



Paw Prints

November 2022 Edition

Administration:
Ian Murray, Principal
Karen Birke, 8th grade
David Malca, 7th grade
Irene Gonzalez, 6th grade



U.S.A vs. Germany

By Katelyn Killoran, Tara Brewster, Kenzy Kader, Emma Weissman

On Thursday, November 10, at 7pm, the US Women's National Soccer Team will take on Germany at DRV PNK stadium in Ft. Lauderdale. With over 18,000 seats, many local fans will be able to witness two of the world's best women's teams competing in a friendly match. The USWNT has not played near Davie in over twenty years! The United States Women's Soccer Team has won four national World Cups, and includes some new young talent that fans are excited about, including Sophia Smith. Smith was just named the NWSL Player of the Year for 2022, with 14 goals for the season. She plays for the Portland Thorns as a forward. The USWNT has qualified for the World Cup which will take place next summer. They are slated to take on Vietnam, Netherlands, and the group A playoff winner in the intense tournament. The German Women's Soccer Team have won two national World Cups and has often held the number one spot in the FIFA world rankings. This is a highly anticipated match up and many of our Jaguars already have tickets for the game!



Photo Credit Mike Ehrmann

Interview:

"I think America is going to win because they have better passing, they also have good offensive players and defensive," says Caylee Wheeler. In the fan's opinion, the best captain is the American captain, Becky Sauerbrunn.



Photo Credit Emma Weissman

Luke Bryan



Photo Credit Jeff Kravitz

Thomas Luther Bryan, otherwise known as Luke Bryan, is going to be performing a concert in West Palm Beach at the iTHINK Financial Amphitheater on November 4th. The tour he is going on is called "Raised Up Right Tour". The concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. He is extremely successful and one of the most awarded and renowned country artists of the 2010's and 2020's. He has an astounding net worth of 160 million and he has had 27 #1 songs. During his upcoming concert, special guests Riley Green and Mitchell Tenpenny will be attending. He is also going to be performing one of his biggest hits: "Country Girl (Shake It for Me)". Usually, He would add a bit piano and sometimes he would surprise his fans with some rap!



Interview:

Emily Rollins's favorite song is, "Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye". In Emily's opinion, his songs have a lot of vocal ranges. Her parents are currently trying to win a ticket to his concert.



Photo Credit Katelyn Killoran

Pitbull Concert



Photo Credit Bob D'Angelo

Pitbull, a singer and rapper, born January 15, 1981, performed in Hollywood and Miami, FL, on October 19th and the 20th. He performed at Hard Rock Live. One of his biggest hits is "Give me Everything." His real name is Amando Chrisitan Pérez. His tour is the Can't Stop Us Summer Tour! A few months ago, the Cuban- American artist performed aside with Iggy Azalea and Sean Paul. His performance on the 19th was extremely memorable to fans because he is an incredibly grateful, energetic man, and he is full of talent.

Hamilton

Hamilton, the musical, is going to put on a show at Fort Lauderdale and Tampa. It begins on November 22nd, 2022, for Fort Lauderdale. They are going to perform at Broward Center for Performing Arts. Hamilton is a play that was first performed on February 17th, 2015 and has won numerous awards such as a Grammy and two Emmy awards. The musical has continued throughout the years with different casts. The play tells the story of the founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton, as his story is extremely unique. Alexander Hamilton is played by Edred Utomi. He is 31 years old. The director is Thomas Kail. Lin-Manuel Miranda created the books, music, and lyrics. The Hamilton play has been on Broadway for seven years!



Photo Credit Joseph Morales

Whats Trending

BY KAILEY GOLD, KAYLA ANDERSON, LEEYA EVRON, ELISE KOONTZ, AND JAYDA GARDNER

MIDNIGHTS BY TAYLOR SWIFT

Taylor Swift released a new album on October 21st at midnight. The album is called *Midnights* and it consists of 13 songs. Before the album was released, Taylor Swift announced all the song names in a series on TikTok called, "Midnight Mayhem with Me". Taylor Swift stated that at 3am there was going to be a surprise, but she didn't say what it was going to be. Taylor Swift fans, called "Swifties", had suspicions that it would be a whole new album. There ended up being 7 new songs released. These songs can be found in a separate album called *Midnights (3am version)*. When talking about the album, Taylor Swift describes the album as, "the stories of 13 sleepless nights scattered throughout my life". She also had said that it was going to be a very emotional album. Prior to the album release, Reese Forman and Jessica DiPietro, 7th graders, were very excited for the album. They say they like Swift's music because it has a great beat. Reese explains, "It will be a collaboration with Lana Del Rey and the songs will be trendier." Jessica says, "I will listen to the new album on Spotify." Many Swifties on Tiktok have said that this album has amazing word choices in the lyrics and they feel that it relates to a lot of people. Many people were also surprised by the 3am tracks and like them even better than the original 13 songs.



Photo credit Taylor Swift. *Midnights* has some amazing vinyl covers for the album.

DISENCHANTED

"Disenchanted" is a sequel of the movie "Enchanted". The original movie is following Giselle on her adventures in a new town. Many years after "Enchanted" came out, Giselle, played by Amy Adams, was living in her perfect world. Then, there was a couple changes and the world was thrown off balance. Giselle changed from sweet to evil, and she wanted to get revenge at her town. The new movie is two hours long and comes out only on Disney+ on November 25th, 2022. The original cast from "Enchanted" is back for a round two.



The cover of "Disenchanted" showcases the character Giselle becoming evil. Photo credit Disney+

BATH AND BODY WORKS FALL SCENTS

Bath and Body Works is an extremely popular brand that sells body care, candles, wallflowers, air fresheners, hand soaps, and hand sanitizers. They come out with a variety of different seasonal scents every year. At this time of year, Bath and Body Works sells fall scents that are perfect for your home and everyday use. These fall scents include Pumpkin Cupcake, Sweet Cinnamon Pumpkin, Pumpkin Pecan Waffles, and many more. Adriana Chenet, 6th grader, loves to get products from Bath and Body Works. She believes that Bath and Body Works fall products are better than fall products from other brands. If she could choose her favorite fall scent, she would choose pumpkin spice. "Pumpkin Spice smells amazing, and others really like this scent," says Adriana.



These are some of the fall scents that Bath and Body Works offers. Photo credit Bath and Body Works

CARAMEL APPLE VS. PUMPKIN SPICE

Caramel apple and pumpkin spice are two very popular flavors. Popular brands like Starbucks and Crumbl sell these flavors to everyone. Which one do you prefer?

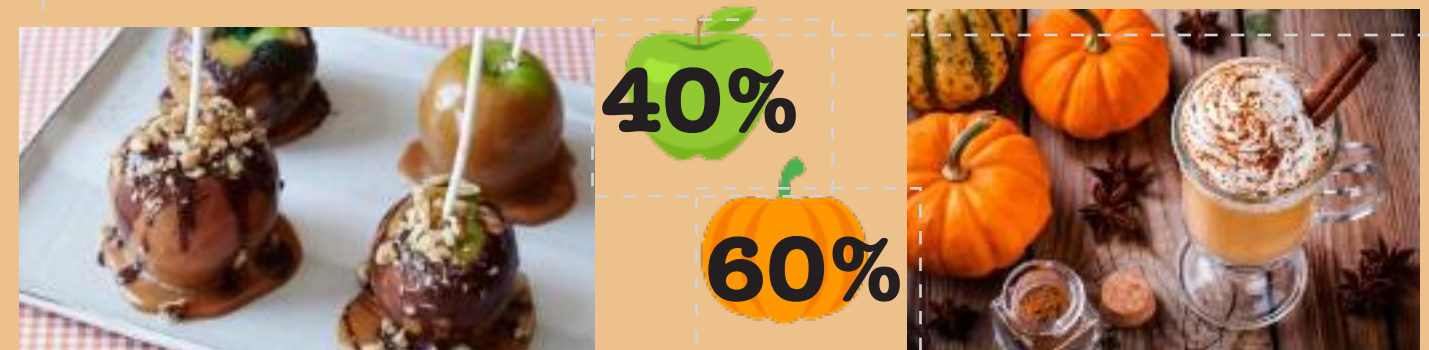


Photo credit Food Network. Caramel apples are a food choice that people love to eat especially around the fall time.

Photo credit Water Street. Pumpkin spice is a flavor that is very appealing to others and it reminds people of the fall time.

Puzzles and Games

By Zoe Kozn, Hetzai Gamboa, Catherine Minarik, and Lacie Nafliotis.

Mad Lib

How to Make Pumpkin Pie and Ice Cream

How to make the best fall dessert! First, add (number) cups of flour and (number) cups of sugar. Mix until (adjective) and (adjective). Add in (number) eggs and mix in. The mixture should be (adjective). Add in (number) cans of (noun) and add (color) coloring for a brighter color. Set this (noun) aside to make the crust. Crush (number) graham crackers until (adjective) and add (number) cups of (noun). Mold into pan until in the shape of the (noun) dish. Put into oven and (verb) for 45 minutes, or until (color). Take out of oven and let cool. (verb) in pumpkin mixture and bake again for (number) (unit of time). Take out of oven to let cool. To start ice cream base, mix 2 cups of (noun) and 1 cup of (noun). Mix until sugar is dissolved. Add (number) cups of heavy cream and mix until (color) and (adjective). Put into the (noun) for 4 hours to chill. Pour into ice cream machine and (verb). Serve (adjective) pumpkin pie with (adjective) ice cream on a (noun) after dinner. Enjoy your (adjective) (noun) pie and ice cream!



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Find the six differences



- 1 = A 11 = K 21 = U
- 2 = B 12 = L 22 = V
- 3 = C 13 = M 23 = W
- 4 = D 14 = N 24 = X
- 5 = E 15 = O 25 = Y
- 6 = F 16 = P 26 = Z
- 7 = G 17 = Q
- 8 = H 18 = R
- 9 = I 19 = S
- 10 = J 20 = T

Use the key to the left to decipher the puzzle below.

20 8 5 18 5'19 1 12 23 1 25 19
19 15 13 5 20 8 9 14 7

20 15 2 5 20 8 1 14 6 21 12 6 15 18



Thanksgiving

i	e	h	k	e	h	o	a	l	u	g	n	p	r	l
y	l	i	m	a	f	r	i	e	n	d	s	a	y	s
c	y	a	p	u	m	p	k	i	n	s	p	i	c	e
e	e	t	h	a	n	k	f	u	l	e	e	u	e	o
t	k	a	i	p	h	f	l	e	t	p	r	m	t	
l	r	d	y	s	u	a	e	k	e	k	e	u	a	
f	u	e	s	t	a	f	a	s	i	e	k	c	e	t
u	t	k	s	k	'	s	f	g	m	r	k	n	l	o
h	e	a	a	s	f	d	d	f	s	e	s	e	n	p
n	u	b	f	e	e	p	e	y	e	y	s	y	l	d
e	k	m	a	a	r	d	d	k	a	n	e	c	r	e
a	s	s	u	n	f	b	s	d	a	s	n	y	t	h
p	u	p	r	s	y	n	a	k	m	r	a	b	f	s
t	e	i	f	e	f	k	s	e	s	t	i	o	n	a
s	e	u	k	n	r	n	b	a	s	r	b	s	h	m

Turkey
pumpkin spice
pie
friends
family
baked
Leaf's
stuffing
Mashed potatoes
thankful
dessert
break

Word Search



Heatin' Up the Sports Season!

By Nichole Clausen and Ms. Didier

The Miami Heat played their home opener on October 19th against the Chicago Bulls at FTX Arena. Although they were close to beating the Bulls, the final score was 116-108. The Miami Heat competes in the NBA (National Basketball Association) as part of the league's Eastern Conference Southeast Division. As of October 27, the Heat have a 2-4 record, beating the Portland Trail Blazers and the Toronto Raptors. Their November games include home matchups against the Warriors, the Kings, the Hornets, Suns, and the Wizards. Victor Oladipo, point guard, is currently on the injury report with a knee injury.

Since their debut in the 1988-89 season, the Miami Heat have won three NBA championships. The team gained relevance in the mid-1990s, with the trades of Alonzo Mourning and Tim Hardaway, who led the Heat to four consecutive division titles. After drafting Dwayne Wade in 2003, the team had accomplished success.

The Miami Heat created the "Big Three" which included LeBron James, Chris Bosh, and Dwayne Wade, from 2010-2014 resulting in back-to-back championships in 2012 and 2013. Spoelstra, James, Wade, and Bosh guided the Miami Heat to the NBA Finals in every season during their four years together.

In 2017 Bam Adebayo joined the Heat, followed by Jimmy Butler and Tyler Herro in 2019, leading the Miami Heat to the NBA Finals in 2020. In 2021, the Heat received the six-time NBA all-star Kyle Lowry. According to 6th grader Tyler, the reason the Heat's season is starting slow is teamwork. He says, "I don't think they're passing enough." Luther Kormoi, also a 6th grader says, "Jimmy Butler is the best player they have because he's a strong three point shooter."



Star players for the Heat huddle up.
Photo Credit Getty Images



Miami Heat logo, a flaming basketball going through a hoop.
Photo Credit Ticket Master



Lilia Spaulding, a sixth grader is who plays defense on the IRMS Girls basketball team wears a tie die shirt to symbolize "Peace Out To Drugs" day during Spirit Week!

IRMS GIRLS BASKETBALL

By Madison Gonzalez and Genesis Butler

Lilia Spaulding plays basketball for IRMS and her assigned position is defense. The coach for the girls' basketball team is Coach Hesterman. The next games of the girls' basketball season are on November 1, 3, and 4. Lilia Spaulding stated, "Our coach and team are very supportive, funny, and helpful." At practice Lilia and her teammates do drills, run plays, and do scrimmages. Lilia feels incredibly competitive about her opponents, "We have to beat them and make them take the L." Coach Hesterman sometimes chooses your position based on your height. She says that playing in front of the crowd raises her anxiety and fear of messing up, yet also brings her determination to show everyone that her team is the best! "All those drills, runs, and plays will pay off. Practice makes perfect," - all thanks to Coach Hesterman! Lilia has improved a lot at her basketball skills and is guaranteed to win her next game!



Allyson is ready to cheer on the basketball teams against Franklin Academy.
Photo credit: Nichole Clausen

IRMS CHEER

By Nichole Clausen

Allyson Sanders is a cheerleader for the IRMS basketball team. She wants to attend games as a cheerleader in order to encourage the basketball players to try their best. The cheer captains are Sammy Muller and Lucy Livengood. She also stated that other cheerleaders from Western High School come over after school to their practices to help them out and to teach them stunts. Allyson said, "The team is very fun, outgoing, and they sometimes give constructive criticism in order to help you out." The names of their current cheers are Hustle, Take It to the Limit, Hot to Go, and Power. The position Allyson is assigned is a flyer and she says it feels fun and like you're walking on air. She also had previous cheer training since the age of four. She hopes to get better and better because cheerleading is something she loves to do.

IRMS BOYS BASKETBALL

By Madison Gonzalez

Reece Amente plays basketball for the Jaguars, coached by Mr. White. Reece feels he is great at doing his job. Coach White really helped Reece become a better basketball player, and it won't stop there. According to Reece, "Our coach and team are both very fun but hardworking." At practice Reece and his teammates run plays, run laps, do drills, and practice basketball. Reece says that all his opponents are no match for him, "They're all easy to beat." Like the girls, the boys play on November 1, 3, and 4. In order to attend the games, you must purchase the tickets on gofan.co BEFORE the game. No tickets will be sold at the door!



Events & Clubs for Jaguar Cubs

Hispanic Heritage:

By Cayden Fratina and Donovan Truong

The Hispanic Heritage Festival took place on October 8th in the IRMS auditorium. This event displayed the heritage of various countries, along with their Hispanic cultures represented by the students who participated in the event. Some countries that were represented in the festival were Honduras, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Columbia, and Venezuela.

There were many poster boards made by Indian Ridge classes, including Colombia made by Mrs. Jassem's 2nd and 5th periods shown in the photo above. There were multiple acts in this event performed by Indian Ridge students in the festival. Some of the acts conducted during the show were students dancing to traditional Hispanic songs, playing instruments like the piano and violin, and reciting of poetry.

Kaylee Warves, a seventh grader, expressed, "It was a very fun experience, and I encourage even if you aren't Hispanic to help out next year." At the end of the festival, all students that took part in the event were dancing and gathered to form a conga line. There was also free food and stands to buy souvenirs in the auditorium like chicken and rice, cookies, and handmade bags made of yarn. Our Indian Ridge students really outdid themselves this year!



Photo Credit Cayden Fratina
Poster boards created by the students and staff at Indian Ridge to represent some of the Hispanic cultures.



Photo Credit Bryanna Torres
Participants dancing during the last act on stage for the Hispanic Heritage festival before concluding the event.



Photo Credit Bryanna Torres
Stage Manager, Emma Fithian, and Dressing Manager, Kaylee Warves, after the festival had ended.

FFEA:

By Christian Rodriguez and Bryanna Torres

Florida Future Educators of America, also known as FFEA, is a social organization for students who are interested in learning leadership skills, working on service projects, and learning to be an educator in America. Students who would like to join this organization or are already in the program get the experience of becoming aware of their future career opportunities in education. This increases student interests in becoming a future teacher or leader in America. A current eighth grader from Indian Ridge and the president of FFEA, Kelley Wyatt, explains, "It is a fun club if you want to become or support a teacher. We walk to Fox Trail Elementary and read to the kids, and we do a lot with teacher appreciation." She has been a part of the FFEA organization for all her three years in middle school at Indian Ridge. Kelley loves to go to have the opportunity to help the teachers in any way possible. To her, helping today's educators makes her feel good knowing that she can make a difference in society, and she encourages others to do the same. As the president of FFEA, she looks forward to new fundraising and activities to make the club more fun.

One other part of FFEA that volunteers love is the fact that they can make a student's day. Another eighth grader from Indian Ridge, Isabella Pardo, who enjoys helping in the Adopt a Teacher program, insists, "I love being able to put a smile on kids' faces." In FFEA, students like Isabella do various activities with the students such as coloring, interactive games including musical chairs, and her favorite which is reading picture books to the students. The students always get so excited when they see the FFEA volunteers walk into the room because they know that it is going to be a fun day, different from what they would normally do. Isabella thinks, "It is a very beneficial club to the school, our community, and the teachers."

If any students are interested in helping a teacher, making a difference in a person's day, or want to learn more about what it takes to become a teacher, then really consider joining FFEA. Do not hesitate because it is never too late to get involved in the club. The next FFEA meeting will take place in Mrs. Didier's room after school on November 15th.



Photo Credit Donovan Truong
Jurnee Harrison reads to the children at Fox Trail Elementary.



Photo Credit Donovan Truong
Kindergarten students were coloring as an activity while FFEA members visited.



Photo Credit Donovan Truong
After Care students playing musical chairs with the FFEA members.

Jaguar on the Spot!

By Avery Wright, Harlowe Battaglia, Taylor Gold, and Valentina Carey

Students were interviewed about their opinion on school sports

6th grade

Kaden Madison is a 6th grader at Indian Ridge Middle School. He believes that our school should offer more sports options. As a lacrosse player, Kaden thinks our school should offer lacrosse. That would allow the option for kids like him to play lacrosse for free with school. Kaden feels that many sports aren't offered at our school because they aren't safe. He also believes that Indian Ridge should have their own fields so we wouldn't have to travel for home games. He states, "Western might also need to use the fields at the same time as us."



Photo Credit Harlowe Battaglia
Kayden is a lacrosse player and believes that IRMS should offer more sports options.

7th Grade

Samantha Kormoi is a 7th grader here at the Ridge. She would try out or watch any sport because she loves sports. Samantha believes that we should have better fields because the ones we have aren't in good condition and we can't play on them. Samantha also thinks that it is good that we go to Western High School to play home games because they have good quality fields. She thinks that we have a good number of school sports, and there would be too many sports in one year if we added more. Also, there aren't enough coaches to add sports.



Photo Credit Harlowe Battaglia
Samatha loves sports and thinks we should have better fields at IRMS.

8th Grade

Justin Rush is an 8th grader at IRMS. He says he has attended IRMS sports games with his friends. He believes that we should have our own fields, because it would be easier for people to get there. Justin thinks the sports seasons are a good length. He states, "Shorter seasons allow us to have more sports." Justin doesn't feel strongly about that Indian Ridge should offer more sports, but he states that they could add baseball because a lot of people play it.



Photo Credit Valentina Carey Justin loves going to watch IRMS sports with his friends.

By Avery Wright, Harlowe Battaglia, Taylor Gold, and Valentina Carey

Students and staff we're asked their opinion about school uniforms

6th Grade

6th grade student Brynn Livengood thinks we should have uniforms at Indian Ridge Middle school because it will stop bullying and helps us to all look the same and more formal in school. She says, "I do not think students should be able to wear spirit shirts every day of school because a uniform is better for weekdays." She thinks that as one of the only public schools in Broward County with uniforms, we should keep our uniforms because it makes the students look less mismatched. Brynn thinks we should allow sweatpants, leggings, and athletic shorts adding, "Yes it will be comfier and if it gets cold in the winter then we can wear them to stay warm."



Photo Credit Valentina Carey Brynn Livengood smiling her way into the day happy to be wearing an IRMS uniform.

8th Grade

Brent Glickman is a 8th grade student. He says, "We should be able to wear Friday shirts every day of the week because colored shirts are uncomfortable." He also thinks, "Athletic shorts should be allowed but not for girls because sometimes the shorts can be a little too short. But leggings should be allowed for girls, sweatpants and athletic shorts should be allowed for boys too". "We should not be allowed to wear sunglasses for safety."



Photo Credit Avery Wright Brent thinks that spirit shirts are more comfortable than polo shirts.

Staff

Mr. Malca is the 7th grade assistant principal at Indian Ridge Middle School. He believes that uniforms help the safety of Indian Ridge students because everyone is the same. Mr. Malca states, "It is an easy way for us to know who belongs here." He also thinks that if we didn't have uniforms, it could cause bullying about someone's clothes and people may be jealous of others. Mr. Malca explains that uniforms cause less distraction, and a benefit is that students don't have to worry about what to wear in the morning. He also acknowledges that the colors Indian Ridge offers for polo shirts are good and shouldn't be changed because they are the school colors.



Photo Credit Valentina Carey Mr Malca loves the school uniform policy

Editorials

Horror movies have been around for a long time, but not all people like to watch them because they might find them scary. Even though they may be scarier for other people, graphic and gore scenes can make the movie rating bump up, which according to the MPAA, rated R means that under the age of 17, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Usually this means the movie contains some adult material. Parents are urged to learn more about the film before taking their young children with them.

Rated R

By Keiko Barilea

I obviously don't know a lot about horror movies because of the fact that I hate watching them and being scared for a long time after, but I think that people react differently and can be more sensitive to horror movies and it really depends on what type of horror movie it is, and what it includes. But just to be safe, I would rank them R rated, even though it does depend mostly on the viewer watching.

By Savannah Gallardo

I think that rated R movies should be rated R because some people are more sensitive to those kinds of stuff. But if it says rated R then people will know that it is a movie that could trigger some people. Me personally I hate very scary movies and I am one of the people who are sensitive to those movies and I know other people even adults who are too.

Non-Rated R

By Josh Desmarais

What do you think about R rated movies? For me I think some of the ratings are unfair and biased. It is unfair because some of the ratings are not based on the scare-factor, but are based off of gore. For example, "Halloween (1978)" was rated R and in my opinion it should've been rated PG-13 because the scare factor was not as good as the "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" which had good jump scares and was gory earning the R rating. But "Halloween" was only gory and the scares were limited. All in all, I believe some horror/Halloween movies shouldn't be rated R.

By Kaylee Lasseter

Honestly, I love horror movies more than anything. I have seen them all from "A Nightmare on Elms Street" to "Friday the 13th" and "Scream". But I have to say, I do not agree with how these movies are rated. Take "The Platform" for example. The platform is a horror movie on Netflix rated R and there is no good reason for it. There is no sexual content and a limited amount of swear words, therefore, a PG-13 rating would be more reasonable. To conclude my opinion, I believe a movie should only be rated R if it includes sexual content or an absurd amount of profanity.

Hocus Pocus 2

We all know that the new "Hocus Pocus" movie is a big hit for halloween this year. This movie is a prequel to the original "Hocus Pocus" movie, made in 1993. The first movie was very popular and was a hit back then. But, with the new Hocus Pocus 2 making a comeback, do students think its really worth the hype?

Dislike

7th grader Savannah Gallardo feels that the new movie was horrible compared to the original. Although there was some parts that made her laugh, she still thought the plot was nothing better than the original. She quotes "They straight up ruined the movie by making Hocus Pocus 2"

7th grader Kaylee Lasseter also thinks that the new Hocus Pocus 2 movie ruined the plot of the original Hocus Pocus. She says "Yeah it was totally ruined when the new one came out. the old one was so much better and the prequel can never replace the original."

Donovan Altieri in 7th grader that says that the new Hocus Pocus 2 movie was ok and he thinks it is a lot more childish and is leaning towards a more fantasy side. He says its not very realistic. Donovan states "I like how in the old one they had ancient times but this version is just about a kid who lit a candle, and it's not very interesting"

Like

By Keiko Barilea

When I was watching the movie, It was very dramatic in a funny way and I actually liked how they brought back the old characters and included lots of different elements. It was an emotional roller coaster for me. I was waiting for a while for the movie to come out and I honestly thought everything was on point. I also think that it was interesting to see how the witches would react to being resurrected again. Lots of people are not a big fan, but I think it was worth the wait!



Photo credit Disney Plus All three of the witches smirking to plan mischief!



The Salem Witch Trials

The Backstory

The Salem Witch Trials took place during a very dark period of time. The 1300s through the 1600s in Europe was a time where many believed that "evil forces" were granting witches the power to harm others in exchange for their loyalty. Though the trials started just as this was winding down, these frightful circumstances explain why the trials came to be.

The distress mainly started when in 1689, English rulers William and Mary started a war with France in the American colonies. This war is known as "King William's War to Colonists". The war sent refugees into Essex, specifically Salem. The abundant refugees caused a strain on the town's resources, which then fueled the already existing rivalry between families with wealth related to the port of Salem and those who relied on agriculture. The Puritan villagers, or people who followed a strict moral code based on religious principles, believed that this was the work of the "evil forces".



Photo credit Bettmann / CORBIS.

Executions & Theories

There were many people included in the Salem Witch Trials. Most of which were women. One of the people accused of witchcraft was Sarah Good. Sarah was one of the first three people accused. One of her two daughters, Dorthey Good, was the youngest accused of witchcraft at the age of four. Her second daughter, Mercy Good, died as an infant in jail. Interrogated by the local Magistrates, and under pressure, Dorthey confirmed that her mom was consorting with the evil forces. Dorthey was put in jail for nine months for being accused of witchcraft until her father bailed her out (March 29th, 1692, through December 10th, 1692).

Giles Corey, another one of the people accused, was the only person who had a different kind of execution. He was pressed to death (meaning crushed by rocks, or something heavy) because he did not plead innocent or guilty. The gruesome nature of his death may have led residence of Salem to rethink their support for the witch trials.

People Accused

After some time, three girls in Salem started acting strange. Their names were Elizabeth Parris (9), Abigail Williams (11), and Ann Putnam (11). The three started having strange fits, random outbursts of screaming, and they would also contort their bodies into weird positions. After going to a doctor, they were diagnosed with possession by witches. Under pressure from town magistrates Jonathan Corwin and John Hathorne, the girls accused three women named Sarah Good, Sarah Osborne, and the Parris slave Tituba.

During their trials, all three pleaded guilty until Tituba claimed she was working with those evil forces, and others in the village were doing the same. This statement was the thing that sent Salem into chaos. More than 200 people were accused in the Salem Witch Trials, 30 of those 200 were found guilty, and 19 were executed. Five more people also died in prison. But what was the true reason behind the girls' strange behavior? Well, a study published in a science magazine in 1976 explains how a fungus, "Ergot", is found in rye, wheat, and other cereals. Toxicologists say that consuming the fungus can cause symptoms such as delusions, vomiting, and muscle spasms, which are similar to the symptoms that the girls complained of having.

Tituba was the first person ever to be accused of witchcraft. She was an enslaved woman. History.com states, "She had just given some of history's most explosive testimony, a convoluted and riveting tale of a witch's coven, a devil's book and evil animals and spirits that seemed to explain away the odd symptoms that overtook a group of Salem girls in 1692."



Photo credit Joseph E. Baker.



Photo Credit: Emma Gutterman
Sophia Negron 7th grade

"I do not think that the women being accused of witchcraft was fair because I believe men could also be doing witchcraft. I think the witches were being accused of this because they were mainly and most likely women. They didn't really have a say in any of it so they most likely weren't able to back themselves up."

True or false?

Tituba was the first person accused in the trials.
True OR False

Sarah Good had five kids.
True OR False

Over 200 people were accused in the Salem Witch Trials.
True OR False



Photo Credit Emma Gutterman.
Angelina Eckert in seventh grade states,

"People back then had a different view of women and believed that women didn't have an opinion on anything, that would explain why people would accuse mainly women of being witches."