

A HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

By Rahma Shaikh

Halloween! Every child's favorite holiday, with enough KitKat and Sour Patch Candy to last until Christmas. Every parents' worst nightmare, the doorbell rings constantly and kids are running around the house in a sugar rush all night. But have you ever sat down and pondered about how this spooky holiday came to be? Find out in this article for some informative skele-fun!

Halloween originated from the ancient (about 2,000 years ago) festival of Samhain, celebrated by the Celtic people. The Celts lived mostly in the area that is Ireland, Northern France, and the United Kingdom. They celebrated the New Year on November 1st.

The Celtic people believed that November 1st symbolized the end of summer and the harvest as well as the beginning of a cold, dark winter. This time of year was usually linked with the death of humans. They believed that on the night before (which surprise, surprise is October 31) was the blurring between the living and the dead. On this day, the Celts believed that the ghosts returned to Earth.

Source: <https://www.history.com/topics/halloween/history-of-halloween>

**HALLOWEEN RIDDLE:
WHICH ROOM OF THE ZOMBIE AND
MUMMY'S HOUSE IS MISSING?
(SEE PAGE 3)**

SOURCE: <https://www.getriddles.com/halloween-riddles/>

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MY THOUGHTS ON HALLOWEEN

Op-Ed by Isabel Loomis

Red-eyed bats screech a flurry of horrid cries, black cats hiss rapidly as though being targeted with weapons, the night sky dims like it was insidiously planning despair upon humanity, eerie screams pierce your ears shattering your lingering sanity, something lurking at every corner awaiting your demise, a distorted laugh rings in your skull, your heart beats a blaring rhythm, and everything is ending!!!

Halloween is not horror, psychotic murder, or carnivorous deformities leaping out at you, it's young children shoveling solidified sugar into their gullets as they walk miles upon miles before passing out and falling into a sugar-filled slumber.

I'm not a grump about Halloween and Fall, in fact I enjoy it! But I just find all that *spooky, scary stuff* downright ridiculous.

To me, Halloween is merely watching cheesy jump scare movies and tacky costume parties. The whole idea is odd and honestly feels like just an excuse to obtain sweets and my newfound favorite phrase "candy is diabetes pills" -basically unhealthy junk that will make you gain 30 pounds.

My conclusion? Whatever... just try not to get kidnapped by 3-eyed demonized goat monsters. Stay safe, Skyview!



Source: <https://www.pinterest.com/shebwake/grumpy-cat-halloween/>

MAKING YOUR OWN COSTUME

By Kenny Castillo

Have you ever gone into a Halloween store with a specific costume in mind but you can't find what you're looking for? You walk out disappointed, frustrated, and \$50 poorer. However, if you make your own costume you could avoid this situation, have fun, and feel satisfied instead.

The first step in making your own costume is to think of an idea, whether it be from your own imagination or a popular character. If it's a popular character, find a picture, or pictures, of them. If it's a character of your own creation, I recommend making a sketch of the costume. For example, when my brother made his own costume a couple of years ago, he gathered pictures of Jason Voorhees from the *Friday the 13th* series to help with his creation.

The second step is to gather materials (i.e: clothing, make-up, etc.). Gathering materials can be difficult. For instance, if you need a leather jacket for your costume you need to decide if you want to borrow one from a family member/friend or buy one. If you decide to buy any items, I recommend going to a costume store or thrift shop.

The final step is to add details (i.e: scuffs, rips, make-up, etc.). I advise trying your costume on to make sure it fits and make any final necessary additions or modifications. Then, patiently wait for Halloween and have FUN!

So this year, make your own costume because it's fun and rewarding and if you're lucky you might even get MORE CANDY!

HALLOWEEN JOKE: WHAT SONGS DO THE MUMMIES PLAY?
ANSWER: WRAP!

SOURCE: <https://www.getriddles.com/halloween-riddles/>

ELEN'S COOKING CORNER

Curated by Elen Issahhanjan

I have always LOVED cooking and baking. I am excited to share delicious recipes with all of you in each issue of *The Talon*. I will be linking all the websites so you can make these delicious treats at home too!

RECIPE: PUMPKIN COOKIES

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup butter, softened (1 stick)
- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 1/4 cup cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Glaze:

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Cooking Directions:

Recipe Source: <https://mommyshomecooking.com/cookie-eggless-pumpkin-cookies/>

1. Preheat oven to 350° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Combine flour, baking soda, baking powder, pumpkin pie spice, and salt in medium bowl.
3. In large mixer bowl beat with an electric: sugar and butter until well blended. Beat in pumpkin puree, cream cheese, and vanilla extract until smooth. Gradually add the flour mixture to the butter mixture, beating until combined.
4. Drop onto prepared baking sheet by tablespoonfuls; flatten slightly with fingers.
5. Bake 15 to 18 minutes or until edge is firm cool on baking sheets for two minutes; remove and place on wire racks to cool completely. Drizzle glaze over cookies if desired.

Glaze:

1. Combine powdered sugar, milk and vanilla extract in small bowl until smooth.

ENJOY!

SKYVIEW SPORTS

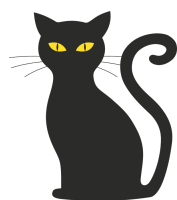
By Mahathi Sriram

The air is crisp, the leaves are falling and Skyview middle schoolers are participating in sports! Season 1 sports ran from September 5th through October 25th (results from 10/18).

Sport	Record	Words from the Athletes
JV/V Volleyball	8-0 (V) 7-1 (JV)	"Season has been fun, great experience for everyone, we have worked through losing key players to injury and still manage to win" - <i>Lyla (8th grade)</i>
Cross Country	4-2	"Everyone on the team is working hard to make better versions of themselves at the end of the day" - <i>Pranay, (8th grade)</i>
Boys Tennis	4-4	"The team works really hard and is hoping for revenge for their next few matches" - <i>Marcus (8th grade)</i>
6th Grade Soccer	0-8	"We need more practice" and "Good but we could do better" - <i>Sirisha and Sriya (6th graders)</i>

Season 2 Sports: 6/7/8th grade Boys Basketball and Pep Squad runs November 4th, 2019 to January 9, 2020

ASK BONNIE



We have a new addition to *The Talon* this year, students can anonymously submit questions to *Bonnie* for advice on all types of middle school issues!

If you would like to submit a question to Bonnie drop of your anonymous letter in the turn in box in Mrs. Doty's classroom (A105) in the 8th grade hallway.

RIDDLE: WHY DID THE GHOST GO TO THE DANCE ALONE?
ANSWER: HE HAD NO BODY TO GO WITH

SOURCE: <https://www.theoatmeal.com>

Dear Bonnie,

In my friend group I constantly feel like I'm the third wheel. And when I try to include myself, I feel like a stick in the mud, or like I'm spoiling their fun. Please help. -*The Third Wheel*

Dear the third wheel,

I totally get where you're coming from!

Sometimes it's hard to make friend groups work. And if you ever find yourself feeling like a third wheel you should tell your friends, because I doubt they are aware that they're hurting your feelings. -*Bonnie*

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HALLOWEEN RIDDLE ANSWER: THE LIVING ROOM

SHORT STORY: *The Light of the Moon*

By Rithika Pooboni

I stared at the fire trying to calm down. I tried to immerse myself in the beautiful, leaping flames crackling with power. The roar of the fire couldn't conceal the snapping of small sticks, leaping shadows, obscured figures of trees that I could see out of the corner of my eye.

I knew I was next- that what was lurking in the dark would find me. I could feel their presence closing in on me. No matter where I ran, they would find me. The others are all gone. Their lives stolen from them by long, jagged nails, and metal teeth. The only reason I'm alive is because I ran like my life depended on it- in hopes that they wouldn't find me. So now it's just me and a fire-which means safety. Oh how I long for food as an aching hunger gnaws at my stomach. I mentally chide myself for not taking the backpack of supplies. My thirst-quenched mouth reminds me of how thirsty I am.

Then suddenly, a man emerges from the darkness. He lingers at the edge of the ring of light that the fire casts. I couldn't see his face, but from his silhouette, I am able to tell that he isn't one of *them*. However, I frantically think, *Run! Don't trust him!* This echoes in my head like a banshee.

"I'll make a trade. The safety of your fire, for food and water." His voice is light and airy but has a strength behind it. He steps into the light. He looks like he is about fifteen years old-not much older than me. His messy, copper-streaked hair and care-free laugh are seemingly familiar. The memory is scratching at the edge of my conscience.

"You're smart. What's your name?" he asks.

"Only if you tell me your name and give me that food" I reply.

He chuckles and sits down on the other side of the fire.

"I'm Jaymes. Let's not bother with last names, shall we?" he says, handing me a whole loaf of bread and a flask of water from a black backpack. I wolf it down in a couple of bites and drink a good amount of water.

"So how did you end up out here?" Jaymes asks...

"Hmm. I was camping, and I got lost."

Jaymes leans forward above the fire so the very tips are licking his chin. The flickering light makes him look...odd.

"I know you didn't get lost. You and I both know that they're out there. That they're hunting us,"

"There's only one thing I need to know, how can they be stopped?" I inquire.

He lets out a big sigh, leans back and states,

"Yes, but it is almost impossible unless you have the proper tools."

Jaymes deeply sighs again and asks, "Hey, can I have some water?"

He reaches for the flask I hand him- he dumps it on the fire. Then he and stands up inhumanly fast. By the light of the moon I see his face. He is grinning like a madman. I scramble backwards and realize that survival is inescapable without the light of a fire.

Jaymes tilts his head back and howls a vicious sound just like a wolf. In a deep growling voice he roars, "It's safe." From the dark, I see big, hulking, hairy figures emerge. The last thing I see is Jaymes' grinning face, but in his eyes, I see a battle...for control. I see one side win. He whispered, "Run, brother."



Image Source: https://www.123rf.com/photo_30219998_stock-vector-wolf-howling-at-blue-moon-on-grunge-frame.html

...TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE