mrs. Wilson thought that being only 20 minuets away from the ocean wasn't a bad bargain. According to the official SCAD website, the school offers a total of 8 majors, including courses on fashion and anamation. "I learned to live on my own, and how to do everything from laundry to oil changes," answered Mrs. Wilson when asked what she learned from college.



Reflecting back at her college experience. Mrs. Gibson is glad that she worked hard to earn a scholarship to Central Michignan University. As stated on the official CMU webpage, there are 40 CMU campuses world wide! When asked what her favorite college memorey was, Mrs. Gibsons said, "The times goofing of with my roommates, who I still get together with today."



New Years Crossword



ACROSS

5. A horn or rattle used to make noise at a party
8. Old Long Ago
9. Small pieces of colored paper or streamers
10. Intersection in New York City that is the site of annual New Year's Eve celebrations

DOWN

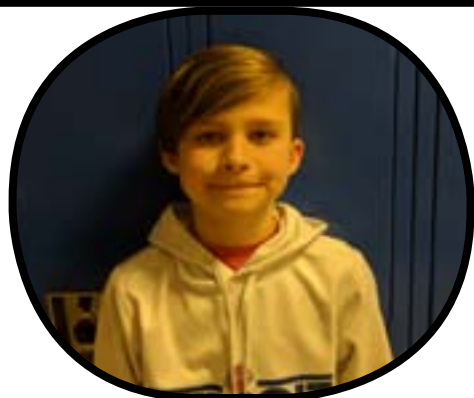
1. Celebration
2. An organized public procession of people, bands, and floats
3. The middle of the night; twelve o'clock at night
4. A spectacular display of the effects produced by firework devices
6. That which is resolved or determined
7. New Year's Day

Academics

Favorite Instrument

By Cameron Bukoski

Many students at OMS play an instrument, whether it's a guitar, piano, trumpet, saxophone, etc. Everyone has their favorite instrument, even if you don't play one. You might like it because of its sound or the way the instrument is played. Many classes in school allow us to play the instruments we want to play like band and orchestra. These classes allow students to express their feelings through music. Each instrument has its own unique qualities that set them apart from the others. People like playing their own instrument because they want to evolve and to become a better musician. Playing an instrument can also expand your knowledge on reading sheet music, playing scales, playing fast, etc. Here are some interviews of OMS students who have a favorite instrument and why they like the sound or why they like playing it.



6th grader Trent Haner favorite instrument is "The drums because you have to put effort into it but not as much effort as other instruments."



7th grader Micheal Corcoran is in band and likes playing the saxophone "Because I played it for a long time."



8th grader Dominic Crocenzi likes playing the electric guitar because "I have always wanted to play and I love playing rock songs for my friends and family."



At Oxford Middle school Many students enjoy playing an instrument during class as well as playing at home. The band room is where most of this happens (as shown in the photo) along with other rooms in the school like the orchestra a quiet room. Playing in a band can teach a student about different musical elements and how to grow as a person or as a musician.

What would you write your Article About?

By: Tessa Saussele

6th grader Dalton Ballerini says if he could write about any topic it would be about the Pistons and their losing streak. "I would write about the losing Pistons losing streaks because they aren't doing so well and it could be a topic that a lot of people maybe interested in."



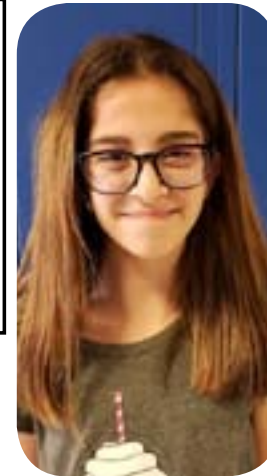
Writing articles is stressful and difficult to come up with the perfect topic. Between finding a topic and then trying to get enough information, it is pretty hard. Asking students here at Oxford Middle school what they would write about can open their ideas in journalism. This is what some of my peers would write about....



7th grader Brock Trevino said he would write in the topics of sports, but he were to write something more specific about sports, he would write about on how athletes can eat healthy when playing the sport.



8th grader Cameron Lantzy said he would be interested in writing about world politics. For example, Lantzy said he would write about the government in different countries. Also, how they choose their leaders.



6th grader Carly Ataya said she would write about what sports people would like to watch. "I would write about people's favorite sports to watch because everyone likes to watch something different and it would be fun to see what people like to watch."



7th grader McKayla Sedlock said would write about gymnastics, more specifically her experience when she was doing gymnastics. She said she would include things like her getting new skills and her injuries throughout her gymnastics career.



At OMS Lauren Schmidt holds the holds the month of October, newspaper that many of the newspaper students have worked hard on and have put in many hours into writing. From student life to world news, newspaper students write from 6 different sections. Laruen Schmidt says, "I love reading the newspaper because it helps be get to know what students like to write about."



8th grader Hannah Cron said she would search up on the topic of politics, but she would mostly write about Afghanistan. "I would write about Afghanistan because it's like a secret war that the government is keeping from us," said Hannah Cron.

TRY TO
FIND ALL THE
WORDS.

I KNOW
YOU CAN
DO IT!



CHARITY

CONSIDERATE AND CARING

C G P S J C H A R I T Y
 S N F U V O G N I R A C
 S I P B F M Z E L P H A
 Y T R E S P E C T F U L
 M A T O U A T H S Z J W
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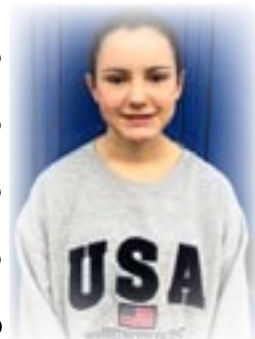
CHARITY	COMPASSIONATE	SYMPATHETIC	KIND
CONSIDERATE	KINDHEARTED	THOUGHTFUL	PATIENT
CARING	ACCOMMODATING	UNSELFISH	RESPECTFUL
AMIALE	GENEROUS	WARMHEARTED	NURTURING
ATTENTIVE	POLITE	BENEVOLENT	LOVING

Bullying? What More Can Be Done?

By Ian Alexander

All of us hear about the struggles of being bullied everyday, but does the school really do enough to stop it? The school's programs to stop bullying can be very effective, but they need to also be in place in the elementary schools. This is because by the time you start middle school you are desensitized to bullying and bullying prevention programs.

8th grader Alex Foster says, "The programs start a good age, which is why there isn't bullying. Being suspended is a good consequence for bullying. The bullybusters teach information that helps, but none of which pertains too bullying."



7th grade teacher Mr. Thaler says, "I see a lot of bullying in our schools in the hallways. I think the school does enough, but a lot has to come from the students. I think the bullying prevention programs are effective, but need to start younger if they don't. There is about the same amount of bullying as when I was in school with no programs to stop it."



6th grade student Cayden Smith says, "The schools anti-bullying program is effective because they teach kids what's wrong and right. The bullying prevention program should start at a younger age. What anti-bullying programs are already in the elementary schools is enough."



"Why do bullies bully?" 8th grade student Luke McMahon. Bullying in our school isn't normally this obvious and you'll need to go out of your way too find it but once you do you won't be able to stop seeing ten to twenty people being bullied everyday. The bullying in our school is almost never physically and instead verbal making even more difficult to find.



SAVING LIVES ONE PENNY AT A TIME



by Leilah DeGasperis

During the week of penny wars, all the advisories in our school had a competition to see who could get the most pennies or raise the most money for the charity that we supported. This year, we were raising money for The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The advisories competed for many goals including most positive points and most money raised. The first place winners and how much money we raised was announced on Friday January 21, 2018. Former students of Oxford Middle School came and spoke at the assembly about suicide. Finally, there was a magician who did magic and talked about the importance of this cause.



6th grader Rebecca Secord said her favorite part about the assembly was watching the banners go around the gym. Secord also believes that the charity we picked was good because it is a serious topic.



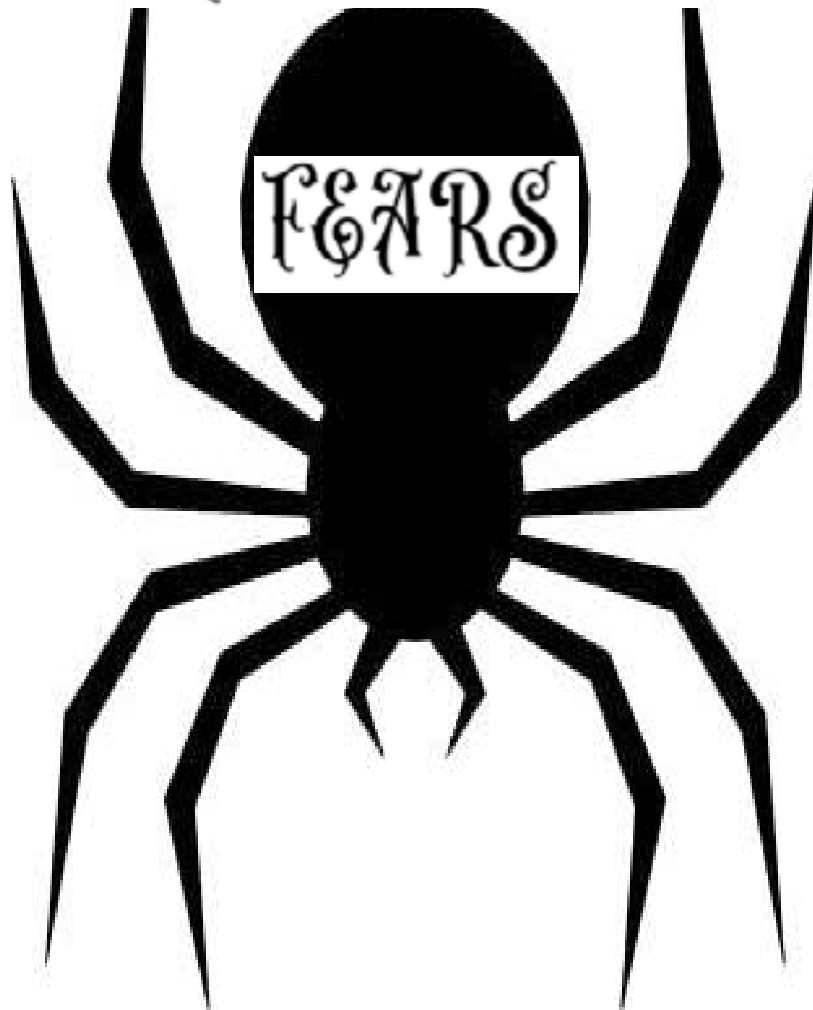
7th grader Brandon Harris believes that the silver coins deducted less points than they are now. He was happy about the charity our school picked. "I liked the first day of penny wars because nobody came to us," he said.



8th grader Shyanne Hoyt liked being a coin counter because she thought it was easy. "Penny Wars was awesome!" she exclaimed. Hoyt thought nothing should change because she liked the way it ran.



During the penny war season this year, Oxford Middle School donated money to the AFSP to help people affected by suicide. A total of \$8,823.59 was raised for this cause. While the students were waiting to here the final results the stands were loud. Stomping and clapping were exciting the crowd as the moment was coming for the results to see if Mr. Cady and Mr. Smoky had to sleep on the OMS roof. "I was happy when the charity was handed the check because it went towards a good cause" said 7th grader Brandon Harris.

GETTING OVER

Paige Comito



Scary snakes and terrifying clowns. Fears control people's lives, yet they are not very often used as new year resolutions. To add on, 80 percent of new years resolutions fail by February, according to buisness insider. Perhaps it would be better to focus on every day as a way to defeat one's fears than going to the gym for a week and then quitting. "If you want to conquer fear, don't sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy." ~ Dale Carnegie

8th grade Jordyn Gill says that she fears something quite unusal - succsess. When asked why she replied, "I don't know what to do with it. Yet I still strive for it." Jordyn thinks that if she succeeds enough she can get over it with hard work. Also, Jordyn thinks if she wanted to get over it for the new year she would try to stay on track and not fail because she is afraid to succeed. Ashlynn Redhage from 7th grade has a more common fear, which is roller coasters. "I'm afraid of heights and not being able to take control," she said. When asked if she would be able to get over her fear Ashlynn said she would be able to, and she just needs to go for it. She figured she would go to Cedar Point and try to ride a roller coaster if she was to get over her fear.

6th grader Ena Esquivel describes her fear as spiders, because of an experience where one bit her and it hurt. Ena says that she does not think she can get over this fear because of how scary they are. However, if she did try to get over it Ena said she would "be brave when it comes near me and stay still."



Popular Pets



By: Ava Gordon

We all love animals. From a tiny hummingbird to a blue whale, there are many animals and many pets. At OMS, most students and staff own a pet or two. Pets are such loyal, cute, gentle creatures (but sometimes stupid). Whether your companion has a fuzzy coat, feathers, scales, or a shell, we depend on them for companionship, humor and more.

According to www.lonetreevet.com, this is the top US pets.

1 freshwater fish

There are 142 million freshwater fish in the U.S.

2 cats

There are 88.3 million cats in the U.S., making it the second popular pet.

3 dogs

There are 74.8 million dogs, the third most popular pet.



Etsy.com

Piper McFarlin, a seventh grader, owns a king snake. "My favorite animal is a whale, and her dream pet is a kiwi." she thinks people might have pets because "they relieve stress, and they are better than people." she has had over five different species of pets.



Some people are scared of pets. Aurora Matteson, an eighth-grader, is scared of a rabbit named Bernie, whom Kaleb Gordon owns. Matteson is scared of Bernie because "He makes sudden movements." She has several pets in the past, and she now owns a Huskey named Smokey. In Mrs. Gibson's Newspaper class, only one student is scared of pets out of 22. Are you scared of an animal?



Ellie Johnson, a sixth-grader, has a sister who owns 27 chickens. She says "My sister wanted them because loves to talk to them and she got them for Christmas." Johnson says people might get a pet because "some pets can help physically, like leader dogs. She also thinks that they are cute and fun to play with."

Mr. Cineros class really likes animals. In a poll of 30 students,

17 students own at least one Dog

7 students own at least one Cat

9 students own at least one Small animal (like a hamster or rabbit).

5 students own at least one fish

0 students own a bird or a horse

4 students own sat least one reptile

DREAM DRIVE

By Keaton Linn

Lets play dream car! According to Luxhabit the world's most expensive car is a 4.8 million dollar car called KOENIGSEGG CCXR Trevita. This car has a fiber that uses diamonds! Imagine owning the most expensive car, how popular could you be? Most people have a car, but how many people in the world have their dream car? People in a survey on Kelly Bluebook said that a Ford Mustang is the number one vote dream car across the USA. Also, in the survey on Cars.com, people that didn't know a lot or anything about cars chose the Telsa over all others.



According to Kelly Bluebook, 50 percent of car buyers are looking for colors white, silver, and black. Car buyers other favorite cars color is dark blue. Some people who drive different cars have different stereotypes like sports cars are rich and people with vans are called soccer moms because of the van.



Now that's a hot rod!!! This is a fast-paced and crazy car racing game only out for Xbox users called Forza Horizon 4. Forza is a car racing game you can play against your friends and create your own dream car. According to VG247.com, 2 million people have played Forza since its release. Due to this, dream cars are a must for people who want to ride in style or to just say they have their dream car.



6th grader Cameron McCarthy said he would want a pink Falcon 5 1 50 because it was the car that Elvis Presley had. He thinks he will not get that car and he will get a truck instead.







7th grader Avery Mehoberg said he would get a muscle car that would be plain black. He does believe he will get his dream car and would be sad if he didn't.



8th grader Connor Digasbarro said he would want a red Lamborghini with custom seats but he doesn't believe he will get it and will get a Scion FR-S instead..

By: Michael Duong
and William Owen

Game Over

						
According to Petter Attai on The Startup, board games have been around for over 7,000 years, and are they still very popular today. While some people prefer to play the classic games such as chess or checkers, others prefer to play games that put them in the place of a character, such as Dungeons & Dragons. There are also people that prefer to play board games that people consider the traditional ones, such as Monopoly or Sorry. Then there are the card games like poker and eucher. But there are also people who would rather video games instead. There are so many games, and						
	so many people that like each of them. But what are some of your favorites?					



In Pandemic, the players have to cure the world of fast spreading diseases. Pandemic was made in 2008 so it has been around for 11 years. "It involves people working together to accomplish a goal," says Dale Schmalenberg about why he likes Pandemic.

8th grader David Lee's favorite board game is a game called Diplomacy. It is a very complex game that involves a lot of strategy. David learned about Diplomacy last year. He found out about it when he was researching different board games. David's favorite part about Diplomacy is that "you can play with a lot of people and that it's a long game." There is no part about Diplomacy that David doesn't like. David would rather play board games because "you take half a day to an entire day to sit down and play with friends whereas video games are only for an hour or two."



7th grader Lucas Sibu's favorite board game is the classic Monopoly. In Monopoly, players take turns rolling dice and going around the board trying to buy different places and collect money. Lucas learned about Monopoly four years ago. Four years ago, his parents brought it home. Lucas says that he likes Monopoly because "it involves money." The part that Lucas doesn't like about Monopoly is that to buy everything, you have to go around the board. Between video games and board games, Lucas would rather play video games because "you can actually make [real] money off that if you have the proper equipment."

6th grader Trent Haner's favorite board game, like Lucas, is the classic Monopoly. Trent first played Monopoly five years ago. Trent learned how to play when one day he asked his dad what it was. Trent likes Monopoly because "it's like a real life game but it's not exactly real life." The only part of Monopoly that Trent doesn't like is the jail. Trent says that he would like to play both. He likes board games because he can then spend time with other people, but he would like to play video games because "people can use them for good situations."



Game Over

By: William Owen

Games are a major part of how people live today. Many people play games competitively and for fun as well. People can play in high-stakes poker games in Las Vegas, play pool at a family gathering, or go online to watch streamers make money for playing games. Other people compete to earn money. Other people play “the newest up-and-coming sport” e-sports. Some will play little games on their phone while they’re waiting for the doctor to let them in. Sometimes, people can waste hours playing different games, either just as a pass time or as a way to earn something more. There are so many types of games such as roleplaying games like Dungeons and Dragons or Pathfinder; card games like Rummy and Uno; video games like Call of Duty and Mario; and board games like Monopoly and Sorry. There are so many variants of certain games, like how there are many different types of poker or different versions of games like Monopoly. Some of the other games that people play might just be because they made something out of something else while they were bored. Horseshoes is one of these examples. This game was made by just using a couple of horseshoes and a short pole. There are many ways that games have been implemented into our daily lives.



6th Blue teacher Mr. Peruski says that he really likes playing many different types of games. He liked to play table top games, board games, and card games too. One of his favorite games to play when he was younger were the classic board games such as Trouble and Sorry. He also liked to play different sports when he was younger, like playing pick-up basketball with his friends or going and playing football in their backyard.



7th grade Gold Science teacher Mr. Thaler, really likes to play some of the older board games such as Monopoly and Chutes and Ladders. He also likes to play card games such as Uno. He also likes to play ping-pong. He said that his family always has ping-pong competitions at family gatherings. His all time favorite game to play though is soccer because of how much fun he has playing it with other people.



8th grade Gold History teacher Mr. Clark says that he likes older style games like Monopoly and Sorry. He also says that he was never a fan of playing video games. He also loves to do anything football, whether he is playing it or coaching it or even watching it. He says that he liked playing football with his friends when he was younger too.

Having fun playing chess, Tiayona Cox and Willow Wood are in the library around the table playing. According to ChessBase are an estimated 600 million active chess players worldwide, that use chess as an outlet for their analytical abilities. “Chess seems really confusing, but I would like to learn it because it seems fun and like a game that shows a lot of skill,” said Tiayona.



Cece Nicholson

Phones and Food?

YES

Lunch is the only time where students are allowed to relax and chill on their phone. They should just have a time where the students clean the cafeteria before class so we don't lose our phones because lunch is one of the only times we can relax. Students spend their entire day in a chair with their noses in a load of work. Just because a few tables were screwing around and making a mess shouldn't be the cause of the entire grade losing their phone. The staff should put pieces of paper on tables that don't deserve electronics not the whole grade. Also, the lunch ladies take away phones even if kids aren't on them. Sometimes I bring my phone to lunch because I forgot I had it from another class or if I need to talk to my mom about something important. The lunch ladies shouldn't take away a phone if they see it, just give a warning.

Students are only allowed to use their if they keep the lunch room clean and obey the lunch room rules. Should they be less strict with the rule?



Eating in the lunch room, 8th graders Alyssa Kuhl, Elizabeth Rice, and Grace Butzu are bummed that they don't get to use their phones. According to the Washington Post, kids from ages 11-14 spend nearly 9 hours, on average, on their phones a day. "I spend 7 hours in school doing work and probably another hour working on homework that was assigned. What's the harm in letting me go on my phone for 30 minutes at lunch?" Says Alyssa Kuhl.

NO

If students are making a mess and disobeying the rules then the students should be punished. Taking away the phones is a way of teaching the students a lesson. If they are screwing around and making it hard for the lunch ladies to clean up, then they shouldn't be rewarded. Taking away students' phones or electronic privileges at lunch is a fair way to punish the kids so they will learn, and not do it again. Students should obey the rules and not bring their phone to lunch when they lost the privilege, so if lunch ladies see one they will either take it away or give them a warning to put it away. Students do get their phones back at the end of the day for when they go home. Losing their phone isn't the only option or punishment, but it's a good way for students to learn since they're most attached to their phones.

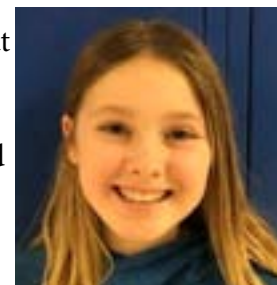
8th grader Kaemyn Anderle says, "We should be able to use our phones at least every other day, giving us a break on and off of our phones."



7th grader Noah Morley thinks that we should be able to use our phones whenever we want at lunch. "My phone is controlled by my parents and shouldn't be taken away at lunch because at lunch they shouldn't be in charge of it."



6th grader Lily Bunton says, "I don't think it's fair that the 8th graders are the only ones that don't have to do the letter thing, all grades should get the same rules as the 8th graders."



Sweet

VS

SALTY



By Aiden Bowyer and Gracie Chraska



6th grader Lucia Heinemann likes snacks on the sweeter side because she thinks that they taste better than salty snacks. Her favorite sweet snack is Sour Patch Kids because they are sour and sweet. She believes that salty snacks are healthier even though she likes sweeter treats better.

7th grader Lily Boisvert prefers sweet snacks better because they make you go crazy. Her favorite sweet snack is Sweet Tarts because they are small and chewy. Lily thinks salty snacks are better for you even though she likes sweets.

8th grader Joy Times likes salty snack better because she really dislikes sweets. Her favorite salty snack is Salt and Vinager chips because they taste good. She thinks it depends on what you're eating if one is healthier or not.

The competition of sweet vs salty snacks has been controversial for a long time. In a poll of 58 poeple, only 21 peo-ple prefer salty over sweet snacks. This means that most people like sweet snacks. Sweets have been around for at least 3000 years where has salty snacks have been around for almost 2500. This battle between snackers has been going on for ages, it's really all about the individual. Which is better sweet or salty?



"Sweet snacks are better than salty snacks," says 8th grader Hailey May. Sweet snacks are something that kids every-where love. They are a nice treat to have when you're looking for somthing to fuffill your sweet tooth. According to chegg.com over 600 million pounds of candy in the U.S are sold each year.

"I like salty snacks because sweet things are too sweet," says 8th grader Katherine Lewis. Salty snacks are much easier to eat a lot of and are better snacks for just a regular day. Most sweet snacks are not great to eat regularly while salty snacks can be eaten in larger quantities. According to fda.gov, while you're supposed to have around 2,300 mgs of salt per day, Americans consume an average 3,400 mg



6th grader Brady Hoard prefers sweet snacks because they taste better. His favorite sweet snack is Skittles because they are chewy. He thinks that sweet snacks are healthier because salt is bad for you.

7th grader Everardo Rodriguez-An-tonio prefers sweet snacks because sweet tastes good. His favorite sweet snack is Kit Kats because they are crunchy and sweet. He believes that they both have the same health level.

8th grader Isabel Rodriguez prefers salty snacks compared to sweet be-cause salty snacks taste better. Her favorite salty snack is salt and vinager snacks be-cause they are delicious and addicting. She believes neither is healthier than the other.

By: Lauren Schmidt



What do toads drink on hot summer days? ... Croak-a-cola



Hot or cold? The weather in Michigan can be quite extreme when you think about it. Lots of people have a preference as to what temperature they prefer. As winter nears the people who love when it is hotter start complaining but, once summer gets nearer the people who love cold are going to start complaining. People have gone as far as to move their life to a new place just for the climate. Whether you prefer hot or cold weather there are places around the world for everyone to go. So... what does our student body think?



HOT 75%

Cold snow fills the air outside OMS during the cold month of January. The average amount of snowfall for Detroit, which is near Oxford, is 42.7 inches in January. "Something about the cold that I like is that you can play in the snow," says 6th grader Andrew Klimowicz.

25% COLD

6th grader Andrew Klimowicz prefers hotter weather in the summer. "I feel like with summer there's a lot more you can do outside," he says.



7th grader Brady Warman would rather be hot than be cold. "I'd rather be hot because I hate shivering in the cold," he states.



8th grader Carly Detone likes to be hot instead of cold. "I'd rather be hot because it's nice," she says. She also said she would not want to live in a colder place than Michigan.

Which is fastest, hot or cold? ... Heat is faster because it is easy to catch a cold.

What time is it when little white flakes fall past the classroom window? Snow and Tell

IT'S A WINTER WONDERLAND

By: Brianna Penzien

There are many things to do in this three month long period of time we call winter. Things as simple as taking a walk outside to see the beautiful snow fall or as awesome as a snow ball fight with your freinds. Due to the temperature of 32 degrees farenheit we have the opportunity to play in snow and slide on slippery ice. Michigan is known for its winter wonderland and fun outdoor activities. Mr.Peruskis 6th hour class was asked what their favorite thing to do outside in the winter out of sledding, skiing, iceskating, snow ball fighting and ice fishing. Ten kids stated they liked sledding the most, 7 kids said they preferred snow ball fighting, 3 kids said ice fishing and lastly ice skating and skiing tied with 2 students each. Everyone likes their own thing, but as you can see sledding is a top favorite. Michigan is a amazing place to be in the winter!



7th grade student Ellie Johnson was asked if she would rather do indoor or outdoor stuff in the winter. She stated, "I would rather do outdoor stuff because you can sled and it is more fun."



7th grader Rachael Albrecht whan asked is she liked playing in the snow in the winter She said, "I like playing in the snow because I am able to do stuff that I am not able to do in the summer."



7th grade student Brandon Harris was asked how much time he spent outside in the winter He stated, "I spend a little time outside, but I really wish I could spend more so I could hang out with my friends."



8th grade student Colton Farwell was asked what his favorite outdoor activity was in the winter He said, " I like sledding because it is really fun. Sledding is a really fun activity to do on those few snowdays we get a year."

Sadlly, this year has not been full of the snow we were all where expecting. Instead we have gotten many little light showers of snow, at the most 2 in. We all can now not do the things outside we where all excited to do, this fact makes many students upset. Things like sledding, snowmobeling, and ice skating due to the lack of ice freezover are taken out of our winter list of things to do.

By: Riley Spurlock

Party Like It's 2019

New Years Eve is celebrated throughout the entire world because it is the beginning of a new year/start. Some people might think that this is a time to celebrate their successes in the past or a new year to start new things and accomplish new things. Many people celebrate the new year in a variety of ways. For example, some people travel for the new year and some people just stay home with friends and family and party. This is no different from the traditions kids celebrate here at Oxford Middle School.



8th grader Savannah Feltirn on New Years Eve she stays up pretty late. She said that she usually stays up past the ball drop and once everyone from her party has left, which is usually around 3 or 4am.



8th grader Reina St. Julianna she usually hangs out with Olivia Curtis on New Years Eve and they party and stay up late. She said that New Years Day she hangs out with her family.



6th grader Samantha Zeiter she celebrates her New Years by going to South Carolina and singing karaoke and going swimming in the oceans.



Celebrating New Years is usually done with people using party hats and party horns during the New Year. Twenty billion dollars or more is usually made each year on New Year party supplies, according to a holiday survey website. According to 8th grader Tessa Sussele she says her family always buys a ton of party supplies for that holiday. She said she loves hearing and seeing everybody blow their horns with joy and excitement.



According to 7th grader William Mcloud finds New Years Eve very fun. He said that he usually drinks pop and plays games with his family and friends.

Into the New Year

By: Anna Rinke



6th grader Baylie Stevens says that her New Year's resolution is to spend more time with her family. Also, the goals she had set for herself are to be able to jump in horse back riding. She said that she is going to accomplish these resolutions and goals by working hard and doing more activities with her family like games and movies. "I want to have good and happy year, and I'm to do so by accomplishing many things."

New Year, new me right? With a new year comes new opportunities and ways to improve yourself. According to INC.com about 60% of People set New Year resolutions. Many people set New Year resolutions but fail at achieving them.



8th grader Joy Times new year's resolution is to limit the amount of time on her device. According to bankmycell.com Joy is one among the 47% of people whose resolution was to limit the amount of time spent on her phone. "I feel that if I spend less time on my phone I can improve on many other things," says Joy.



6th grader Camaren Bidens stated that he wanted to keep his grades up as his New Year's resolution. He said that he will accomplish that is by paying more attention during class and working hard. "I want to keep my grades up this year to do well and succeed."

1.
Improve social skills

TOP 3 RESOLUTIONS

according to telegraph.co.uk

2.
Limit device time

3.
Eat healthier

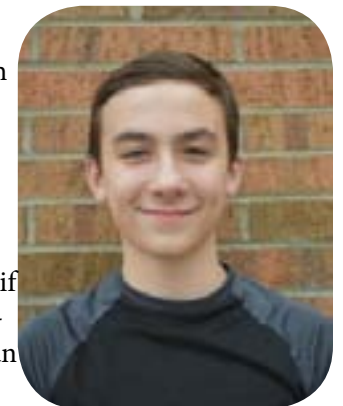


365 Days
365 Chances



7th grader Gabriel Spencer said that his goals for this upcoming year is to keeping up his GPA to a 3.5, and in basketball to beat Clarkston because they are good competition. He stated that he is going to accomplish these goals by thriving to be better everyday, working hard, practicing and studying. "My New Year's resolution is to come into school looking happy after winter break because a lot of kids don't."

8th grader Ethan Felax said his goals for 2019 is to keep up his Spanish and Math grades. His New Year's resolution is that he wants to become better at hockey, and be able to carry his team to a victory, as well as being more fit. He said he is going to accomplish these goals by working out, working hard and studying. "I believe that if I put in the effort and make time for studying to become a stronger better person I can and will do it."



Blast Off To Mars!

By: Dale Schmalenberg

6th grader Keanna Gordon thinks that NASA will go to Mars. She says that we should go to Mars first.

If she had the chance to go to Mars she wouldn't go to Mars so that she could stay with her friends and family.



7th grader Derek Morawski thinks that NASA will go to Mars first. He thinks that we should go to Mars first because its been scientifically proven that there is water there. If he was given the the chance he would go to Mars because it would be really cool.



8th grader Tristen Mikula thinks that NASA will go to Mars in the future because we have the technological advancements but we just don't have a way to get there quite yet. He thinks that we should go to Mars before any other planet.



NASA is a public company that, among others, is working to put people on Mars. NASA estimates that they will have men on Mars by 2030, 60 years after the Apollo 11 mission in 1969 that landed on the Moon. NASA's InSight lander landed on Mars very recently, on November 26, 2018. The InSight lander was sent to Mars to give it its first "thorough checkup". of NASA's robotic landers and rovers. NASA knows that long ago, Mars was suitable for life, and now they are trying to do something called terraforming, which is where they will, over the course of hundreds of years, make an entire

climate and ecosystem change, according to their desire. Before we can do this though, we must establish a colony on Mars, but right now, the success rate to get to Mars is less than 50%, so it will take lots of work to get men on Mars. information from by

Space X is a private company owned by Elon Musk. SpaceX's new rocket is called the Big Falcon Rocket. In the year 2022, SpaceX plans to send their first cargo mission to Mars, which will include what is necessary to set up habitats, along with food to last a long time, and other things necessary for living on Mars. SpaceX's Big Falcon Rocket has a payload capacity of 150 tons, but has an average launch cost of less than their Falcon 1, due its its reusability. Even though it can be sent to Mars, it is also a rocket that can be used to go from one place on earth to another place on earth in less than a half

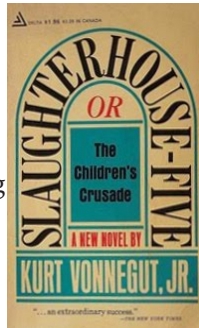
Among many other places in space that are yet to be discovered by humans, Mars (below) awaits humans to finally take their first steps on another planet. If everything goes according to Elon's plan, then in fifty years, a city with a million people will call Mars their home. "Elon is amazing and a genius, and I really hope that he can reach his goal on Mars," says 8th grader Tanner DeMarco.



hour. After the cargo mission to Mars has been completed, SpaceX plans to send a manned mission to Mars in the year 2024, in the first ever attempt to colonize Mars. Information from <https://www.spacex.com/mars>.

~~CENSORSHIP~~

Censorship is defined as the suppression or prohibition of any parts of books, films, news, etc. that are considered obscene, politically unacceptable, or a threat to security, according to the Oxford Dictionary. Media is usually censored by a government or school. Censorship is a prevalent problem in many countries, including America. According to the American Library Association, more than 350 books have been banned in 2017 alone. Although it may not be as present in the United States as many other places, censorship is still an issue being fought everywhere. One censored piece of media are books. Books can be censored because of their political messages, explicit content, or even just things mentioned in the book.



By: Tanner F. DeMarco

“It was a pleasure to burn.”

Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury



6th grader Andrew Jones can see the reasoning in censoring certain books and other pieces of media. “I think it can be good because some books can have inappropriate things.”

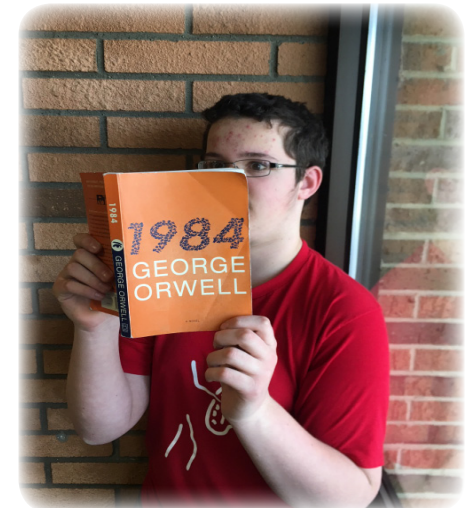


7th grader Madison Reed believes that censorship is wrong. “It isn’t really okay,” she Reed when asked if she was okay with it. “Freedom of speech is important.”



8th grader Ruby LaRoque is also understanding when it comes to censorship. “It’s a good thing to have,” says LaRoque. “It can protect people from some inappropriate things.”

8th grader William Owen flips through a copy of 1984 by George Orwell. According to the American Library Association, 1984 is 8th most commonly banned book of all time. “Censorship can be good and bad because it can hold people back from what they want to do.”



Commonly Banned Books Throughout History

Harry Potter Series by J.K Rowling
 The Catcher in the Rye by J.D Salinger
 1984 by George Orwell
 Animal Farm by George Orwell
 Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
 A Clockwork Orange by Anthony Burgess
 Slaughterhouse-Five by Kurt Vonnegut
 The Giver by Lois Lowry
 Lord of the Flies by William Golding

OUR NEW YEAR

IN PICTURES...



Olivia Clark!



On top of New Year's being a fun holiday, it's also a chance for a fresh start. Many people choose to make resolutions or goals for the new year. But, according to the University of Scranton, only 8% of people actually achieve their goals. "New Year's resolutions are important because they make you a better person" says 8th grader Leilah Degasperis.



Dale Schmalenberg!



In Spanish culture, it is considered good luck to eat 12 grapes on new years, one for every stroke of midnight. This annual tradition was first practiced in 1895, but was established in 1909. "Celebrate what you want to see more of," says Tom Peters about New Years.



Keaton Linn!



With fireworks in the air and partying on kids mind, 2019 is here. People on December 31 go to places where fireworks and where you can watch the ball in NYC drop to bring in the new year. According to Statista.com, 53 percent of the people interviewed said that their new years resolution is to save money. I hope everybody new years resolution comes true and everybody has a great 2019.



Leilah DeGasperis



On New years Eve. millions of people across the United States watch the ball drop on live TV.

Around 1 billion people watched the celebration happen and pop these confetti poppers. "Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day" Michael Josephson once said.

OUR NEW YEAR

IN PICTURES...

Tessa Saussele



On the table sits small hats that are ready and waiting to be worn. When waiting 12 months the New Year finally

comes through the door! According to Time.com, Times Square had over 1,000,000 people that are freezing and excited to watch the ball drop celebrating the New Year.

Lauren Schmidt



On the fence the lights shine brightly like the spirits of the students at OMS with their New Year's resolutions in mind. In fact, over 1,000,000 people watch the

ball drop on New Years Eve. "I love the New Year because I can make resolutions which help me feel good about the New Year," says 8th grader Tessa Saussele.

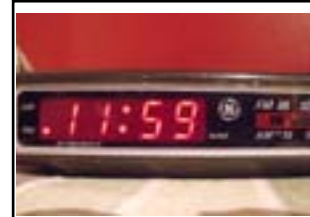
Anna Coronado-Rinke



With every new year comes new clothes, trends, goals, people and many other life changing things or memories. New year New me right? People are looking at mixing it up a bit, according to CreditDonkey teen males may spend around \$330 on clothes per year and females the same age spend

roughly about 76% more than that. People also like to set goals or resolutions for motivation or desire to become better. According to finance.yahoo, 77% of people actually set goals for themselves to achieve. "365 new days, 365 new chances."

Dominic Crocenzi



Its one minute to midnight and people all over the world have been waiting to see the ball drop for the one hundred and twelfth time at

One time square in New York City. The ball has been a tradition since 1907 and has remained the countdown into the new year. The very first ball was five feet in diameter and was almost 700 pounds it has had some improvements to fit the ever growing New York City. The ball light bulbs use almost 50,000 watts of electricity to run.

Sarah Mojek



On New Year's Eve people gather together to celebrate the new year, many people use party poppers, decorations, and noisemakers to ring in the new year. According to CNN people have been celebrating the new year

since 2000 BC. Renee Mojek says "I like to celebrate by gathering together with friends and family to play games."



Paige Comito



After twenty years of the emoji first being released they have become more popular than ever. Each day more than sixty million emojis are used according to Adweek.com. "I like them because they are able to show what i'm feeling," Gabby Comito said when asked about emojis.



OUR NEW YEAR

IN PICTURES...



Gracie Chraska



With confetti poppers in and party hats on their heads Hailey, Gracie, and Veronica

wait outside for the ball to drop in New York city. Even though it was 38 degrees outside the group of friends waited outside in the cold and snow to celebrate the new year. One of the friends, Hailey Wilson says "My favorite part of night was popping the poppers out on the deck."

Riley Spurlock



Streamers flying, confetti flying, balloons in the air, people screaming with joy, it's time to party! This is a party hat from the party I went to on New Years Eve party I

went to. New Years Eve is a very special time because it is a beginning of a New Year and you also get to celebrate for all the accomplishments you have made in the past years. New Years Eve is also special because it's usually the last few minutes before a new start! One thing we usually do for New Years is we usually party with our family and friends and make a lot of food and we play a lot of games like pictionary and family feud and more.

Ava Gordon



Every year, I add a new section to my bullet journal (which is a fun planner) with goals and reflections. According to www.inc.com, there is a new craze for bullet journals. It can help with

ADHD, forgetfulness, and just to guide yourself in a positive way. Aurora Matteson, a eighth grader says "I think that bullet journals are a cute way to keep track of things, and you can have art mixed into it too." Get one today!

Cecelia Nicholson



Ring in the new year, 8th grader, Natalie Gula spends her New Years Eve with her family and friends. The ball dropped on New Years Eve weighs 11,875

pounds. "I've never been to New York for New Year's, but I hope to one day," says Natalie Gula.

Ian Alexander



In the New Years everyone has a resolution and one of the most common is to eat healthier. On average 1,000,000 US citizens make a resolution to eat

healthier. Dale Schmalenberg says, "Eating healthier is a bad resolution because you need to do a lot more for it to effect your health."