The Pumpkin Bowl and Halloween Costumes

Suthi Navaratnam-Tomayko ’22

I am fairly sure that I can say that we all enjoyed the Pumpkin Bowl. There were so many fun games to choose from, like the One-Legged Showdown where contestants hopped desperately on one foot, musical chairs, or Russian Roulegg. That one was really funny, when you saw the face of someone who just realized that an uncooked egg was running down their face. Their mouths and eyes opened wide for a second, and then realizing what that stuff was, quickly shut both. Then they tried to get it off and went back to their seats sort of laughing but also sort of mad. Anyway, there was also pumpkin smashing and donuts on a string. Actually, I just realized, that was all of them. People probably each had a favorite from one of those.

But for me, it was the costume contest. There were so many super fun costumes that I really enjoyed. For the costume contest, there was a Claw machine with flashing lights, a Donald Trump who did an impression of the Donald, Ms Frizzle and the Magic School Bus, and the Mad Hatter. There were more, I’m sorry but I just can’t remember them. In
The Best Hangout Places at Hopkins

Ethan Woolbert '21

There are many places at Hopkins where you can study if you are staying after school or just to simply lounge around. One of the first places that comes to mind is the café. The café is generally warm and inviting. It also has the mixed blessing of food so you can devour to your heart’s content but it is also very easy to spend much more money than you first intended. If you want to study for a test you should go to the library where you can have peace and quiet. The library has two options of where you can do your work. The first is the ground floor of the library where there is relative quiet but where a few whispered conversations can be held. The second option is the bottom floor of the library. This is the quiet zone and it is the optimal place to study with minimal distraction.

One of the most popular places to hangout on the Hopkins campus is Heath Commons. Here the majority of Hopkins students come to relax, chat, play video games, and attempt to do homework. Generally, there is music from the piano in the background of the general hubbub. If you are looking to do homework, though this is not the place to go because you can easily get distracted. One other place that people hang out at is the Athletic Center hallways. There must be some driving force behind this idea but I

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This is 7
Cat Dwyer ’22

“This is 7.” Apple quoted. But what actually is 7? This? Not a very good explanation Apple. Luckily, the Hilltopper is here to get the real facts straight. The prime story: Headphone jack is gone. Explanation: Apple wanted a more airtight, water resistant, phone design, and the jack interfered with their plan. But, the new lightning cord earbuds work even better than the old headphone jack ones. They take energy that is stored in the phone itself, rather than the headphone jack that creates its own. Along the same lines, Apple has also came up with a new home button, sticking to their “no holes in their phones” water/splash resistant plan.

The new iPhone 7 also has much longer battery life. The 7 has up to twelve hours, and the plus has up to sixteen. Apple also came out with a new, shiny Jet Black finish. They get rid of Space Gray, and replace it with Black, but they still keep Gold, Rose Gold, and Silver around. The new speakers will of course, not meet with a Sony Bluetooth speaker, but they are much better than earlier iPhone generations. They also got rid of the 16GB storage, jumping straight to 32GB and up. Now you have an excuse for your parents about “desperately needing more storage.” It has “the brightest, most colorful iPhone display”-Apple. The iPhone plus has not one, but two cameras that you can switch on and off of. If that wasn’t enough, the iPhone 7 comes with a 12MP camera, optical image stabilization, a 7MP FaceTime HD camera, and a Quad-LED True Tone flash. We don’t know what any of that stuff is, so if you’d get back to us that would be great. Thanks for reading!
A Review:
Dayton Street Pizza

Ethan Woolbert '21

Are you a pizza loving fanatic? If so, you will love Dayton Street Pizza. Dayton Street Pizza is located not far from Hopkins at 60 Dayton street New Haven. The restaurant itself is not that large but feels warm and cozy. It consists mostly of ten tables and a counter where you order your food. If you are to go to Dayton Street Pizza, it is advisable to go there before 6:00 as it can get crowded.

The menu is of medium length with a variety of options. (All food is spectacular) The food, once ordered, is quick to come and is fresh from the oven; all the food comes at once so all can eat together.

There are several options for appetizers at Dayton Street Pizza which include garlic breadsticks and fried mozzarella. The pizza has a thin crust and has just the right amount of sauce and cheese. There are many variations of pizza toppings to satisfy anyone including mozzarella, meatball, bacon, chicken, pepperoni, and onion. Sadly, there are only two dessert options at Dayton Street, New York Cheesecake and vanilla ice cream. (I know terribly limited, isn’t it?) Dayton Street Pizza does not just offer pizza, they offer many other food options such as calzones, club sandwiches, hot subs, wings, and salads.

Once you walk into Dayton Street Pizza, you are met with a variety of amazing scents and pleasant sights. To your right are several tables adorned with spices, sauces, and a vase of flowers. The room is lit by a soft yellow light which fits the atmosphere. In front of you is the counter where you order and behind that the kitchen where wonders are made. As you walk into the restaurant, you step onto black and white tile that covers the floor. You step up to the counter and order your food. After this, you sit down at a table with your friends and wait for your food. To your surprise, the food arrives at your table in under ten minutes. You enjoy a scrumptious meal of pizza. (Tired of pizza yet?) You walk away from Dayton Street Pizza feeling satisfied. Just another wonderful day!

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Movie Reviews

Robert Lawler '22
Dylan Knox '21

Magnificent Seven

Robert Lawler '22

The Magnificent Seven is a modern take on the 1960 film by John Sturges. It is directed by Antoine Fuqua. This guy has directed the likes of Training Day and Olympus has Fallen, so we can trust this guy to hand us a good movie. He fulfills at least my expectations. This movie is a western. The classic, stand off with a tumbleweed blowing behind them, western. Also, it is a super entertaining movie. From just the fights and the overall movie, I could not become bored.

In the Magnificent Seven, a little mining town, Rose Creek, is getting bullied by this very rich and powerful man Bartholomew Bogue, played by Peter Sarsgaard. One woman, actress Haley Bennett, goes off to find people to save the inhabitants of Rose Creek. She comes across Denzel Washington, gives him some money so he can do some recruiting: Hiring six others we now have our seven and it is time to liberate the town. Literally, one of the most used western plots of all time. With the plot, the style and the action it just is western.
The humor is good; you never feel like the humor is forced. The movie has a good mix of cowboy humor, you will, and smart remarks. Along with humor, you have some real intensity. When the guns start to fire, you understand that this is not a water balloon fight, things are on the line. It’s a western feeling you love.

The first little battle takes place and I sat straight up in my chair. You truly believe that nothing can stop these behind whooping cowboys. In the back of your mind you silently think wait until the real fight goes down. When it goes down, it goes down. No one of the seven is let down either. It starts and you get a piece of everyone giving it their all.

Our heros, like most these days, are a little more broken than the original. This did not matter so much to me, personally, but if you wanted the job to be purely because they are good people, your ideas are not realistic and this movie shows why.

In short, the Magnificent Seven is not breaking new ground whatsoever. It is just taking what has worked and making an extremely entertaining movie out of it. The actors played their roles fantastically and while some were left in the dust, you don’t forget anyone. I think the Magnificent Seven is worth buying on blu ray.

**Don’t Breathe**

Dylan Knox ’21

Don’t Breathe is director Fede Alvarez’s 2nd horror film, following his 2013 rendition of Evil Dead, a classic. His remake was considered mediocre by most, but this new movie will give you nightmares for weeks. The story centers around three criminals trying to get out of the ghetto. They’ve found another place to rob that’ll net them all at least $100,000, but the person they’re robbing from is a blind old man played by Stephen Lang. It seems like an easy score, until they get into the blind man’s house. They’ve found another place to rob that’ll net them all at least $100,000, but the person they’re robbing from is a blind old man played by Stephen Lang. It seems like an easy score, until they get into the blind man’s house. Once the blind man knows that the robbers are in their house, he quickly shows himself to be more trouble than he’s worth, seizing the group’s only gun and killing their leader. Once the two remaining robbers try to escape, the blind man locks down his house. He may be blind, but it’s his domain. He knows every inch of the house, his doors, windows, and traps. That’s the main draw of the movie, with the rest of the movie taking place inside of the house.
with the robbers trying to avoid being killed by the blind man.

*Don’t Breathe* is a very successful as a horror/thriller because it keeps its location simple. The short 88 minute runtime gives it enough time to establish the characters, their motivations, especially the girl robber, played by Jane Levy. (Who also appeared in *Evil Dead*) She lives in the project with her mother and sister, and promises that if she had the money, she’d get them out of there. The blind man’s motivations are also spelled out well, giving a reason to feel sympathy, but also a deep fear of him throughout the film. But his character is bogged down by a twist in the middle that is just a reason that spells out villain as his only trait. The movie also doesn’t handle its morals very well. With two wrongs, the criminals robbing the blind man, and the blind man killing the criminals, there isn’t anyone to really root for in the movie, which undermines all the tension when the remaining robbers are inside the house. You won’t get too attached to the characters, which doesn’t give you a reason to care if they live or die.

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**Junior School**

**Fall Sports**

*Abby Regan ’22*

*Diya Aggarwal ’22*

This fall season has been very exciting for our Hopkins junior school athletes. Several of which have fallen in love with a new sport introduced to them this season. Each played has grown in how they play from the beginning of this season and there are a few events left. But now as we wrap up the fall sports we feel it is important to share the success of the individual teams because every player has worked hard for their team this season.

Our teams include boys and girls soccer, field hockey, volleyball, football, and cross country. The boys soccer team has a tied record of two wins and two losses. They faced off against Renbrook, KO, Hamdan Hall, and Foote. The girls soccer team also has a tied record with a win against Foote and a loss against Renbrook. The field hockey team has had three wins, a tie, and one loss this season. A very successful record and they challenged Amistad, Hamdan Hall, Foote, and Renbrook twice. Their growth shows between their games against Renbrook with a loss the first time and a tie the second! Volleyball has had six games so far and two left! They beat North Branford twice however lost against the four other teams they played. The football team has had two games, one where they lost 21–16 to KO and another where they beat Hamdan Hall 16–12. The cross country team has a strong team as well. Their times are excellent and they continue to place exceedingly well.

The junior school sports teams have come together as and bonded over their similar love of a certain sport and as we begin to wrap up our season, I think it is fair to say that everyone worked hard and everyone should be proud of the progress they made!
Before and After Hopkins

Matthew Sun ’22

Has your life gotten harder the second after your first school day, mine certainly has! Join Matthew while he talks about his life. YAY!

Homework Before and After:

Before: This is so easy. *scribble* *scribble* *sits down and does homework for like… 5 minutes*. YAY I’m done *tosses Homework and Backpack*! Now I can watch Youtube! YAY. A.N. Then I have 5 hours with nothing to do.

After: AAAH! SO MUCH HOMEWORK!! I sit down and do 3 hours straight of homework. *tosses Homework and Backpack* YES! FINALLY DONE *looks at the clock*, nevermind *goes to bed*. A.N. Some Days, however, I have around 1 hour of free time, so homework is not too stressful.

Tests Before and After:

Before: *stares at test nonchalantly* *completes it first out of everyone else* Next Day, *looks at test* YES 100%! Didn’t even study!” *teacher glares at me*

After: *stares at test nonchalantly* *suddenly, face is in shock* *immediately collapses* Next Day, *looks at test* Oh, 70%… Didn’t study… *starts weeping*. Next day, YAY EXTRA HELP! *becomes extremely smart*

Projects Before and After:

Before: I can finish this later! “2 weeks later: OH NO! I HAVE

Backpack load, Before and After:

Before: This is so light! *carries backpack with no effort* After School: *puts a single folder in backpack*. A.N Eventually, I decided to not bring a backpack at all, because there was no point in carrying barely anything in a huge backpack.

After: *backpack looks like an overstuffed pillow, or a huge toasted marshmallow* Me everyday: UH-HHH this backpack is so HEAVY!! *Back snaps in half* *￥$ Helpful Hint! *￥$ You can use your locker or your house to lighten your load so you won’t have to carry as much!

Sports Before and After:

Before: Coach: Today we are going to do some stretches and try out new equipment! Class=totally lame. Some other days, though: Coach: Today we are going to do some stretches! But if we have time, we can play dodgeball! *Everyone groans than cheers* 1 hour later: Coach: sorry, we didn’t have time to play dodgeball. Class=totally lame. Best times: Sub: Hey! Today we are going to do stretches! *people groan* Can we play dodgeball next class? Some one asks. Sub: *clearly confused* “Uh, SURE!!!!” “YAAAY”. Next Day: Coach: Today we are going to practice our graduation song!! *Everyone groans* A.N. This actually happened and we were all extremely angry, the graduation song was lame too. 50 minutes later, we play 5 minutes of Frisbee dodge ball! Gym was O.k-lame.

After: Fun! Great Coaches! Everything is perfect! Make Friends!

ONLY 3 DAYS LEFT TO WORK ON THE PROJECT *Face in distress*. 4 days later: *looks at grade paper worriedly*...

B! *ominous music in background* NOOOOO!

After: First Day: I gotta finish this … By the end of the due date: *looks at project smugly thinking (I’m sure going to get an A)* Day after project due date: *whips out grade paper* *looks in shock* B! *ominous music in background* Meh, at least it’s better than my old school.
Inside Scoop on Our New Hopkins Faculty

Abby Regan ’22
Nick Hughes ’22

Abby Regan ’22

Sarah Duckett Ireland was born in County Clare, Ireland, but she moved around a lot all over the world, including Saudi Arabia, England, France, Greece, Switzerland, Italy, Barbados, and more. Besides her many years spent travelling, Ms. Duckett Ireland also played volleyball and lacrosse growing up as well as running track. She enjoyed playing instruments, the flute, piano, and cello. She has a large family with six siblings.

She attended Yale University in our very own New Haven. Ms. Duckett Ireland studied economics, sociology, and computer science. She was inspired by her own amazing teachers to begin teaching and has always enjoyed the idea of one day teaching students. She began her teaching career at The Exeter Adult Education center, which is where she began her career, she remembers, fondly, “Watching adults read on their own for the first time in their lives. It’s a very powerful moment.” Also because of her passion for coding, she enjoyed, “Seeing my 7th graders at IDS get the hang of coding, and make some incredible video games.”

We are excited to have Ms. Duckett Ireland on campus with us. She loves the community and the students at Hopkins. So far, her favorite part about Hopkins is the students, and Ms. Duckett Ireland can not wait to, “…inspire students to love math and programming, and to be creative, passionate, kind, engaged citizens of the world who aren’t afraid to jump and follow their dreams.” Ms. Duckett Ireland is an inspiring new addition to the Hopkins faculty and we can not wait to see what she will teach us!

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Nick Hughes ’22

Over the week I interviewed some of the new faculty, more specifically Mrs. Belbita and Mr. Roy. My first interview was with Mrs. Belbita. Mrs. Belbita isn’t fully new here. She already has taught here as a permanent sub for Mrs. Dunn. The first question I asked her was why she decided to come to Hopkins. She was interviewed for a long term job here, though she also was interviewed at other places, too. She picked them out of the other schools because she was asked to take a job here and she felt rather honored and it felt right to her. I also asked her what she liked and what she didn’t like. For the most part, she doesn’t dislike anything here other than the drive. The things that she most enjoys are, “Working with great kids” and enjoying all aspects of Hopkins of it, “oh and free coffee”. What has been hard here for you? I asked her, and her response was
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NEW FACULTY

making material entertaining but educational, too. She also focuses on how can she she help and always thinking. The other schools she once taught at were Will Buraham, and Monson Academy. I asked her about how these school compare to Hopkins and she said it was differently different. Though she likes it, she likes the environment because of its being academically stimulating, for both kids and adults, and for other teachers being almost “cheerleaders” for students. I asked her all of these questions, but for the most part she decided to come here because she felt as if it was nicer than any other school she had taught at before.

The second new faculty member I interviewed was Mr. Roy. Mr. Roy, unlike Mrs. Belbita, came here from West Hartford to Hamden and was looking for a place closer to home to work. He actually used to work in public schools, but, when he came here, he was surprised about how great it was. What he most enjoyed here was having fun in class with the students doing latin (though not all the time). He really doesn’t dislike anything here, other than grading work, which can be a lot. He didn’t have anything that seemed hard to him other than “remembering names, there’s a lot of them.” The school he used to teach at was Litchfield High School, and Ethel Walker (Simsbury). I asked him how these compare to Hopkins and he said that Hopkins was beyond better in many ways.

He said it was like, “I died and went to teacher heaven.” He kind of went on to explain that better, but he really just said that the whole school in general was better.

This Month in History

Nathan Meyers ’22
Robert Lawler ’22

November. The month of fall leaves, turkeys and possibly the snow. But what makes November so special? What has happened that has shaped the way November is to our point of view? Quite a lot, is the answer.

November starts with National Men Make Dinner Day, which happens on the first Thursday of November. Started in 1998 by Sandy Sharkey, this is a day to let the women have a break from the kitchen. We then zoom right to Election Day, occurring the Tuesday after the first Monday of the month. This is when the US votes to decide who will be its new representatives, senators, governors, mayor, and this year, the president. It first became a holiday when the US Congress voted in 1845 for a set day of choosing a president. Tuesday was chosen to host this holiday since it did not interfere with the Biblical Sabbath or Market Day (which was Wednesday for most towns) since in the 19th Century, people would need to travel in horse drawn carriages all day to get to the voting location. Following Election Day is Veterans Day. A day all americans come together to appreciate veterans. A day for us to reflect and thank all those who give up so much just so we can be a country where people can be free to be who they want to be. Similarly, next is National Adoption Day and National Survivors of the Suicide Day, which occurs on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, and is a time where we can think about how we can make a better future.

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more than peace between different cultures it is a time that most americans celebrate what they are thankful for. While it was first celebrated in 1621, it became a national holiday in 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln. It is celebrated by everyone eating a lot. Black Friday and Cyber Monday come in the following days after Thanksgiving. They are days where all the business sell their products at discounts in preparation for the holiday season.

“Why did you Come to Hopkins?”

Nick Hughes ’22

I interviewed a senior over the week. The senior I interviewed was Holden Turner. I met with him in Upper Heath asking him questions about his experience at Hopkins. The first question I asked Holden was, “Why did you come to Hopkins?” He decided to come to Hopkins because he was looking for a school that would be fulfilling and would have a sense of community, though also his mom worked here. He most enjoys the people, everyone from teachers to both students and the campus. The next question was, “What are you looking forward to in college?” He’s excited to do more independent work, explore other fields of expertise, and live in a dorm with other people. I asked him about what were his first thoughts about Hopkins. (He came here in 9th grade). He remembers his math class, full of very smart kids who were also very kind, two of them became two of his long time friends. He doesn’t really dislike Hopkins at all, though he did mention one thing. “A reminder that a world exists out of Hopkins,” he said. He went further on to explain this: Hopkins is this big community and we can’t “bubble” or not interact with everything else. He also said, though, that we as a Hopkins community, do a good job doing that. Holden will being leaving Hopkins this year, but hopefully his memories here will never be forgotten.

This rolls us right into everyone’s favorite turkey day, Thanksgiving! The star of the calendar month, Thanksgiving is a national holiday which celebrates peace between the Pilgrims and the Native Americans. It also represents

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THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

In short, November is a month not easily forgotten. The contents of this month have shaped the past and will change the future. So do not think of November as the month before Christmas or the one after Halloween. Think of November as a time to celebrate, be thankful, and better the world.
The Pink Collar
Josephine Aiken ’22

Mandy was dead. Catherine fingered the collar gently, smelling it. It smelled of her soft fur, her warm face. The collar was pink, with colourful bones decorating it. Tears started rolling down Catherine’s cheeks, waterfalls eroding her face. Mandy was a wonderful dog—so beautiful and loyal. She would always guard Catherine in frightening situations, and snuggle up against her when times were tough. But there was no Mandy here now, just a beaten-up, pink collar. There was no Mandy when Catherine needed her most. No matter how hard Catherine tried, she still couldn’t avoid the fact. Mandy was dead.

Catherine opened her mouth, and whispered, ‘Mandy is de-...’ But she couldn’t finish the sentence. She couldn’t say that one-syllable word. Instead, Catherine erupted into a volcano of tears. She wasn’t quite ready to confront the fact that her most loyal friend had died. It was too heavy a load of sorrow.

Again, Catherine opened her mouth, but this time, she opened her throat, and lungs, too. She reached deep-down into the pit of her stomach, and screamed. She made an ear-piercing noise, fit to deafen the toughest canine.

Catherine’s heart wasn’t just broken. It was shattered into millions of microscopic pieces, too small to put back together, tinier than grains of sand.

After a while, Catherine’s sobs subsided, and she glanced again at the pink collar. She recollected all the wondrous memories tied to the collar, just like a lead. She smiled, tears still rolling down her cheeks. It wasn’t a particularly broad smile, but it was a smile.

The first time Mandy had tried to escape, the pink collar saved her from a very painful death. Mandy was trying to run across a busy road to greet another dog on the opposite side, only to be caught by a lucky, low-hanging branch on an apple tree. Choking on the pink collar and her own excitement, Mandy retreated back into Catherine’s safe arms. Catherine had caressed Mandy’s fluffy back then, stroking it with the kindness only to be expected from a mother-dog licking her young puppy.

When Catherine was bullied at school, she would come home feeling miserable. That is, only until her border terrier-jack russell terrier cross came bouncing up with a jubilant face, and a boisterous demeanor. Then Catherine would feel warm inside, curled up on the sofa with the best dog in the world, Mandy. Mandy would melt the ice frozen into Catherine’s heart at school, and replace it with steaming hot-chocolate.

Catherine moved stepped towards her favourite shelf. This particular shelf was full of photographs of Mandy, from puppyhood to adulthood. Mandy carefully placed the pink collar down and glanced from photograph to photograph, recollecting all of her happy memories. There was the first time Mandy chased a stick at the park, her first birthday, her Hallowe’en costumes, and many, many, more. Catherine frowned, pondering the fact that in every single photograph, Mandy was wearing the pink collar. Slowly, Catherine realised that the collar wasn’t just an ordinary collar with colourful dog-bones decorating it. The pink collar was placed in Catherine’s memories by fate, giving her something to remember Mandy by forever.

The pink collar was magical. Drying her eyes, Catherine stared at the pink collar, and smiled. THE END
Did you know that ‘dumbledore’ means ‘bumblebee’ in Old English? Professor Dumbledore, himself, states that even he does not know all of the mysteries that lay, unawakened within Hogwarts, which means that we do not know even a seventh of them. Dumbledore was born in 1881 (the exact day or month was never stated), and has three middle names: Percival Wulfric Brian. He is one of the most interesting witches or wizards of all time, and, like what he says about Hogwarts, we shall never truly know every secret that sits peacefully in his heart. Sadly, Dumbledore passes away in Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, since he is murdered (under his own commands) by Severus Snape. Even though Snape never had any desire or intention to do so, Dumbledore ordered him to. Another thing about Dumbledore that many people do not know, is that he is gay. JK Rowling announced this after she wrote the series, when she said that Albus Percival Wulfric Brian Dumbledore was her favourite character.

In our opinion, the Harry Potter books are the greatest books of all time. Yes, better than Jane Austen’s Northanger Abbey, and Charlotte Brontë’s Jane Eyre. Life is completely meaningless without Harry Potter. We thrive on Harry Potter.

One brilliant (yet very controversial) part of the magical world of Harry Potter, is the new play that just came out: The Cursed Child. For those readers who have yet to read The Cursed Child, many major Harry Potter fans have a lot of opinions on it, ranging from completely detesting the very cover, to falling in love with the first word. Some people like Darin Jacks thought the idea of the book was good, “I think its great that there is a book about their future selves.” Even if they thought the final product was lacking. For me (Josephine Aiken), I fell in love with the first word, yet I did see some major things in the play that could have been altered.

One of the main things that should be changed in The Cursed Child is the fact that in the play, Hermione talks in a way that sounds completely unlike Hermione from the books. Even though Hermione is unimaginably smart, she does not need to talk like she was born in the nineteenth century.

A lot of you Harry Potter fans might know that the thirty-first of October is not really a no-school day because of Hallowe’en. We do not have any school on that day because Lily and James Potter died on the thirty-first of October, so we get the day off school to mourn them and celebrate the boy who lived. Lily and James Potter went to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Lily Potter was muggle-born. As Slughorn said, she was one of the best students in her year, and she was extremely hard-working. Lily Potter was born on the thirtieth of January, in 1960. Her wand was ten and a quarter inches long, with willow wood. Her patronus was a doe, which is a female deer. One of the slightly amusing, yet harsh quotes of Lily Potter is: “I wouldn’t go out with you if it was a choice between you and the giant squid” (Lily Potter from the Harry Potter series).

Lily Potter’s original last name was “Evans”, and she was the sister...
of Petunia Dursley. Lily, Petunia and Severus all grew up around each other in Cokeworth, which is an industrial town, well-known for its ‘hard work and grime’ (quote from Pottermore).

James Potter, on the other hand, had magical parents, and was born into the magical world. James Potter attended Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry as well, and was sorted (along with Lily Potter) into Gryffindor. James Potter was not that hard-working, and had a tendency to fool around. His wand was eleven inches long, made of Mahogany wood. James Potter was born on the twenty-seventh of March, 1960. His patronus was a stag, which is a male deer.

In conclusion, the Harry Potter series is amazing, and we encourage those of you who haven’t read the Harry Potter series yet to read them. To those readers who have read the series once and adored it, try reading it again. We hope that this article has given people the jubilation and positive energy that we get when we read the Harry Potter series.

Advice Column
Suthi Navaratnam-Tomayko ’22

I am in a class with a bunch of kids I don’t know and NONE of my friends! Help!

Dear Friendless,
Ok, I know that this sounds cheesy, but honestly? Maybe get to know some of those kids. Like, you don’t really have to know them on a deeper basis (What’s your deepest, darkest secret?) but if you don’t want to feel totally out of place, just talk. Make bad jokes. You know? Then it won’t be totally awkward for you.

The other day, I was at the pool. I was swimming, and I tried to do some underwater acrobatics. Well, it failed miserably, and the lifeguard had to come in to help me and I’m sure EVERYBODY remembers! What should I do?

Dear Embarrassed,
You’ll get over it. People will forget it. I mean, lots of embarrassing things happened to me(for my own sake, I prefer not to disclose) and now nobody remembers or cares. They’ll be too wrapped up in their own lives to bother remembering. I guess people have told you that, and you didn’t believe them. In which case, I’m sorry you don’t, but wait and see.

Midterms are coming, and I am really scared. My report cards have always been great, but Hopkins is so much harder and I’m afraid that I don’t belong and that my grades will look bad! Is this true and how do I de-stress?

Dear Worried,
Chill out! I think everyone is a little nervous. In the case of your not belonging, I think you should answer this one question: Did you get in? If your answer is yes, then I think that at least the people at the Admissions Office thought you belong here. In the case of your grades: Answer these questions. Have you

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https://www.pottermore.com

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Senior Interview

Diya Aggarwal ’22

Senior Emma Zihal tells a little bit about what it is like for her preparing for college and gives some Hopkins advice.

Q: Why did you want to go to Hopkins?
A: “I went to a private elementary school in New Haven that ended in 6th grade so after graduating from that school it was really popular for kids to be looking at private middle schools and high schools. Probably around half the kids in my grade applied to Hopkins that year so that was how I found out about it. Later on when I was choosing between going to Hopkins and one other school that I had gotten into I realized that I had a great time on my shadow day and that I loved Hopkins in general so I finally decided to start in 7th grade.”

Q: What have you learned over the years about managing time?
A: “On my first day of seventh grade, Barbara Riley (the head of school until just last year) talked about multitasking and that it is never a good idea to multitask school work and anything in general because it leads to stress and slip ups etc. It definitely took me a couple years to understand what she meant by this, in 7th and 8th grade I definitely was pretty disorganized and stressed out compared to how I am now. I think the most important way to manage your time is to take a step back from your work and just really think about what you have to do within a certain period of time and focus on one thing at a time/take it one step at a time.”

Q: Was your 7th grade at Hopkins different from 7th grade at Hopkins now?
A: “Overall, I don’t think 7th grade at Hopkins has changed much in six years, but there are some differences. The main difference is that we did not have senior mentors when I was in the J school. Also, I believe seventh graders have more final exams...
Q: What made you want to be a senior mentor?
A: “I wanted to be a senior mentor because last year seniors who were already mentors at the time held a panel for students who were interested in mentoring during this school year. It seemed like they all had had a really positive experience with mentoring and I thought it would be a great way to get more involved with younger grades and also to pass on some advice I didn't have access to when I was your age.”

Q: Does college prep take time away from your school work?
A: “College applications definitely do take up a huge chunk of my time. It has been pretty rough trying to balance schoolwork and college applications but for the most part teachers have been really understanding when assigning work around popular application deadlines. I also think the whole college process has been a really valuable experience in learning the importance of time management and responsibility during my last year here at Hopkins.”

Q: What do you want to major in?
A: “I’m not really sure yet what I want to major in but on college applications they often will ask the same question to get a sense of what you will be involved in on campus if you choose to attend their school. On those applications, I usually say biology or neuroscience, but I’m definitely interested in minoring in something more creative like writing or studio art (I’m pretty undecided at this point).”

Q: How has Hopkins affected you choice and prepared you for college?
A: “I’ve had a really positive experience with the college counseling office at Hopkins, so in that sense I think I’ve really been led in a good direction as far as deciding where I want to apply. Academics at Hopkins also have definitely prepared me for college as well. But, something I think that is pretty significant once you get to senior school at Hopkins is the stress about college and (sometimes) competition among peers. For me I think the most important thing is to stay true to what you know you want out of Hopkins and work toward your own goals rather than focusing on competition with others... if that makes sense.”

Audrey Story
Josephine Aiken ’22

The gravel crunched under Audrey’s battered trainers, as she walked up her driveway. Another unbearable day of school had gone by, leaving Audrey Burns smothered in fatigue. The school day was not unbearable because of the heavy workload that was dumped on Audrey’s shoulders, but because of the children. They had been inexplicably horrid to her, shunned her, and bullied her, for one simple reason: Audrey was different. Audrey was lesbian. For this reason alone, Audrey was friendless, harassed, and more alone in the world than ever.

Audrey’s front door was bright yellow. Her parents said that it, “Portrayed the happiness inside,” when in actual fact there was one cloud of misery walking around the house, hidden by the rays of sunshine surrounding her. Audrey immediately went upstairs to her plum-purple bedroom, and took out

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AUDREY STORY

her secret scrapbook. Audrey held it close to her heart for a minute, as it contained LGBTQ+ new clips, photos, and many more things, some of which were of her own creation. He briefly leafed through it, before being called downstairs, to finish her homework. “Audrey! What are you doing up there? Come downstairs, and finish your homework!” Her mum screeched.

When Audrey emerged from the staircase, Mrs. Burns said, “Now… Audrey, poppet, you know that we always have a fixed dinner time, and that you can’t do homework after dinner, right?”

“Yes, mum.”

“Do you also understand that if you mess around in your homework time, you won’t be able to finish, right?” Mrs. Burns gave a fake laugh.

“Yes, mum.”

“Then we on God’s green earth do you still do it?” Mrs. Burns shrieked at Audrey.

“No idea, mum.” Audrey studied the tatters on her mud-encased trainers until Mrs. Burns was done talking to Audrey, then sat down, to do her English writing.

* * *

A week of torment went by. It was assembly, and Audrey went into the Hall, where they also held music concerts. It was large, and hexagonal. The teachers and staff sat in chairs around the Hall (leaving room for the stage), and the children sat in their grades, in the middle.

It was always an incredibly tight squeeze to fit everyone in. Their headmistress, Dr. Rowntree tapped the microphone, and the boomed, “Good morning, students!” “Good morning, Dr. Rowntree!” The students chorused back. Audrey anticipated this assembly to be just like every other one: boring.

“Now, first, the teachers have some announcements to make, so let’s go around.”

Mr. Mutton got up first, and said, “My Grade Fours, you don’t have any science today. Instead, you may wander around the campus, or go to the library.” A cheer arose from children sitting closer to Dr. Rowntree. These announcements went around in a clockwise fashion, before circling back to Dr. Rowntree. The art professors were starting a photography competition, and the coaches who taught netball to Grade Five through Grade Eight said that the Grades Five and Six on the A-team won a match. These boring announcements practically put Audrey to sleep, before Dr. Rowntree said, “Now, students, I have a big announcement to make. Next week is our Diversity Week, where people who come from different backgrounds, cultures and communities can submit a speech to me anonymously, which they plan to read out loud, on the Friday assembly in Diversity Week. But, there’s a catch. Only one speech can be read, so you need to put your best into it. We shall chose the speech that we think is most meaningful, and the best-written of the lot.”

Audrey’s ears perked up at this announcement. “Could my speech be chosen, if it’s about the LGBTQ+ community?” She wondered. This gave her some hope, which is exactly what Audrey needed. The rest of the assembly finished, and the boring lessons came into play. All lessons were boring, in Audrey’s opinion, except for English. English was the best thing on Earth, to Audrey.

When Audrey got home, she obediently finished her homework, then took her laptop out, and started to write. She wrote on page, then two, then three! Audrey kept on writing, until there were thirty pages for her speech. She edited it down, until it was thirteen pages long. Smiling, Audrey checked the document for any proofreading mistakes, and found none. Grinning to the very tips of her ears, she submitted her work, anonymously.

* * *

The morning had an alarmingly grey tinge. It drizzled throughout the morning, then started to hail. By the time that Audrey got to school, there was a proper blizzard going on.

“Children! Come inside! We’re not allowing you outside! Get out of the cold!” Staff and professors yelled out into the bitter wind, howling over their cries. Eventually everyone managed to get inside, caked in frosty snow and ice.

Since the parents couldn’t make it through the snow, the children were to stay inside until the blizzard did down, doing whatever they wanted.

(TO BE CONTINUED…)}
Quebec Preview

Abby Regan ’22, Nate Meyers ’22

Bonjour! This year the junior school will be embarking on yet another trip to Quebec. It has been a favorite among the junior schoolers for a long time. Everyone looks forward to this, but what exactly happens on it? We want to tell you a little about what to expect when we travel up north, with help from past visitors and Ms. DuPlessis.

The bus ride is expected to be seven hours but when we arrive, we will check into the four star hotel, the Palace Royal Hotel. Students should need at least $10 per day however the cash you bring is a personal decision, based on how much food you expect to buy, and how many souvenirs you expect to get. This year we are trying something that has never been done with Hopkins students, we are going to go curling! Curling is an Olympic team sport done by sliding granite on ice and guiding it with brooms! Other favorite activities from former travelers have been dog sledding and tubing in the largest tubing park in North America! We will also enjoy food similar to the US but also a few foods unique to Canada such as Poutine, which is French Fries with gravy and cheese curd. We also visit La Beauce and the Cabane à Pierre Sugar Shack, which is known for being the Maple Syrup capital of the world. Other than the long bus ride, kids have not disliked anything about the trip. It is remembered for years to pass! Roommates, packing lists, and other information will be given at the student meeting and the parent meetings.

This trip promises to be an exciting experience for all junior schoolers, especially those who are going to be experiencing their first trip to Canada.
Comedy Cooking

Matthew Sun ‘22
Master chef

Hello! Welcome to Comedy Cooking with your chef Matthew Sun. Join Matthew while he makes a cake, you can make it along with him if you’re super cool.

First of all, you have to get a pan or two for a double layer cake. 2nd, get 1 cup of water and get ½ cup of oil, Since I don’t have half a cup I’ll do ⅔ of oil, this shouldn’t make much of a difference. I’ll use olive oil but I don’t know the specific one, you can also use any oil you want. I just noticed that there is a smarter way where I can put 1/3 of oil and add 1/6 of oil to make 3/6 of oil. That’s why I’m in math-15. Next get 3 eggs, make sure you don’t drop an egg shell inside.

Next, mix that all into one bowl. If you forget to mix something like the eggs, it won’t matter because you can add the egg to the mixed batter. Oops, forgot the cake batter. Anyway, you can use a beater, or you can use an electric mixer, and be cool like me. Yeah! Your end result should look like a golden brown blob I think.

Then you should have an oven heat for 350 degrees. Then you should pour a layer of oil over the two pans so the cake does not stick. Now you can split the batter. You should split the batter into two layers unless you want a very big thick cake. Make sure it is the same amount of batter in each container, unless you only have one container. Try not to spill the batter or your mom might get mad at you. So this should be your final result, two pans (or one) filled with batter ready to go into the oven.

Now you should clean up the huge mess that you created (unless if you didn’t), then you can start melting sugar for the sugar glazed Cheerios. I am the Pioneer of the Sugar Glazed Cheerios! They taste delicious by the way! OK, back to the recipe. Turn up the pan to high then pour in a lot of sugar. Wait for the Sugar to melt, then you have to drop the Cheerios into the pan and mix them around. Eventually, the Cheerios should look like brown blobs. Now we wait for the cake…. The cake is finally done and it looks like a big thick round muffin, if you did not get what I got then it’s ok.

After smelling the cake, you should take frosting and smear it on one layer.

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COMEDY COOKING

Then add the second layer to the first one and also add some frosting. The first layer looks like a brown muffin. Then you put the second layer on the first one then you spread frosting on the edges to make it stick. Then you can add frosting and sprinkles or anything you want to add to the cake, sadly, the Cheerios burned and I couldn’t use them. They tasted really nasty and I almost choked on it. My mom thought it looked good and she ate the whole thing, then she said it was really bad. That doesn’t matter because all that matters is how good the Cheerios looked! However, the cake still looks magnificent and extremely yummy. Then you also have to clean up the mess with the Cheerios and then you will be good. I tried a piece and it was definitely a “slice of heaven”

Reviews from People

Nolan Brant: This is good. It’s moist.

Charlie Wich (Nolan Brant’s friend): It’s exquisite, next time [put] kit kats around [it].

Blake Braun: I took a bite and I took another one, I think it’s decent. MORE FROSTING.

Yuki: It’s really good. Maybe [you can] add [a] Crunchy thingy

Maria: Very good kinda dry, kinda moist. Put More frosting in middle.

Krista: Frosting to cake ratio is perfect, really good, not too sweet, not too bitter. [I] want more. Maybe put some stuff in the middle.

Ms. Belbita (sick teacher): [I] like m&ms, evenly frosted, sprinkles are perfect. Good sprinkle distribution.

Kyle: ok. Too sweet. Cake is bland. M&ms don’t go with it. Tastes ok.

Nick Hughes (Batman): Pretty good, [a] little brittle, frosting is good.

Max: [a] little bland, frosting is amazing.

Trey: [it]is good. Frosting is a little sweet but cake evens it out.

Fiona: good

Rebecca: is good.

Mr. Czepiel: good, [I] like lemon undertones, [the] crumb was good.
Interview with
Hopkins Head Chef
Abby Regan ’22, Nate Meyers ’22

We sat down with Michael Hemby, the head chef in our Hopkins Dining Hall. Mr. Hemby was able to answer some questions we had about him and about the food we eat every day. He told us about the thoughts he runs through before choosing the delicious meals served in our dining hall each day.

Q: What is your favorite thing to cook?
A: Smoked Brisket

Q: What food do you think kids like the best in the dining hall?
A: Bat-Wings, or chicken wings and Grilled Cheese

Q: And worst?
A: Fish

Q: How did you get into cooking?
A: I used to cook at a local church with my mom and that’s how it started

Q: How do you choose what to serve every day?
A: I look at the week in costs, and I try and mix what kids like with the budget we have

Q: How do you think the dining hall compares to other private schools?
A: We work with the Compass Group and chefs from other schools that also work with the Compass Group tell us that we do a great job in cleanliness and how we serve people…

Q: Why do you think that some people go straight to the pasta/salad/sandwich lines without trying the main course?
A: This year, most of the kids of the class of 2022 go to the pasta line, but I don’t know why. My guess is that kids are scared to try it?

Q: What is the weirdest ingredient you have ever worked with?
A: Rose Water

Q: What chef do you wish you could meet?
A: Thomas Kelly

Q: What is your favorite restaurant in the area?
A: Crave

Q: Do you think eating locally is important? And why?
A: Yes, since vegetables that just been picked don’t lose any nutrients. For comparison, in just six hours after being picked a green bean can lose HALF of it’s nutrients.

Michael Hemby can inspire us to choose healthy options and also help us to have a balanced diet as we pick the our lunches each day. With several different options, Mr. Hemby offers a wide variety of food for everyone and we all appreciate the hard work it takes to get the tasty food we have every day.

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Hilltopper Selfie—Guess Who?

Q: What is your favorite color?
A: Silver

Q: Do you have any pets?
A: Yes, one dog and three fish

Q: Where do you live?
A: North Haven

Q: How tall are you?
A: 5 foot six Inches

Q: What are your hobbies?
A: Biking, and reading

Q: What is your favorite sport?
A: Lacrosse

Q: What is your favorite food?
A: Pizza

Q: What is your favorite subject?
A: Math

Q: What is your favorite Movie?
A: Batman v.s. Superman

Q: What is your favorite book?
A: Don’t have one

Q: What is your favorite number?
A: Four
Speak Out Day
Josephine Aiken ’22

On the 14th of October, some very brave students stood up in assembly (in front of the entire school), and informed us on the history of the LGBTQ+ community, along with their experiences. For those readers who do not know, LGBTQ+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning (and more) community. ‘Lesbian’ means a female loves people of her same gender, ‘Gay’ means a male who loves people of his same gender, ‘Bisexual’ means people love both people of the same gender, and the opposite gender. ‘Transgender’ means that a male/female was born with the wrong gender on the outside. Lastly, ‘Questioning’ means to be unsure of your sexuality, or to not want to place yourself under the social categories which the majority of us use today.

The LGBTQ+ community has come a long way to try to gain equality, but we are not there yet. There are still countries where the death penalty occurs for homosexuals. Innocent people are being murdered every single day, just because of something that they were born with, and cannot control. On Speak Out Day, Fi (Sofia) Schroth-Douma wrote a beautiful song, with the accompanying instrument, the ukulele. Her song was called, ‘Ode to You’. Here are the lyrics to her song:

‘Pretty little boxes with a bow of pink or blue
Locked and lonely closets that it’s time to bid adieu to
Stop and listen to the words you haven’t spoken yet.

I’ve heard the human race is only straight lines, uniform and fixed
But your zigzags, twists, and turns are part of what makes you so marvelous
Know that you’re worth more than laws or labels might imply.

Chin up, wipe the tears that pour from clouds within your
Head up, see the hands that reach to comfort and to
Cheer up, it’s okay to be afraid
But we’re here for you
And that’s never gonna change.

Your love is real and wondrous, and it cannot be denied
Though what you read in history books may overlook the reasons why
Love has won before and will continue to endure.

Amidst the chaos, you are who you know yourself to be
If you’re a boy or girl or some of both or someone else entirely
Not one piece of paper can determine who you are.

Chin up, wipe the tears that pour from clouds within your
Head up, see the hands that reach to comfort and to
Cheer up, it’s okay to be afraid
But we’re here for you
And that’s never gonna change’.
-Sofia Schroth-Douma
When I heard her sing this meaningful song, tears sprang to my eyes. It was amazing, how one person could tell so much in one song, one room, one assembly. I love her line: ‘Not one piece of paper can determine who you are’ (line 17, ‘Ode to You’).

Another student, Sasha Starovoitov, read a beautiful poem, full of power and depth. Lastly, the most important part of an assembly is the beginning and end of it. Phoebe Cárdenas wrote a lovely introduction, and conclusion to this tear-inducing, moving, stupendous assembly.

In conclusion, Drew Mindell, Phoebe Cárdenas, Sofia Schroth-Douma, and lastly, Sasha Starovoitov did an amazing job in telling us what Speak Out Day was about, the history of it, their stories of finding out who they are meant to be in life, through artistic writing, tear-worthy speeches, and buckets of emotion. Speak Out Day assembly shall always remain dear in my heart, as one of my best memories of Hopkins School.

Bibliography:
Drew Mindell, Phoebe Cárdenas, Sasha Starovoitov, and Sofia Schroth-Douma.
Politics—
The Life-Changing Election
Josephine Aiken ’22
Suthi Navaratnam-Tomayko ’22

Mr. Trump won. Only the electoral college, but winning is winning—and we hope that America will not only survive but thrive under this new president. Hopefully. This election was like the Hunger Games, only Katniss did not win. In the final bit of the Games, when the mutts attacked and the victor would soon be decided, it was Katniss who fell to the mutts, and Cato who won; Shooting her fatally in the chest. Pushing Peeta off the edge of the golden Cornucopia. Declaring him victor. Cato was a brute, remember.

Mr. Trump won the election, and it was incredibly clear to all of us citizens, that there was no mistake in the polls. He won, fair and square… In a way, his victory is like the temporary victory that Voldemort had over the witches and wizards dueling him, in Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. When Voldemort thinks that Harry is dead, he goes about throwing his weight around, being an evil, creepy, person. Unlike this election, though, Harry comes back, and duels Voldemort, resulting in Voldemort’s death. Sadly, though, this election will not have a merry plot-twist. Instead, we are stuck for four years in a never-ending nightmare.

We hope that the new president, Mr. Donald Trump, will live up to some of our expectations of the new president, and not take away any rights, from any community or culture. Hopefully he won’t do what we think he will do, and take away rights from people, as he mentioned whilst he was running for president, against the amazing Hillary Clinton. We expect Mr. Trump to be kind and respect everyone, no matter their race, sexual orientation, or religion. We hope that the people in America with less than equal rights to be given the human rights that they have been asking for. We also hope that some of the rights gained by certain people to not be ripped away from them, but instead, to be left with the people. For instance, we hope that Mr. Trump allows same-sex marriage everywhere in America, because it is a basic human right. We also hope that Mr. Trump does not deprive transgender people of the rights that they have gained. We hope that Mr. Trump does nothing to take away any of the rights that the LGBTQ+ community has gained, and instead helps the LGBTQ+ community gain more rights. Hopefully he will do these things, but it is unlikely, due to some of Mr. Trump’s comments, during the election race. On his bucket list is building that infamous wall, as well as “cleaning up the corruption in Washington.” We can all reside in the safety of the thought that doing many of the things he promised to do will require first changing the Constitution, and that would be hard.
Are Phones Damaging to Teenagers Lives

Ethan Woolbert ’21

Cell phones are an addiction for many teenagers. From sleep deprivation to texting and driving, cell phones present a health hazard for teenagers who cannot break away from the social pressures of constant contact via cell phone. Sometimes, teenagers replace traditional social skills with text messages, voicemails and pressure to remain available through the cell phone at all times. This pressure can cause undue stress and anxiety for teens with a large social circle. Many teens are compelled to sleep with their cell phones nearby in order to respond to calls or text messages. According to Science Daily, many teenagers develop an addiction to their cell phone and feel a group pressure to remain connected and reachable around the clock. However, sleep that is consistently interrupted results in a decreased ability to focus on daily activities, such as school work or sports. Teenagers often become irritable when sleep deprived. A habit of turning off the cell phone before bed allows your teen to maintain a regular sleep schedule while realizing that a cell phone need not become the center of her social universe. Teenagers may rely on texting as his primary means of communication, but doing so can be stressful. According to psychologist Suzanne Phillips, writing for PBS, texting is instantly gratifying but it's also anxiety producing. The instant connection can cause feelings of elation and self-value only to be replaced by the disappointment of no response, a delayed response or the misinterpretation of a short or seemingly curt response. Waiting for an expected text response can be stressful for a teenagers involved in a romantic relationship. Sending sexually inappropriate texts and photos is often damaging to a teenager’s reputation. Setting clear boundaries on appropriate texting and explaining that written words are open to interpretation can reduce the anxieties that often accompany regular texting. So you see phones are not the best for the minds of teenagers. While phones still can do good for some most of the time they are simply hurtful to people. Phones can and are fun and entertaining but we need to budget our time on electronics.
Fall Collage, Cat Dwyer ’22

Faculty Adviser, Donna Fasano
Layout, Lesley Zurolo