

Paw PRINTS

One Year Later

By Mia Alima, Brianna Masaracchio, Rebecca Hilbert

It's officially been one year since Broward County shut down due to the outbreak of COVID-19. School closed on March 13, 2020, and now, one year later, we are seeing the world start to reopen. Here's a recap of what the past year has brought us.

During the month of March 2020, Coronavirus cases surged in the U.S., causing spring break to extend a little longer than expected. "At the time it just seemed like more time off school, not really knowing it was only the beginning," 7th grader Emily Einhorn says. On March 13th, President Donald Trump declared COVID-19 a national emergency. On April 12th, 2020 the US officially reached the highest coronavirus death toll worldwide. April 27th, 2020 brought Kim Jon Un speculations. It was thought that something had happened to him like being in a vegetative state or even dead for a few days. It turned out that he was fine.

In May, murder hornets were first spotted in the US, which are known for taking over beehives and ripping off the heads of the bees. On May 25th, George Floyd was killed in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Black Lives Matter movement has been in action since July of 2013, but Floyd's death spiked protests all around the US.

The Black Lives Matter protests were put into action in June a week after George Floyd's death from police brutality. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau took a knee during BLM protests in Canada on June 6th. By June 25th, 39,972 COVID-19 cases were reported.

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Photo
Credit:
World
News
Today



Administration:
Mr. Ian Murray- Principal
Mr. David Greenfield
Mrs. Karen Birke
Mrs. Irene Gonzalez

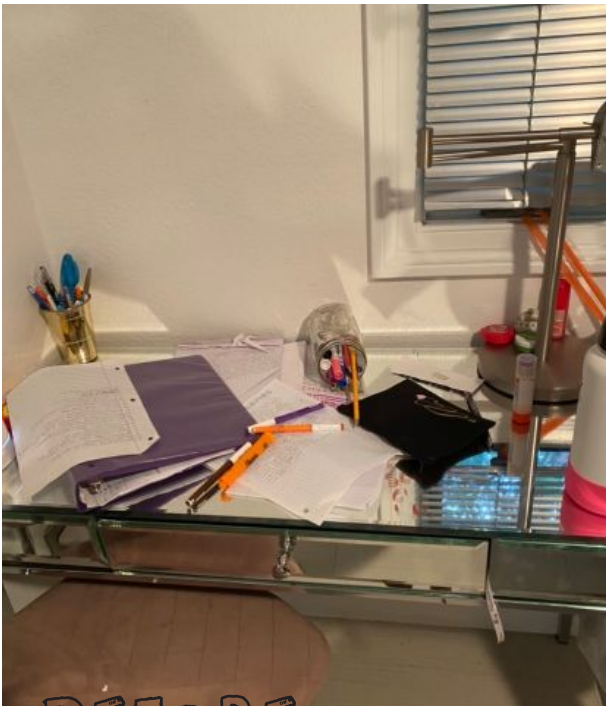
How to Stay Organized in a Virtual World

By Ella Brennan, Yaryna Bednarchyk, and Samantha Zimmerman

School by itself is already very stressful for every student, no matter if you get good grades or failing grades. It's hard to stay organized when you are feeling pressured and with online school it is even harder to stay organized when everything is virtual. As students ourselves, it isn't easy to stay on top of assignments and tests when your whole computer desktop is a mess. School can be as simple as 1,2,3 if you have an organized computer ready to go. As the school year goes on, here are some tricks and tips to stay on top of your assignments.

One way to stay organized is by creating a **to do list**. It is very easy to make a to-do list of everything you need to complete throughout the day. The night before you virtually go to school, you can create a handheld list of everything you want to accomplish. Many people like to write down all of their assignments that they will submit that day. By using a planner, it helps people stay on task and stay organized.

Another way that students can be organized online is by separating their work into **different colored folders or notebooks**. When students do this, they are more likely to know where all of their work is for different classes and/or class periods. When you need materials or notes associated with a specific class you can just check one of your colored folders.

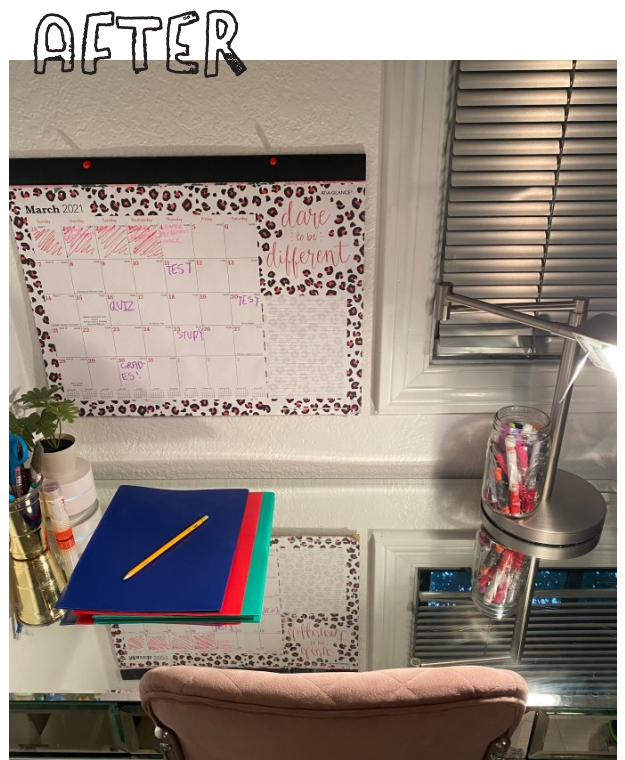


BEFORE

Staying organized is not easy especially in a pandemic. A **digital calendar** can fix that problem. On an online calendar you can store special dates and times. For example, if your Journalism test is on Thursday February 18, then your calendar can send you a notification and you will be alerted and reminded. This can help you stay organized because you are planning ahead. If you do things in advance, then you are also staying organized. Doing your assignments last minute can be very stressful and clutter your brain. This is the opposite of staying organized. Overall, staying organized in the virtual world is very important.

There are many ways to stay organized in a virtual world. Myla Friend, a seventh-grade student at Indian Ridge Middle School says that online school has been going pretty well because, “I keep all my assignments in a check book and when I complete them, I cross them off the list. This has helped me because I have learned how to stay organized and neat during this tough time.” In the beginning, Myla wasn’t very organized, until she found a way that worked well for her. Another seventh grader at Indian Ridge, Lila Fischer, says that working in a virtual world has gone better than she expected. Lila’s method of staying organized is by, “keeping my notebooks sorted from 1st to 6th period and have a sheet of paper with my schedule of the day on it. This has helped me get to class on time and helped me prepare for my classes.” Lila says, “To stay organized I would print out your schedule, even though you may already have it memorized, it will help you get to class on time. And I would keep your work for different classes separated so it doesn’t get lost.” Even though online school may be tough, if you focus and try your best to stay organized, it will help you a lot.

Virtual school is as hard as it sounds. Doing everything online, trying to get things done on time and of course keeping your computer organized. But with all of this amazing advice, struggling students can have a better time getting on top of their assignments. As fellow students who also do online school, we understand how tiring it can be, but it does not have to be. There are so many things you can do to manage all of your assignments. Just remember to stay calm, don’t procrastinate and keep organized!



Spring Broken?

By Ella Holloway, Colby Hicks, Mya Sankar, and Aisha Naveo

Everyone looks forward to having a great spring break where they can rest, relax and have some fun, but this year is a little different. Due to COVID —19 there have been some restrictions on what we can and can't do. Benjamin Friedlander and Gisele Brosz both have opinions on this situation. Benjamin believes that for the most part spring break would be the same and that we could still have fun. He stated, "I would want to spend my spring break talking to my friends and maybe doing some stuff with my family." He plans to stay safe and still have fun. He and his family will be taking precautions during any activity they choose to do. Benjamin explains, "I think there will be a lot of people going outside and to restaurants, but not as many. I think this because a lot of people are worried about going outside and getting COVID." He just hopes things will get better by next year.

Gisele has a slightly different point of view. She doesn't think spring break will be as exciting as it was, since we can't go out as much. She remarked, "Some changes from how we used to celebrate spring break were taking a trip or spending time with family was normal. It's hard to do that now because people don't want their family getting sick." It's hard for her because she is one of the people who would travel to go see family. Gisele would originally go visit family members in Nebraska, but now she has to stay at home. Besides the fact that not as many people will travel, she also thinks restaurants won't be as full or that a lot of will people spend time outside during spring break. But even though things won't be the same she believes we can still have fun. Gisele also hopes things will get better next year and will fully heal in two years at least.

86%

5%

10%

Of the 100 students we asked, in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes, the majority said they would rather go camping or on a road trip during spring break.

CAMPING AND ROAD TRIPS

One way to stay safe and have fun during COVID-19 is to go camping/ road tripping. Camping is a great way to get fresh air while staying socially distanced. It also allows a stream of fun and endless outdoor activities. Before planning your trip, it is best to do some research to help find local campgrounds and national parks. Road tripping is also a great way to have fun while staying safe. You and your family can enjoy beautiful sceneries while staying socially distanced. It is also a great alternative when traveling without having to worry about paying for expensive plane rides and risk getting sick. Starlette Torres, a 7th grader at IRMS says that she would like to go camping/ road tripping because she has, "never gone before and it seems fun to go for the first time." Starlette states, "Camping/road tripping can be safe as long as you stay safe and social distance."



ONLINE TOURS

Another safe spring break activity is virtual tours. You can do virtual tours about animals, places, and museums. Piper Battaglia, an Indian Ridge student, plans to stay safe during spring break by seeing only family and close friends. As usual, she plans to wash her hands and keep a mask on at all times if she goes in public. "I do not think (virtual tours) would be really fun, but it is a good option to stay safe." Everyone is different- some people like to sit in front of a screen, while others can't do that for very long. A fun tour idea Piper would be interested in is Disney or Universal. "I think Disney or Universal virtual tours would be the most fun because I like to watch the rides online during the pandemic." Most people, including Piper like in person tours better. In the meantime, seeing it from the comfort of your own home doesn't sound so bad!



VIRTUAL CLASSES

Virtual classes are another fun way to spend this spring break in an enjoyable and safe way. 6th grade teacher, Mrs. Brosz, says that the benefits to online classes are that they keep people safe and provide little risk of getting COVID. She suggests Nearpod and watching YouTube videos on historical events or people.. Some online classes you can do include Code Ninja. Many kids have learned so much from this and plus it is fun. You can learn how to code just by playing your favorite video games like Minecraft and Roblox. They gain problem solving, critical thinking, and STEM skills in a fun, safe, and inspiring way. Another virtual activity idea is Broadway Kids. They are offering online classes and activities to anyone that would like to join. They have many separate groups you can join into. For instance, they have Virtual unlimited classes which means all streamed classes in your age group. You can also join their group classes that take place once a week. These online classes are exactly like the in-person classes.



COVID Vaccines: What you need to Know

By: Layla Buchheit, Emily Einhorn, Shayla De La Cruz, Sophia Espinoza

In December 2020, the COVID-19 vaccines were officially approved for emergency use authorization in the U.S. by the Food and Drug Administration. Right now, there are two COVID-19 vaccines the U.S. has approved for use. One vaccine was made by Pfizer-BioNTech and the other was made by Moderna. The approved vaccines were created in about a year which is a significantly less time than it would normally take to create most new vaccines. The fact that these vaccines were developed and approved so quickly has caused many to feel they may have been rushed and are unsafe to take. In recent surveys it has been found that in 19 countries an average of only 71.5% of the respondents would consider taking a COVID-19 vaccine and only 61.4% would take it if their employer recommended it. Currently, about 62.8 million vaccine doses have been distributed in the U.S. and around 43.2 million of them have been administered.

President Joe Biden along with the Vice President Kamala Harris have a plan to “beat” COVID-19. He states how he wants the virus under control, to deliver immediate relief to working families, and reopen our schools and businesses safely. Biden said he wants, “To create more places for them to get vaccinated, to mobilize more medical teams to get shots in people’s arms, to increase vaccine supply, and to get it out the door as fast as possible.” Joe Biden has also provided money specifically for the pandemic. Biden announced a 1.9 trillion dollar stimulus relief package that will go to public health workers, COVID-19 testing, and vaccine boosting. According to Healthline Media, in Biden’s January 15th address, he said he will use the Defense Production Act to direct manufacturers to increase the supply of vaccines and materials needed to administer them.

“Bottom line: We have to get the entire world vaccinated, not just our own country,” Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, said. According to the American Medical Association, Fauci states that, “There is light at the end of the pandemic tunnel, but it is still a distance away. For now, vaccine demand continues to outstrip supply. But as we get to the end of February and into March and April, there’s going to be a lot more doses that are going to be available.” Fauci also said that, “Young kids could start getting vaccinated by September.” Fauci pushed back the worldwide date release for the vaccine.

Teachers across the United States have now been approved to receive the vaccine, with supplies and locations administering them being limited.

Timeline:

December 31, 2019- Chinese Health officials inform the World Health Organization about a cluster of 41 patients with a mysterious pneumonia. Most are connected to Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market.

January 11, 2020- China records its first death.

January 20, 2020- First US case is reported: a 35-year-old man in Snohomish County, Washington.

January 30, 2020- WHO declares a global public- health emergency.

February 11, 2020- WHO announces that the new coronavirus disease will be called “COVID-19.”

March 11, 2020- WHO declared the outbreak a pandemic.

March 11, 2020- President Trump bans all travel to 26 European countries.

March 13, 2020- A US national emergency is declared over the coronavirus outbreak.

July 2020- The second wave of coronavirus arises.

December 14, 2020- Sandra Lindsay, a nurse receives the first COVID-19 vaccine.

February 10, 2021- Over 10% of the US has gotten the first vaccine dose out of two.



The COVID-19 vaccine in front of the Pfizer-BioNTech logo.
Credit: theguardian.com



The COVID-19 vaccine in front of the Moderna logo.
Credit: theguardian.com

This or That

Quarantined Spring Break Edition

mostly indoors

time with family

try new hobby

stay up later

eat at an empty
restaurant

care for yourself

tv series binge
watch

commit to one big
project

break a bad habit

explore a new
skill

or

mostly outdoors

video call with
friends

find new music

get more sleep

take out from
somewhere busy

other around you

movie marathon

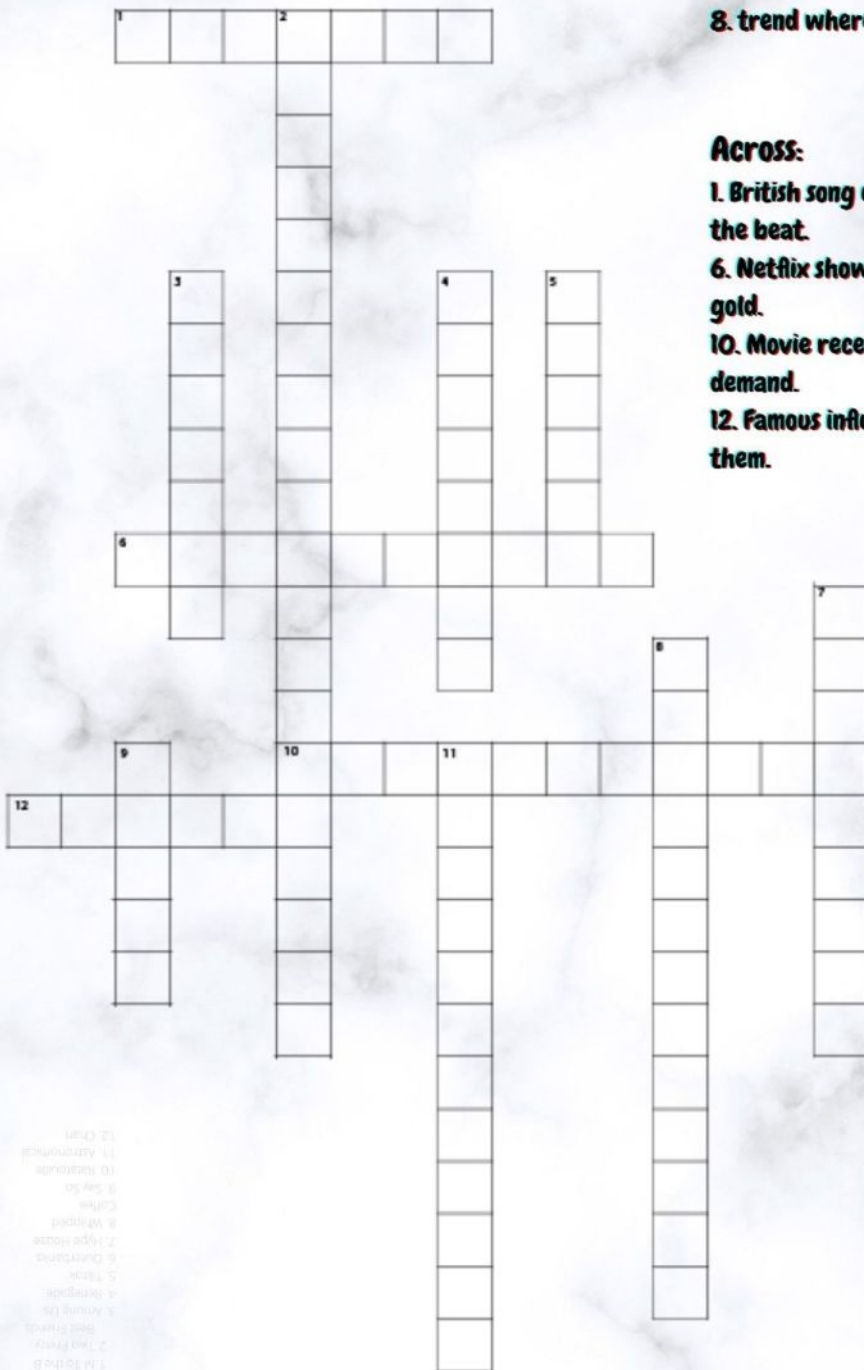
a bunch of little
ones

start a new good
one

expand an
established one

"Do You Know Your Trends?" Crossword

Answer the questions below by filling in the blanks in the puzzle.



Down:

2. Finish the sentence: "I ain't never seen.."
3. Game where you have to find who's lying.
4. Known as the original dance song that was the most popular.
5. Popular app used by Generation Z.
7. A group of famous influencers who moved in together.
8. Trend where you whisk your drink to get froth.
9. Song by Doja Cat that grew popularity after dances of it became popular.
11. When the volume in this bus is too loud, it is...
8. trend where you whisk your drink to get froth

Across:

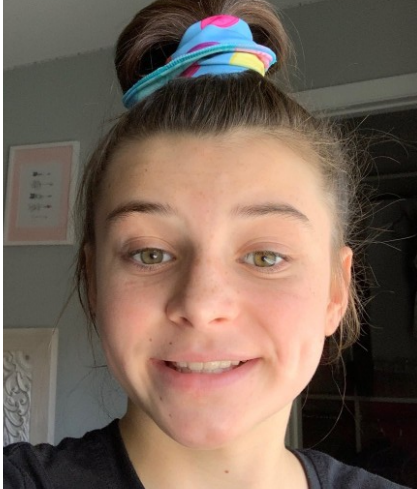
1. British song usually filmed by bopping you head to the beat.
6. Netflix show about 5 kids who look for long lost gold.
10. Movie recently made into a musical after popular demand.
12. Famous influencer who has a coffee named after them.

1. M to the B
2. Two Friends
3. Best Friends
4. Rolling Up
5. Savage Love
6. Chordz
7. Type House
8. Whipped Coffee
9. Say So
10. Beantown
11. Astronaut In The Ocean
12. Chat

BY: GIANNA CASTRO

The Delights and Dangers

Delights ●●●●●●

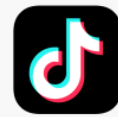


Brooklyn Ricker

By Piper Battaglia

Social media, a place where I and many others can have fun and enjoy ourselves. Some apps that many teens and kids have are Tik Tok, Instagram, YouTube, and Snapchat. Here on these apps many teens and kids can express themselves, relate to others, and show people their lifestyle. Many people disagree and believe that they are dangerous websites and apps. In my opinion, these apps can bring joy to teens and kids around the world. Many people can talk and relate to others about personal things or just everyday funny things so they do not feel alone. You can sometimes just have a good laugh from a funny Tik Tok or Instagram post you saw and that can sometimes really make a difference in a good or bad day. Brooklyn Ricker, a sixth grader at Indian Ridge

Middle enjoys social media and its delights. Through different apps she can talk to more people that she can't see because of the pandemic. She has Tik Tok, Snapchat, YouTube, Roblox, and Among Us that she uses with her friends and family. She said, "I believe many people enjoy the videos I make when I do my gymnastic skills on social media." Having social media, it is still fun to explore and learn new things on the platforms. The apps and websites you may have can help you express yourself and relate to others in your life.



By Paige Hill

Having good friends in your life is always important -ones that you can rely on to help you and care for you, and you always need a way to contact them. Whether it's through Tik Tok, Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, or any other social media platforms, your friends are there to keep you happy. Not only can you talk to your current friends, but you can also meet new people. Many people have "IBF's", which are "internet best friends", and they've bonded through texting and Facetime calls and more ways of communication. Another way you can communicate and make more friends is to share your day and what it looked like. Posting on your story on social media. I like Snapchat and Tik Tok because it gives me a way to talk to my friends and see what they are doing in their day. It is always best to be careful on social media because who knows what is on there.

Of Social Media

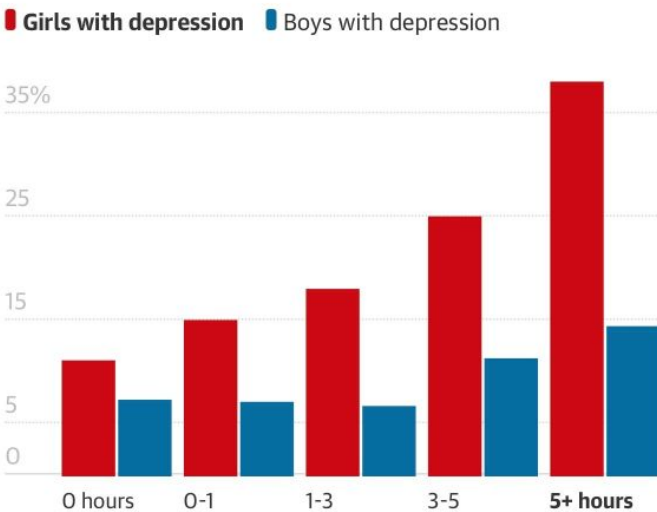


Dangers

By Brynn Feller

Ah, social media. A big obsession and distraction for kids and teens. But is getting a new follower, or another like on your recent post going to help your mental health? Popular Tik Tokers like Charli D’Amelio or Instagram influencers can be inspirational to some, saying that they want to be like them, or dress like them, or get their merch. But for others, having that “popular and perfect” stereotype can really have a toll on kids’ mental health and self-esteem. From personal experience, I know that sometimes I can watch a video or look at photo, and think, “Wow, I wish I could be just like them.” Or think, “Why am I like this, and their life seems to be so perfect?” Social media now-a-days is dangerous with this. Having this anxious-filled, low confidence mind set, is one of the unfortunate and scary things that social media has turned into. 13-year-old, Kaitlyn Kitchman, a student at Pioneer Middle School, who has many different apps of social media, says, “Social media can become obsessive and make you feel bad about yourself. You can get hate, see mean people, and encounter things that cause you to feel anxious or sad.” Social media is dangerous and can cause anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem. So, is social media really worth it?

Almost 40% of girls who spend more than five hours a day on social media show symptoms of depression



This is a graph that shows the amount of time that kids spend on social media, which is affecting their mental health. Photo Credit: www.theguard.com

By Chloe Kegley

Social media, a place to enjoy yourself, or a place to create chaos? Social media is a world-renowned source where millions of people post photos of themselves, their friends, and it’s where people communicate; but social media is also a very dangerous thing. A lot could happen by you just replying to a comment or by just liking a post. For example, you could get hacked, your personal information could be leaked, your identity could be stolen and your photos could be uploaded onto dangerous websites. Not only that, but many sites allow people’s location to be turned on whether people realize it or not, and most allow everyone to see. Some of these sites include Snapchat and Instagram. All it takes is a quick friend request and someone could instantly know everything about you and where you are in the world. Now, social networks are mainly for teens and early adults, so with all of this being a threat to them and their safety, it’s best to be safe and take precautions when using social media.

One Year Later (cont'd)

By Mia Alima, Brianna Masaracchio, Rebecca Hilbert

Skip to September 6, 2020, when at least 50 people were arrested in Portland after the city entered its 100th consecutive night of protests. The cause of the protests was the death of George Floyd. Some of the arrests were made after multiple firebombs that were thrown into the crowd led to setting a community member on fire. Also, in September the New York Mayor Bill de Blasio announced he was postponing the schools' start date, which was originally scheduled for September 10. According to an article posted on InfoPlease.com called *September 2020 Current Events: US News*, "Teachers have protested and raised concerns regarding the return, so students will not return in-person until September 21."

On October 2, President Trump and his wife, First Lady Melania Trump, were announced to have both been tested positive for COVID. The two of them were taken to the hospital for precautionary measures. President Trump made it clear that he had developed a fever and chills, but claimed to "feel much better" and was released after three days.

November brought the heated Presidential Election, with Joe Biden and running mate Kamela Harris, taking the disputed victory. Many polling locations and surrounding storefronts were prepared for massive protests, but much of the voting was done through mail-in ballots, preventing large crowds from gathering.

On December 25, police found remains of at least one person after a car explosion in Nashville, Tennessee. The explosion injured three other people and set many cars and buildings on fire. When it happened, police had very little information, but later police found what they believed to be the body of a suicide bomber. Additionally, according to the FDA, 309 tests and COVID sample collection devices were authorized by the FDA on January 28, 2021.

2021 started off by Biden making his first orders as president and what they mean for the US manufacturing in January. According to the website IndustryWeek.com, "Biden's executive orders on protecting public health and the environment and restoring science to tackle the climate crisis is aimed squarely at President Trump's own executive orders concerning greenhouse gas emissions, fuel standards, pollutant, and protected federal land." Along with Biden making his first orders as president, Donald Trump was also impeached for the second time in January. Ariel Weiss, 6th grader at Indian Ridge, said, "One thing positive that came from this year was that I have gained more friends and I had more time to spend time with them and talk to them on the phone."

During February NASA's perseverance rover landed on the 18th. According to msn news, "This brought almost 20 million people (about the population of New York) together to watch NASA's livestream of the successful landing, there was even more to the incredible spectacle than met the eye. An intrepid computer science student and his father cracked a coded secret message hidden within the pattern of the rover's parachute it used to descend onto the Marian surface." Ariel Weiss also says, "this past year has affected me a lot because I realized that things don't always stay the same, and I learned how to adapt to new things."

School Sports

The 2020-2021 school year has not been too great for school sports. But most sports offered here at school are going to be happening! Athletic Director Regina Lendinara says, “Flag football is the first sports we have been able to offer since COVID-19. Basketball and Cheer are coming up mid -February with Track to follow. We are hoping to get the approval from the County to go ahead with soccer, but for now it's on hold. Sadly, we are not able to offer volleyball, golf and cross country.”

The tryouts are open for on campus and e-learning students! At the tryouts you are required to fill out a form on how you're feeling that day, you are also given a temperature check and oxygen check. If a student or team member tests positive for COVID-19, they must quarantine for 14 days. Masks will be required to be always worn, except when on the court or field. Students, and parents will be able to attend games, but they will also be given a temperature check and they will need to wear masks.

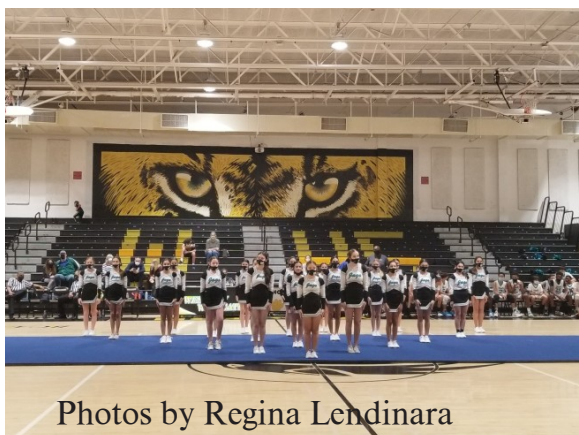


Coach Lendinara says, “We have created a safe atmosphere at the RIDGE allowing all our Jaguars the opportunity to participate safely. ALL of our jaguars are eligible to play. Our flag football teams are comprised of both on campus and off campus students.” The season has also been shortened due to coronavirus. Coach Gray says to keep players safe they will have players either take the school provided bus, or they can be dropped off by their parents.

You must preregister for all athletics at registermyathlete.com.

Watch Canvas announcements for all upcoming tryouts.

(Soccer has been approved since the writing of this article)



Photos by Regina Lendinara



How to spot fake news

BY: KALEIGH COVARD

Check the name of the website!

If the name of the website is not familiar to you, there is a chance it is fake news.

Look out for suspicious dates.

If the date is suspicious, it is most likely fake news.

Google searched images

Fake news websites often use photo-shopped photos found off google.

Look out for stories that don't make sense!

If the story doesn't make sense, it is most likely fake news. For example, if a story states Michael Jackson died in 2009 that would be wrong because he died in 2010.

Watch out for fake website addresses.

Some websites may try to impersonate real news websites with fake addresses.

Unusual spelling errors.

Real news sight usually hires editors to edit their work.

SOURCE: HOW TO SPOT A FAKE NEWS STORY: 10 ESSENTIAL TIPS (TELEGRAPH.CO.UK)