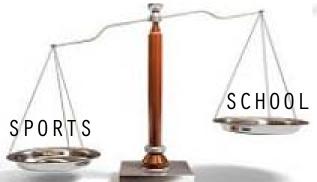


The B A A

Oxford Middle School
Oxford, M7

March 2019

s it hard to balance sports and **L**school? The answer would be 'yes. Many students here at OMS play sports and it may be difficult. for them to make time for both school and sports all the time. From 6 to 8th grade teachers of ·all subjects give homework and tests at some point, students that play sports might have a harder time completing assessments than others. Students who play sports have to do extra work or studying to keep up with the rest: of the students.



By: Anna Rinke



As an Oxford Middle School. Student and softball player, 8th grader Devyn Hughes says that having practice later at night and during the day makes: it harder to get things done, but she usually tries to have it done: as soon as possible. According to Childrentrends.org, 63 percent of middle schoolers play sports. "Playing sports is important to me but so is my homework and studying, and I always make sure to have it completed."

Winners never quit AND QUITTERS NEVER



WIN

8 th grader Jacob Massie is on the wrestling team. He says that he spend most of his time wrestling and it is sometimes difficult to keep up with his studies. He makes time for both homework, studying and wrestling by making sure he has enough time to get his homework done and get to practice. He usually spends most of his time on wrestling, but manages too spend an hour on homework. "It's sometimes hard to keep up with studying and homework while doing sports as well, but if you just set up daily plan then it'll work out fine."



7th grader Aaron Schiller says that / making time for both his sports and homework during sport seasons can be difficult sometimes. Aaron does track and he says that during track season he has it everyday and that it can be hard to get any homework or studying done. Aaron said he usually doesn't really know when he will get to his homework finished but he just does it when he can. "Playing a sports is definitely difficult, but I just try and get homework done as soon as possible and make sure that I keep my grades up."

WE DON'T STOP GOING TO SCHOOL WHEN WE GRADUATE.



th grader Colin Blakely plays multiple Osports, but mostly basketball. He may spend up to a few hours after school practicing about 4 times a week. Colin said he balances school and sports by setting times and dates as to when and what he'll do for that day. He also said that other days he would just stay at home and finish homework and studying. "It is difficult to balance school and sports because sports consumes most of my time and so does studying, but I have to make sure I have enough time to do homework."



Check out news stories your peers posted @OMSNews Now!



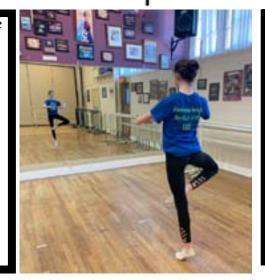




Dance as a Sport?

By: Ashlynn Redhage

Dance has been known throughout the world since the 15th century. Many people who do professional dance spend over 6 to 7 hours a day, six days a week working on technique, strength, and the different performances. Dance takes a lot of time and effort, and takes lots of practice and strength (theportlandballet.org). There are many types of dance, such as hip-hop, ballet, jazz, tap, and much more. Dancing overall requires passion to love what you are doing and to put everything into it (www.coachup.com).



Precise and graceful, Lea Rauh, poses in front of the mirror to practice her skills at her Tuesday night ballet class at the Romeo Parks and Recreation Center. Lea has been dancing for over 7 years. "Dance let's me be free and creative, and you can do anything and call it a dance," says Lea.







8th Grader Ashley Kardos says that sports involve working as a team, and being active. Ashley does dance and enjoys everything about it. "I think dance is a sport because your working as a team, and it's just as active as any other sport," says Kardos.



7th grader Lea Rauh says that sports involve lots of physical activity, and they involve other people. Lea does dance, and thinks that dance takes a lot of commitment with time and effort. "I think dance is a sport because it takes a lot of physical activity, and it takes a lot of practice and skills."



6th grader Patrick Wozniak says that sports involve lots of movement. Patrick doesn't know much about different types of dances, but agrees that "dance is a sport because it involves movement."



Out of **87** kids, **50** kids agreed that dance is a sport.

Organizations

PLAYING FOR THE JUDGES

By: Katherine Lewis

Every year, 7th and 8th grade orchestra and band students have the opportunity to perform infront of judges who will then give a rating on their performance. According to namm, org, 48% of American households have a family member who plays an instrument. Students at Oxford Middle School have worked for months in order to recieve a good score from the judges.





Sth grader Dylan Morris plays the viola. He says the 8th grade orchestra got all ones for festival. "I felt that we worked hard and were prepared for festival despite all the snow days we had." Morris says that his parents came to his concert to support him and cheer him on. Morris says he plans on continuing his instrument in high school because he enjoys playing in the orchestra.



th grader Norah Chapa plays the violin for the 8th grade orchestra. Chapa says that her mom, dad, and brother came to watch her perform at festival. "I'm really glad that we got all ones two years in a row. I'm really excited to go to States, I feel like it would be a good experience for everyone to perform for a higher-level group of people."



7th grader Natalie Bales plays in the 7th grade band. "We got all ones for festival." Bales' parents came to watch her perform at Festival. "We could have played the rythms better. We were kind of off on some of them." Bales says that she plans on playing in high school but she is switching to a different instrument. "I'm switching to flute, I wanted to try something different."



8th grader Norah Chapa practices her violin in preparation for Festival. "I'm super excited for Festival. I think our orchestra is going to get a good score because we work hard and do our best during rehearsal."

Spring into Reading

By: Sarah Spearing

Arch is Reading Month, also known as National Reading Month, celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2nd, along with many other events throughout the month of March. All across America, including Oxford and many other school districts in Michagan, schools take part in March is Reading Month by doing different activities during the month, that encourage students to read. Many of Oxford schools do their part in March is Reading Month by having raffles, door decorating, book guesing, and, of course, reading!



th grader Hunter Witteeorit states that if he were to add any activity to March is Reading Month, he would, "have a bunch of authors come in so [he]could meet them and see how long it took them to write books."



Th grader Abigail Snable says that her favorite book series is "The Land of Stories series because it takes you through a lot of ups and downs, but it still has a lot of funny parts."



th grader Brynn Patterson, after being asked what activity she would add to March is Reading Month, says that she would like to "[read] the books then [watch] the movies right after so it can help you compare and contrast."

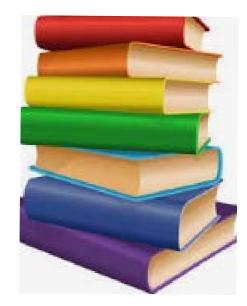


March is Reading Month because "[she likes] how they make reading fun by making it a program sort of thing."

Dr. Willoughby, one of the librarians, says that there has been an increase in praticaptions because the language arts teachers have created a five signature reqerment for activities related

to reading.

the OMS library. Alexia says that she likes





MS also had the amazing opportunity to have Matt Faulkner, our author of the month, come to OMS and talk to some students about his experiences of being an author and an illustrator of his books.

STUDENT LEADERS

(Student Council) has been a

By: Holden Jones

C tudent council is an amazing club made for the students in Our school that were selected to be leaders. Elected by their peers, the 15 members do many things for our school, from planning and running parties and events, to running hat day and spirit days. They are some of the hardest working and most dedicated students in the school, as they constantly work to improve it and make students happier. The student council is a critical element of our school and many of the yearly events we enjoy would be nonexistent without them.

Commitments

 ${f B}$ eing in student council comes with many responsibilities, such as the planning and running of parties and events. While these l good responsibilities often take a lot of hard work and dedication, many of the members agree that they are very rewarding and even fun. 6th grade representative Nolan Mauser stated that after each party he feels "great because his friends and peers got to have fun becuase of [him] and all [of the other] student council members." Aside from parties and events, the student coucil's responsibilities also include planning spirit weeks, running hat days, and overall be a voice for what the students want and figuring out how to make this school an even better place.

Positions

opportunity (as) it has made The student council is made up of 15 different members, all with **L** certain jobs and special responsibilities that are added on to the student council's basic responsibilities. The representatives, which make up the majority of the student council, are mainly in charge of representing what the students want, in order to esure that we plan spirit days and parties so that they will be as enjoyable as possible. better person", Dylan Morris There are a total of 11 representatives, split up so that there are 5 from 6th grade, and 3 from 7th and 8th. Then there is the treasurer, in charge of mainly counting and organizing money gained from parties, fund raisers, and hat day. The title of treasurer is only given to a 7th grader. Similarly, the secretary is only given to a 7th grader. The secretary must take note of everything that is done during student council meetings. Finally, there is the president and vice president. Their jobs are very similar, as they are placed in their position to be a general leader for the student body, as well as the student council. At events they are the voice of the student council and they put together many of the powerpoints for events that you see in advisory. The title of president and vice president is reserved for two 8th graders.

Treasurer Heidi Allen counts the money from the recent hat day. With each student paying \$1, the student council adds the collected money to their funds for events and parties. "Hat day is an important day for the student council. It is our main source of income for parties and events," savs Heidi.

7th grade representative Isabella Rushlow says that the student council holds meetings during advisory with the student coucil adult advisor, Mrs. Golden. She says that during some of the meetings the student coucil even "went to the cites of [their] upcoming events and prepared it for the party." Isabella stated that party preperation often takes hours, and may even require the student council to come in early or miss parts of classes.

8th grader and President Holly Watson stated that her favorite event that student council reun has to be Master of the House "becuase it is fun to [get a chance to] compete against the other team". She enjoys planning it for the first time and hopes that MOTH 2019 will go great!

New students who join the student council without knowing what they are expected to do often struggle in the beginning of the year. 6th grade representative Sylvia Lester stated that new members should always "pay attention in [advisory] because if you don't you will have what is happening [or what you are supposed to do]".







Homework Club = less homework

Homework club is an after school activity that quite a few people in our school participate in. It is everyday of the week except for Friday. Also, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, there are teachers for math, and on Wednesday there are your language teachers there to help you out. However, students don't have to go to homework club just for those classes, they can go for any class any



By: Evelyn Sawdon

To get the best grade they could on their homework, 7th graders Abby Snable, Ava Darnell and Victoria Smith all stayed after school to get two stamps on there spanish assignments. According to Stainburn for edweek.org, middle school students with five classes get about 3.2 hours of homework in total per week which is even more for us since we have 7 classes- "I feel like homework club makes school a little bit less stressful when it comes to homework," said Victoria Smith.



6 th grader
Celicia Kozloff commented that she would have preferred that homework club be in different teachers classes like last year rather than in the library like this year. She also commented that she enjoys having the option to go to homework club and that it's very useful.



Th grader
Christian Fresard
said he would rather it to be in
the library because of the fact that
there is more space. Also, he thinks
that there is usually about ten people go
to homework club on average. But, about
20-45 people actually go to homework
club according to Ms.Vickory. Also, he
comented that there are only one or
two people who go there to use as
an exuse to hang out.



Anna Waite
explained that homework club
is usually fairly easy to fit into her
scheduals because they have it almost everyday of the week. Another
thing that Anna said was that she
would most likely want to go to
homework club for math.

LATE WORK POLICIES

By: Dale Schmalenerg

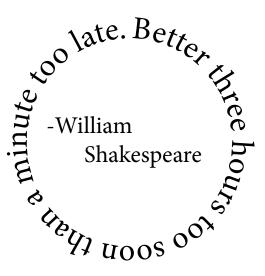


6 th grader Morgan Kindermann thinks that the current policies and rules for turning work in late arew good as they are, and shouldn't be changed, and students shopuld just work ahader to turn their work in on time. She thinks that there shou,ld be no grade penalty for turing work in late because she thinks that getting a bad grade just for turning work in late is not really fair. She thinks that you should get one chance to turn in yout work if its late, then they should take points off on the second one, so she thinks that overall grades will improve.



Th grader Noah
Morley thinks
that if you don't do
your work and you
know that you messed
up and you want to
redeem yourself then
you should be able to
turn in work late and

still get full credit for it. He thinks that grades will stay the same if late policies are change because you are still responsible for turning in work late and you should still get the same grade penalty you already get, so grades won't change much.

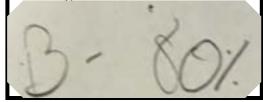


Ath grader Drew Sprague thinks that teachers should be little more lenient with late work, but only if the person who is turning in work late has a good reason, for example if you are pulled out of class. He thinks that kate work penalties should not be quite as harsh, and grade deductions should not be as harsh either. Lastly, he thinks that if the policies for late work are changed, the overall average grades of students would be better because it could encourage students to turn in thier work

sooner or put more effort into thier work because they know there will be more penalties.

hen late work is turned in, most **V** schools implement some sort of punishment. At OMS, If late work is turned in, then teahcers shouold make the highest grade possible for that assignment an 80%, a B-, but should late policies be changed? Some people might think that late policies are good as they are because they can turn in work late and not recieve too many penalties. Others might think that late policies should be made stricter becauser some people are getting away with turning in thier work late and it is not fair that people who work hard get the same grade as those who turn their work in late, and others might think that should late policies should be made less strict because if they have a good reason to turn it in late then they should be able to get full credit anyway

Turning work in late will result is a significant grade deduction for that assignment, and in powerschool, a red clock will appear as a flag for that ssignment. In oxford, if work in turned in late, then the grade for that assignment can only be a maximum on 80%. Tanner DeMarco says, "I think that changine the late policies would be the best thing for the school."





Deaf or hard of hearing people use sign language as a way to communicate, especially as it is very hard to read the lips of people talking in oral languages. Occaisonally, you will find people that can hear, but still use the language. Most of the time, these people want a career in deaf education or know someone deaf and are guiding them to start learning the lanuguage, some people are just interested in the language!



Recently, sign language has been making a name for itself in actual school systems. OMS has decided to make a program for sign language. They have an option for the 8th graders to do an online program as well as offering the 9th graders and up the option of the online class, or having an actual ASL teacher in class, and doing work like in a normal language classrooms. This gives a variety of ways to learn this awesome language!

By: Lauren Schmidt

It's a good idea to know another language to be able to communicate with the deaf who can be seen in many occupations. Being an ASL interpreter is a great way to earn money as it pays very well for it's qualifications. This is an option for college students looking for ways to get rid of student debt or looking for a unique career!



Sign Language: A language using visual "characters" formed by hands to communicate

There are many different types of sign language. It is tailored to follow words from particular spoken languages, and creating a sign for those words. So it is not universal or communicated the same all over the world. There's all types. Every different country communicates using sign language in lots of different ways. This is a huge misconception about the language that is believed by many. As an example, while sign language in France and America are closely related they aren't the same.

Cign language has had a significant affect on our nation as a whole. The deaf community is able to exist with a great way to communicate with each other face to face. This is important and makes a lot of deaf people feel more welcome in a world where they often feel isolated. Sign language has shattered one of the barriers the world has built up between people due to their differences. The language allows everyone to communicate if they just put the effort in. The deaf no longer have to feel like outsiders. Though there are still limitations, the deaf are one step closer to the rest of the world.

A lot of people think that deaf people can just read lips and keep up with conversations, but this is a very difficult task. According to http://www.cput.ac.za, in a normal paced conversation the best lip readers can only get 25-30% of what is being said. American sign language serves a great purpose and is a great way for the deaf to communicate a lot easier. However, not all deaf people you come across will speak sign language. It depends on the person and their views.





By: Lauren Schmidt

th grader Zander Brown is in the Oxford Middle School ASL program and was last year as well. He became interested in ASL because of his mother learning it to communicate in sign language with a deaf friend of hers. He had found that really cool. "I think it's a really great alternative to Spanish or Chinese, "he says of ASL.

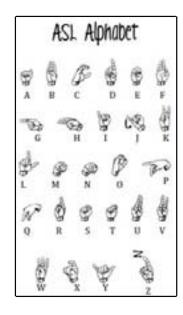
th grader Natalie Gula is another student who is in the Oxford Middle School ASL program. She really likes signing and being able to be in the class. She was attracted to ASL because she disliked taking Chinese and Spanish and thinks ASL is an option better suited for her. "I don't really like that it's mostly online," she said after much thought when asked what she didn't like about the class.

th grader Tess Nagher has a lot of passion for ASL and feels lucky to have been given the opprotunity to learn this innovative language. She has had previous knowledge of the language out of curiosity, but has been able to learn so much more in taking ASL. "I put a lot of time and energy in to being able to sign as well as I want to, "she said.



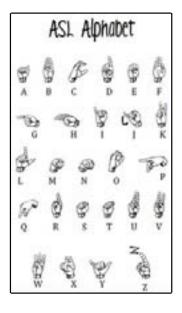
Sign Language: A language using visual "characters" formed by hands to communicate







Toyful students of the ASL program at Oxford Middle School are so excited and thankful to be able to learn such a cool language. According to www.startasl.com, ASL is the third most spoken language in the United States. 8th grader Tess Nagher says, "I really like learning the language and I really think that it is something I could truly use in the future."





What language is spoken the least?

Sign language!



-- 8th Grade Year Book--

By: Wyatt Ashley

o you see people walking around and taking people out of 7th hour to take photos and get interviews? This is the yearbook class that works to design, create, and customize the yearbook. This class works very hard to create amazing look pages that show what school was like that year. Many people keep the yearbook and they have to make sure that the yearbook shows them what it was like and remind them of 8th grade. These books are kept for a long time by many people so this just gets them to work even harder. The yearbook class gets deadlines every few months that they have to meet. At the end of each deadline, they need to have some pages done. This teaches life skills to the student how



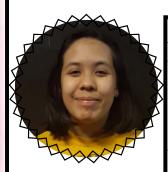
8th grader Lola Piper think that yearbook is a great class and also said that if she could choose again that she would still take the class. Lola works on the football articles and said that their job in yearbook is to design and create

Snapping a picture is a yearbook student in the 8thgrade Yearbook class. There are a lot of yearbooks sold each year at Oxford Middle School. The Oxford Middle school vearbook class uses a program called Walsworth to make their wonderful vearbooks. All of the people that are in yearbook tried out at the beginning of the year to get into this class. They take this class instead of gym and PLTW.





8th Grader Layni Chaisson said that she like yearbook as a class and that if she was to redo her 8th-grade schedule that she would do it again because it is a very good learning experience. Layni said that her favorite part of yearbook is the page design how she can choose different designs and make her own



8th Grader Hannah Chiu said that yearbook is a great class and that she would take it again if she could restart 8th grade. She also added that she is taking the yearbook class in high school as her elective. He favorite part about yearbook is the page design because there is no right or wrong way



8th grader Gracie Phelps said that she likes yearbook. She also added that she is not taking yearbook in high school. Her favorite part of a yearbook is the interviewing and getting pictures. Gracie said that this is her favorite class in her 8th-grade schedule.

OUR NEW SAFETY

By: William Owen

7th grader Brodey

The ALICE security program has been spreading around the country to comply with new security laws, and it is much more involved than any security program. Before in the case of an emergency, the teacher and their students would go into a corner and make sure they are out of sight from any doors or windows, but now this has changed. ALICE has multiple protocols for what to do in the case of an emergency. There are multiple steps as well. The first one, Alert means alerting at least a small group of a dangerous situation. Lockdown is making sure as many people in danger are safe and protected. Next is Inform, where the news of an emergency is spread around as quickly as possible through any possible means. Counter is a specific situation if someone is either nearby or in your room, and you can barricade the door or get ready to fight back by protecting yourself and throwing things at the intruder. Finally, Evacuate is a way for you to leave the building safely. Any of these are options for what to do in an emergency.

what to do in an emergen

6th grader Justin
Lupu says that he is
very supportive of
the ALICE program.
He says that he likes
ALICE because when
just hiding in the
classroom, anyone
that is coming into the
school will know that
people are there and
that hiding doesn't
really do anything.





Practicing for a dangerous situation, 8th graders Dale Schmalenberg, Keaton Linn and Mrs. Daversa are preparing for an emergency situation by practicing a barricade. In the United States, 3,700 K-12 schools and 900 universities have brought in this program to protect their students according to the ALICE website. "I am glad Oxford Schools chose the ALICE program as it provides other alternatives to keep students and staff safe," said Mrs. Daversa about the new program.



Norris says that
the ALICE security
program is a good
way to make sure that
everyone is staying
safe. He said that he
likes ALICE because
it makes people less
vulnerable. He says
that he also likes that
self-defense is an
encouraged factor in
the program.



8th grader Alyssa
Reagan says that she
isn't really sure about
the program and that
it might be better for
different emergency
situations. She says
that she would still
be scared in an emergency, and a bit more
so, but it would give
an opportunity to get
to a better place from
inside the school.

Alerl Lockdown Inform Counter Evacuate



Fun Features

St. Patrick's Day Jokes

What kind of spells do leprechaun witches cast? Lucky Charms!



What type of bow can't a leprechaun tie? A rainbow.



Why can't Irish golfers ever end a game? They refuse to leave the green.

What should you say to a runner in the St. Patrick's Day marathon? Irish you luck

Why were all the leprechauns still complaining in April about it raining on St. Patrick's Day?

Because Irish stew.

Why didn't St. Patrick visit the farmer to tell him a secret? He wanted to avoid his shepherd spy.



Why are the Irish so concerned about global warming? They're really into green living.



hat did the Irish referee say when the soccer match ender Game clover.

Why was St. Patrick given a desk job when he became a policeman? He was too green to go out on patrol.

Fun Features

MARCH 2019

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Student Life



International Travel



By: Ava Gordon

6 th grader Jackson Green wants to go to Lapia, Europe. He has been to Canada. He knows two people from Germany: Luca and Thomas. As a traveler tip, he says, "Bring your passports."



The grader Emiley Wealer has been to Mexico and many other places on a cruise. She recommends to "Be safe. If you don't know the language, it could be dangerous." She says "Try new things."

Paris, France; Rome, Italy; Cancun, Mexico; London, England. These are all vacation destinations. From beaches in the sun, or cities bursting with busyness, the dream stops can be anywhere. According to www.huffpost.com, there are approximately 14.6 million U.S. overseas travelers a year! Many people travel because they want to see the world, explore new cultures, learn a new language, make good relationships, and much more (https://www.airtreks.com). There are many students who have been to many foreign countries, and here are a few.



Ath grader Sophia Ziegler has been to Germany 9 times. She enjoys going to Germany because "it is a lot more independent because everything is so packed together. You can go around because there is more public transportation, and you have more freedom." She loves going to different places because she "gets to meet all these new people." She also adds, "Explore the world!"



Ziegler in Gemany



Out of 26 students, Mrs. Kmiec's 6th grade ELA class...

1 wants to go to Germany $_{\scriptscriptstyle 0}$

 δ 6 want to go to Paris



th grader Aurora Matteson has been to Equador 16 times, China 2 times, Spain 3 times, Peru 3 times, Canda 7 times, and many places in Mexico. According to TheBestTravelled.com, 96 people have traveled the entire world. Matteson says, "It's nice to see the different cultures and traditions of other places." As a travel tip, She says, "Always bring toilet paper, and be ready for anything."

11 want to go to Austra-)lia

4 want to go to Mexico

The world is your map-Travel wherever your heart desires!

\sigma want to go somewhere else.

By: Riley Spurlock

Breck Time

Spring break is a time where fun, happiness and excitement begins after a long winter. Many people go out of state for spring break to places all around the world such as Florida, New Mexico, Hong Kong, Chicago and more. People travel in many different ways such as flying on a plane or driving in a car. According to a spring break statistics website they claim that 50 percent of Americans travel to Orlando, Florida for spring break.



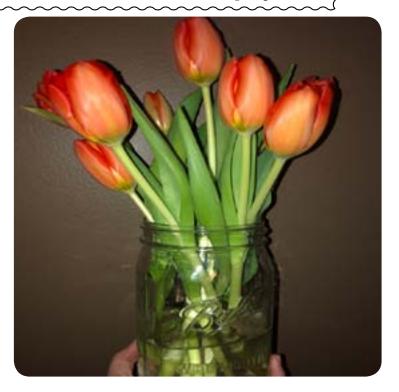
th grader Jack
Bracci says that
he is going to Tampa
Bay, Florida for spring
break. He said that he
is going to spend time
on the beach, golfing
and swimming with
his family.



th grader Savannah Bailey says that she is going to Florida for spring break and she is going to be spending time with her family and go swimming in the ocean and beach, and enjoying the hot sun.



th grader Amelia
Foster says that she
is going to Florida for
spring break and is so
excited to go and enjoy warm weather and
go swimming in the
ocean and pool. She
said that she will also
be going swimming
with dolphins.



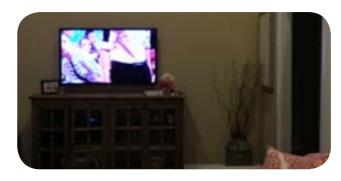
Jumping right into spring, are spring tulips starting to be found in southern states. Many say these flowers are a symbol of spring. According to 8th grader Savannaha Feltrin she says that spring break is a time to spend with family and friends and to have break from school for spring time. For example I'm going to spring break for florida and I am planning to go swimming with dolphins.





Vacation or Staycation?

By: Cece Nicholson



Relaxing at home, students all over the world stay home for spring break. According to travelagentcentral.com, 47% of millenials stay home for spring break. 8th grader Ashley Horne says she would rather stay home because "I'm a homebody and I would rather stay home and watch movies.

I pring break is a fun time for students to take a break off school and go on vacation. However, not all students spend their spring break under the palms. Some stay home or relax with their family. Some students choose to go somewhere in the summer when they have more time to stay in one place. Even if kids aren't going somewhere special during spring, they can still have fun at home.

After taking a survey of 61 kids in Mrs. Kmiec and Mrs. McCusker's classes, 29 of them said they were going somewhere for spring break, 32 of them said they were going no where for springbreak, and 40 of them said they were going somewhere in the summer. Obviously, there is a variety of going somewhere and staying here for spring break, no significant difference.



th grader Cameron Flynn says, "I'm not going anywhere for spring break and my family usually doesn't. However, I want to go to Ohio for spring break because I want to see someplace else than Michigan.



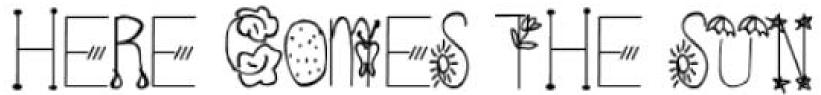


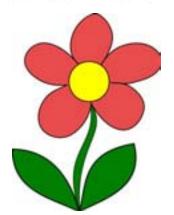
th grader Dean Rice says, "I'm not going anywhere for spring break. prefer that we don't go anywhere because I don't feel like it and would rather play Fortnite."



th grader Ella Szymanski says, "I'm not going anywhere for spring break. I'm going somewhere in the summer instead. I would rather go somewhere fun in the summer when I have more time.



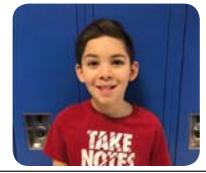




by Leilah DeGasperis

This is the time everyone is waiting for after winter, just waiting for the warmer weather to come, spring is the season that relieves everyone from the cold weather. From spring cleaning to your favorite activities, this is the start of t-shirt season. Flowers are going to start coming through the ground and bloom. You're also going to see more people riding bikes, families walking together, and lawn mowers mowing the lawns. Here is what some students say about their favorite parts of spring...





6th grader David Hixon said he is most excited for the warm weather and going outside. Hixon is least excited for the rain. "Rain, rain is the worst," he said. He likes to go outside to play sports outside with his family and friends.



Th grader Kaitlyn Weiss is most excited for the nicer weather and being off from school for a week. One thing she doesn't like as much is that it is still kind of chilly. "I'm most excited to hangout with friends outside," Weiss said.



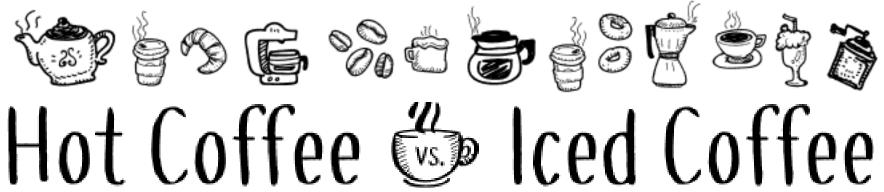
th grader Shyanne Hoyt is most excited to walk to Tropical Smoothie with her friends, even though she doesn't like that its still cold. "I'm excited to ride my hoverboard outside," Hoyt said.



Warm air, green grass, and blue skies are some highlights of spring that are reflecting off a mirror. Around 36 percent people's favorite season is spring according to News Gallup. "I am excited to play sports like basketball and baseball outside," said David Hixon, 6th grader at Oxford Middle School.

Student Life

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By: Tessa Saussele

th grader Gracie Phelps
says she would rather have hot coffee. She likes to drink coffee mostly in the morning becasuse it wakes her up and gets her ready for the day. She likes her coffee with sugar and hazelnut creamer.

th grader Troy Hufnagel says he likes hot coffee better because it wakes him up and he likes the taste of hot coffee better. Hufnagel says, "I make my coffee from the Starbucks coffee bags and then I add creamer and sugar."

th grader Mason Storey
says he pefers hot coffee
over iced coffee. He drinks his
coffee in the morning because
it gets him ready for the day
and gives him more energy. He likes his coffee with
creamer and sugar and likes
his coffee from home.

offee is like DNA, every coffee is different, everyone makes their coffee different. Some people pefer their coffee hot, some pefer their's iced. Coffee comes in different forms, from macchiatos to americanos to cappuccinos. Coffee comes in different ways to meet the preference of different people. At Oxford Middle School students share how they like their coffee and where they like their coffee best.



o all the students at Oxford Middle School that go to Tim Horton's on late start Wednesday to go and get a coffee of their choice. Most people go there because they need the coffee to wake them up or sometimes just for the taste. According to Inside Timmies, Tim Horton's sells about 2 billion cups worldwide to satisfy everyone's coffee addicion. I like going to Time Horton's every Wednesday because the coffee there tastes great and it wakes me up and gets me ready for the day.

Sth grader Landon Mysen says he drinks iced coffee because on a summer day it cools him off. He says he likes his coffee from Tim Horton's and he drinks it in the morning cause it makes him more awake.

th grader Nevaeh Latvis
says that she pefers iced
coffee over hot coffee. "I like
iced coffee better because it
wakes me up in the mornings
more." Latvis says that she
makes her coffee at home in
the morning most days.

th grader Nadia Rivera
would rather have iced coffee over hot coffee. She likes her coffee from Starbucks. She normally likes it like a macchiato at anytime of the day.



























STARBUCKS VS Tim Hortons

eciding which food

shop is better can

be a real tough deci-

Tim Horton's better

than Starbucks and

vise versa. Out of 24

people, 15 of them

prefer Tim Hortons

that Tim Hortons is

better because they

over Starbucks. "I think

have more food choices

there like sandwiches or

donuts,"says 8th grader

sion. Some people like

By Hailey May

By Gracie Chraska

ne of the most important questions a food lover can have is where they would like to eat or drink. They have a number of different options to chose from each with an almost endless amount of menu items. There are a number of different small coffee chain restaurants, but arguably some of the most popular ones are Tim Hortan's and Starbucks. They have over 19,000 stores combined only in the US alone (statista.com). And rightfully so, they have options for any food and drink lover out there. They have a very long menu of drinks that range for the simplest of coffees to the most complicated espresso order, or even just a tea or a fruit water. They also have very tasty donuts and pasterys along with muffins and bagels. But for any foodie that loves both of these restaurants, one question still needs an answer: which one is better, Starbucks or Tim Horton's?

O th grader Alec Nowak Osays"i think that starbucks focuses more on the coffee and they put more effort in to it. Also my favorite drink from startbucks is the cinnamon shortbread latte

• th garder Gracy Willits says O"i like starbucks better because it tastes better and they put more work into it. Also my favorite drink is the carmel frappachino."

> 7th grader Gabi wait says " i like starbucks cause it has a lot of good sweets and has a good variety of drinks. My favorite drink is the strawberry water,"

7th grader Lea Raugh says "I like starbucks better because starbucks has better food and i like there drinks better. My favorite drink is either the pink drink or vanilla bean frappachino

th grader logan shaver says mel frappachino from O"I like starbucks cause there starbucks over the food taste good and there drinks are good as well. my favorite drink is the double chocolaty chip frappe."

Photo courtesy of Google



Ctarbucks is sold all over the world everyday. Starbucks sells 8,070,428 drinks every day according to leozgin.me. Veronica heinemann says she perfers the carone from tim hortons cause it tastes better.



O th grader Hannah Cron Ostates that, "I like Tim Horton's better because they have better coffee there, my favorite item there is most likely the ice cap."

th grader Tiffany Nguyen says, "I like Tim Horton's better because they have more options with their drinks states"my favorite item there is the ice cap."



th grader Samantha Bailey Osays, "I like Tim Horton's better because its easy, Cheap, nad have good food, my favorite item there is their Apple Fritters"



Student Life

Within the United States of America we eat foods that seem normal to us, such as hamburgers and doughnuts - which are recognized as the most American foods across the world according to Fun-facts.org. Normally we will not eat appetizers such as bugs because they are different. However, they just might be worth trying because the tasty American drink called root beer is disgusting to foreginers. We might just be missing out on something good!

Flordia is known for
growing oranges, a healthy
fruit that most love. In fact, Flordia
produces 74 percent of oranges for the
USA according to Statesymbolsusa.org. But
what is also an iconic food in Flordia is gator,
which is actually quite healthy. However, most
people do not know about this food or would
feel disgusted to try it even though the meal
has benefits. Gator along with many other
foods may be healthy yet revolting to
people, so it is important to try
new foods.



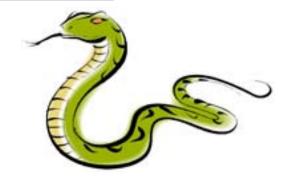
6th grade Hunter Ganry tried eating a snake. "It tasted chewy. We removed nothing so everything was there." Hunter had tried the snake at his own house. He ate it because his Dad wanted him to and he thought it was bad.



7th grade Brody Moore has tasted a squid, "One time, at a 5th grade field trip, I had squid." Brody thought that it tasted good, but it did have some downfalls. "It looked cool, but the tentacle things stuck to my tongue and it was very disgusting."



8th grade Brody Burns has eaten an antelope, "When I was in Africa I ate an antelope called a spring buck," When asked why Brody replied that he was out hunting during the summer and had just harvested the antelope, so they decided to eat it.





Books vs Movies



By: Sarah Mojek

ages or scenes? Authors or directors? Books or movies? Both books and movies are very popular, they both have franchises and **I** fans, but many people prefer one over the other. It can depend on personality- some people prefer the details of a book. Some people like both. Many books have been adapted into movies. These film adaptations are always controversial as they might stray too far from the book or change important details, but they can also be very good. Students at OMS seem to have mixed opinions.





th grader Alex Tapert says she prefers books "be-Ocause [readers] can have a lot more detail in a book than in a movie." She is unsure how she feels about film adaptations of books. "Sometimes they are not as accurate as the books." She also said that Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire is her favorite book "because it is long and I like long books."

th grader Maddie Mcguire says she prefers books "because they are more detailed." When asked how she feels about film adaptations of books she said, "I think that it is just another way to express the book." She also said The Lion, The Witch, And The Wardrobe is her favorite book because "it was the first book my dad ever read to me."





Interesting books made into movies are very popular. According to www. statista.com, overall U.S. bookstores collectively make about 10 billion dollars a year and 19% of Americans go to the movies once a month. 7th grader Ian Schenider says he prefers movies over books because "they are more interesting."





Movies

8 th grader Blake Smyth says he prefers movies "I feel like movies, you get a visual, you can see and understand what it's about." When asked how he feels about film adaptations of books he said, "I feel like if you read the book first and don't understand it and then see the movie, you understand the book." He also said his favorite movie is The Greatest Showman because "it's about people and their differences and getting to know their stories."

Student Life

Elizabeth Rice

Advisory Fun

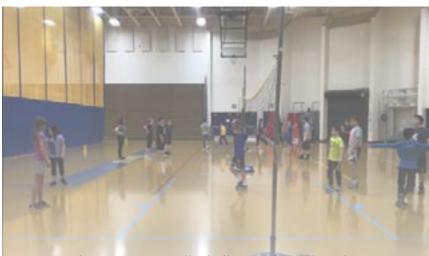
Por ruffly 8 years staff vs student games have been going on in advisory. Once a month the whole school meets in the gym during advisory and watches students go up against the staff in a basketball and volleyball; and once and awhile they will do kickball. Sometimes it might be fun to change things up a bit so I took a poll in Mrs. Kmiecs class to see what people think. 18 of 24 kids like to go and watch the staff vs student games, 24/28 kids would think it would be fun to do a student v.s student game.





Ath Grader
Helene
George was
asked if she
thought it would
be fun to do
a student v.s
student game

during Advisory, she said, "yes because i think it would be fun to watch all my friends play each other."





7th Grader Troy Hufnagel was asked if he thinks it would be fun to do a staff v.s staff games

and he said, "Yeah that would acullay be kind of funny."

Getting ready to receive a volleyball serve from the other team the 6th graders are excited about the upcoming staff Vs students games. According www.edutopia.org, it is good to take short breaks in learning, because students get distracted easily and a nice shot break would reel them back into learning. 8th grader Riley Spurlock says, "I like to get a nice break once in a while, I also think we should have a study hall so kids can catch up on work and take a little break from learning."





th grader
Nate Alexander was
asked if he
likes watching
staff v.s studnet
games, and
he said, "Yes

because itd fun to watch Mr.Banks break ankles."

Apple or Android?

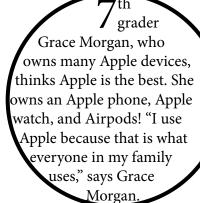
By: Lily Nouman

There is a huge debate on whether Apple or Android is better. There are many advantages and features to each one, with it's own special qualities. Many people like the smaller camera on the Apple phones, some say it doesn't get in the way as much. Android phone users say that their phones charge much faster and you have a lot of time on them before they die.



In Oxford Michigan, the two types of phone are side by side showing off their different, but similar features. The Apple phone, on the left, is a bright shiny white color, with the camera in the corner; Meanwhile, the Android phone, is a dark black, with a very nice camera in the ceneter.

Desiree Cappell believes that Apple is better. Desire dislikes her Android device because the battery life is not good. Desiree says the reason she chose to use Apple was "for pictures and social media use."



Bth
Grader
Josie Stoffan also uses
Apple and likes it better.
Josie says, "I use it a lot for
homework because I have an
Apple phone and an Apple
computer."







Out of 95 kids, only 15 think that android is better than Apple

Community/World News

2019 SPECIAL OLYMPICS By: Olivia Clark

During the week of March 14th, the 2019 Special Olympics was held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The week long sporting event features athletes who have a disability. Some of the sports and competitions that the athletes compete in include, basketball, swimming, and running. Special Olympics is the organization that began the event in 1968. According to their official website (www.specialolympics.org) their main goal was to provide "...year round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities." 7th grader Ellie Gieslman, who has some expirience helping with the Special Olympics, said, "My favorite part about the Special Olympics is seeing everybody have fun." More than 7,000 athletes are schedualed to compete this year.



The Special Olympics, not only helps those with disabilities achieve their goals, but inspired others along the way. For example, just one of the athletes that inspire many, Tim Harris, who has down sydrome, is an accomplished basketball, volleyball, track and field and hockey player. Another inspiring athlete, Kim Chandler says, "I love to win" (www.time.com). Although winning is important to her, she also has a passion helping kids swim. Kim won 3 medals at the 2014 Special Olympics. These were just two of the amazing athletes that work hard everyday for the Special Olympics.

"Let me win.
But if I cannot win,
let me be brave in the
attempt."

-Special Olympics Athlete Oath

th grader Samantha Bailey 6 has seen the Special Olympics before, but she is more excited than ever to watch it again this year. "I like to watch the gymnastics and soccer!" exclaims Samantha. According to www.specailolympics.org, out of the 30 different sports, soccer is by far the most popular. "Through the power of sports, people with intellectual disabilities discover new strengths and abilities, skills and success", this is part of the mission of Special Olympics.



"My favorite part of the Special Olympics is that people who are disabled can compete too!"

-8th grader Taiylor Egbert

Community/ World News MARCH 2019

LOOKING FOR LEPRECHUMNS

By: Aiden Bowyer

A widely celebrated holiday, 149 million people in the U.S alone celebrated St. Patrick's Day in 2018 (www.cnn.com). This holiday started in 1762 as a religious holiday to honor the saint who, in the fifth century, introduced Christianity to Ireland. Now, people across the globe are wearing green every year on March 17th along with eating and celebrating all things green.



6th grader Layni Glowacki celebrates St. Patrick's Day because her birthday is in the same month. "I always try to wear green on St. Patrick's Day because it's the traditional color and I don't want to get pinched," says Glowacki. Her favorite part of St Patrick's Day is getting chocolate coins.





Th grader Bella Ball enjoys St. Patrick's Day because it's really fun. She wears green on St. Patrick's Day because it's traditional. Bella doesn't do anything special for St. Patrick's Day, but her brother's set up a camera and put out candy. "My favorite part of St. Patrick's Day is stealing the candy my brothers put out."





th grader Macey Strevel said, "I don't celebrate St. Patrick's Day because it's not a big holiday in my family." Even though she doesn't celebrate, she still wears green so she doesn't get pinched. Her favorite part of St. Patrick's Day is pinching her friends. Strevel doesn't have any current traditions but she used to put out chocolate for leprechuans.





Green is seen almost everywhere you go on March 17th. That's because green is the traditional Saint Patrick's Day color. According to www.cnn.com, \$5.9 billion were spent on Saint Patrick's Day supplies in 2018. Based on a survey conducted, 42 out of 49 people wear green on Saint Patrick's Day.





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MARCH 2019

Community/World News

Its Your Lucky Day!

By Keaton Linn



o people believe in luck? Is luck real or is it fake? People ask these questions every day. In a survey of twenty-one students in Ms. Weaver's class, 7 kids believe in luck, while 11kids don't believe in luck, and 3 kids believe in luck sometimes.

ome people have good luck charms and superstitions.

Wheater is a lucky shirt or item that has brought them good luck. On the other hand, they avoid black cats or items that have brought them bad luck.

ccording to dictonary.com, the definition of luck is "success or failure from apparently brought by chance rather than through one's own actions." In China, wearing red on Chinese New Year is good luck. In the U.S.A, wearing green on St. Patricks Day is good luck. Friday the 13th is a day where it is bad luck.



From pennies to 4 leaf clovers, luck is when people believe something good or bad will happen to them if they do a certain item. According to USA Today, the number 4 is bad luck in China while 13 is unlucky in America. "Diligence is the mother of good luck" According to Benjamin Franklin



7th grader Will Whitlatch said the superstition she knows the most is walking under a ladder



8th grader Gracy Willits said the superstition she knows the most is stepping on a crack will break your mom's back.



6th grader Patience Lambert said the superstition she knows the most about is Friday the 13th.

GOOD LUCK:

- 4 LEAF CLOVER
- THE NUMBER 7
- LUCKY DICE
- RAINBOWS
- FINDING A COIN HEADS UP
- DREAMCATCHERS.
- HORSESHOE
- LADYBUGS
- WISHING WELL
- RABBITS FOOT

BAD LUCK:

- WALKING UNDER A LADDER
- BLACK CATS
- THE NUMBER 13
- THREE 6's
- BREAKING A MIR-ROR.
- FRIDAY THE 13th
- UMBRELLA OPENED INSIDE
- FLOOR 13
- SPILLING SALT

Community/World News

MARCH 2019



LET THE PRANK WARS BEGIN!

By: Brianna Penzien

On April 1st most people celebrate a special day known as april fools day. This day is all for having fun by pranking your freinds and family. Not everyone decides to participate in this day. In fact most 8th grade gold teachers actually prank someone on this day. The other 8th grade teachers decide to not participate in this day. On the other hand, some people belive this day shouldnt even be a thing. Pranks ofton anger people for different reasons. But not all pranks have to cause damager or be distructive. You can have fun this April fools Day without doing anything that could potentially end up wrong.



Today is april fool's day. Believe nothing and trust no one ... There are many different things you could do to prank your freinds and family. As seen in the picture you could always put Koolaid in the water shower head so when your sibling takes a shower they turn a bright color. "This is a very funny prank." Stated Keaton Linn. Obviously this is a funny practucal joke you could play on your other siblings, freinds, and classmates..



Ath grade student Victoria Adcock was asked who does she usually likes to prank on April Fools Day She stated, "I usually do my brother because when I was younger he always did it to me so know I can do it to him." Many siblings tend to try and prank their other siblings.





The grader Jeremy Smith loves April Fools day very much. He stated, "You could do the cockroach prank where you put fake cockroaches somewhere and scare the people."

That is Smiths prank advice to other students to use this April Fools Day.

6th grade student Nadia Drobnich was asked if she participated in April Fools and she said, "I participate in April Fools Day because I like pranking my sister and making her scared." A common theme at OMS is pranking our siblings.





7th grader Reagan Tash also loves participating in this day's festivities. "This April Fools Day I am planning on pranking my brother by putting fake animals in areas". This is just one of the fun ways you can prank your family members, friends and other peoples in your life.

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Community/ World News

AVENCERS: END CAME

By: Michael Duong



The grader Joy Times thinks that in Avengers: End Game, Captain Marvel will make an appearance and be able to reverse time as one of her powers. After that, she thinks that the Avengers will go back and save Gamora. However, she doesn't think that the Avengers will fully defeat Thanos. Her favorite part of Avengers: Infinity War was the part where "Tom Holland, (Spiderman), dies because I don't like him." Joy's two

Space of the strange of the strange



The grader Dominic Fazzari thinks that in *Avengers: End Game*, the Avengers are going to try and resurrect everyone by killing Thanos and using the time stone. Dominic's favorite part of *Avengers: Infinity War* was the huge battle in Wakanda since "all of the heroes were together fighting Thanos." His favorite Marvel character is Captain America because he was the first Avenger.



th grader Isabella Somers thinks
that in Avengers: End Game, Captain
Marvel will most likely end up killing
Thanos to get the gauntlet. This way,
the Avengers will be able to reverse time
to restore everything before Thanos
disintegrated everything. Her favorite
character is Scarlet Witch since she is
"awesome and one of the most powerful
superheroes."

ne of the most popular movie companies is Marvel with its many different superhero trilogies and the main series called Avengers. Since 1961, Stan Lee was able to grow Marvel from comic books into blockbuster movies. Marvel's upcoming movie, Avengers: End Game, is set to be released on April 26. Avengers: End Game is going to be the climax of the Avenger series and has been building up since the very first Avenger movie in 2008. According to a report on the Hollywood Reporter, the trailer for Avengers: End Game has become the most viewed trailer in 24 hours with 289 million views, beating the previous record holder, Marvel's Avengers: Infinity War, by 59 million views. Avengers: Infinity War left Marvel fans curious about what would happen next.

-Stan Lee -Stan Lee -Stan Lee -Migis



With Avengers: End Game coming out soon, Marvel fans are watching the trailer that shows a few major events in the movie such as when Captin Marvel meets the Avengers. On Youtube, the trailer has over 72 million views. 8th grader Ethan Crosby says, "The trailer for End Game is super cool because it hinted that the Avengers are going into space."

Photo/Caption Contest

MARCH 2019

Are you feeling lucky?

This is what LUCK means to us...



Anna Coronado-Rinke!!!



Looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, or a four leaf clover is all part of the fun of St. Patrick's Day. According to cnn.com about 149 million people planned on celebrating St. Patrick's Day on Sunday March 17th. "The best luck of all is the luck you make for yourself." -Douglas MacArthur







Seeing a rainbow on St. Patrick's Day must be one of the luckiest things that can happen on the Irish holiday. According to www.cnn.com, 83% percent of people that celebrate St. Paddy's Day, plan to wear the color green. "Remember, wear green so the leprechaun doesn't pinch you!" exclaims Addison Clark.





Aiden Bowyer!



Getting lucky is what most people hope to be doing on St. Patrick's day, whether it's finding a four leaf clover or winning the lottery. According to www.wallethub.com, 55% of Americans celebrate St. Patrick's Day and 81% of those people wear green. "I celebrate St. Patrick's Day because I'm part Irish and it's a lot of fun," says Caleb Bowyer.



Dale Schmalenberg



Picking up a penny heads up is considered good luck any day of the year, especially on st. Patrick's day. If you pick a penny heads up, then

you should have good luck for 1 day, and if it's tails, you should flip it for the next person. About luck, Shirley Temple says, "Good luck needs no explanation,"

A Little Bit of Luck...

Brianna Penzien



Going places you can come acrossed many different things. Weather it s a doller bill on the ground or a million doller check, it all depends on luck. Every year only 110 people end up winning the lot-

tery (https://talkingaboutnumbers.wordpress. com/2011/02/28/how-many-lottery-winners-are-there-in-a-year/) Some people are more lucky than others and why is that. Well, there is no explination why some people are more lucky than others. It is all based on what happens in life.

Wyatt Ashley



Hoping that their luck does not run out, A family in Oxford Michigan fills out their March Madness Bracket. Over 70 million people fill out March Madness

brackets each year according to boydsbets. com. "I always felt that no matter what I was doing, what I was going through, good day, bad day, on the basketball court that was my place." -Sheryl Swoopes

Katherine Lewis



St. Patrick's Day has arrived and four-leaf clovers fill the air. Every year, over 140 million people celebrate this lucky holiday around the globe. "Irish families gather together in bars or homes to celebrate the lucky

things that happened to them." says Aiden

Michael Duong



Celebrating St. Patrick's Day involves the color green, gold, shamrocks, and most importantly, luck. Four leaf clovers are especially lucky, however, you're chances of finding one is about

1 in 10,000 (http://www.dailytelegraph.com. au). "The best luck of all is the luck you make for yourself." -Douglas MacArthur

Cameron Bukoski



St. Patricks day is here and luck is in the air. Symbols like the 4 leaf clover are symbols of good luck if you find one. St. patricks is a holiday celebrated in march

and originated in Ireland, the holiday was later adapted to many different countries and cultures. According to dailytelegraph. com the chance of finding a four leaf clover is 1 in 10,000.

Ava Gordon



Reading a interesting book, 7th grader Brandon Harris prepares for March is Reading month. He likes Sham-

rock shakes, and he likes March because it is the month before his birthday, so it makes everything more exciting. In March, he usually wears a sweatshirt and sweatpants. He thinks that "their cultures in Ireland are really cool" but he doesn't know if anyone in his family had Irish roots.

Tessa Saussele



Looking the best on March 17, St. Patrick's Day, putting on your best green shirt with the most fabulous designs or your best hat with snazzy light flashing on and off so that you won't get pinched

by the sneaky leprechaun or your sneaky friends and family. Trying to be the one in the most green there, according to www.wilx.com people spend about 6 billion dollars a year making sure they look as green as possible. "Celebrating St. Patrick's day means a lot to me, because I get to go out and spend time with my family and friends. I get to spend time with relative that I don't get to see very often." says Sydnie Saussele.

Photo/Caption Contest

MARCH 2019

Leilah DeGasperis



Finding a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow may mean good luck for you. Across the United States, chocolate is the most popular St. Patrick's

day candy bought by people. "My favorite part about St. Patrick's day is shamrock shakes," said Shyanne Hoyt, 8th grader.

A Little Bit of Luck...

Sarah Mojek



Finding a penny facing heads up is believed to be a sign of good luck, people even wish upon these pennies in belief their wish will come true. The U.S. Mint produces 13 billion pennies every year(www.

bankrate.com). Actress Shirley Temple once said "Good luck needs no explanation."

Dominic Crocenzi



The Four-leafed clover is an iconic mark towards
St. Patrick's day.
It signifies good luck to whoever holds it and helps with problems the holder has.

Finding a four-leafed clover is a one in 10,000 chance (www.quora.com) . Joe Coulter states, "I have piles of clovers in my backyard but never, have I ever, found a four leaf clover."

Riley Spurlock



Seeing pennies on St. Patricks day is a symbol of luck. It shows that there will be luck in the future and it's a great way of starting St. Patrick day off. I am Irish

and we usually celebrate St. Patrick's day by going out to eat and wearing green or by making a traditional irish meal. But St. Patrick's day is always so much fun and is always full of luck.

Cecelia Nicholson



Hoping for more fun in the sun, this group of 8th-grade girls spends time together on a nice, sunny Saturday. This time of year, it has gotten to be -51 degrees-according to lansing-statejournal.com. "I love snow, but I miss summer

and it finally got a little warm. So I was having to be able to spend some time with my friends outdoors.

Lauren Schmidt



Hoping for the best of luck on St. Patrick's Day OMS is decked out in green. According to www.cnn.com, 149 million people in the US celebrate St. Patrick's Day. "I really love to celebrate St.

Patrick's Day because I always feel like I have a little bit more luck that day," says 8th grade OMS student Tessa Saussle.

Keaton Linn



Finding
a penny
head
side up is
consider
to give the
person
who
found the
penny

good luck for that day. According to 11 points. com, The number 13 is bad luck while 7 is good luck. Former football player Peyton Manning said When you play for 20 years - and really, I never had to miss a game due to injury - that's not just good protection. That's good luck