What is Your Favorite Day of the Week?
Sophie Sonnenfeld ’22

Maria Cusick
“Maroon Friday because there are no athletics.”

Jack Kealey
“Maroon Thursday because I have a lot of study halls.”

Brooke
“I like Saturday.”

John
“I like grey Tuesday because ”

Eesha Rao
I like grey Wednesday because I have study halls.”

Mr Clark
“Grey Friday because I get a lot of work done.”

Tomm
"Grey Monday"

Craigin
"Tuesday. We have adviser group and 20 min not too tired"

Steven
"Wednesday— less classes"

Olivia
"Grey Tuesday"

This Month in History
Nathan Meyers ’22
Robert Lawler ’22

December is a perfect month for remembrance of events and people that shaped your life. The last month of the year you look to the future. Change will come in the upcoming time but if you spend your time with the people you love the future can not be so bad. Tradition and remembrance is the theme of this month and we should all embrace it.

Right in the start of this month we have Rosa Parks Day. Most people know that Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat for a white male. Rosa went on trial and on the 5th of December was found guilty. This helped civil rights protests and started the city bus boycott. December 7th celebrates 75 years of The Attack on Pearl Harbor. The start of World War II is must be remembered for it shows the strength our nation showed in this type of horror. To spread even more awareness use #PearlHarborRemeberanceDay. Human Rights Day is on December 10th. Started on December 4, 1950, it marks the day that the UN signed the Declaration of Human Rights. This December 16th (third Friday of December) root for the underdog. It is National Underdog Day, first celebrated in 1976 it shows the American love for an underdog. Winter is here on December 21, the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year! We’re on break, so pray for snow to celebrate the start of Winter. Hanukkah is an 8 day holiday celebrated in December to celebrate the miracle of lights. You get a small present everyday leading up to a large one on the last day. You also eat a lot of fried food to celebrate that the oil lasted 8 days, not 1 like people thought. Christmas is a Christian holiday which is celebrating the birth of Jesus. To kids all around the world it is the day where you wake up to presents. To everyone it is a great time to give and be grateful for the gift you are given.
Branford, CT
Tourist Attractions
Abby Regan ’22
Rob Lawler’22

CHRISTMAS PARADE
Every year just after Thanksgiving, a town on the shoreline called Branford, holds a spectacular Christmas parade and tree lighting to get you into the holiday spirit. The floats are magnificent including boy and girl scout troops, elementary schools and more! Each float is unique with a Christmas theme. For example, this year an elementary school had a float with an under the sea theme. Students, teachers, and parents march with their school! Organizations and sports academies also participate. Many Branford dance schools march in leotards and dance on the parade route. Standing out in the crowd of floats is the magnificent float the the middle school’s unified sports program puts on. Other organizations such as the Branford Rotary club always walk with their banner. There are always tractors and fire trucks in the middle of the parade. Some floats and groups of people hand out candy canes and other treats and flyers. This year the movie theater handed out bags of popcorn. Also a special guest comes who makes everyone get into the Christmas spirit, especially the little kids. Santa, Mrs. Claus and Rudolph are always together on an elaborate float at the very end. This is followed by Branford fire trucks. Next, everyone gathers on the green for the lighting of the giant tree in the town center. This happens after the entire parade is over. The whole town counts down from ten when the tree lights up! There are multiple colors spreading the big tree and it is lit up every night from then until Christmas. Everyone is in the Christmas spirit after this parade and tree lighting. Our unique town celebrates Christmas very well. Do not forget to dress warmly because it is always freezing there in the dark, November nights. However it is all well worth it! Families enjoy it and look forward to it every year!

THIMBLE ISLAND CRUISE
The Christmas parade is an amazing experience and is really fun to go to. If you can not make the Christmas parade you might want to come to Branford for it’s most recognizable attraction, the Thimble Island Cruise. Come explore the 100 main islands by boating around the Long Island Sound. Feel the soft spray of the sound while snapping beautiful pictures of little lumps of emerald. Excitement overwhelms you as you hear the story of Captain Kid. Legend tells treasure is buried there and Captain Kid never told anyone this but it is fun to see the small dock where a pirate ship may have parked. Unfortunately you can not walk on the islands. The many Thimble Islands have a total of exactly 81 houses and most are private properties. If you are looking for a community island “Money” has a total of 32 houses on it. Before boarding the cruise explore the neighbor of Stony Creek. Make sure you have a great time.
The 90th Anniversary Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade

Nate Meyers ’22

Many people sit in anticipation but enjoyment as they watch each magnificent balloon or performer pass as they march downtown. Then it happens, Santa Claus appears and the holiday season is on! But on the 90th birthday of the famed Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, I want to show you all about what it has to offer, other than just what you see on the TV.

If you ever want to go see it live, right on Central Park South, near Columbus Circle is a great viewing point, and that is where all of the photos are taken, from my apartment. But first you need to know about what types of floats, etc. you see in the parade. There are the iconic huge balloons of characters from our media and pop culture. Balloonicles are balloon vehicles, while a fallon is a mix of a float and a balloon. There are just regular floats, and marching bands, too! And don’t forget about the bobble heads and clowns!

This year some favorite balloons returned, such as Ronald McDonald, Pillsbury Doughboy, and Spongebob Squarepants. Some new ones were introduced too, such as the Power Ranger. There were terrific marching bands from colleges all over the country, along with multiple performing groups who have worked their butt off to be able to walk. At the finish line for the parade, Macy’s Herald Square, the performers who walked or were on floats in the parade got a chance to perform on live TV.

So next year, come on down to New York City to watch one of the most incredible experiences of your life, the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The Wonders of the Radio City Rockettes Christmas Spectacular

Nate Meyers ’22

During everyone’s favorite time of year, head down to New York City to enjoy a Christmas season tradition, the Radio City Rockettes Christmas Spectacular. Performed in famous Radio City Music Hall, this show is just incredible to watch!

The memorable experience starts as soon as you walk in the front door, with the lobby dazzling you with its huge chandelier and art displays. From there, you are lead to your seats where you prepare for the curtain to rise. You sit in anticipation and finally the 3D show starts. You see the famed Rockettes for the first time, in perfect harmony. First, you follow them as they dance through the 12 Days of Christmas, and then on as they tell the story of the wooden soldier toys, and New York at Christmas. Santa then tells the story of the Nutcracker, with some help, of course. Watch as they do the famed kick line and move perfectly on the beat. Next, follow a young boy named Ben, and his older brother Patrick as they are whisked away by Santa Claus to explore what Christmas spirit is all about. You might even learn a few tricks about what Santa Claus has up his sleeve to help prepare and get everyone in the holiday spirit. Finally, at the very end, watch in astonishment as it starts to snow in Radio City Music Hall, bringing everyone together and excited to enjoy the holidays together.

So I think you can now clearly see that the Christmas Spectacular is a must see for all. It really helps you learn what the holidays are all about. So come by, and learn for yourself.
Doctor Strange
Robert Lawler ’22

Doctor Strange stars Benedict Cumberbatch as Doctor Stephen Strange. He is arrogant, cocky and egotistical. The movie gives him one saving quality, somewhere in you there is hope. You believe that he can do good for more than just himself. Without that dynamic the movie could not have work as well as it did. If you do not like the guy you do not want him to save the world, you do not want him to be the best. Before I tell about the stuff I really liked one point of interest in this movie is the comedy. Benedict Cumberbatch delivers his lines perfectly. His snobby, rich boy attitude only goes so far. He needs to be funny because a cocky, millionaire without comedy is a jerk. Sometimes comedy is well placed and not forced. Other times it undermined the amazing action and that bugged me a little. Speaking of action, this movie had it in spades. Mind-bending and complex fights between magic beings, what more do you want. One of these encounters is in New York. You are watching through a gyroscope and it is the coolest thing. Marvel went all out on the action and they delivered. A shout to Rachel McAdams who plays the exact role this movie needed. Her job is to give the audience the scale of Stephens cockiness and to be important with minimal screen time. She elevates her scenes when she is in them and she really is the audience's character. The acting in this movie is really good because you understand how everyone thinks. The actors and actresses give you the feel character's ideals which is what this movie is based off of, “how one's morals define them or mislead you”. This was a classic Marvel backstory movie. It has the same idea as Thor and Iron Man. A cocky and arrogant man experiences a low point in their life and have to fight for their place. This idea constantly connects with comic fans and movie fanatics alike. Everyone has something to enjoy in this fulfilling action movie. In short, Doctor Strange has action and feeling wrapped in a brilliant use of a character that many people know. I would not be surprised if Doctor Strange breaks the barrier for action movies like “Inception”. I definitely believe Doctor Strange is

A Dog’s Purpose
Jessica Horkovich ’22

The new movie A Dog’s Purpose is sweet and heartwarming. It is a real tear jerker. Even if you do not like dogs this you will love this movie. It is probably the most emotional movie I have ever seen. I will never forget this movie. The message for the movie was to love your owner and be happy in the moment. “After the movie I had to go and hug my dog.” (Cheryl Horkovich)

The dog, Bailey, finds a home with a boy named Ethan. They have so much fun together and help eachother out. There are some hard times, but when Bailey ruins Ethan’s fathers chance of promotion. Bailey is not allowed in the house, but soon his father forgets about it. Bailey stays by Ethan’s side as they both grow up. Bailey is the one who brings Ethan and Hannah together. Unfortunately, not all is well for Ethan’s family. His father, being a drunk, rages and is kicked out of the house. Ethan is offered a football scholarship. Soon after, a boy from Ethan’s school teases Ethan about his father. The boy is punched in the face. Overtaken by anger, he sets fire to Ethan’s house. Bailey rescues the family but Ethan gets badly hurt in the foot. Disappointed that he cannot go to the school he wanted to go to, Ethan breaks up with Hannah. Eventually Ethan heals and goes to a farming

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MOVIE REVIEWS

school, leaving Bailey behind. Bailey becomes old and stops eating. He is taken to the vet and he dies.

Not all of the Bailey’s lives were about fun and games. When the dog comes back as a female German shepherd, she works non-stop. Bailey trains and trains. She works as a police dog for a widowed man. His owner, Carlos, becomes attached to him. While Bailey was on a mission she saves a twelve year old girl's life but is later shot by the man who tried to kill the girl. Carlos sobs over the second death in his life.

Bailey is then reincarnated as a corgi, who will eat anything. His owner loves to feed him things like pizza, ice cream, and chips. This causes a problem soon after. Bailey helps find the lonely woman true love. He is adored by their entire family. Sadly, like all the other lives, he eventually dies and leaves his owners heartbroken.

This time he comes back, he is picked up by a poor couple who end up tying him to a tree. He grows big and old. After they are fined, the man dumps Bailey off by train and leaves. Hungry and sad, Bailey walks on looking for a new home. He ends up back at Ethan’s farm. There he finds Ethan alone and old. Bailey reunites with Ethan and brings Hannah and Ethan back together. Ethan soon figures out that this new dog is actually very similar to Bailey. Ethan, Hannah, and Bailey happily live together for the rest of their lives.

A lot of people do not want to see this movie because the set was accused of animal cruelty. I still saw the movie and fell in love with it. “No one has a right to put their hands on the dog no matter the circumstances.” (Jennifer Horkovich 2018) Even with a few bumps in the road, the movie grossed over $23 million.

A Dog’s Purpose had its issues but was worth seeing. I recommend that you see this movie. I absolutely loved the movie and so will you.
How to Make a Pom Pom Flower Bouquet
Cat Dwyer ’22  >^..^<

So. Hey there, you! Today if you choose to read this article (please do), you will learn to make a festive pom pom flower bouquet. Yay!
The materials you will need are:
○ Yarn
○ Glue
○ Sticks
○ Scissors
○ Flower Vase
○ Perfume (optional)

First thing you do is grab your yarn and wrap it around your four fingers about 100 times. After you have your yarn wrap, snip off a piece of yarn from your original ball of yarn and tie it around the middle of your just-made yarn ball. It should now look like a bow. The next thing you do is snip through the loops of yarn on either side of your yarn ball and start to shape it with your scissors to look like an actual ball, not just a fuzzy pom pom having a bad-hair day. Once you are done shaping it to your desired roundness, take the glue and dab it in the middle of your pom pom. Immediately fasten one of your sticks in the middle of your pom pom and wait for it to dry. You can make multiple pom pom flowers and put them in your vase. You can also spray a little perfume on them for a nice, flowery scent. The great thing is, you don’t have to water or clean up these “flowers”. They last all year-round and are a perfect addition to your room’s decor.

Audrey Story
CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE
Josephine Aiken ’22

Audrey decided that she would read. By the time that she was on the seventh chapter of Jane Eyre, a new student from her grade walked over, timidly looking at the cover of Audrey’s book.

Audrey shrank back. This girl was new, and had never seen Audrey before. “That’s probably why she’s talking to me,” Audrey silently decided. The girl had large, brown eyes, and was rather short, for her age. She had mousy-brown hair, which wisply touched the tips of her shoulders. As the Audrey had been silent for several minutes, the brown-eyed girl introduced herself.

“Hello, I’m Quinn Smith. Who are you?” Quinn quietly, yet surprisingly clearly inquired.

When Audrey managed to regain the usage of her voice, she said, “Hello… I’m Audrey. Have you heard all the rumors going around the school, about me?”

“Loads.” Quinn replied, holding the book, Starring Kitty, close to her chest.

“You still approached me?” Audrey was now in shock. Wasn’t this girl homophobic, just like the rest of the children? Didn’t she want to be bullied here.” Quinn said, staring at her book. Audrey and Quinn were friends, forevermore.

* * * *

The big day was here. Soon, Mrs. Rowntree will chose an anonymous speech in assembly, to be read. This was either the worst day of Audrey’s life, or, hopefully, the best. When Audrey, along with the Seventh Grade, made it into the Assembly Hall, Quinn spotted Audrey, and gave her an optimistic thumbs-up. Audrey grinned weakly back, for she got stage-fright whenever she talked in front of people.

“If you want to know why I approached you, it’s because I am not like the rest of the children. I’m not homophobic.” Quinn said, with a look of certainty in her demeanor.

“Well, if it makes you feel any better, I’m not homophobic either.” Audrey joked. The two girls both laughed at this comment, bonding an everlasting friendship between them.

Audrey and Quinn talked for the whole entire rest of the short school-day, laughing and smiling at funny stories they told each other. Quinn eventually told Audrey that she was a transgender girl, and that she came to this school, to get away from the awful bullying at her old school. “You can’t tell anyone, though… I don’t want to be bullied here.” Quinn said, staring at her book. Audrey and Quinn were friends, forevermore.

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the speech, which I think is the most moving speech, with the best writing. Now, if your speech isn’t picked, please don’t be discouraged. It just means that maybe today isn’t your best day. Now, I have been reading your speeches, and all of them have been amazing, but there was one speech that outshined the rest. This anonymous speech had lovely vocabulary, and meaning, even though it was quite long. When I read it, I actually cried. This moving speech, is called, “My Life as an LGBTQ+ Community Member”. Can the writer of this lovely speech please come up?” Mrs. Rowntree said, holding the speech out in front of her.

Audrey froze. Her speech had won. Slowly, in shock, she managed to walk towards Mrs. Rowntree. Mrs. Rowntree handed her her speech, and Audrey opened her mouth, “Hello, everyone. My name is Audrey Burns, and I am here to talk to you about the LGBTQ+ community.” Audrey glanced over at Quinn, who gave her a hearty smile, egging her on. “The acronym ‘LGBTQ+’ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Plus. The ‘plus’ stand for all of the other labels out there, that are not the label ‘straight’. I know that there are many of you out there, who are members of the LGBTQ+ community…” Audrey read her entire thirteen pages, and at the end, not only did the entire school applaud her, but they gave her a standing ovation! As Audrey walked back to her seat, happy, and looked over at Quinn. Quinn gave Audrey two thumbs up, this time silently complimenting her for how lovely her speech was.

After assembly, practically every single person who approached Audrey about her speech, were complimenting her, or apologising for the way they previously treated her. There were a few people who were still rude to Audrey, but the numbers had decreased rapidly. This gave Audrey the warm, sunny feeling inside, that she helped make the world a better place. And she had.

THE END

**Cute Calico Cat**

**Josephine Aiken ’22**

The heat overwhelmed
The cute,
Calico cat.
The cat is named
A dashing,
Daring name:
Smokey.
She growls
From anger,
Of being too hot
To chase a small,
Solitary squirrel.
Smokey was never defeated before,
So why now?
The cat slowly conquers the heat,
And gets up,
Eyeing the squirrel carrying
an acorn
In its scrappy,
Little paws.

**Feisty Nature**

**Josephine Aiken ’22**

Oh, kitten!
Your playful mews awaken me
At two in the morning.
Your huntress-like nature,
Makes me wonder why
We didn’t call you
Diana.
Your sharp claws,
Are like your fingertips:
Helping you climb up
My leg.
You have tiny teeth,
Which most people would perceive
as harmless,
When in fact,
They are pointer
than kitchen-knives.
You bat at the dog’s stubbed tail,
Mercilessly forbidding her
A peaceful rest.
Oh, kitten!

**Students and Their Shadows**

**Abby Regan ’22**

This year many students have already experienced the magnificent experience of having a shadow. As seventh graders we are privileged to be able to show prospective students this wonderful school. Those who have already had shadows have enjoyed it and would absolutely love another shadow. Including me, seventh graders, Nick Hughes, Talia Chang, and Darin Jacks have all answered these questions. These
people, who shadowed just last year, remembered their own shadow days and appreciated the chance to host a visitor.

Q: Who was your guest?
A: **Nick:** Zach Macey  
**Darin:** Cora Partridge  
**Talia:** Tanner Lee and Alama  
**Abby (Myself):** Isabel Clare

Q: Did your shadow request you or was he/she assigned?
A: **Nick:** Assigned  
**Darin:** Assigned  
**Talia:** Both requested her  
**Abby:** Assigned

Q: Did you really want a shadow or did you not care either way?
A: **Nick:** Really wanted a shadow  
**Darin:** Really wanted a shadow  
**Talia:** Really, really wanted a shadow  
**Abby:** Definitely really wanted a shadow

Q: Did you enjoy having a shadow?
A: **Nick:** Ya, it was fun  
**Darin:** Yes!  
**Talia:** Yes I did! A lot!  
**Abby:** It was really fun!

Q: Would you like a shadow again?
A: **Nick:** Definitely!  
**Darin:** Yes!  
**Talia:** Definitely! But I would like to give others a chance because I have already had two!  
**Abby:** Absolutely!

Q: Did your shadow have common interests with you?
A: **Nick:** Yes! He liked hockey and lacrosse  
**Darin:** Yes! She liked choral arts and theater  
**Talia:** Yes! Tanner likes soccer and Alama likes art  
**Abby:** Yes! Isabel likes basketball

Q: What kind of questions did your shadow ask you? What kinds of things did you tell them about Hopkins?
A: **Nick:** He didn’t really have any questions but he wanted to know about the schedule  
**Darin:** She asked what I like about Hopkins, What the buildings are named and what each are for, which classes are in which buildings?  
**Talia:** Alama has a brother here so she didn’t really have any
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SHADOWS

questions. Tanner wanted to know about the athletic program
Abby: Isabel didn’t have any questions but I told her about the activities and classes and athletics.

Q: Did your shadow like the school? Do you think that after you showed them the school, they may want to come here?

A: Nick: Probably. It’s his first choice, his mom works here, and he liked it.
Darin: Probably
Talia: Both enjoyed meeting all the teachers and liked the classes so probably
Abby: Isabel goes to a private school that goes until senior year so it was hard to tell but I think she liked the school.

What’s Viral Now?

Nick Hughes ’22

There have been 2 big viral “challenges” going on on the internet called the “Andy’s Coming!” and the, “mannequin challenge”. The first challenge “Andy Coming” came from a video clip on twitter that actually went viral. This video clip became so popular that so many people started joining the challenge. Everyone started doing it from, schools, both students and teacher, sports teams, just in gas stations, and so many other places. This challenge comes from the movie “Toy Story” from 1995. The idea is when Andy was gone, the toys would be alive, and when Andy was coming back they would drop back to still. This challenge works on that idea with everyone acting normal, but when someone yells, “Andy’s Coming!”, everyone drops. The other challenge is the “Mannequin Challenge”. This challenge consists of one person behind the camera playing the song, Black Beatles by Rae Sremmurd and Gucci Mane. While exploring the room people are frozen in different poses, hence the name “mannequin challenge”. This is a challenge that had come before the “Andy’s coming! challenge” that started in late October. Where did it start? A high school in Jacksonville, where some students decided to film themselves while posing like lifeless mannequins. Also, why did the pick the soundtrack, Black Beatles? Well the 17 year-old who first synced the song with the video it was his favorite song at the time. This challenge has gained massive popularity with Rae Sremmurd even starting his concerts by doing this challenge and then continuing on. Many people saw this on twitter and tried the challenge it themselves including teacher, sport teams (professional, and town), even dogs! Will you try these challenge?

News of the LGBTQ+ Community

Josephine Aiken ’22

The LGBTQ+ community is full of important people, throughout history. Did you know that the woman who voiced Dory, is lesbian? Ellen DeGeneres has been thought of as one of our most powerful women figures, and is also a powerful LGBTQ+ figure. There are many famous people in the world who are members of the LGBTQ+ community, and famous people against the LGBTQ+ community. We can only hope that Mr. Donald Trump will not be one of these homophobic people, no matter how unlikely that hope is.

There are many LGBTQ+ people who are afraid for their future. Right now, we have no clue what is in store for use, law-wise. We are allowed to stick to our feelings, but this does not mean that we should stoop to the low levels of violence, and hatred. Everyone has a right to their feeling towards Donald Trump, but this does not mean that we should do anything rash, as he has been elected for the upcoming president. This does not mean that I support him. The LGBTQ+ community has a right to be scared, because Donald Trump has not shown any particular interest in helping us, the LGBTQ+ community, get the human rights we deserve.

In fact, we can only hope that Mr. Trump does not do anything against the LGBTQ+ community,
like he said he would, when he was running against Hillary Clinton. Some things that Mr. Trump will have the power to do, in January, is take away the law that permits same-sex marriage in most states, and even forbid same-sex couples to adopt children.

Compared to other countries, we are, in a way, lucky. Mr. Trump is almost certainly not going to use the death-penalty against the LGBTQ+ community, which happens in other countries, across the globe. We are not the least-homophobic and transphobic country, but we are again, not the worst. Hopefully we will gain strength against homophobia and transphobia, instead of letting it run America.

**THE QUIBBLER**

**Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them—The Film**

Josephine Aiken ’22  
Robert Lawler ’22

The film *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* is coming out in November. The main character, Newt Scamander, is a Hufflepuff who was expelled from Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* is set in North America, even though Scamander is from Britain. Newt Scamander is a wizard, who comes to New York City, along with his case. What lies within Scamander’s case is far from ordinary- it’s magical. Newt Scamander has a case (which he managed to get past the security officials) full of magical creatures, from the Wizarding World. So far, the film has gotten five-star reviews, which we wholeheartedly think it deserves.

David Yates, who directed the last four films in the *Harry Potter*
films, directed *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. Yates is English. Newt Scamander is the lead actor of this brilliant film. Newt Scamander is always willing to break rules if it keeps his animals safe, as he is very loyal to his animals. Scamander was expelled from Hogwarts for accidentally and unintentionally endangering students with magical creatures. A good thing about *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* is the way that it’s plot is not too empty, or too full. There is just the right amount of danger and plot. A bad thing about *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* is that the second film isn’t out yet!

Everyone who has watched *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* has to admit that the funniest scene is when the Niffler gets out of Scamander’s case, and wreaks havoc throughout the No-Maj’s New York bank, before Scamander retrieves him from his mischief. The saddest scene from *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, is the scene in which Jacob Kowalski (the No-Maj who helps Scamander), walks out into rain, which obliterates him.

In conclusion, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* is an outstanding film, full of determined souls, and a quest to keep all of Scamander’s animals safe. I would give *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* a seven out of five, and if you are a Harry Potter fan, you will understand why I chose the number “seven”. I love the acting, and the plot. It is a truly amazing film, and we beg all of you who haven’t seen it yet, to go watch it!
Hello! And welcome back to another sequel to COMEDY COOKING!!!! *everyone cheers*. This time we are going to do a Thanksgiving SPECIAL!!!!

I will be telling you how to make a turkey and mashed potatoes. OK. First we will cook the turkey. First, get a turkey. Then you should wash it so it won’t give you any diseases. My mom was cooking this turkey, so I didn’t get to cook it :(. Anyways, we salted the turkey. Then we dumped stuffing in the turkey. This stuffing was from the store which is kind of lame but whatever. This turkey looks really gross raw. We flipped the turkey and did the same thing to the other side. Then we surrounded it with stuffing. It takes 4 hours for this turkey to cook which is extremely long. HAHA-HAHA!! It didn’t even fit in the oven, but we took apart the oven so it could fit. Then we left it there to cook.

Now I am going to make the mashed potatoes! I went to wash the potatoes but I accidentally burnt myself. I got 3 potatoes because I think that's enough. I skinned the potatoes, and that took me forever, like 30 minutes. Then skinned an extra potato. I think I have enough now. Then you put it in boiling water and your done!

REVIEWS
Dina(AKA Suzy): Not enough butter. :<

Simple as that. I don’t know how long to cook the potatoes so I just let it sit for a while. After around 30 minutes, I got it out and MASHED IT MWAHAHAHA!! Then I added the butter and then your done.
Inauguration Day 2017

JJ Drummond ’22

On January 20th, 2017, Donald J. Trump became the 45th President of the United States of America. J-school students had the opportunity to watch the Inauguration in the Athletic Center, and 44 students chose to do so. J-schoolers were able to watch the ceremony and watch our 45th president be sworn into office.

The Inauguration service has nine key parts to it. The first part of the Inauguration is the Morning Worship Service, followed by the procession to the capitol building. Next, the Vice President is sworn in, then the President is sworn into office. Then Donald Trump made his Inaugural Address. After the address, the President departs the Capitol and finally the day ends with the Inaugural Luncheon.

President Donald J. Trump was born on June 14, 1946 and is married to Melania Trump. They have one son named Barron Trump, age 10. Donald Trump went to school at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. Donald Trump has four other children from previous marriages: Ivanka Trump, Tiffany Trump, Eric Trump, and Donald Trump Jr.

This election was very tricky compared to past elections, with many people across the country having strong opinions. Even after the Inauguration has happened and Donald Trump has become President, people still have strong opinions and protests have begun around the U.S. This Inauguration marked a big event for the country as Donald J. Trump became the 45th president of the United States of America.
Bonjour! From Quebec

JJ Drummond ’22

On January 13th, J-school students and faculty boarded the bus to head to a fun-filled four day trip to Quebec! The first stop in Quebec was tobogganing down the Glissades de la Promenade Dufferin. Dinner that evening was a classic Quebec meal of crepes, where each student got to pick what type of crepe they had with an amazing gelato and brownie dessert to follow.

The first full day in Quebec started with either Curling or a Rally Game. Students were taught how to curl and played games against each other afterward. For the rally, students split into groups and went around Quebec City looking for the answers to the rally questions, ending at Starbucks. That afternoon students embarked on adventures through the snow, which included dog sledding and snowshoeing. Dinner that evening was a fun-filled night at the Sugar Shack that included family style meals and dancing.

The second morning started with a walk to the Plains of Abraham Museum, where students experienced how the war between Quebec and Britain occurred. Reenactors helped the experience evolve to a fun activity with many engaging parts. After the museum, J-school went to the Parc de la Chute Montmorency to visit the amazing falls that are higher than Niagara Falls. Students were able to walk across the falls over the bridge and see beautiful views. That afternoon came a big highlight for most J-schoolers: tubing at Village Vacances Valcartier. Students were able to tube down the mountain with groups of friends, and some students had enough courage to go on “Everest” the biggest tubing slide at the park. That evening J-school had an amazing final dinner, fondue.

The next morning was the last day in Quebec. Breakfast was at the Le Parlementaire, and soon after breakfast J-school headed back on the bus to go back home. Quebec was an amazing and exciting trip that J-schoolers enjoyed very much.
How Carrie Fisher’s Death Will Change Star Wars

Lucas Alfaro ’22

On December 27th, 2016, at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles; an actress, author, and role model sadly passed away of a heart attack. This person’s name was Carrie Fisher. Most people know her as Princess Leia from the movie series *Star Wars*. Though it is very soon after her passing, most are wondering how Carrie Fisher’s Death will change *Star Wars: Episode VIII* and *Episode IX*.

Carrie Fisher was born on October 21st, 1956 in Los Angeles. Carrie took on small roles until a seemingly insignificant sci-fi movie started casting and she became Princess Leia. This was her role up until her death. How, then, will Star Wars be able to move on after losing an essential part of the Star Wars family?

It is likely, yet not confirmed by Lucasfilm or Disney that all *Star Wars* actors and actresses (Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher, etc.) have an insurance policy in case they cannot be part of Star Wars due to illness or death. This policy is worth about $50 million dollars per actor. Needless to say, they won’t have a problem with paying for CGI (a form of digital animation) to animate Carrie Fisher as they did in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* to make her look like she did in 1977.

Sadly, CGI may not be an option due to the fact that most CGI characters do not look as real as they are anticipated to be. For example, in *Rogue One*, the character of Grand Moff Tarkin looked extremely like his character, but stood out when he was next to real people that were not animated. Carrie Fisher’s CGI was shown briefly, and looked amazing, but had a seemingly plastic look.

Fisher’s role as Princess Leia was confirmed to be more important in the ninth movie than the eighth. However, *Episode VIII* has already finished filming, while *Episode IX* still has not been filmed at all.

It is said that Princess Leia has a reunion with Luke Skywalker and a confrontation with her son Kylo Ren. Both are very crucial moments in the star wars universe, but if they cut Carrie Fisher out of the story and do not use CGI, these moments cannot happen and could possibly change *Star Wars* for the worse.

Well, LucasFilm confirmed that a Carrie Fisher CGI will not be created and that there will most likely be a rewrite in the scripts similar to *Fast and Furious 7*. Do you agree with this decision?

Please email me what you think at lalfaro22@students.hopkins.edu for a follow up article next edition to hear other student’s and teacher’s opinions.
Winter Activities

Nana Dondorful-Amos ’22

Winter doesn’t only mean snow and cold, it also means new activities. Different students are enrolled in different activities such as; Community Service, Cool and Current Science, Healthy Body Healthy Mind (HBHM), Hilltopper, Improv, Italian Cooking, Morning Star, Reading Rocks, and Scrapbook.

Community Service is an activity that exposes students to a variety of service opportunities both on and off campus. The activity inspires participants and informs them about various needs, and encourages them to donate to worthy causes. Students will team up for a shared community service effort during the activity.

Cool and Current Science is an activity for students who like to think about and talk about cool stuff that’s going on in science, and think that it’s fun to find out about other students in the United States and around the world who are participating in science and research.

HBHM—The purpose of the HBHM program is to share information about health and well-being and address questions students may have about topics that may be important to their lives. This program is not just about their physical health, but mental and emotional health as well. Communication styles, internet and personal interactions, stress reduction, sleep and its effect on learning and memory, and nutrition are addressed.

Hilltopper—The Hilltopper is the Junior School newspaper that offers students an opportunity to report on school events and to experience the different aspects of creating and publishing journalistic articles. Students often show how life and school is, up on the hill.

Improv is an activity that gets students comfortable speaking in front of a large group by discussing good public speaking habits, rehearsing fun improvisational games that incorporate those habits, and performing them at Junior School lunch.

Italian Cooking is an activity to learn about the world of modern Italy’s glorious sites, from Venice to Sicily. Recreate art and monuments hands-on; sing along with Andrea Bocelli, Italian folk songs, and opera; have fun preparing tasty Italian treats like cannoli, bruschetta, and pasta, and perhaps pay a visit to a local bakery or cheese shop.

Morning Star is a new Hopkins literary magazine that will feature work exclusively by Junior Schoolers. Students will come up with and create the content for each issue, including their own short stories, poems, drawings, and photography.

The Scrapbook is the Junior School yearbook that offers students an opportunity to learn about photography, copywriting, and graphic design. This is published at the end of the year and records the J School in pictures that include adviser groups, sports, activities, and trips.

Reading Rocks is a book club, just for J Schoolers. Students will choose two or three titles from a list of recommended and group-nominated titles. They read and discuss our books over the eight-week activities season.
Meatless Monday at Hopkins

Sophie Sonnenfeld ’21

Jack Keeley and I joined forces to launch the new Meatless Monday campaign in the Junior School. Jack is an experienced animal rights lobbyist and I have launched successful Meatless Monday campaigns at the Foote School and Yale College in past years. Thanks to the remarkable enthusiasm among our classmates, we explored possibility of the Hopkins Dining providing a sampling of meatless entrées for a few weeks.

Thus, a few weeks before winter break, Jack and I met with the Dining Hall Manager, Mike King, about introducing Meatless Monday into the cafeteria. The Dining Hall generously agreed to experiment with some creative trial menu options.

Here are some student opinions:

Eliza Barker ’21 said: “There are still meat options on Meatless Monday in the dining hall... it’s just an entree that is meatless. Going Meatless on Monday is a small sacrifice for us to make.”

Anu Vashist ’21 said “There are wonderful and very healthy options for everyone to go vegetarian.”

Craigin Maloney ’21 commented: “I think it’s a great and easy way to both help the planet and be healthy.”

Jenny Gidicsin ’21 remarked that she would “rather the school served only lollipops for lunch on Mondays.”

Jade Aprile ’22 explained that she chooses to go Meatless on Monday because “It is so much better for the environment to cut out meat.”

Recently, NPR reached out to Jack and I to showcase our success with the campaign at Hopkins. The show aired on Monday, January 23rd. Here is the link: http://wnpr.org/post/students-push-vegetarian-options-new-haven-school.

What is it? Meatless Monday is a worldwide campaign that is growing in more than 40 countries. Meatless Monday has inspired individuals, schools, restaurants, hospitals, food companies, and other communities to choose to eat healthy, meat free meals one day a week that benefits you, the animals, and the environment. Along with the Foote School and Yale—I helped to collect pledges for the campaign at both campuses—hundreds of other campuses and communities across the country participate in the program.

Why should we care? Just consider that in 2011, 10,153 million land animals were killed for food in the US. The next time you are eating a hamburger that you are about to throw away, think about the 875 million animals that have died from disease, injury, starvation, and suffocation in food farms around the country. My personal hero, Paul McCartney, a strong supporter of Meatless Monday once said, “If every slaughterhouse had glass walls, we’d all be vegetarians.”

If you are wondering how meat consumption affects the environment, keep in mind that in the U.S., 70% of the grain grown goes to feed animals that will soon be slaughtered for food. Nearly 80% of deforested land in the Amazon is now used as cattle pastures for meat. Raising animals for food now uses up a staggering 30% of the Earth’s land mass.

Who else has pledged to go meatless? Each person’s reason for cutting back on meat may be different. Isaac Bashevis Singer, the Nobel Prize winning Yiddish storyteller, commented, “I did not become a vegetarian for my health, I did it for the health of the chickens!” On the other hand, one late night comedian, A. Whitney Brown, jokingly CONTINUED ON PAGE 18
admitted on Saturday Night Live “I am not a vegetarian because I love animals; I am a vegetarian because I hate plants!” Some prominent people who are strong advocates of Meatless Monday include: Oprah; Sir Paul McCartney; Yoko Ono; Al Gore; Acacia Courtney (Miss Connecticut); and Jessica Capshaw (AKA Arizona Robbins).

It is clear that Hopkins students are willing to give up meat one day a week for three major reasons: animal lives; environmental sustainability; personal health. The goal all along has been to raise personal awareness and choice rather than to force any diet and it has been gratifying for us to be a part of this movement.

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The Watery Lottery—How Far Do We Go For H2O?

Sophie Sonnenfeld ’21

Otherwise cheerful Hopkins students, when asked about the most common daily challenges unique to the school will often reply with a single word that describes the hardships that face students along their journey to class. The stairs. The sixty-some concrete steps that greet each student in the morning on their trek from the Forest Road parking lot. Once one reaches the top of these steps, they need to quench their thirst. After being drained by the journey, students wonder where the finest water fountain can be found. This required a team effort and expertise. Thus, I assembled a team of savvy water fountain critic classmates. We reviewed the campus to test and evaluate each fountain based on taste, efficiency, presentation, aesthetics, convenience, pressure, thickness, and temperature.

To begin with, we inspected the popular Heath fountains. On the first floor, there are two side-by-side fountains mounted on the wall. The higher of which was very sweet, crisp, good pressure and offering an inviting 1½ inch arch. The only flaw found was the embedded water bottle filler. Though the temperature of the fountain itself had been delightfully refreshing, the water bottle filler was not quite as satisfactory, as it was rather lukewarm. The lower
fountain we found was a much too low and hard to access, considering how busy it is during lunchtime, leaving virtually no space to bend over and drink. Furthermore, the taste was a bit grainy and overall not as pure as the higher fountain.

The fountains upstairs at Heath were not as appealing. This is because the buttons for the higher fountain were harder to push and the taste was a bit sour compared to the other fountains. Although the arch in upper Heath fountains offered a noteworthy curve, the fountains of lower Heath were superior in most dimension—shape, taste, and flow.

Next we traveled to Lovell to compare the two fountains at that location. The fountain in lower Lovell was extremely fresh, had a high nicely curved arch but was not very cold. This water may be just fine for a quick drink between classes, but released an unwanted tidal wave of water surging towards us. This surprise face washing detracted from any joy of refreshment possibly adding to the already stressful situation of having a performance. In upper Lovell, when pressed, the button did not in fact respond for a number of seconds before spurting out a water ambush. The overall taste was pleasant but once again, the water was too thick and the button not very responsive.

Traveling to Thompson, on the first floor, we noted that the water bottle filler was separate from the fountain which was a greatly valued efficient feature. After struggling to master the hands-free button, the water we were rewarded with had the perfect temperature and volume. The lower fountain was not hands-free, with a disappointing arch, but clean taste. The second floor had the same set up of fountains however, the higher fountain was quite elegant. With a nice arch and thickness, unfortunately it carried a chalky aftertaste. The lower of the two started out warm but grew cooler in temperature. The other setback was its sour aftertaste. Both basement fountains had wonderful pressure, graceful arches, and fine taste. They too though, gave hesitating service, initially starting out warm and gradually growing colder.

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We then marched to Malone. Sadly, we found that each of the fountains had offered common disappointing elements. All of the fountains of the three floors had hard to reach buttons and small bowls where the water should have been collected was instead splashed back at you, as well as fountains that were hidden in dark corridors with hard to locate concealed light switches.

In all of the fountains though, the pressure was gratifying and had by far the most impressive arches. The third floor water was too warm, and had a bit of a tangy taste. The second floor was quite enchanting with some of the coolest water even though it was a bit too thick. The first floor fountain was discouraging. It was dark, dreary, warm, thick, and not great pressure-motivating anyone to climb to the next floor to get your water.

Nearing the end of our tour, we crossed campus to get to the Athletic Center. Ironically, in the location where the imperative of quenching thirst was greatest, the hydration was most disappointing. Instead of saying “push” buttons here should read “depress.” Perhaps the only acceptable factor of these fountains were the arches. On the first floor, the fountain closest to the door, the water flowed with acceptable pressure but with a sour aftertaste and most importantly, completely unsatisfying, lukewarm temperature. The other first floor fountain however, was not worth running to reach either. The water was very warm – and it is unlikely anyone arrives there hoping to make a cup of tea. It had an average button, and worse yet, it tasted a bit oily. Since these two fountains were so disappointing, we hoped the fountain on the second floor would perhaps compensate for the faulty fountains below. We were wrong. Greeted by a slimy looking metal box nailed to a gap in the wall, we cautiously approached the fountain with ominous blood-red handprints looming above our heads as we choked down pasty water in chunky, thick, slimy drops.

Next, we searched for a fountain outside the beautiful library, but were not unsuccessful, so we continued the search on up to the third floor of Baldwin. This fountain was modern looking and looked promising. Alas, the arch was poor, the button was it was a bit too low down and the water was not very cold. So, we tried the second floor. The buttons were located on the sides of this speckled fountain. It made a shrieking warning noise when pressed. Unusually viscous, the taste was different but okay—a bit creamy and the arch was way too high—again one good for surprise face washing!

After our determined quest to discover a fountain worthy of the hike, to, we came upon the fountain on the first floor of Baldwin. Despite lacking a water bottle filler, it had instantly responsive buttons, a dazzling arch, an attractive vintage eighties speckle pattern, and some of the most refreshing coldest water, we had found. Alas, this was surely Fountain Nirvana. Far enough away from the bathroom, so there is not much traffic, refreshing cold temperatures, and forceful pressure. Yes, the first floor of Baldwin fountain may wash some of its magic on you too and seep its way your heart. It surely squirted its way to the top of our fluid ranking. Next time you are dried out by the journey to Baldwin, be sure to stop by the first floor fountain and experience this glistening, refreshing fountain.

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WATERY LOTTERY

Year of the Rooster

Nana Dondorful-Amos ’22

Saturday, January 28, 2017 was the annual celebration of the Chinese New Year. Each year is characterised by one of the 12 animals that emerge in the Chinese zodiac. The Chinese zodiac is bisected into 12 houses, but with the utmost difference being that each house has a time-length of one year instead of a month.

People born in the Year of the Rooster are distinguished as honest, energetic, intelligent, flexible and confident. But according to Chinese
astrology, the year of your sign is believed to be one of the most unlucky years of your life. The general thought of people in this zodiac sign is that they are hardworking, resourceful, confident and talented. In addition, their active, talkative and engaging ways make them popular with people. They are happiest when they are in company, enjoying the spotlight. Although they were born with fortunate skills, they still have several shortcomings, such as being seen as vain and arrogant with a tendency to brag about their achievements.

Which animal are you?

**Rat:**

**Ox:**

**Tiger:**

**Rabbit:**

**Dragon:**

**Snake:**

**Horse:**

**Sheep:**

**Monkey:**

**Rooster:**

**Dog:**

**Pig:**

The ancient tradition of the Wishing Tree is synonymous with good luck and fortune. The legend is that, hanging your hopes for the coming year on a Wishing Tree will encourage your dreams to come true. Members of the public are invited to visit the tree and receive a bespoke wish written by an authentic Chinese calligrapher to take home along with a golden chocolate coin for added good fortune.

The general image of people in this zodiac sign is that they are hardworking, resourceful, confident and talented. In addition, their active, talkative and engaging ways make them popular with people. They are joyful when they are in company, enjoying the spotlight. Although they were born with favored skills, they still have several shortcomings, such as being seen as vain and arrogant with a tendency to brag about their achievements.
The Latest Junior School Dance
Haniya Farooq ’22

The most recent J-School dance was a success—a moderate amount of people showed up, there was nice music, and the glow sticks were awesome. However, like every social event, there were great things and things that could be improved on. Here are some of the good—or not so good—things that happened during the latest junior school dance.

Music: one of the most fundamental factors of any dance, no matter whether it consists of seventh and eighth graders or eleventh and twelfth graders. The music was good; it was mostly mainstream music, but once in a while there would be a different type of song, such as “Ride” by Twenty One Pi- lots. Yet I noticed that sometimes a song would be cut off after only ten seconds of it playing, which was a bit annoying since sometimes there was a song my friends and I liked and it was switched to a song that wasn’t as good. Still, this mostly only happened in the beginning, so in general the music was enjoyable and it complemented the dance nicely.

The refreshments were very minimal—whilst the fall dance had lots of candy, at this dance there was only soda and chips. This was a disappointment to some, because there was less variation in the snacks. Dances in the future should have a variety of both drinks and snacks so that people have more choices of what to eat or drink.

Overall, everyone liked the dance. Yes, it wasn’t perfect, but there is always room for improvements, and even then there were only minor tweaks to be made. It was a fun experience and I can’t wait for more of them.
Welcoming Four New Elements to the Periodic Table

Angela Cui ’21

On 28 November 2016, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, or the IUPAC, ratified the names and symbols for elements 113, 115, 117, and 118, completing the seventh row of the periodic table. Welcome to the period table, nihonium, moscovium, tennessine, and oganesson.

Scientists first synthesised these four elements between 2002 and 2010 and temporarily named them ununtrium, ununpentium, ununseptium, and ununoctium. By December 2015, the IUPAC officially recognized their discoveries and allowed for names to be suggested. Then in June of 2016, the scientists who discovered the elements sent IUPAC their suggested names, and were finally approved after a five-month waiting period during which members of the public could question about these new elements.

The IUPAC had also updated the guidelines for naming newly discovered elements, so the scientists were restricted to naming the elements after mythological ideas or characters, a mineral, a location, a property of the element, or a scientist.

Nihonium, symbol Nh, for element 113, was discovered by a team of Japanese scientists at the Riken Centre for Accelerator-Based Science located in Japan. The name originates from Nihon, which means “Japan” in Japanese, and literally means “the Land of Rising Sun”.

A team of scientists from Russia and the United States named element 115, moscovium with the symbol Mc, and element 117, tennessine with the symbol Ts. Moscovium is named after Moscow and honors the ancient Russian land where the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research is located, and tennessine is after the state of Tennessee.

Element 118 was named oganesson with the symbol Og, honoring a scientist. The element was named after Professor Yuri Oganessian for his contributions to transactinide element research.

“The names of the new elements reflect the realities of our present time,” said President of the IUPAC, Professor Natalia Tarasova, “universality of science, honoring places from three continents, where the elements have been discovered—Japan, Russia, the United states—and the pivotal role of human capital in the development of science, honoring an outstanding scientist—Professor Yuri Oganessian.” Now, scientists are searching for elements beyond the seventh row of the period table. The IUPAC and the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics are currently establishing a new group which will examine the standard used to verify the discoveries of new elements.
Marvel vs. DC
Jessica Horkovich ’22

Many people dispute which comic book/movie group are better, Marvel or DC. Marvel characters were born human and became super. Unlike DC character, who were born super and have stayed super. In DC the superheroes enjoyed their, while Marvel characters feel cursed. The DC superheroes typically fight evil alone, while the Marvel super heroes fight evil together. Superman and Batman do not fight with each other, unlike Iron-Man and Hulk.

A common theme in both DC and Marvel movies/comic books is good vs. evil. Yet, there are significant differences between DC superheroes and Marvel superheroes. While there are two major superheroes in DC (Superman and Batman), Marvel comics have numerous well recognized superheroes (Captain America, Spider-Man, Iron-Man, Hulk, Wolverine, etc...).

There are a lot more leading female superheroes in DC than in Marvel. For example Wonder Woman, Supergirl, and Batgirl. They are all very strong role models for girls. One of the best known Marvel, Poison Ivy, is evil by destroying the environment. I would not count that as a good role model.

DC characters have way less problems than Marvel characters. Marvel’s Hulk only becomes Hulk while having a personal issue. Superman doesn’t attack because he is having a problem. He fights super villains because he feels it is the right thing to do.

Did you know that Loki is the only developed Marvel supervillain? He is the only Marvel villain that was developed past “drunk with power”. All the other Marvel villains just are there as a place holders for the sinister deeds.

Marvel fights take place in cities that we know. New York, for example. On the contrary, DC fights take place in made up cities. This allows DC to make it a bit unrealistic.

Also the first Star Wars was made by Marvel. Darth Vader was inspired by Dr. Doom from the Marvel comics.

Despite the differences all these superheroes leave questions for us to answer. What would I do with a position of power and authority? Would I use it for good? Am I being the best I can be to fully realize my potential? In the end we all want to achieve “Truth, Justice, and the American way.”

Hopkins in One Word
Tyler Forman ’21

With so many things happening at Hopkins and the numerous English essays I wanted to see how people would describe Hopkins in a single word through free association. Free association is the mental process that causes one word or image to be related to another without needing a logical connection. It was originally developed as a method of psycho-analysis by Sigmund Freud. In the world of psychology patients are encouraged to say anything that comes to mind no matter how irrelevant or controversial. Free association is meant to target the unconscious mind and was developed out of the hypnotic method.

Through free association Freud sought to discover feelings that were redirected from one person to a new one, traits about themselves that they denied and saw in others and if they had a mental block against anything. A psychologist by the name of Jung further developed free association by determining how emotional factors affect memories. Ferenczi believed the mere ability to free associate proved that one was free of mental ailments. Some believe that free association is flawed for there is always some pressure affecting people’s thoughts, making the free association not so free.

As I surveyed teachers and students I would first ask them two warm up questions, mentioning different subjects at school, I would then say Hopkins and record their replies.

Mr. Wich, a history teacher and the head advisor of eighth grade, after some thought replied excellence. Ms. Garrity, math teacher and
The New Plan for Healthcare

Angela Cui '21

After Donald Trump has become president of the United States, several changes have already been made to the country. President Trump and GOP lawmakers, or republican lawmakers, are planning on repealing and replacing the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, though official plans have not yet been made.

Although repealing the ACA suggests that the entirety of Obamacare will be repealed, that is not the case. Instead what Republicans mean is a “partial repeal,” meaning that there are some things of the ACA in their replacement plan that Republicans want to keep, like using the same sources of revenue and reducing spending on private Medicare plans. Also, the GOP might include popular or effective parts of the ACA, such as allowing young adults to stay on their parents’ coverage until they reach the age of 26. Additionally, the plan is to take out parts of the current law including the law that all must purchase insurance or pay a tax as a penalty.

Despite the common assumption that if Obamacare is repealed, the replacement for Obamacare will occur simultaneously or soon after is false. There is no solid plan yet, but most likely there will be a transition period that maintains the Obamacare exchanges while a full replacement is worked out.

Republicans are planning to pass the repeal bill using budget reconciliation, which allows a bill to passed with a minimum of 51 votes as opposed to Democratic filibuster, which requires 60 votes. Though, this procedure limits the possibilities in reconciliation such as ACA regulations on insurance companies.

“It’s way more complex than simply ‘repeal and replace,’” Senator Ron Johnson told CNBC. Though, for now we will follow Trump’s promise of a “health care that is far less expensive and far better.”

Head advisor of the seventh grade, answered work. Ms. Fasano, an english teacher and head of Hilltopper answered tradition. When questioned the members of the Hilltopper replied challenging, stairs and energetic. Other members of the junior school community answered school, meme, rap and swimming. What might this mean about the psychology of the average Hopkins student?

Holidays on Calendar

Haniya Farooq ’22

Christmas, Yom Kippur—these holidays sound familiar, right? Even if you don’t celebrate these holidays, you still get school off for them. But what about, say, Eid Al-Adha, or Eid Al-Fitr? You made have heard of it, but it’s doubtful that you’ve ever gotten school off for it. Maybe if you’ve lived in a different state, such as New Jersey. Or, more recently, New York.
In the beginning of 2015, New York public schools started taking Eid off after Muslim activists pressed school officials for nine years. It’s ridiculous that it would take so long just to get two Islamic days off, even though we have many Christian and Jewish holidays off and no one complains about that.

Now don’t get me wrong—I believe Christian and Jewish people have every right to get their special days off, but Muslims should also have that right. And not just Muslims either—Hindus are currently urging public and private schools in Connecticut to take Diwali off. Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is one of their most holy days, for it celebrates good winning over evil.

Hindus’ and Muslims’ holidays are just as important to them as Christians’ and Jews’ holidays are. If people believe in religious equality, then we should at least get our important days off without having to skip school and have lots of extra work to make up for just because we missed one day. I hope that Hindus win their argument in Connecticut and Muslims start theirs, so that we don’t have to make a decision whether to take the day off and face the consequences, or go to school and miss important celebrations. Many holidays are taken for granted, and I hope that some more are too.

NFL Honors 2017

Charlie Wang ’22

Every year, the day before the Super Bowl, the NFL hosts a celebration called NFL Honors. During this celebration, awards are given to certain NFL players for their work inside and outside of football. These awards include Walter Payton Man of the Year, Most Valuable Player (MVP), and Defensive Player of the Year. This year’s NFL Honors is on February 4th, at 8:00 eastern.

MVP
This year’s MVP candidates are Derek Carr, Matt Ryan, Tom Brady, Aaron Rodgers, Ezekiel Elliott, Dak Prescott, and Russell Wilson. Ezekiel Elliott and Dak Prescott are both rookies on the Dallas Cowboys. This is the first time in NFL history that a team has two rookies eligible for the MVP award. This year’s Super Bowl is a battle between two top three MVP candidates, Matt Ryan and Tom Brady. The last time a person has won the MVP and the Super Bowl MVP was in 2000, when Kurt Warner did it.

Offensive Rookie of the Year
This year, the Dallas Cowboys owned two dynamic rookies, Dak Prescott and Ezekiel Elliott. They are the top two candidates for Offensive Rookie of the Year, with a substantial difference between 2nd and 3rd candidates. Dak Prescott broke the record previously set by
Robert Griffin III for the best passer rating by a rookie, with 106.2. Ezekiel Elliott led the league in rushing yards. He was also second in most rushing yards by a rookie ever, to Eric Dickerson, who is a Hall of Fame running back. Jordan Howard, Tyreek Hill, Joey Bosa, Jalen Ramsey, Michael Thomas, Jack Conklin, Leonard Floyd, and Deion Jones are also being considered for the award.

Defensive Player of the Year
With the absence of the phenomenal pass rusher, J.J. Watt, the Defensive Player of the Year award is up for grabs. The leading candidates are Von Miller, Khalil Mack, Vic Beasley, Landon Collins, Aaron Donald, Aqib Talib, Bobby Wagner, and Eric Berry. Von Miller came in clutch for the Broncos with multiple game winning sacks and forced fumbles. Vic Beasley led the league in sacks with 15.5. Landon Collins was 3rd in the league with 5 interceptions. Bobby Wagner led the league in tackles.

All the Matter We Cannot See
Tyler Forman '21

On January 29, 2017 NASA astronomers reported an excess level of x-rays with a particular level of energy. This anomaly is a new potential piece of evidence that can be used to explain dark matter. In 1932 an astronomer by the name of Jan Oort noticed that the orbits he was studying were not following the predicted patterns, but appeared to be orbiting something of a much higher mass. His claims were soon dismissed and proposed to be derived from erroneous calculations. Only a year later a Swiss astrophysicist estimated the actual amount of mass of a cluster of galaxies was four-hundred times larger than the mass of the visible matter. While his guess was far too large, he was correct in his idea that there was more dark matter than visible matter. In the 1980s the existence of dark matter was widely acknowledged due to the numerous studies demonstrating that there was far more mass in galaxy clusters than there appeared to be. Today it is estimated that 84.5% of all mass in the universe is dark matter.

Though particle physicists can not see dark matter it is hy-
pothesized to be made mostly of non-baryonic matter, with some of it being baryonic. Baryonic matter is also what makes up visible matter. Baryonic matter is made up of baryons which are protons and neutrons. Non-baryonic matter is composed of hypothetical particles such as axions, sterile neutrinos and weakly interacting massive particles (WIMP). Axions and sterile neutrinos have no charge and have extremely low masses, causing them to not interact with the electromagnetic field, making them invisible. WIMPs are very slow moving, large particles that can only interact through weak nuclear force and gravity. Weak nuclear force is one of the four fundamental interactions in nature and is responsible for radioactive decay, something essential to nuclear fission, the splitting of heavy nuclei. Due to their low velocities they can not overcome other WIMP’s gravitational pulls and they clump together.

Dark matter is classified by the velocity that the particles moved at during the early universe, before they slowed due to cosmic expansion, which has led to a cooling of the universe, therefore slower particle movement. The three categories that dark matter is classified into are cold, warm and hot. The majority of dark matter being cold is the most likely due to the way that the universe formed. For most dark matter to be hot, superclusters would have formed first and then broken apart into clusters and galaxies. This model can not be right because of the amount of redshifting many galaxies have done. Redshifting occurs when electromagnetic radiation decreases in frequency, which is caused by a light source moving away from an observer. If dark matter was mostly hot, galaxies would have moved before they formed, causing little redshifting. With cold dark matter, however, galaxies formed individually and then clustered together, causing movement sufficient enough for the amount of redshifting that galaxies currently do.

The x-rays detected are important in finding and learning about sterile neutrinos because the amount of energy in the x-rays is the same as the amount of energy that is theorized to be in x-rays produced by decaying sterile neutrinos. Is this dark matter really there, or do the laws of gravity simply need modification?
How Streaming Services Are Killing Cable TV

Jacob Ragaza ’22

With the rise of Netflix, Hulu, and other streaming services, us millennials have a quite a selection of shows to watch at their fingertips. Likewise, many people across America have been canceling their cable subscriptions in pursuit of these streaming services. According to Time Magazine, in 2015, 1.1 million people canceled their cable subscriptions, or “cut the cord”.

In the second quarter alone of last year, 812,000 people canceled their services. So why is this? Why are people cutting the cord?

This is most likely because these streaming services allow any episode of a show to be seen at a moment’s notice (as long as you have good reception), while with Cable TV, it’s like a lottery. You never know if your favorite show will be on sometimes. Also, it isn’t unusual for episodes to get uploaded as a whole season with streaming services, so if you have enough time, you can “binge” a TV show, or watch many episodes in one sitting. A common trope across many cable TV shows is the weekly broadcast schedule, where new episodes come out once a week. It keeps you waiting each week for the next episode of a show to come out. This broadcast schedule gives you just enough time to keep you on a cliffhanger, wanting more, while not taking so long that you forget about it. This is both good thing and a bad thing nowadays. On the good side, people who are used to this format will consistently watch these shows, which creates a target audience for channels to market to, which could potentially bring in more viewers. On the bad side, this system does not tend to the short-attentioned millennials, driven by social media’s week-long, mostly short-lived trends. A lot of people in this demographic don’t have the patience to wait a week for a new episode to come out without forgetting about it. Many millennials will watch whenever they can, because they’re just interested at that time. You can’t do that with TV because of the weekly premiere schedule that most shows have. Because millennials can’t choose what to watch and when, they don’t have the patience to watch cable TV. So, they just don’t watch it. And because adults are working, and see the kids using the TV less and less, the cable box becomes a useless, waste of money and they eventually cut the cord. That’s why people all around the US are canceling their cable subscriptions.

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A Logical Explanation on Why Secrets Spread Through Seventh Grade So Fast

Jacob Ragaza ’22

Ever notice how quickly rumors spread through seventh grade so quickly? One time, a seventh grade advisor announced to her advisor group that she was pregnant. Before second period, about the entire grade knew about this. How does this happen? How do things like this happen? I have used both logic and personal experience to come to a conclusion on how and why rumors spread so quickly in our grade.

The first reason why secrets spread around is that our grade is relatively speaking, small with only 75 people. Because people talk a lot, and I mean a lot, even telling one person a secret can potentially spread it to many people, because everybody knows mostly everybody, and in the many conversations everyday, it’s very likely that the person you told will let it slip at some point, and from there, the person they told will tell their friends, who will tell their other friends, and then it’s not a secret anymore.

The second reason is because of the technological communications we have, primarily texting. Nowadays, the illusions of “private conversations” make us feel like we’re just telling one person a secret, but that person can screenshot that text and tell everyone. Also, group chats are a great way to tell let multiple people who your best friend has a crush on, as quickly as possible, especially those massive ones. This adds to the fact that the secrets spread fast, because texting is instant communication. Your “secret” could be spread in a matter of minutes with the wrong friends.

The final reason why secrets spread so fast is that in seventh grade we’re more or less new to the concepts of crushes and relationships. For some reason, it takes up a lot of what we talk about. As far as I’ve heard, crushes are the secrets that I find out about most. Now out of all of the reasons of why secrets spread so quickly, this one stumped me. I came to the conclusion that out of all secrets, these crushes were the most dramatic and “juicy”, and new, which is why it is a big conversation topic of the seventh grade.

So what’s the point of all this information? To not tell anyone your secrets? No, the point of this article is to teach you to how to be smart about who to tell your secrets to and what you should keep to yourself. So the next time you’re about to let someone in on something, think about what you want people to know, who you’re about to tell and the consequences that may follow.

When Should Kids Get a Cell Phone?

Suthi Navaratnam-Tomayko ’22

When kids should get cell phones is a huge debate among parents and experts. Some say that they are worried about communication with their child and say around nine or ten, others say that kids are too irresponsible and one should wait until they are around 14-or sometimes, even older! Yet there also is a happy medium, somewhere around 11 or 12 when the kid is just starting middle school and can responsibly use a cell phone while also not waiting too long (yes, this is a thing. It can feel very isolating if you are the only one without a phone!) This happy medium is also the norm. For instance, I got my phone when I was 11, some of my other friends got them when they were 11 or 12. At this age, kids can use a phone responsibly and it’s also fairly necessary, to communicate with parents and to also survive in middle school. I mean, in middle school pretty much everyone has a phone. It’s what’s expected.

Also, phones prove pretty useful. Like, if for example if your parent forgets to pick you up at a certain time. You can text them and be like, hey, mom, dad, who’s picking me up? Problem solved! Also, if you forget the homework there are multiple ways you can go about solving this. One: text your friends and ask them. Two: open up the Classroom app and go to the class! Now you can do your homework and not get a Quiet Room! Technically you could call your friends, but what if you aren’t near a phone? Or you could go on a computer for Classroom, but likewise what if you aren’t near a computer? Another argument that you could make is that it is a camera that you have on you
at all times, so that you can always photograph something if the need ever arises.

Phones are pretty necessary tools in everyday life, as long as the kid is ready for one. I think the 11 to 12 rule pretty much applies to everybody unless you have a track record of being dishonest/not appropriately using resources/other stuff like that. For the most part though, kids are ready for phones around when they start middle school.

**New Haven Dessert Wars**

**Clara Goulding ’22**

Have you ever needed the perfect hang out location to chat with friends? Do you crave a delicious dessert to munch on? Look no further, as we have found and tested some of the sweetest spots in downtown New Haven.

Donut Crazy has received quite the hype for their magnificent donuts. Located on York Street, Donut Crazy has an array of donuts and other foods to suite every taste bud. Some of our favorites include the January specialty Kookie Monster donut, the Maple Bacon donut, and the classic Boston Cream donut. A very busy place, Donut Crazy has a noisy but comfortable environment, making it the prime spot for a tasty treat with a friend. Their donuts are slightly messy, but this is made up for with their food’s spectacular presentation and their wonderful service.

Two doors down from Donut Crazy, Ashley’s Ice Cream is a great place for a quick bite of ice cream on the go. Their all natural ice cream is available in many different flavors, satisfying many tastes and preferences. They also offer sorbets and sherbets, helpful for those with allergy restrictions. Environment-wise, Ashley’s is a little quiet, making it a better place to pick up ice cream rather than stay and enjoy your treat.

Four Flours is an amazing spot for all sorts of baked goods. From cookies to banana bread, Four Flours offers many gluten and dairy free options for allergy restrictions. Their goods are baked daily, making them fresh and delicious. Location-wise, Four Flours is slightly out of the way but is certainly worth the walk for their cheerful atmosphere and impeccable service.

Atticus Bookstore and Cafe is the prime spot for studying with friends. Offering many food options, Atticus is a perfect place to grab a bite to eat and hang out for a while. Atticus has great service but also a relaxed and “homey” environment. They do not offer many sugary treats, but Atticus is a great location for cooked food and a place to chill out for the afternoon.

All four of these New Haven cafes and bakeries are amazing for their own reasons. In total, Donut Crazy gets two points for being a good hangout place and for having spectacular donuts, but Four Flours wins a point for catering to all food allergies and restrictions. Atticus Bookstore and Cafe has the best food and studying vibe, but Ashley’s has the fastest service for a quick bite of dessert. Donut Crazy wins for having a carefree and casual place to eat a donut with friends, depending on what you are looking for, each place we tested is worth a visit.
Vegetarian Meal Options at HOP

Clara Goulding ’22

Becoming vegetarian has many health benefits, but without sources of protein like poultry and red meat, creating healthy meals can be challenging. Even more challenging is constructing tasty meals in an overwhelming cafeteria. The Hopkins Cafeteria has amazing food options, but during those short lunch periods and over two hundred people in the servery, finding healthy and delicious options can be challenging. Luckily, I have devised a list of some exquisite meals to satisfy every taste.

On a dreadful Monday, the best part of the day is having a vegetarian meal already made for you. Thanks to the new Meatless Monday campaign, there are vegetarian entrees on Monday, a huge plus for vegetarian folks at HOP.

Salads are both delicious and healthy, but creating one of your own can be tricky. First, grab a plate and start out with some green lettuce leaves. Next, add some chickpeas, quinoa, hard boiled eggs, and/or any other types of beans for protein. Carrots, tomatoes, peppers, corn, and peas work with almost any salad, but feel encouraged to put unknown vegetables on the side of your salad to try. Personally, I prefer my salads without dressing to avoid extra calories, but feel free to choose a dressing of your choice. Also make sure to check out the premade salads, as many of their salads are often vegetarian.

The cafeteria also offers many other vegetarian options. The daily vegetarian soup is a great go-to option, as well as the pasta bar. The trick to creating vegetarian meals is to not feel limited to one section of the cafeteria. Grabbing yogurt (if available) for a source of protein, the daily vegetable from the entree, and a small portion of pasta makes a balanced and nutritious meal. Also be sure to grab an apple and peanut butter or some granola as a good side dish to a meal.

Lastly, the sandwich bar can be an easy meal option. With many different types of bread, a wrap or sandwich can be made. Be sure to choose bread and ingredients that have nutritional value and taste good. When creating your sandwich, be sure to add at least one source of protein (like cheese, peanut butter, or hummus) and at least one vegetable (like lettuce or tomato). Feel free to get creative with your options or keep it plain and simple.

Hopefully, mapping out the cafeteria’s food options makes you realize how many vegetarian meals can be made at HOP. Instead of opting for pasta everyday, try creating your own salad or sandwich. Be sure to consider all your options before placing food on your plate, as carefully planned out meals can end up being the tastiest meals of all.
New Haven Pizza Vs. New York Pizza

Lucas Alfaro ’22

The feud of the pizzas is one that I have known for many years. Having both of my parents being from New York City, but being born in New Haven and living in Orange has put me in the middle of this pizza competition. As many other students at Hopkins, I grew up on New Haven pizza. I did not experience real New York pizza until I went to work with my dad who works in Manhattan. So I had to figure out for myself and for all of you readers which is better.

Being given Pizza from both the original La Famiglia Pizzeria in Manhattan and Modern Apizza on State Street in New Haven, I was in for a good meal. It was a blind tasting in which I was given pizza A, which was Modern Apizza and pizza B which was La Famiglia. I did not know the identity of either pizza. I took several bites of slice A and B. After careful consideration of how the pizza tasted, looked, felt, and smelled, I decided that pizza B was the better pizza. I know that some would wonder who would pick New York pizza over New Haven, but I can explain my decision.

Starting with pizza A, I felt that the pizza was delicious and smelled great, but fell short of pizza B due to the look and texture of the pizza. The reason that I chose Modern was because I knew that it was a good slice of pizza, and the only place that I felt (and still feel) is an amazing place to go and that it was one of the better places in New Haven. Back to the pizza, the look of the slice upon first glance was a little disappointing. The reason I say this is because the smell was amazing and then I opened it to see that the pizza was rather small in slice size and was very crispy. Being crispy usually isn’t a problem, but with pizza, it destroys the way you hold it. With pizza, you grab the two ends of the crust and fold them together like you are closing a book (refer to picture). This makes the pizza easier to bring to your mouth without the gooey cheese sliding off. With Modern Apizza, since the slices were crispy, my slice almost broke in half when I tried to hold it. Overall, the pizza from Modern was great with a few exceptions. It is definitely a place that I will eat again. I would also recommend this to anyone who asked for the best pizza in New Haven.

Time to discuss pizza B, or New York pizza. I was not the one that picked La Famiglia pizza. I told my dad to go to the best pizza place he could think of near where he worked in New York. When I tried La Famiglia. I was pleased. Just by looking at the pizza, I was able to tell that its crust was not crispy, but not soggy or soft (just the perfect texture to hold it like real pizza). The smell was amazing, too. The taste was almost spot on, except
for the high levels of grease on my pizza. Had I not washed my hands after I had eaten dinner, I would not be able to type this article because my fingers would be sliding all over the keyboard. Overall, I think that New York pizza trumps (not to be mistaken with President Donald J. Trump) New Haven pizza by a little.

If you don’t believe me, then find out for yourself by going to 874 State St, New Haven, CT 06511 and 2859 Broadway, New York, NY 10025.


CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

PIZZA

ATHLETES AT THEIR FINEST

Cristin Earley ’22

Winter sports is a go, we have basketball, squash, swimming, fitness, and the beloved independent, no matter what you do everything is important. If you aren’t the athletic type, join fitness to still get in that workout of the day. For all the sports at Hopkins, A and B teams included, the players are fair and good at the game. The first, and most important, thing that all players at Hopkins are told to do, is to be fair and sportsmanlike. Hopkins should be know for how well they treated other teams and the only way that is going to happen is if EVERYONE on our teams respect the other team and their peers, even if the opposing team isn’t. Everyday at announcements we here of another game, and even though some of these are losses they are close game and the team isn't too mad about it. They played the hardest that they could and that is all they could ask for.

From experience, the practices can be tough sometimes and the coaches can be hard on you but overall, the teams work together really well and everyone has fun at the games. Whats even more fun is the crowd that comes out to support. The entire team gets hyped and the crowd enjoys a great game(or match).

Not only this but we also have varsity level athletes in Junior-School. In varsity Swimming there is Steven Broun, Prairie Resh, Cristin Earley, Ethan Woolbert all in the class of ’21. In girls Varsity Basketball we have Jasmine Simmons, ’21. In boys Varsity Fencing there is Matthew Brier ’22, Dexter Lourenco ’21, and Arin Shrivastava ’22. On the girls Varsity Fencing team Catherine Dwyer ’22 and Jessica Horkovich ’22. In boys Varsity Squash there is Gonzalo Santiago De La Mora ’21. All these people are representing not only Hopkins but also the junior school. They have worked hard to get to this point and the reward of varsity is amazing.
The Superbowl
Max Gordon ’22

The superbowl. An event that can pull over 100 million people together to watch. Emotions run high. Passion lives in the air. It’s not just a game. No way. It’s a lifestyle. It pulls people apart and brings them together.

Patriots and Falcons are two teams that belong in the superbowl. Tom Brady who is the greatest of all time is going back to the superbowl for his 7th time looking to get a 5th superbowl ring which would making him the leader for most superbowl wins as a quarterback. Matt Ryan has not won a superbowl ever but is not an underdog. Going into the playoffs he came off a hot streak with good stats. But so did Brady. Both teams are offensive making for a high scoring game but in one ranking falcons defense was ranked 28th to the patriots 2nd this is a huge problem for the falcons. If they want to compete they will need to step it up more on offense and defense. The two quarterbacks are MVP candidates which makes an even more tense situation with more on the line. Although I, myself am a patriots fan, I will admit that more people are rooting for the falcons than patriots 53% favor the falcons to the 27% who favor the patriots. The patriots are hated by many for “cheating” during deflategate because of deflated footballs which was never fully confirmed because it is possible the air pressure deflated them. Whatever side you take on this argument, you should realize that this will create arguments between fans. Whatever happens this year’s superbowl will be historic. Two greats teams that clinched playoff byes from great regular seasons. Expect big plays and intense moments in this competition and be prepared for this historic match up.

Planet X
Max Gordon ’22

Most people thought that pluto was the end of our solar system and our last hope for finding a new planet. Recent discoveries have shown that “Planet X or the 9th planet” is out probable to be out there, in space beyond pluto. It takes 10,000 to 20,000 years to orbit the sun. It was first brought up by Konstantin Batygin and Mike Brown, researchers at caltech university. It has not yet been spotted but all the calculations that have been done confirm that it is out there. These scientists also contributed to the denouncing of pluto as a planet. This 9th planet has 5000 times the mass of pluto, and has a strong gravitational pull, making it so there is no argument as to whether it is a planet or not. The big question that everybody is wondering is can we, humans inhabit Planet X? That question is not yet known because it has not yet been officially spotted because of its over 10000 year rotation. If this planet is possible for humans to survive on it will still be a long time before we as a race will need to find another planet to inhabit and we will probably not have the technologies for years and possibly centuries to do so. This is only if there is water which is not highly likely because many planets that we know of do not have water. Another stepback is the gravity. Since the mass of planet X is probably 10 times the mass of earth, the gravity pull is greater making life harder and it will be hard for humans to adjust. A solution to this is artificial gravity which will take up too much time money and energy. This planet is supposedly an ice giant which is reasonable and predictable because of its distance from the sun. This planet may not give us anything other than revealing a lot for science in the future, especially about the deeper regions of space. Until they find out what it truly looks like it is up to us to wonder. It was initially discovered in around 2014 so it will probably not be discovered for a long time because taking photos of the sky far away is expensive and hard and with the 10000 plus day year it makes it nearly impossible to find it quickly.
Meet The Hilltopper

Robert Joseph Peter Lawler
(m,f,u.i,d,c,y,n)
He has two parents. Their names are Joe and Mandee. He appreciates them a ton.

He supports the Patriots and you can see him in his Pats hoodie constantly. Interests include films and Harry Potter. Most people do not desire ice cream as fiercely as he does.

Mint chocolate chip is the flavor that he dines on all the time. A reader at heart and deciphers code of literature in free time. School means a lot to him. School definitely is not the most important element to him.

-Interview By Pablo Jeweler Porter

Josephine Aiken ’22

A child of books,
Forever reading,
And writing.
Creating worlds,
Untouchable
By us,
Yet…
We can read them.
A witch full of mysteries,
And a full-on feline fan.
With English as her favourite subject,
Josephine thrives on literature.
On series, though,
Is Josephine’s heartbeat,
Her breath:
Harry Potter.
Need I say more?
Of course!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35
My name is Abby Regan and I am in seventh grade!

1. I am 12 years old. My birthday is June 28.
2. I am from Branford, CT (which is located on the shoreline.)
3. My favorite subject is English.
4. I play a lot of soccer. It is my favorite sport and I have played soccer for 5 years.
5. I also run a little bit- I have participated in the five mile Branford road race as well as the famous Thanksgiving day Manchester road race.
6. I recently started basketball (Last year, I played rec in my town for the first time) and I really enjoy it.
7. My favorite foods are pasta and chocolate.
8. I have two siblings- An older sister who is 14 and goes to Hopkins, and a younger brother who is 9. They are five years apart but they were both born on Super Bowl Sunday!
9. In my spare time I enjoy sleeping, practicing soccer and basketball, hanging out with my friends, baking, or reading.
10. My favorite season is winter (despite my summer birthday) because I love the idea of drinking hot cocoa while under a warm blanket. Plus snow days!
11. I enjoy skiing (especially in Vermont!) and swimming!
12. My favorite holiday is Christmas because it is in winter, I love Christmas cookies and fudge, and I love spending time with my family.
Valentines

To: Cristin Earley
From: Anonymous
Message: You’re so cool can I be you?

To: Ikem
From: Kaila
Message: Hey your really cool and great at basketball. Happy Valentine’s Day

To: Anand
From: Darin
Message: I named the teddy bear Dimitri, in honor of our mutual understanding of vampire academy.

To: Zach
From: Anonymous
Message: happy v day

To: MIJU
From: MI and JU
Message: thanks for the grilled cheese!

To: Ranease
From: Ava
Message: I hope you get your special valentine

To: Amelia Treat
From: The only person silly enough to make this for you
Message: I don’t know what I would do if I didn’t get to see your smile everyday. Thanks for being my friend!

To: Darin
From: Dear
Message: I love you so much

To: Ava
From: Ranease
Message: Have a happy Valentine’s Day all by yourself! JK!! Love you AV!

To: Livy
From: Anonymous
Message: I love myself. SCOOPY DOO

To: Lexie Lewis
From: Ur Love
Message: ILY B Love Me

To: Oberon
From: puella-molesta
Message: Ilysm babe, I love the snugl, the husl, and you purrrrrrr. I wish you didn’t always run away from me, I want to run away with you!

To: Ikem
From: Anonymous
Message: Meow

To: Juliette H.
From: anonymous
Message: I watch you while you sleep

To: JJ
From: Fiona
Message: I LOVE YOU
more Valentines

To: Trey
From: Pearl
Message: You are one of my best friend. You are amazing!!

To: Nana
From: Anonymous
Message: You’re so awesome! 😊

To: Lexie Lewis
From: ur lover
Message: ILY B Love me

To: David
From: UR lover
Message: Will u date me plz

To: Maya Junkins
From: --
Message: Josh! Josh! Josh!
Josh! Josh! Dunnnnnnn

To: Cate Y
From: Nana
Message: Hi. Is your cat good? Good.

To: Clara Goulding
From: UR lover
Message: Love you forever to the moon and back ❤️

To: Gremlin lou (you k who u r)
From: Anonymous
Message: I see you

To: Livy Burdo
From: you know who 😊
Message: I love you so much. I also love bacon & avocado!

To: Emma Hotchkiss
From: Livy Burdo
Message: MOANNA completes me scooby dooby do I ♥ you

To: Emma Cahill
From: Livy Burdo
Message: scooby dooby do I ♥ you -Emmet

To: Kate Collie
From: ?
Message: Love ya

To: Suthi
From: Anonymous
Message: I love you, frind

To: Caroline Blake
From: Anonymous
Message: scooby dooby do I ♥ you

To: Ethan Yan
From: Anonymous
Message: Scooby Dooby DOO

To: Craign Maloney ❤️
From: --
Message: YOU GOT A PIZZA IN MY HEART

To: Emmet
From: Anonymous
Message: You a starfish