Mountain View Middle School has a student-written creative arts journal! And if you’re reading this, you’ve found it! This paper will be filled with important information about school clubs and events, sports, the inside scoop on student council, brainteasers, contests, creative writing, art, and more! We are really hoping that you enjoy reading things that the other Mountain View students have written. If you have any suggestions for what YOU want to be in the journal’s next issue, see a member of the staff to find out how to contribute!

-The editorial staff
**AUTUMN TRIVIA CONTEST**  
**BY: ALYSSA WENGER**

Email your answers through your cvschools.org account to 27awenger@cvsdstudents.org! The first correct answer for each question will be given prizes by Mrs. DeMarco if you see your name in the paper! In your answer please include the question number, the answer, your name, and a nickname if you have one!

- What was the first day of autumn this year?
- How many points are there on the leaf of a maple tree?
- What state has the most colored foliage in autumn?
- What is the last day of autumn this year?
- Why is autumn commonly called fall?
- What is foliage?
- What is the most common color of autumn leaves in PA?
- Why do leaves turn brown?
- What is chlorophyll?
- Do dead plants have chloroplasts—create food for plants?

**BONUS RIDDLE:**

People stare at me while I’m active, they’re sad when I’m asleep. I’m the center of attention as I shine brightly while I dance. The colder it is, the more likely I am to dance. October is the perfect time to sit around with me. The warmer that it gets, into the summer sun, the less that I’ll be active, I’ll sit sad and cold in despair. What am I?

**Meet The Staff**

**By and About: Alyssa Wenger**

Hi! My name is Alyssa Wenger, and I am a junior editor/staff writer for the Mountain View Press! My job is to edit and write articles. I absolutely love reading, and my favorite book genre is fantasy fiction. My favorite book series is *Keeper Of The Lost Cities*. I also love all things music. I participate in band and chorus, and in the past, I have been in select choir, musicals, and select band ensembles. My favorite Broadway show is *Wicked* and a movie I recently watched was *Dear Evan Hansen*. I’m so excited that MVP has started back up for the school year!
**Technology in the Social**

By: Avery Rountree

On Friday, October 22, almost 400 Mountain View students got to enjoy themselves at the Halloween social. It went smoothly, almost seamlessly, but it was not as easy as the Student Council members made it look. With Mrs. Petruzelli (the Student Council leader) out, many representatives on student council had to step up to the plate and take leading roles in the planning, manufacturing, and running of the 7th and 8th grade Halloween Social.

Reagan Brown, our student council president, played a key role in the construction of the social. She and Mrs. Petruzelli kept in touch through text and were able to plan everything. With the student council leader out, Reagan consumed the role of overseeing everything. In the end Reagan kept the whole operation afloat thanks to texting and calling at school. The technology aided her and the whole team in communicating. At many points leading up to the social, multiple were texting even calling other members of the student council and Mrs. Petruzelli.

Ella Mogilevsky, our student council treasurer majorly stepped up to the plate when it came to ticket sales. Any observant student at Mountain View could’ve seen that Ella was at the ticket stand everyday. She orchestrated who was at the stand with her daily, and how many tickets were sold. She utilized technology to its fullest potential when it came to communicating with Mrs. P. Her, Reagan, and Mrs. Petruzelli. She had a group chat in which they discussed how to move forward with ticket sales, decorating, and setting up. This mere fact adds to the technology movement we are experiencing at school.

It is clear that plenty of technology can lead to negative things. However, it is also clear that technology can be useful in tough, unideal situations. Thanks to the student council carrying their phones with them and texting back and forth with Mrs. Petruzelli, they were able to provide a fun, positive environment. At first glance this may look like student council being rebels of sorts, but this is most certainly not what they were conveying. It is the student council’s job to be role models and accommodate the student body. They were doing just that by using something that is otherwise negatively conveyed, and taking it to the next level. They found a way to use technology and get the job done. Rather than being foolish with it, they maximized its potential and the end result was astonishing.

Student Council members said that they hope their creative usage of technology will inspire others at Mountain View, and provide a baseline for how it should be used in the future at school. Although it is a small act of responsibility, children are the future, and the Mountain View student council is demonstrating to their fellow students that we can use technology at school in a useful, efficient way. Using computers at school changed the way we learn. However, this proves that as long as you use it in a smart, relevant way, technology in the form of a phone can be the best option to get certain jobs done. The world around us is changing, and utilizing all available options will maximize our chances of changing along with it.
All About Mr. Ratz

By: Mya Hunt

Mr. Ratz is a Knight who teaches 7th-grade science. He went to school for Kinesiology, which is the science of how the body moves. Science has always fascinated him, whether it was how the body works and moves, or the complexities of the universe around us. Mr. Ratz wanted to be a teacher because he enjoys teaching people to learn and do new things...and getting a summer break! Mr. Ratz started teaching Driver’s Education at the high school and has spent the past 10 years teaching middle school Science.

Mr. Ratz has one little girl named Hannah who is 2 ½ yrs old. He also has two goldfish (that survived Science class observations) named Goldie & Locks. Mr. Ratz’s favorite place to visit is Vail, Colorado, but he still wants to visit Sweden in the future. His favorite food is lamb burgers and he doesn’t have a favorite color. Mr. Ratz loves playing all kinds of sports, with his favorite being soccer and roller hockey. He also loves spending time outdoors. Skiing in the winter, and kayaking and biking in the summer. Stay tuned for our next issue if you want to learn more about your favorite teachers and staff!

The Potion

By: Natalie Deschane

Nose of newt
Egg of eagle
Toe of turtle
Fur of beagle

Scale of salamander
Foot of fox
Hair of horse
And tail of ox

Stir thrice clockwise,
A pinch of salt,
Top with rats’ eyes
Add pure basalt

Now pluck one hair
From thy own head
If all is well,
Potion shall be blood red

Let it sizzle
For twelve straight hours
Pour into teacup
Adorned with flowers

Add a single leaf
from a rose in bloom
Observe the potion turn into
Pure liquid doom

Now a pleasant
tea-leaf color
Now prepared
to grieve another
America's Heroes
Written by Natalie Deschane

Vigilant in their duties; by being bonded, keeping us free
Every single day, brave men and women defending what we love
To foreign countries, away from home; and here, in the beautiful USA
Each gallantly serving America, in the face of war and death
Ready and steadfastly they stand
And they should never be forgotten
Nobody who gives that kind of sacrifice should
So rejoice in their resolve; let's honor their honor!

Thank you, Veterans and Active Duty Personnel!

Illustrated by Julia Stillwagon
The First Thanksgiving

By Yukta Pathak

She looked down at her daughter who was staring back at her with big bright green eyes.
"Mommy, what's the history of Thanksgiving?" asked Sakura.

"Of course. It all began…"

On September 16, 1620, a ship named the Mayflower left Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers. The ship was 25 feet wide and 106 feet long. The owner and captain of the ship was Christopher Jones. "Is everyone aboard yet, Brandon?" Captain Christopher Jones shouted over the chatter on the docks.

"No, not yet, sir," Brandon answered.

"Get everyone on, lad. Almost time to sail."

"Aye aye!" He turned his attention to the docks. "She's going to sail in 10 minutes. Everybody on!" Brandon hollered. One hundred and two passengers - some sad, some excited - boarded the ship that day. The journey was going smoothly so far.

"We'll be heading to England, then from there, we'll continue our journey to the New World. It should be around 50 days of our remaining voyage," the Captain explained. Just then, a gigantic wave attacked the ship. As it was marching towards the ship, the Captain exclaimed "EVERYBODY INSIDE!"

The winds were mercilessly slamming around left to right. The sea was high and the wind was brutally strong, unable for the ship to flow as gently as on the water's surface.

The pilgrim chronicler took out his diary, and began writing: "In many of these storms the winds were so fierce, and the seas so high, as they could not bear a knot of sail, but were forced to heave to (face into the wind to stop the ship), for many days together."Everyone crashed over objects, swept like dust, and flew like there was no gravity.

"My entries!" cried the chronicler. The sea broke in like an intruder searching for money. It caught a man, and captured John Howland. Begging for their lives, everyone huddled together like water droplets in a collective ditch. When the passengers sailed towards the cold, it was their first brutal winter.

For their first brutal winter, the colonists stayed aboard the ship. However, also aboard the ship were many terribly contagious diseases. Only half of the passengers survived. After a prolonged journey that lasted 66 days, the ship rested near the tip of Cape Cod. A month later, the Mayflower crossed Massachusetts Bay. The land was already inhabited by Native Americans who knew how to fish, hunt, and harvest, and had been doing it for many generations.

The settlers later came to shore, where they met Samoset, a member from the Abenaki tribe. Several days later, he returned with another Native American: Squanto. Squanto was a member of the Patuxet tribe. Squanto had been kidnapped by an English sea captain. Escaping slavery and returning to his homeland, Squanto and the members of the Wampanoag tribe taught the pilgrims how to survive. Squanto taught them basic survival skills: such things as how to cultivate corn; extract sap from maple trees; avoid poisonous plants; and how to catch fish in the river. Squanto also helped them forge an alliance with the Wampanoag tribe.
THE FIRST
THANKSGIVING
(CONTINUED)

In November of 1621, after the Pilgrims’ first corn harvest, Governor William Bradford organized a feast. He invited the fledgling colony’s Native American allies, including the Wampanoag chief, Massasoit. This was the first Thanksgiving. The chronicler, Edward Winslow rusted to his room after the celebration and searched for his journal. He wrote:

“Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruits of our labors; they four in one day killed as much fowl, as with a little help beside, served the Company almost a week, at which time amongst other Recreations, we exercised our Arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and amongst the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five Deer, which they brought to the Plantation and bestowed on our Governor, and upon the Captain and others. And although it is not always so plentiful, as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want, that we often wish you partakers of our plenty (History.com Editors).”

The next Thanksgiving was held in 1623, to mark “the end of the drought”. In the year 1789, George Washington issued the first Thanksgiving in the United States. In 1817, New York started celebrating Thanksgiving annually.

Not long after that, in Boston:
Sarah went humming down to the farm to harvest corn, “hm mmm hmm mm mm mm mm mmm,” suddenly, she realized that she could write a nursery rhyme!

It was back in 1827 when Sarah Josepha Hale, came up with the nursery rhyme ‘Mary Had a Little Lamb.’ She later petitioned many governors, senators, presidents, and other politicians to make Thanksgiving into a national holiday. She was later given the nickname, “Mother of Thanksgiving”. In 1863, Abraham Lincoln declared that Thanksgiving would be celebrated on the final Thursday of November.

Contemporary day in November 2021:

“But mommy, why do we celebrate Thanksgiving?,” asked Sakura.

“The reason why we celebrate Thanksgiving is to celebrate the harvest and blessing of the past year - to celebrate the feast of the Pilgrims and Wampanoag people,” replied Sakura’s mother.

“Can we have some mashed potatoes?,” pleaded Sakura.

“Of course! After all, it is Thanksgiving Day,” laughed Sakura’s mother.

Works Cited:

This puzzle is a word search puzzle that has a hidden message in it.

First find all the words in the list.

Words can go in any direction and share letters as well as cross over each other.

Once you find all the words, copy the unused letters starting in the top left corner into the blanks to reveal the hidden message.
**Orchestra -**

Strings. Oh, the beautiful sound of strings. Whether they’re being plucked, picked, or bowed, the heavenly sound is something no one can ignore.

The three main instruments are the violins, which are the smallest and highest-pitched instruments; the violas, which are the middle-pitched instruments, playing on the alto clef; and the cellos, which are one of the biggest and the lowest-pitched instruments that we have at Mountain View (we also have a few basses). The violin is a really nice instrument to start out with if you are interested in joining the orchestra, although we do have a lot. We need violas, though! Plus, they are close to the size of a violin, and lower, in case you are bothered by the high notes. Cello is also very popular. Unlike the viola and violin, though, the cello is played set on the floor instead of on your shoulder. If you really want to play the bass, which is another string instrument (a bigger, lower version of the cello), you might want to consider starting with the cello in middle school, then moving on to the bass in high school. No matter what instrument anyone chooses, everyone gets the chance to play numerous pieces of music from all around the world.

Our first concert is January 6th, at 7 P.M., if anyone is interested, and our second concert is May 17th, also at 7 P.M. We are practicing the “Brandenburg Concerto” for the first concert. Most orchestra concerts are set up with the best players in the front, the second-best in the second row, the third-best in the third row, and so on until the last row. Mrs. Burkett doesn’t do it that way, yet her orchestras are always the best. She puts the best players next to the struggling players. That way, if you have trouble playing, you see a good example. But there is a lot of preparation before the concerts, which is why you’ll want to practice and pay attention to the rehearsals. Mrs. Burkett said that if you practice something three times a week, you will slowly improve and get better. Of course, practicing more than three times a week will help you escalate even further. The most important thing is to always try your best.

**Band -**

Imagine the most beautiful sounds that you can think of. Are you thinking of angels singing? Birds chirping? Or maybe even ocean waves? Now, multiply that by a hundred, and you are close to imagining what the band sounds like. The band is full of beautiful instruments that are known as flutes, drums, clarinets, saxophones, french horns, trumpets, and trombones. Anyone joining can play any instrument except the drums. In the band, we learn cool songs and have lots of fun! In seventh and eighth grade, you can play with the high school marching band and play fun songs such as High Hopes (Unfortunately, this got rained out this year). We have a concert on December 22nd and another one on May 12th. Mr. Stahl, the leader of the band, is really good at what he does. He helps band students. He makes us laugh. Mr. Stahl is a big part of the band.

**Chorus -**

Many people enjoy chorus and singing. And why wouldn’t they? The beautiful voices and harmony of the choir are entrancing. Even though it isn’t playing an instrument, chorus is just as important and wonderful as ever.

**Fun Facts -**

Did you know that the saxophone is made of brass, yet it is still a woodwind instrument? This is because it has **keys and pads, and not 3 valves**. These keys and pads block airflow to create sound. Saxophone also has a reed, so you don’t buzz your lips.

The French horn is the longest instrument when unraveled.

The first instrument recorded is the Neanderthal flute from Divje Babe.

The Violin is actually considered the Queen of musical instruments.

The word 'orchestra' derives from a Greek phrase meaning 'dancing place'.

Cello is a shortened form of the Italian word violoncello, which means **large violin**.

When we're singing, sound comes out of our mouths at around 750 miles per hour.

Listening to music actually uses your entire brain.

Unlike most muscles, vocal cords work best when they're tight.

By Nichole Butterfield and Eleanora Black
Math Puzzle

Be sure to look out for our next issue!

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