



Falcon Flyer

Fall Issue 2019



Published by the students of Stetson Middle School

TOP 3 AUTUMN ACTIVITIES around West Chester

By Lexi Harrison, eighth grade



The autumn season flies by, so it is important to take advantage of the crisp weather and beautiful landscapes before it's over. Between hayrides, pumpkin picking, and corn mazes, you and

your family have plenty of ways to stay busy in the weeks ahead. Make the most of autumn and enjoy all that comes with it using this list of autumn activities around West Chester!

Highland Orchards

With over 200 acres of growing crops, Highland Orchards is a great place for those looking for a fun, family-oriented atmosphere! Highland offers all their crops already picked for you in their Farmers Market, or you can Pick-Your-Own. During the fall season, pumpkins and a variety of apple types are very popular Pick-Your-Owns. Seasonal hayrides and a petting zoo are also offered.

For more information about this fall activity, visit

<https://highlandorchards.net/>



Eastern State Penitentiary

Eastern State Penitentiary was once the most famous and expensive prison in the world but stands today in ruin. Known for its grand architecture and strict discipline, this was the world's first true



“penitentiary,” a prison designed to inspire true regret in the hearts of convicts. Tours today include general admission or guide-led tours and discussions of the cell blocks, solitary punishment cells, Al Capone’s Cell, and Death Row. If you’re interested in a scary, theatrical experience, Eastern State Penitentiary also houses a massive haunted house inside the real prison each fall to raise funds for historic preservation.

For more information about this fall activity, visit

<https://www.easternstate.org/>

Stroud Preserve

Stroud Preserve is a 571 acre mosaic of once-pastured grasslands, working farmlands, and woodlands that serves as a unique site for recreation. There are many events Stroud Preserve is offering to the public this fall season perfect for all families! Whether you visit to take a walk along the beautiful trails, or you take advantage of the events offered, Stroud Preserve needs to make it onto your bucket list for activities this fall season!

For more information about this fall activity, visit

<https://natlands.org/stroud-preserve/>



From neon to sports jerseys, Stetson rocked Red Ribbon Week

By Brianna Ambrosine, eighth grade

We have just finished celebrating our Red Ribbon Week at Stetson, but we are in the midst of National Red Ribbon Week!! Red Ribbon Week is America's oldest and largest drug prevention association. Millions of people show their support across the US in the late days of October. The red ribbon became the symbol because it's a tribute to Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. Camarena's friends Henry Lozano and Congressman Duncan Hunter created school groups called "Camarena Clubs" and they wore red ribbons to show opposition to drugs.

Red Ribbon Week began upon Camarena's death. In 1985, he was brutally murdered by drug traffickers while handling drug investigations in Mexico. Local people he knew closely wanted to honor his heroic death. Celebrations began where Camarena grew up in California. The celebrations represented the opposition and refusal of drug use which Camarena was a victim, too. The celebrations started in 1985 and in 1988, the National Family Partnership declared the first National Red Ribbon Week.



Stetson has participated in this great event for many years, and we are proud to support such a great cause. Red Ribbon Week is an opportunity for you to support a good cause and you also get to wear fun attire to school! SMS Red Ribbon Week ran from October 21st through the 25th. The national event occurs on October 23rd through the 31st ending on Halloween. The participation was incredible! Stetson's Spirit Days were:

- Monday- "Shine out Drugs" - wear neon colors
- Tuesday- "Mix-It-Up Day" - wear crazy clothes, shoes, hats, hair dyes
- Wednesday- "Stetson Middle School Chooses to be Drug-Free"- wear school colors
- Thursday- "Get Away from Drugs" - wear clothes like you were on vacation
- Friday- "Team Up Against Drugs" - wear sports team apparel.

These ideas were created by the co-chairs of the Spirit and Social committee Leah Ambrosine and Emily Miller.

Throughout the week, students were marked in their homeroom for participation each spirit day. If you participated every day, your name was put into a raffle for a big prize!! At lunch, if you were caught showing spirit, you could be awarded little prizes like bracelets, pencils, and more!! Red Ribbon Week is partially arranged by our counselors, thank you for organizing such a great event! Throughout Stetson, students rocked the brightest neon shirts, wore them backward, brought in sunglasses and a grass skirt, wore green and gold and put on a jersey!! We wanted the world to know that Stetson will forever be drug-free!!!

Stetson History spans 60 years

By Bridget J. Casey and Christina Grisillo, Seventh Graders

If you're going to school at Stetson, you know at least a little bit about it, but do you know who it's named after? What the original blueprint looked like?

Stetson is named after Dr. George Arthur Stetson, who was a retired superintendent of schools, and who, sadly, passed away on March 21, 1977, at the age of 80. Stetson originally opened as a South Junior High, which taught grades 7-9, in 1959, but was later changed to house 6th-8th graders in 1977.

A painting of George Arthur Stetson is present to the left of the bulletin board in the student atrium, and pictures from the

original building are in the office, while blueprints for the building are in the library.

Dr. Charles Cognato, our principal, has been working at Stetson since March of 2001. When he started, he was the assistant principal, but he later became the principal.

Throughout the years, many things have changed. Many new technologies have been added, and female sports have been, too! In the early days, girls were not allowed to play competitive sports.



STETSON FALCONS

Spooky Season

Movies and TV Shows We Recommend

By Jane Goodwin, Jackie Behrens, and Georgia Green

Stranger Things

Stranger Things is a blast to the past set in 80's Hawkins, Indiana, this show is about 4 12-year-old boys. But when Will goes missing after playing Dungeons and Dragons at Michael's house, the whole town is on search for Will. Suddenly as if out of nowhere 11, a little girl with strange powers, meets the rest of the gang. They (to Lucas' disapproval) go searching for Will. Meanwhile, Will's mother thinks she is making contact with Will, and the sheriff thinks he's getting closer to finding him. Nancy (Michael's older sibling) and Jonathan (Will's older sibling) go hunting in the woods for Will. Will the residents of Hawkins, Indiana be able to find their beloved Will?

The Sixth Sense

When a little boy begins to act strange, he is sent to former award-winning therapist Dr. Crow. Dr. Crow tries to figure out what's going on. It turns out our favorite little boy Cole, can see "dead people" These dead people hurt him. Find out what happens in this scary horror movie, *The Sixth*

Sense.



Coraline

Coraline is a fabulous movie with a whopping 90% on rotten tomatoes, stunning visuals and amazing casting, this movie is one to remember. Dakota Fanning does a marvelous job at voicing Coraline. As does Robert Bailey Jr. when portraying the lovable stalker Wybie. This dark fantasy thriller follows our bratty protagonist Coraline as she moves to her new home, a rental known as The Pink Palace. There she meets Wybie, a stalker who is the grandson of the owner of the Pink Palace, and his "Feral" cat. In her new home, she discovers a little door, and behind this door a world beyond her wildest dreams where her "out-of-touch" parents spoil her with new clothing and giant feasts, but something seems a little off...

Gravity Falls

"Ah, summer break. A time for leisure, recreation, and takin er' easy. Unless your me." these are the first words spoken in the amazing comedy and mystery TV show, *Gravity Falls*. Creator Alex Hirsch does an amazing job creating an interesting plot that will keep you on the edge of your seat. This show definitely deserves its Rotten Tomatoes rating of 100%. Our twin protagonists Dipper and Mabel Pines travel to Gravity Falls, Oregon to spend the summer with their Grunkle Stan, owner of tourist trap, The Mystery Shack. Everything seemed normal until Dipper finds a book, "Journal 3" that reveals all the paranormal activity in Gravity Falls, along with our favorite floating evil triangle Bill Cipher. Will Dipper and Mabel be able to survive Bill's wrath?

What secrets could Grunkle Stan be hiding?

The Corpse Bride

The movie *The Corpse Bride* is an outstanding masterpiece of a movie. With a percentage of 84 rotten tomatoes this is easily one of Tim Burton's best creations. The story line is different then anyone would expect but rather enjoyable to everyone. It captures the view of both worlds the living and the dead in great detail. In the movie, Victor must find out who he is and what he wants: Emily the corpse bride who is trying to find her love. Or Victoria a loving girl who comes from a family full of hatred and greed. The question is who will Victor choose in the end.

Steven Universe: The Movie

Steven Universe The Movie is a beautifully animated movie based 2 years after the events of Cartoon Network's TV series, *Steven Universe*. The series is about a 14-year-old named Steven who lives with a team of three aliens (Gems) called The Crystal Gems, whose names are Garnet, Amethyst, and Pearl. Steven has an awesome musician for a Dad named Greg and his Mom, Rose Quartz used to be a Crystal Gem and who gave up her life form to create Steven. This amazing series is about Steven discovering who he really is and mastering his unique powers. The movie is set two years in the future when Steven Universe is age 16 and has mastered his powers. He is maturing and has developed a relationship with a girl named Connie Maheswaran. Everything seems perfect until Spinel, another Gem, comes to try and destroy Earth, and ends up wiping all of the Crystal Gems memories. But, also her own. Steven must recover their memories and save the Earth before it's too late. But in doing so, he may just reveal Spinel's true motives.

She-Ra

For those looking for an option that is higher in action and lower in spookiness, She-Ra is a series on Netflix about a girl named Adora as she discovers that she can turn into a seven-foot tall lady named She-Ra. Adora came from the Horde where she thought she was doing the right thing but was really destroying Etheria. Until she was on a ride with her best friend Catra and she found the sword. Adora finds out what the Horde was doing to Etheria after meeting Princess Glimmer and Bow. Adora tries to get Catra on her side but Catra feels betrayed and leaves. Throughout the series Adora makes some great friends and powerful enemies but will it all be enough? The animation in She-Ra is captivating and it keeps us wanting more. The series is still running so catch up while you can because the journey has just begun.



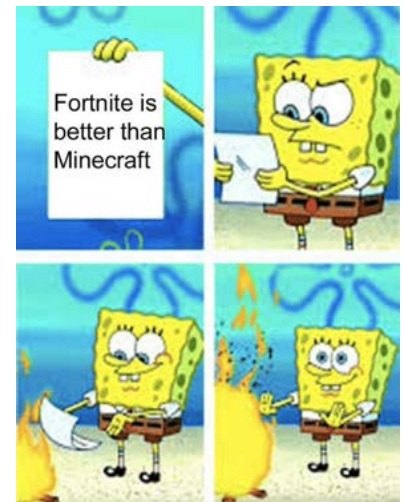
*Image courtesy of DreamWorks



Mojang 2019

The Rise of Minecraft (And the Fall of Fortnite)

By Abe Hagenbuch, Likhith Ganduri, Jackson Ward, Eighth Graders



Spongebob is my hero.

Minecraft is getting more popular, and Fortnite is almost dead. It's an undeniable fact. There's simply not much to do in Fortnite, while Minecraft has added much more with its recent 1.14 and 1.15 updates, which improved the gameplay. Paired with the 1.13 update which being slightly more dated, updated the water and oceans of Minecraft into an exciting and interesting world. Fortnite is more of the same, with small updates which don't majorly change the core gameplay. Overall, Minecraft is a game that can be changed and will continue to be, while Fortnite is left in the trash as a relic of the past.

So if Minecraft is such a good game, why did it go into hiding in the first place? This largely happened due to players leaving for the same reason that Fortnite players are leaving now - because the game was getting boring and repetitive. To add insult to injury, the 1.9 update introduced a different combat style, in which the player must wait for a fully charged swing. This made eliminating simple enemies in-game much more time consuming. This isn't entirely the reason. Some people who played

Fortnite never played Minecraft (mostly younger kids). A lot of people just jumped on the bandwagon like some YouTubers. For example Muselk was a popular TF2 (Team Fortress 2) YouTuber, but then started playing Fortnite and did not stop, but switched back eventually. Most people watch someone more than they actually play it, and this is the case with Minecraft and Fortnite. Even some

Minecraft YouTubers transferred and that just changed it all. A big influencer would be DanTDM who also jumped on the bandwagon, and just recently switched back to Minecraft. It's sad to see them just leave their game, but it happened and most people are happy they are back.



EXPGG

Someone who has been there since the start and never left has been CaptainSparklez a big influencer with his song parody. “Revenge” which contains the lyrics “Creeper... Aw Man” which had become a popular meme. It has died out, but it could’ve been a factor in the rise of Minecraft. He also made many other popular parodies like the “Fallen Kingdom” series. He has been a big part in Minecraft history and probably a big part in the return on Minecraft.

Now, we haven’t completely forgotten about Fortnite. Fortnite made a new update that many people thought was horrible. This update included bringing in mechs (giant robots) that eliminate you instantly and have 1,000 health and shield, which is a generous amount in this game. Many people thought that this was the best update Fortnite ever made. Then, after a few days of the update being out, they realized that it was way overpowered. The Fortnite community requested that they should be taken out of the game to make it more balanced. Fortnite saw this negative feedback, but did not do anything for about a month. Then the 10.0 patch notes revealed that the mechs added into the game had not been taken out, but “fixed” them. It turns out they increased the amount of health and shield, but decreased the amount of rockets and ammunition in the mechs. This somewhat pleased the Fortnite community, yet it has been three months since this update on the mechs and it is not looking like they will be gone any time soon. This is a possible reason why many people quit Fortnite and went back to Minecraft.



Although the surge in Minecraft’s popularity would have to be due to something other than this because its drop in popularity happened before the Fortnite mech update. Minecraft is slowly coming back but it is certainly rising to the no.1 video game this year with a little help from PewDiePie. PewDiePie has had a large part in Minecraft’s revival because he decided to start playing it and hasn’t stopped. He has a playlist on his channel about 30-40 episodes long (at this current time) which he consistently adds to. This could be one of the factors since he has over 100 million subscribers.. Minecraft good, Fortnite bad, is now what most people will say if you ask them, “which do you like better?” And it looks like that won’t change any time soon, if ever.

Express yourself through locker individuality

By Bridget Casey, Christina Grisillo, and Diya Lakshmanan, 7th grade ,

We all start out with an empty, blue-green, boring locker. What we do with that boring locker is what matters. Some kids will leave it at that, but some will go overboard. The way you decorate your locker opens up your creative minds and expression.

In the following photos, we have displayed different kinds of lockers; messy, neat, empty, organized, and more.



Our lockers showed how different kids decorate their lockers differently. Some kids decorate by using wrapping paper, magnets, stickers, and more! Some students use bright colors, and others don't even bother to do anything.

According to a study conducted by the FFNPC, many of us decorate our lockers in totally different ways!

However your locker is decorated, you can always spice it up with some decorative magnets or whiteboard sketches whenever!



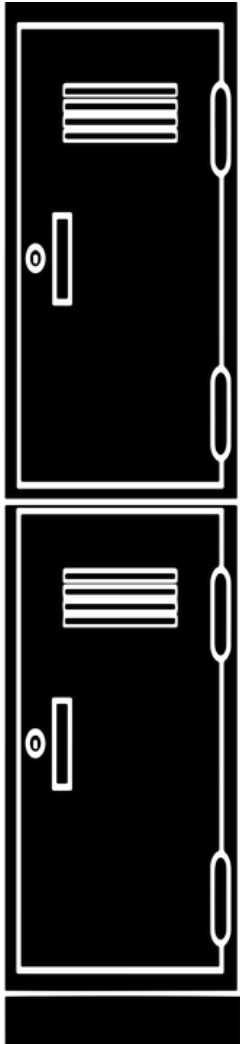
Here is what other people in the FFNPC said they did with their lockers:

1. Christina just added a whiteboard, mirror, and pencil holder.
2. Aine bought multiple pineapple items, such as a container for pens, and a mini pineapple bulletin board.
3. Diya gave up on decorating her locker.
4. Haylee has a small mirror.

Locker Individuality cont.

5. Nina put up a mini mirror and a white board

5. Nico has a little shelf for extra storage.



6. Kai decorated with a mini cork board, pins, a mirror, magnets and a hanging shelf.

We asked 10 of our fellow reporters and journalists whether they decorate their lockers, and 60% of us do!

We also asked how many of them are planning on decorating a friend's locker for their birthday, and all who answered said they were planning to!



In conclusion, students decorate their lockers in different ways. Decorating a space is a great way to showcase your

personality!

Schools use lockers to allow students to leave their books in a designated space just for them, but they serve as so much more. A place for expression, creativity and freedom to blossom.

Next time you see an empty space in town or in your own home, think of it more like a canvas. A place with potential.

*all photos are taken of the writers' lockers



Frozen Jr. is coming to Stetson

By Haylee Arabia Aine Harner and Vera Flynn



Grab your coats because *Frozen Jr.* is coming to Stetson! This 2019-2020 musical is going to be a hit, so buy your tickets today!

This musical is a variation of the movie *Frozen*, and will be presented by your fellow classmates! We hope you'll join us!



⇒ ❄️ *Times & Dates* ❄️ ⇐

November 14th: Preschool Show

November 15, 7:00 PM

November 16, 1:00 PM, 7:00 PM

November 17, 1:00 PM

[Click Here](#) and search "Stetson" to purchase tickets!

⇒ ❄️ *Summary* ❄️ ⇐

In *Frozen Jr.*, Young Elsa and Anna are two princesses that start happy and loving towards each other. Elsa has ice magic that delights her little sister! But once Elsa accidentally strikes Anna with her magic, the two sisters are forced to be separated. Her parents are lost at sea, and Anna, who loses the memories of her sister's magic in the removal, becomes lonely. Once Elsa is old enough to take the throne, Anna takes this as an opportunity to explore life outside of the castle. She runs into Hans who she swears is love at first sight, but Elsa will not let them marry. As Elsa gets frustrated, she accidentally freezes everything and scares everyone. She leaves afraid of what she'll do. Anna starts a mission to find her. When Elsa is found, she freaks out and accidentally strikes Anna's heart, and she is told only a true love's kiss can save her from freezing. She goes to Hans who turns out to be using her only for power, and she begins to freeze. She manages to escape and finds Hans about to kill Elsa. She steps in front of the sword as she freezes saving Elsa. Elsa realizes that love can thaw and she unfreezes the kingdom. The sisters live happily again!

Moving to a new country

by Maria Hawatmeh, sixth grade

Not all of you know what it's like to come to a new place where you don't know anyone except for your family. It's very hard to get used to it, but it's not impossible, because I did it.



Coming to America was a challenge that I overcame. To be honest, it was very hard to leave my country, my house, my neighborhood, my school, my friends and my childhood memories behind and move on. It was also pretty hard to leave Jordan because it's the place I

was born, where I am from and where I lived most of my life. And by the way Jordan is in the Middle East.

Overcoming this challenge became easier with the help of my new teachers and friends and of course my family. Although making new friends wasn't that hard for me, because the people in my school were very nice and welcoming, I still missed my old friends.

**Anything is possible
when you have the
right people there to
support you.**

In Jordan we speak another language which is Arabic, but I still knew how to speak English because it was my country's second language. We also took English in my old school. I also lived in California for a year when I was in kindergarten, and every other

year I would come to PA to visit my mom's side of the family. But it was definitely hard to get used to speaking English everywhere including school and taking every subject in English.

I still remember the last day of 4th grade, when I was still in Jordan, and I told my best friend I was leaving Jordan and moving to America. We both started crying, and could not leave school without looking back at each other and waving the last goodbyes.



Although it was pretty hard to move, I was pretty excited to get to see my mom's side of the family, and live in America. When I moved here I really liked it, but there was a piece missing. It didn't feel right to not live in Jordan anymore because I was always used to living there. Even the schools are different. I never used to have laptops and iPads in school, and I think having them now is very nice, since you also get your very own laptop in middle school and high school.

If you haven't experienced moving from your country to a new place, then you probably don't know how it feels to leave all your friends and memories behind and just move on. I am not going to say it's impossible because it really isn't, but it's very hard to leave the place you always lived and move on to somewhere new.

XC 2019 - "You Just Need to Work Hard"

By Brianna Ambrosine, eighth grade

Stetson's Cross Country team, aka XC, has had so much fun this year running to represent our school. We have traveled to Fugett, Pierce, Avon Grove, and Patton! For Stetson's home course, runners run around the school, up to the front, down on the track, onto the baseball field and through the woods!! It is such a great way to meet new people and have fun. Some days are known as "hard" days, and others are "smart" days, but every practice is equally beneficial in making you a faster and stronger runner. In a race, you have to be fast, control cramps, keep a steady pace, prepare for hills, control your breathing, sprint at the end and most importantly, run as hard as you can.



In the season-ending Chesmont League Championships on Oct. 24, the boys' and girls' teams both finished fifth, and seventh grader Leila Duffie finished first in the girls' race, and Kyle Worsnup took the fifth place spot in the boys' competition.

If you think XC is where you run across the actual country, think again. XC is long-distance running while racing. The team runs a 2.2-mile course. During practice, we run free runs, striders, hills, wood practice, long-distance runs, sprints, endurance, conditioning, abs, warm-ups, and cool-downs. We try to work as many muscles as we can. Coach Beegle is new this year, but she knows lots about XC. She ran it in high school and in college for West Chester University. For XC, you don't necessarily need to be fast, you just need to be able to run for a long time. The boys and girls run separate races with the girls usually running first.

The girls had a pretty good season. Sometimes, we had harder days, but we always put forth 110% in practices and meets. We have all gotten close and look out for one another. We finish as a team by running with the last girl at the finish. We came in second to Great Valley, Downingtown, and Pierce. We beat Avon Grove, Fugett, and North Brandywine. We had our championships recently and scored 5th out of 12 teams. Champs is where every team sends their 7 best runners and the top 20 overall girls and boys receive medals. Leila Duffie took first overall, Brianna Ambrosine landed 15th both getting metals. Anna Fow got 37th and Delilah McKnight got 40th. It has been an amazing season for the girls and we hope they all return in the spring for track!!

The boys did really well this year also. We have had dual meets and tri meets throughout the season. The dual meets are where we compete against one other team and a tri-meet is where we compete against two other teams. The boys beat Fugett and North Brandywine. They came in second place to Great Valley, Pierce, Avon Grove, and Downingtown. Kyle Worsnup took 5th and Danny Batchelor took 14th both making top 20 and receiving medals. We ran up steep hills, hopped over rocks, and sprinted along the track. It was best when there was a faster runner from the other team ahead

because then that made us push harder. If you are in the lead, you have no one to catch up to. When you are in second or third place, you push harder and get faster times trying to catch the first-place finisher.

If you are interested in joining next year, there will be an informational meeting come to Spring and one right before the season starts in the Fall. Some top performers from this season were Kyle Worsnup, Danny Batchelor, Leila Duffie, and Brianna Ambrosine. You can ask any of them for advice and information about running. XC is a great sport because you could do it for fun, conditioning for another sport, a workout, or for any other reason. We accept all who want to join, you just need to be able to work hard.

MAKE YOUR DREAMS A REALITY-

A "WHEN WE ALL FALL ASLEEP, WHERE DO WE GO?" REVIEW

By Mariam Waseem and Anna Barrett

When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go? Well, that's a simple answer. Nowhere. We stay in bed while our mind wanders. But Billie Eilish said, "really though?" And that's how this album was born, with songs creating a dreamlike universe. Today, we're going to pick through it.

Who is Billie Eilish?

Billie Eilish is a 17-year-old sensation. She started out with releasing her Ocean Eyes music video when she was thirteen. She later on released her, "don't smile at me" EP in August of 2017. Her career took off quickly with her alternative style resonating with young consumers. She began to go on tours and performed for multiple audiences.

The Billie Eilish Experience

Spotify collabed with Billie to make "The Billie Eilish Experience." It guides you through 14 rooms dedicated to each track with each room based on her synesthesia. Synesthesia is a neurological disorder where you take things you hear and associate it with things such as letters, textures, tastes, scents, etc. The experience was located in Downtown Los Angeles and was open for three days.



!!!!!!

"I have taken out my Invisalign, and here is the album. Hahaha-"
(This intro's room has a conveyor belt to put your shoes in.)

bad guy

From this intro, we dive straight into a blunt and edgy song about Billie being "the bad guy". With layered vocals with a simple bass track and some snaps to the beat, it's a simplistic delight with some fun lyrics. The music video cuts between shots of her dancing, having fun, and some more sinister and serious shots of her with a nosebleed. It just seems like some fun filler for a music video, and doesn't really have one meaning. The BEE room featured a small waterfall and remote control race cars to play with. The track is explained as a "cookie dough and vegan milk race course," with a cookie-like border and a track that looks like it's made of soy milk.



xanny



This song is very symbolic. She told a story about what this song's about. She was at a party, and everyone was mostly intoxicated. She watched all the people she loved turn into different people. Since Billie is a minor, it has an undertone of the dangers of underage drinking. In the chorus of the song it says "I'm in their second hand smoke." During that time intense bass is in the background she wants people to hear what it feels like to be in second hand smoke. The room in the BEE vibrates under your feet. This room features couches and a soft carpet, and you sit in the washed out room while the smoke rises around you.

you should see me in a crown

This room fortunately has no spiders like in her music video. In the music video she is in white clothing with a crown on. There are multiple spiders climbing all over her body and crown. The music video also vibrates along with the bass in the chorus. The line "You should see me in a crown," is in a BBC drama called *Sherlock*. Arachnophobes, it may be scary, but it's worth when you see the real crown from the music video at the end of the BEE room.

all the good girls go to hell

This song is a sassy, spunky theme featuring a bass guitar and some simple vocals. It seemed like a simple feel good bop, until she released the music video. It depicts her as a fallen angel who falls into an oil pit. The oil coming off of her wings catches on fire, setting the background aflame. This music video and song was about global warming, and with lines like 'Hills burn in California', it makes sense. As global warming is becoming an increasing issue, it's refreshing to see an artist who cares about it. The BEE room is a simple small room with a video of fire rising and falling to the beat around you.

wish you were gay

This song is about a rejection Billie had by a guy that she liked a lot. She decided to write a song about it. Originally this song was sang acoustic on a livestream. She received backlash on the song, because people thought it was an insult due to the line 'I just kinda wish you were gay.' She says in an interview, "I wanted it to be so clear that it's so not supposed to be an insult. Like I feel like it's been a little bit misinterpreted [...] The whole concept of the song is, I'm the worst, and you don't love me." The room smells of "teen boy cologne." There are also cut outs of her Blohsh motifs, which are the stick figures. You're encouraged to find the one you fit into.

when the party's over

This song is chilling and simple and relies on soft piano and layered vocals to convey the silence and loneliness of 'when the party's over'. The music video shows a contrast of her white clothing and background with black tears streaming down her face, and at the time, her dark blue hair. However, the BEE room is much more fun. It features a white screen with black liquid dripping down it, and a foam pit full of dark blue foam to jump in, with a handy gif camera to catch your fall.

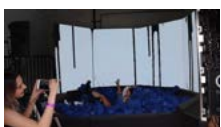
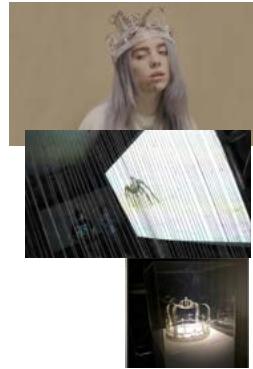
8

8, originally called *see through*, is the 8th song on this track. The song features a ukulele and Billie's voice jumping up and down in pitch to represent ups and down in emotion. She said this song was from an anonymous persons view. It is a cutesy song, and of course has a cutesy BEE room to match.

The room features fluffy purple walls and floors, and a pen full of adoptable puppies.

my strange addiction

my strange addiction is a fun, feel-good song with some clever lyrics and bass to rival *xanny*. In between her words in this song, there are quotes from *The Office*, in the episode *Threat Level Midnight*, starting this track with the quote "No Billie, I haven't done that dance since my wife died." The BEE room is a red craft room, with construction paper, drawing supplies, glitter, and tables.



bury a friend

This song radiates a very spooky vibe. The music video shows her as a demon under her friend's bed. This represents Billie's sleep paralysis. It also depicts scary imagery of her floating, being pushed by hands, etc. This song also contains the token line *"When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?"* The BEE room shows a giant bed with glowing drawings and writing in the dark underneath.



ilomilo

Ilomilo is an emotional song. The lyrics show that someone may be in danger, and their loved one wants them to come home. This song is about that, because it is about a friend who Billie unfortunately lost to drug abuse. A lot of her songs do provide the theme to be careful with dangerous things that have been normalized, like drugs. The BEE room is an aquarium. They provide life jackets, just for a gag. This song is also inspired by a video game called ilomilo. There are two characters named Ilo and Milo, and the goal for each level is to unite them. Cute idea, right?



listen before i go

This song is about suicide awareness. She talked about this song on her 1by1 tour. She said "Basically it's like, um it's about, it's just about depression, and what can come out of depression, which is not pretty good. [...] When this comes out, I don't want it to break you down, I want it to bring you to me and I don't know, be like a mental hug, I guess." The BEE room is very heavenly and dreamy. It's very soft, as it is filled with pillows, with a screen showing a sunset above the clouds.



i love you

The BEE room is inspired by Billie's bedroom. This red-lit room let fans write messages to her, as to how she inspired them. The song is about feelings in a struggling relationship due to a one sided love. The person whose point of view we're in doesn't want to lose the other in this relationship. This is because the person who's singing this does not love the other that way, but they don't want their rejection to ruin their friendship. With the line *"I love you, but I don't want to"*, it becomes clear. It is a soft, acoustic ballad with a tender acoustic guitar. It also includes harmonies with her brother Finneas in the chorus and bridge.

goodbye

(The BEE room for this ending is a maze with alternating colors leading to the end.) This chilling finisher to this album starts with layered vocals pleading "please, please, don't leave me be." It then goes through one lyric in each song in the album in a new solemn tone, creating a new story, and fading off at the end to create the feeling of a tight knit ending. As she says, "I don't like when albums just end [...] I really wanted something to feel like a finish line [...] So the idea was to have that 'please, don't leave me be' right at the beginning [...] the rest of the song is every single song on the album, starting from the bottom to the top. And then when it gets to the top, it just kind of dies down and it feels like it's a goodbye." A beautiful ending to a beautiful album. Make of this track as you will, as now is the time for our goodbye.



Interested in more details about the Billie Eilish Experience? Contact the authors of this article for more conversation about BEE and some of the deeper analysis.

Falcon Flyer Halloween Corner

Trick or Treating with a crowd?

Try these Halloween Costume Ideas

By Manuela Dutra, Nina Sinton, Alena Sinton and Kaitlyn Scannapieco

Credit to Google for the images

If you are a group of friends and you are looking for a new and better idea for next Halloween, then here are some ideas.

GROUP costumes to mix and match your Halloween? Try these fun suggestions:



- You could be apps like (Instagram, Tiktok, SnapChat, Twitter, Facebook, etc.)

- **Candies:** your group could be Skittles or M&Ms and whatever you choose. Let's say Skittles. Then one person can wear a red shirt with a skittle logo on it then you and your other friend put different color shirts on with any candy logo.

- **Animals Onesies:** For this group costume, basically you and your friends wear different types of animal onesies. Helpful hint: Also perfect for cold Halloween weather.

Partner pairings for Halloween with a BFF or two

Either you or your friends can group-costume this idea or you can just do it yourself. For this costume you can be Dorothy! And if you have a dog, your dog can be Toto! And you can carry your dog and have a basket to put your candy in while Toto is in your arms or on a leash. If you decided to do this idea with other friends, too, you can be Dorothy while the other people dress up as the Tin Man, the Lion, and the Scarecrow. Then you're good to go! But don't forget Toto!



Our last but not least costume is important. It's PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY!! This costume is a great idea! Well of course it is a classic, and so simple to make. It's GREAT for you and your friend to do. First go out to the store and get a light brown t-shirt if you're peanut butter and a light purple or light red t-shirt if you are jelly. Second print out a label of PEANUT BUTTER and JELLY and cut it out. Get an iron-on transfer so you can iron it onto the shirt. Finish it off with some tall white socks, and then you have it! That's how you make the peanut butter and jelly costume!

Spooky pranks for Halloween!

By Diya Lakshmanan, 7th grade

You know how everyone looks forward to Halloween? Dressing up, getting candy, spooky decorations? All the pumpkins carved with their sly smiles and suspicious eyes? One thing that a lot of people don't mention but secretly want to are the pranks they want to pull on their classmates! I'm going to tell you five different



pranks that you can pull on your friends and - hopefully - not get you in trouble!

1. Put fake spiders down their lockers!

You can buy a pack of fake spiders at the dollar store and they can be realistic or fake looking. You can also paint them so that your friends aren't too scared of them. Slip them down one by one through the vents of your friend's locker, and hide to see their reaction!

2. When they ask for candy, give them 100% cocoa chocolate!

100% cocoa chocolate is really bitter, and is a good prank for if your friends don't like bitter/non-sweet chocolate or snacks. You can get them in a lot of general shopping areas that have candy.

3. In their locker when they aren't there and the area is mostly deserted, slip a creepy note saying it's from a ghost.

On a piece of paper that's torn from a notebook, write something creepy such as "I'M COMING FOR YOU..." and slip it in your friend's locker. *Make sure you put it in the right locker!* Otherwise you might cause some chaos. Another example would be to say that you are a ghost (such as Jimmy who lives in Mrs. Claffey's room) and you are haunting your friend.

4. If your friends are tough to scare, then try using a doll (preferably a cheap one or one you don't need) and splatter some red marker on it.

Find an old doll and give it a makeover. If it has light hair, make it red to create a bloody effect, and add more red marker to the doll's skin. Trim its hair and make it scraggly, uneven, and tangled. Once you've finished, put it in a place where your friend will find it.

5. Last but not least, you can give your friends a caramel onion.

This is a very common prank that people do on April Fool's Day and Halloween. Simply take a raw onion and dump it in caramel. Give it to your friends at lunch, and enjoy their bitter reactions!

That's it for today! Enjoy pranking your friends and seeing their reactions. Happy Halloween!

Image is courtesy of Wikipedia.

Halloween Just Got Cancelled

By Georgia Green

Hello my name is Georgia Green, and I don't celebrate Halloween at all! I never have and I probably never will. I'm not one of a kind though, lots of people don't celebrate halloween. I personally don't celebrate it because of my religion. That's my reason but other people might not celebrate it for others. Some people do not celebrate Halloween because they believe it's not safe for their children to be walking around in the dark or taking candy from strangers.

One of the hardest parts of not celebrating Halloween is when the Trick or Treaters come to our door. I know what you're going to say why not just put up a sign on your door saying no Trick or Treaters? Well apparently some people don't listen so we just have to ignore them. Another bad part about not celebrating Halloween is that you barely get any candy during the year. I don't buy much candy during the year so I barely get any.

There are many amazing things about not celebrating, though. I get to stay home while other people are doing their activities which I actually find relaxing. On a cold October night I don't want to be walking around in the dark. I want to be curled up under my blanket with hot chocolate! I also have more time to read or just relax with my family which I barely get to do. So maybe not celebrating Halloween can be rough sometimes but life is rough! I would honestly say I wouldn't change a thing.

Another student, Jaizty, doesn't celebrate Halloween because in her own words she's a girl of god. Her family doesn't like the devil and angel costumes because they feel like it's a



mockery of God. This is her first year not celebrating because she just moved to the United States. She's also Spanish so her culture doesn't do Halloween, which could be another reason. Jaizty has wished that she has celebrated Halloween. She loves the way people are nice and get candy.

Another girl in 7th grade, Kayla, doesn't celebrate Halloween. She doesn't celebrate because of her denomination. A denomination is a branch of religion. For example, Kayla's is Christianity, but her denomination is Apostolic. As a young Apostolic lady, her dressing and beliefs are different than other Christians. She wears skirts and dresses because she believes women aren't supposed to wear mens garments. For Halloween it really depends on the church you attend. Some Apostolotic churches do allow their members to celebrate Halloween. Some don't because we believe it's the devil's holiday. Her church is against Halloween.

So not celebrating Halloween isn't weird, or the most rare occasion. I actually think it's pretty cool!

Halloween

By Sophia Pirone 7th grade

H is for the **Hallowed Halls** to which I am no stranger
A is for the **Apparition** I've watched streak across the doorway
L is for the **Lanterns** that line the streets to repel the darkness and all that it hides
The second L is for the **Lurking** figure that only comes out only where there is an absence of
light
O is for the **Owl** that perches in a tree, seeing, but never telling
W is for the **Wicked Witches**, casting curses that cannot be undone
E is for the **Eerie** alleys I pass by when I walk this lonely town at night
E is for **Everlasting** terror that doesn't seem to give in
N is for the **Night** of screams, called Halloween



Leaf Shape Poem
By Bridget Casey,
Seventh Grade

Our Favorite Time of the Year !

By Maria Hawatmeh ~ 6th grade

Emma Skinner ~ 7th grade

There was a soft fall breeze,
Now I'm being showered by leaves.

The sun barely shows its face,
The moon has been taking its place.

When we go out to play,
I'm completely frozen by midday.

Many scarecrows are out,
While the smell of pumpkins is about.

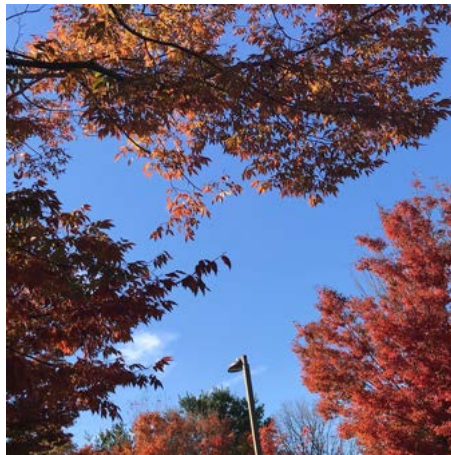
The apple pie is a hit,
And the cider is just under it.

Fall's the time to enjoy
a pumpkin spice latte.

The only sad part is,
Halloween's a school
day!



Original photography by
Maria Hawatmeh



original
photography by
Brody Bump

A Short, Scary Story

(best if read in a Transylvanian accent)

By Likhith Ganduri, eighth grade

The plague was horrific. It changed deceased humans in distorting and disgusting ways. At first it was great. Recently dead relatives came back to life, and didn't need any food or nourishment. *For the first three days*. Then, for a reason not discovered, they all became hungry. Then reports of the reanimated "losing their minds" made everyday news, with their ability to increase their numbers growing the army of walking corpses. The world would become overrun with these monsters, and this is where our story begins.



Charlie and his friends were stuck in a school. A pretty good location for survival, actually. It had running water from water fountains, and a couple of frozen patties in the freezer for them all, Charlie, Ryan, Samantha, and Tim. Together they would try, and occasionally fail, to ignore what was happening outside and just do their own thing. When it got late they would bring out extra backpacks from lockers and pile them in the cafeteria, as well as clothes that didn't fit any of them from the lost and

found.

At night, Charlie and Sammy would talk about what they would do when the disease cleared up. Sammy would always say she would be a veterinarian, and Charlie would say he wanted to, too, even if he wanted to be a professional basketball player. He liked seeing Sammy smile, and it warmed him up when the heating didn't. As for Ryan and Tim, they were best friends who had met in school about five years ago. Something happened to each of them, because they used to be super happy and loud. *Obnoxiously* loud. Charlie was curious, and a little scared about what happened, but he knew better than to ask them. Together they would toss a ball from the gym around, sometimes run in the halls, and look around the school for anything interesting to do. "Hey Ryan," Tim asked. "Why didn't the toilet paper cross the road?"

"Didn't? I don't know. Tell me then."

"It got stuck in a crack!" Tim managed to laugh out. Ryan exhaled sharply through his nose a couple of times. *Quietly*. He didn't really do anything like he used to anymore. "D-do ya get it? C-cause you *heh* k-know, like *heh heh heh* street crac- A-HA HAHA, A-HA A-HA." This caused Ryan to exhale a couple more times, and Sammy and Charlie both laughed. "Speaking of toilet paper," said Charlie, "we're running low on it. And everything else, actually."

The joy was quickly sucked out of the room, and everyone was put back to their depressed state of mind. The room went quiet. *Dang it Charlie*, he thought to himself. Of course they had all noticed the

lack of supplies, but none of them wanted to admit it. Surprisingly, Ryan was the first to speak, for the first time in a week at least. "We're going to have to go get some from the outside, is that what you're saying?"

Ryan's voice echoed lightly through the gym, and then there was a long silence.

"Well, I... I guess that's what I'm sayin'-"

"Who do you think is gonna go out there?!"

"That's what I'm trying to say. I'll do it."

.....

As Charlie got ready to go out, Sammy, Tim, and Ryan started unboarding some of the main entrance door. They would leave it open until Charlie returned, then board it again. As he slipped through beyond safety, Charlie looked back and saw that everyone was staring at him, like they wanted to say something. *They probably do idiot*, Charlie thought to himself as he made his way from the school. He left his little world with an emergency fire axe, which would be surprisingly effective, considering that the corpses were relatively slow, and needed to be decapitated to stop them from moving. The corpses were stupid and had their senses weakened, but were deadly in large hoards, for the sole reason that they were so durable.

Charlie made his way to a nearby neighborhood and began his search. He went into a nearby house, which looked both abandoned and broken into. As the lawn grass brushed against his shins, he noticed some movement inside the house. Charlie took out his axe. He crept toward the house and saw a corpse, a guy in his twenties or so, curled up in a ball. He was on the floor, his hands covering his head, tears coming out of his eyes. Was he.... crying? Charlie gathered his courage, slowly snuck up behind him, and did what he had to do. Charlie couldn't comprehend the thought that corpses could feel emotions. He raided the house and found a ton of canned food, utensils like forks and knives, and spare light bulbs. He chucked them all in his backpack and inspected the body of the corpse. He looked recently infected. If that were the case, maybe corpses could feel a little before they completely turned. This disturbed Charlie, so he quickly left.

After raiding a few empty houses, Charlie took inventory. He had found batteries for the flashlights at home, a spare flashlight, and a towel, along with the other things he found in the first house. The first house had been the only eventful one, and the most rewarding. Charlie looked up at the sky and saw it darken. This was bad. The corpses didn't come out in the daytime because their eyes are sensitive to light. The nighttime, well...that was different. He could already hear the distorted groggy voices coming from around him.

This was really bad. Charlie didn't know what to do. His heartbeat was thumping in his ears, he wanted it to leave. This was a terrible idea, he shouldn't have left, he didn't want to die, he should've brought someone with him, he's so alone, *why am I crying, I don't know...someone please...*

Charlie ran into an unraided house that looked abandoned. He was lucky, it wasn't. He made his way through the house, seeing if he could take anything, when something stuck out to him. Toilet paper.

He almost laughed at Tim's joke again. Snatching all of the toilet paper from the shelf, something else caught his eye. The school was only about a half mile away. He didn't realize it was so close. He could be safe and talk about being a vet with Sammy again...

Charlie made a mad dash to the school. *Come on, come on, almost there...* Step by step he got closer until he reached the entrance and crashed his way through. He looked around and realized something wasn't right.

The lights were off. It was just, silent.

Charlie walked through the darkness, trying to find a lightswitch or something, when he saw a figure he recognized. It looked like Ryan. Charlie took a few steps forward. Ryan jumped at him. Through the window's light he saw it wasn't Ryan. Tim lunged forward and bit his leg, but it wasn't Tim. Sammy latched on to him and knocked him over. He was too late. They left the door open too long. Charlie grimaced in pain but didn't fight back. He could swear he saw tears in their eyes. After they were done, Charlie slowly stood up.

Only it wasn't Charlie.

Horrific Haunting

A Short Story by Leah Ambrosine (7th Grade)



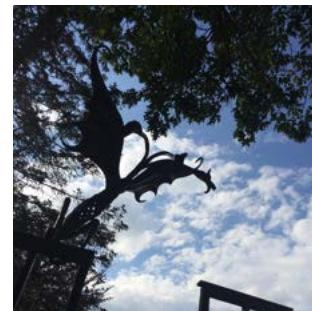
My name is Jack, Jack Scott. I live in Bangor, Maine, and I attend Larkin Middle School. My

school is not that popular and not many children attend it, but my two best friends (Logan and Axel) are all there. We love to make mischief, especially this time of year. I came up with the best idea in the world of trick or treating at Stephen King's house, and it is about to come true.

It was 11 o'clock at night and we were almost ready to go to Stephen King's house. We were on his street, and I was not ready for what was about to happen. Stephen King's house had a big fence around it with a huge gate. The gate had big dragons on it and had his address in the gate, 47. His house was gigantic and looked haunted. I was scared, but not as scared as Logan was. It was dark and cold and nobody was really around except mischievous teenagers egging houses and cars.

"It's really creepy. I don't think I can do this," said Logan.

"You can do this. Besides, Stephen King is so old. What could he do to us except tell us long and boring stories about his grandchildren?"



"I really don't want to do this and I don't have too so I am leaving. If I do stay, I will probably have nightmares for the rest of my life. I don't even know if it is going to be scary but I'd rather be safe than sorry. I wish you two the best of luck and hope you have fun. But I need to go!" then Logan ran down the sidewalk and out of sight. I turned to face Axel but he wasn't there. He was also out of sight and gone. I hated them for leaving me and I wanted payback. I will become so popular in school for trick or treating at the most creepy house in Maine.

I pulled a lever out of the ground to open the immense black gate that creaked a little when I pushed it open. *'They need to fix that'* I thought as I walked up the path made of red bricks. I noticed that the bricks were all uneven and some were sticking up more than others. I thought this house must be really old. It was red and looked like a big mansion. It smelled weird, kind of like burning, but it is Halloween. It could be anyone having a bonfire. I walked a little closer to the house as I scoped it out. Then I thought to take out my phone to take pictures but mostly use it for a flashlight. As I put my left foot on the welcome mat I-

"OWWWWWWW!!! WHAT THE---?" I screamed out in pain as I felt something hit my back. It felt like a sharp crack and then a gloopy and droopy slime sliding down my back.

"Nice shot! HA HA HA!" I heard someone say. Then I turned around so fast with anger. I almost fell over into the overgrown bushes.

"What are you doing?!" I hollered *"You teenagers should be home on Halloween spending it with your family and out alone like a bunch of losers with no lives!!!"*

"Ok MOM!" one of the teenagers said while walking away and laughing with his buddies. I continued to walk up to Stephen King's house but then I paused and thought about what I said to those teenagers. I am alone on Halloween, too. All of my friends ditched me. I am probably not safe. I turned around and started to walk back to the gate when I heard a voice, a deep scratchy voice.



not

"What are you doing?" I didn't reply and kept walking towards the gate.

"What are you doing, boy?" someone said again, *"Would you like some candy?"* then I stopped and thought of how cool it would be to show all of my scaredy-cat friends the candy Stephen King gave me.

"Sure?" I said being very cautious.

"Come here and you can pick," he said.

"Ok?" I walked a little closer until I was standing right in front of him. He walked inside his house and handed me a Twix bar. I thought it was weird, him just handing me the candy.

"Thanks," I said as I began walking back to the big, black iron gate that looked like it was slowly closing.

"Would you like some candy." I heard him say again. *"Come here and you could pick."* Then I turned around and he was just standing there looking at me. I turned back around to face the gate and he was **RIGHT THERE!!!!** I was frozen with fear. I need to get out of here. I screamed and

screamed and screamed hoping someone could hear me. Then I saw a red balloon rise up right behind him. I never watched the movie "IT" or read the book but I knew all about the red balloon. EVERYONE DID. Then I expected a clown to eat me or something but nothing happened. He just stood there waiting for something to happen, just like me. Then I saw him smile. The smile looked huge on his little face and it just grew. Then his teeth turned yellow and his face white as snow. Then two red lines formed horizontally across his eyes. Then he took his long dirty hand AND. PLACED. IT. ON. MY. SHOULDER! Then I lost it. I ran around him while screaming. I tried to open the gate but it wouldn't budge. So I climbed over it as fast as I could. Stephen King, or should I say, PENNYWISE was grabbing my leg trying to pull me back over the fence but I was too far over it that I was able to get away. Then the Twix which I almost lost my life trying to get, fell out of my pocket, but I didn't notice. I just ran. RAN. RAN. RAN. As far as I could. Until I was back home safely in my room, I cried and knew I should've trusted my friends. And that is why I call this Halloween: HORRIFIC HAUNTING!

THE END

Falcon Flyer Staff

Sixth Grade

Haylee Arabia
McKenzie Baillie
Jackie Behrens
Manuela Dutra
Vera Flynn
Jane Goodwin
Georgia Green
Aine Harner
Maria Hawatmeh
Misha Hromcenco
Kaitlyn Scannapieco
Alena Sinton\
Nina Sinton

Seventh Grade

Leah Ambrosine
Bridget Casey
Ella Gentile
Christina Grisillo
Kaia Khawaja Brown
Diya Lakshmanan

Henry Matonis
Izzie Mintz
Sophia Pirone
Henry Romans
Emma Skinner
Arnav Soni

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Falcon Flyer meets on Wednesdays in Room B106, 3-4 p.m. New staff members are always welcome.

Halloween Costumes: The Struggle Is Real

Jane Goodwin, Georgia Green, Jackie Behrens, Alena Stinton, Kenzie Baillie, sixth grade

