

# THE PAW PRINT POST

November Issue

Journalism Elective

## Midterm Madness

By: Gabriel Maya and Giselle Bouzaglou

Exciting News! The results are in for the 2018 Florida midterm election. It was a close and exhilarating one. The General election took place on November 6th from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The candidates ran and the people voted. The election ended with a last-minute recount that had the whole state in suspense. For the 2018 Florida election, the positions that were up for vote were the Florida Senate, Governor, and the House Representatives. The main candidates for Florida Senate were Rick Scott and Bill Nelson. For Governor, Ron DeSantis and Andrew Gillum were on the ballot. There were candidates for each of Florida's 27 House Districts. After a long and contentious delay waiting for the results, Florida had its new representatives.

In the end, Rick Scott became the new Florida Senator, and Florida's Governor is now Ron DeSantis. While the votes for both positions were close, only one candidate could win. The results were so incredibly close, that they had to call for a hand recount that lasted all the way till November 18th, almost two weeks after the actual election.

Though elections are mostly long and heated, they have a great impact on the future of our nation. This Midterm election shows just how much of a difference each vote makes.

Isabella Bueno is a 7th grade student thinks that there is huge importance in even students doing mock votes. She said, "Our votes influence who our leaders are which can change the way we run our lives."



## HARVEST DRIVE!

The Harvest Drive is an annual event held by National Junior Honor Society asking kids to donate nonperishable items to families in need. Indian Ridge is one of the leading schools each year in donations, and we are extremely proud to be a part of making the holidays happy for everyone! The total items collected this year were 2,727, thanks to specialty double point days like Bean Bonanza and Tuna Takeover.

The classes that brought in the most donations were:

- 6th grade: Ms. Carter - 713 items
- 7th grade: Ms. Nortmann - 342 items
- 8th grade: Ms. Kannal - 296 items
- Mixed Grades: Ms. Didier - 356 items

## Administration

### **Principal:**

Mr. Ian Murray

### **Assistant Principals:**

Mrs. Irene Ortiz

Mrs. Karen Birke

Mr. David Greenfield

# Beyond the Ridge

## Aliens or Asteroids

By Hadley Turner and Kayla Barcenas

On October 19th, 2017 a mysterious, cigar shaped, object from outside of The Milky Way passed by earth, baffling scientists and non-scientists alike. It was discovered by the Pan-STARRS 1 telescope in Hawaii. It was named Oumuamua, which in Hawaiian means “a messenger that reaches out from the distant past.” Immediately, some people speculated that it could be an alien spaceship sent to investigate earth. Even some Harvard astronomers have jumped on board with the theory. They have just recently submitted to the Astrophysical Journal Letters that, “Oumuamua may be a fully operational probe sent intentionally to earth’s vicinity by an alien civilization.” However, there are a few holes in this theory. According to CNN news reporters Steve George and Ashly Strickland, one problem with the alien theory, is that Oumuamua’s trajectory is not the kind that thrusters would produce. Some scientists are sticking with the idea that it could be an extraterrestrial life form. They believe that it could be a light sail, floating through space as debris from advance technological equipment, and solar radiation could be what propelled it into our solar system. This theory can be backed by the fact that light-sails of similar dimensions have been designed and constructed by our own civilization, the light-sail technology could be used for cargo between stars and possibly planets. if that were the case, it’s unusual speed and trajectory could have been caused by the object being un-operational. Unfortunately, it's too early to know anything for sure. It will take years, and much more research to know what it was that passed by earth in mid-October 2017.



Image courtesy of Rob Ratkowski  
Photography and the Haleakala Amateur



Photo Courtesy of CNN News Reporters

# What's Trending?

## PewDiePie vs T-Series

By: Kai Navarro and Samantha DeCapua

YouTube. A very popular website that most of the world knows about. Anyone who has been watching or creating entertainment on this website for a while will know about PewDiePie. who has had the most subscribers in the world for the past five years with an amazing 71 million subscribers and is still rising! His real name is Felix Kjellberg. His channel on YouTube started off with gaming videos but recently has started creating multiple different "Serie's" of videos on his channel, one of the most popular is called "meme review" which is self-explanatory, he reviews memes. He has put a lot of work into his channel and has definitely earned the number one spot on YouTube for most subscribed. But now there is a channel that challenges PewDiePie's number one spot. T series, an Indian music production company who at the time of writing this are only about 100,000 subscribers away from PewDiePie. T Serie's content consists of Indian music videos that are made and produced from T Series. T Series isn't just a normal channel they are a company that post their music videos on YouTube. This channel came out of the blue and within a month was able to get almost as many subscribers a the most subscribed person on YouTube. There is a reason that T Series blew up so fast, so India recently got access to websites such as YouTube and can only access Indian channels. There are very few channels on YouTube that are Indian. And one of the biggest channels is T Series that gets recommended to almost every Indian user which makes them likely subscribed. So now because of that T Series is catching up to PewDiePie and will most likely pass PewDiePie. So, this "internet war" has been going viral because of this and many people support different sides and one of them is a youtuber called Mr. Beast. This youtuber has made a video where he bought a couple billboards and somehow got on a radio channel and both things were about how you should subscribe to PewDiePie to help him stay on top. Contrary to common belief I think that an independent youtuber that has been working for years deserves that spot, not a



RedBubble.com

VS



Brandpeps.com

# Sport-acular Jags

## Stepping It Up by Valerie Roa and Chiara Cremonti

With coordination and team work, Step Team has achieved impressive choreographed routines and it's not as easy as it looks. The Step members work very hard and put lots of time and effort into making the routines while they have fun. With students from sixth, seventh, and eighth grade, working together on collaborative projects, they create impressive routines that amaze everyone that sees them perform. It's not easy to get in, but the members that got in are very talented. There are 34 Step members on the team in total and are all necessary and valuable when it comes to making new routines. To make a new choreography, a sequence of steps needs to be applied, and Katelyn Joy, the Step Team leader states, "First, the routine need to be made, then, you have to make sure everyone likes it and finally, teach it and practice." At Indian Ridge, step team is an impressive asset to extracurricular activities and to presentation of the school. Kaylie Greenhauff, a seventh-grade member of Step Team says her favorite thing about step is "making the steps and routines, and also performing in front of other people." Haylee Lockwood, an eighth-grade step member says her favorite thing about step is "Being with friends, being able to practice with them, and perform with them." Being a part of Step Team requires coordination and patience, but also while having fun. Step Team usually performs at school presentations or events such as school dances, pep rallies, aand other school events. Step Team has added so much character and individuality to our school. Keep up the great work Step Team!



The step team showing off their routine in the auditorium at Grandparent's Day.



The cheerleaders performing their routine and showing their talent to the crowd in Grandparent's Day.

# Sport-acular Jags

## Serving Up a New Season

By Hannah Brant and Madison Adkins

Guess what time of year it is Jaguars? ITS VOLLEYBALL SEASON! New players have recently joined our 2018/2019 Jaguar volleyball team.

Volleyball is an amazing sport that uses hand eye coordination and communication skills. The skill hand eye coordination is essential to this sport because when you set, spike, or pass, your eyes are watching the ball and your hands are doing the movements. Communication plays an important role in volleyball because if you don't communicate with your teammates you don't know who's going to get the ball. An example is when the ball lands in-between two people. Who is going to get the ball? Without these skills the sport would cause many injuries to its players. Many of the players on the team have said that along with those skills they need team work and bonds to succeed in their games. For instance,

Veronica Mazzella Dibosco says that many skills that are essential and needed in volleyball are spiking, passing, serving, and setting. Many of the players on the team think of these skills and techniques are one of the most important parts of the sport.

“Practice makes perfect”, this is one of the things we have been taught as kids. As this is one of the most important parts of this sport, players on the team have said its one of their favorite parts of participating in this sport. Playing volleyball helps your body circulate more blood, oxygen, and nutrients as well as enhancing your energy levels in your body which improves your overall well-being during games. Also, there is benefits of long-term friendships, and relationships. When these relationships are built, they build traits including trust that will help them corresponded better during games. Mrs. Hill, the girls' volleyball coach, claims “the benefits also include the ability to deal with other personalities that may or may not be your first choice of someone to deal with other personalities that may or may not be our first choice of someone to deal with but you're forced to be with them because the whole team has to work together to be successful”. This sport has benefitted these players in many ways even if they don't realize it.

The new players on the volleyball team seem to be really excited for this new season of this vigorous and fun sport. The whole IRMS team hopes for the best and wishes them good luck on their new season of volleyball!



Veronica Mazzella Dibosco said that she hopes to play beyond high school and says that she plays for the experience.



Mrs. Hill, who is the girls volleyball coach has ben coaching for 10 years and enjoys it.

# Jaguar on the Spot

## “Jogging” into A New Year

By Hannah Keller and Marvin Mercelus

The Jaguar Jog happened on November 2nd, 2018 during 1st, 2nd, and 3rd periods. The Jog was on the P.E track. It was \$30 to attend the Jaguar Jog and the more you raised the more prizes you received. This is the one and only fundraiser that the PTO holds for the school, so it was important for everyone to pitch in.

First time joggers were confused though; why is it called the Jaguar Jog if we walk? According to Karina Telles, who is in 7th grade, “Because it's called the Jaguar Jog and its right in the title,” a lot of kids just run anyway.



Kierra, Madison, Gianna, Emily, and Isabella, group of seventh graders having lots of fun at the



Stephanie Marks and Addison Shea, sixth graders at the Jaguar Jog.

The Jog consisted of two parts. The Jog, which had music while you walk laps around the track and the dance which took place in the auditorium. In order to participate in the Jog and dance you had to raise 30 dollars. The Jog was about students raising money, exercising, showing school spirit, and having a good time in general. The Jog itself raised \$40,500 in total! At the Jog you could also get tattoos of a jaguar head or paw.

The Jaguar Jog was a fundraiser that raises money for the school for numerous things in the school like computers, making field trips cheaper, and repainting school property. Stephanie Marks is in 6th grade agreed with the idea of more fundraisers because of this statement, “It helps the school, so it helps us get money for new supplies. The Jaguar Jog is hosted completely by the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). See our Staff Spotlight page to read more about what else the PTO does!

# The Jaguar Den

## The Jaguars Jump to the Beat!

By Ciara Matthews and Ella Dever

The jog and dance occurred on Friday, November 2nd at Indian Ridge Middle School. The jog is hosted as Indian Ridge's 23rd annual Jaguar Jog. During the jog, yearbook and journalism students were there to document another "pride"ful year around the IRMS track.

Olivia Kaplan said, "I get to get out of class and I get to walk around and talk with my friends." Many kids like the jog and dance because they can meet up with friends and skip their two classes.

After the Jaguar Jog, during 5th and 6th period, Indian Ridge has a dance for whoever attended the jog. The 7th and 8th graders go together during 5th period, and 6th graders go during 6th period. There are snacks and drinks to replenish after dancing, and they even have a thousand cookies as you walk in!



Olivia Kaplan, a seventh grader at Indian Ridge.



The sixth-graders at our school are competing to get picked to go up on stage

The minimum you need to raise to get into the Jaguar Jog and dance is 30 dollars. If kids raised 50 dollars, they go to the jog, dance, and get Menchies during lunch. If they raise 100 dollars or more, they get the 50-dollar reward and a chance in the money machine! The 3rd place winner for raising money gets a 100-dollar Amazon gift card, the person who got it was Emily Lakosky the 2nd place winner gets AirPods, and the person who got them is Cristopher Romano and the 1st place winner gets a Nintendo switch, Sophia Egert got the prize, but decided she didn't need it, so the final person who got it was Neela Ascarrunz!

# Up For Debate

## Students Selling Things at IRMS

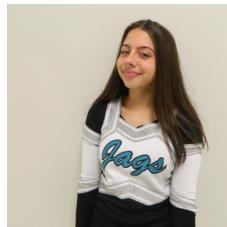
By: Carlos Mallett and  
Ella Glassman

Students at Indian Ridge have been selling many things throughout the school, and while these may seem cool to kids, it causes a nightmare for administration. Here are both sides of the story!

Photo Credits: Ella Glassman

7th grader  
Ashtyn Boss  
insinuates that  
students are  
selling candy.

### Pros



### Cons

7th graders Noah  
Dohlberg for  
administration  
can stop students  
from selling.

Students at Indian Ridge have been selling many things throughout our school. This can be beneficial in some ways for the students, but also some issues with this as well. First, thinking and entrepreneur skills are tremendously enhanced when students are selling for profit. For instance, buying candy for \$1 and then selling it for \$2. This is a skill that would be helpful for the students later in life, especially in the business world. Secondly, parents are not always willing to buying some things for their children, but some of these things are being sold at school. Therefore, students become a lot happier when they can buy what they want. Another reason why selling is beneficial is social and communication skills. To illustrate, if an anti-social student wants to buy something from a seller, they will need to interact. This would provide a chance to increase social skills. Lastly, students who sell will understand more about responsibility. This would include the calculations of money balance and where and when they are selling as well. Furthermore, there are also many cons to selling.

The issues that this is creating are that the administration must spend time to fix this, students might not be eating their lunch if they buy candy, and the code of conduct says that this is not allowed. Our administration has many things to work on and this is an issue that is the least of the admin's worries. As stated by seventh grader, Noah Dolberg, he says "Hopefully the admin can find a way to stop it because there are more important things that need to get done." A student named Ashtyn Boos states that "Students are trying to sell candy." If candy is being bought it will ruin student's appetite because they will only want to eat their candy, to the hyper behavior in the classroom which causes problems for teachers. Candy is not healthy diet and can lead to later health problems. Lastly, after checking the Broward Student Code of Conduct, under the section "Collect Funds", it says, "Items cannot be sold for personal gain such as food, jewelry, T-shirts, etc." If caught, students selling items could be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including arrest, depending on the product. Obviously if it is stated in our rule book, this should not be happening in our school.



# Jaguar Judges

## What are social media's effects on teens?

**By: Ella Glassman**

Many teenagers have been feeling left out, upset, disappointed, or felt like crying because of something they saw on their phone. Many social apps like Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter, etc. are making it very hard for teens not to doubt themselves because of post they saw. In my personal views, social media is creating an issue in teenager's self-esteem. Rates of depression, anxiety, loneliness, and insecurity have been sky-rocketing because of social media. Communication skills for the modern teenager are getting worse. Teenagers are used to texting and snapchatting their friends that when they are forced to talk to someone in person, they cannot speak as fluent. Speaking of fluency, fluency on the keyboard is much smoother than having a "real life" conversation. Peer acceptance is everything now. Instagram likes is a competition. Views on Snapchat is a race. Teens feel like they need edit and photoshop all of the photos they are going to post just to look good. My overall views on this subject are, social media has installed the influence that people need to be perfect. Also, that it is increasing rates of depression, anxiety, loneliness and insecurity.

**By: Jaden Little**

I think that teens should have a limit on social media. Teens are on social media 24/7 because they have nothing better to do. Social media effects teens because there are a lot of horrible things on the internet. Teens are always down or upset because of the internet. There is a lot of bullying going around and teens get depressed and become suicidal because if it's about them they feel insecure. From the article "Using Social Media Affects Teenagers" the survey results found that Snapchat, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram all led to increased feelings of depression. My opinion Social media does affect teens because it lets their self-esteem and they get depression.

**By: Carlos Mallett**

Social media has a tremendously horrific effect on teenagers, mostly dismantling their self-esteem. These issues spread from cyberbullying, anxiety, communication, and the envy between one another. For example, teenagers can boast, embarrass, and try to make you feel bad by discouraging comments or posting pictures to "expose" others. This would be cyberbullying, also cause anxiety and possibly even envy. This type of treatment is nowhere near terrific, as another problems is the addictiveness social media possesses. The addiction teens have for social media just increases the amount of discomfort for teens. Overall, teenagers should limit or their time on social media to reduce discomfort levels.

**Gabriel Pacheco**

Social media are affecting teenagers, teens spend hours on social media learning inappropriate things. Teenagers using social media more than spending time with their family or doing homework. Teenagers use Social media too much that the results are not getting good grades in school. Social media has good pictures but social media has awful pictures that some users report the pictures. Teenagers learn from the awful pictures on social media. social media affects teenagers by not spending time with their family, getting distracted in school and learning inappropriate pictures on social media.

# Dear Jaguars...

By Isabella Bueno and Malik Suleiman

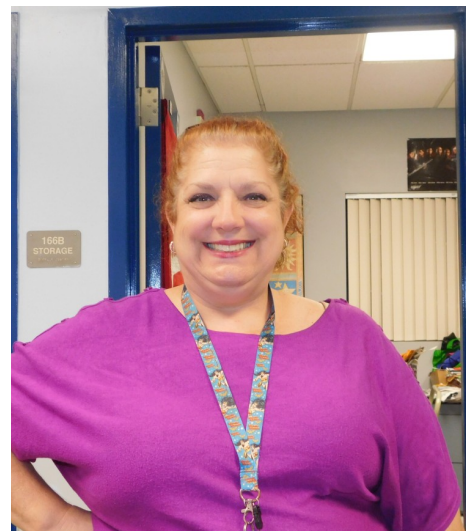
## How To Treat Social Anxiety

At first glance, a socially anxious person might just come off as shy, or introverted. Ms. Donovan, our 7th grade counselor claims that, “A lot of times they’ll feel very anxious, they feel nervous, they feel like people are talking about them all of the time.” Obviously, people with social anxiety are usually uncomfortable and feel like others don’t accept them. Although these thoughts are for the most part false, it still taunts them into thinking they are not good enough. A way to fix this problem is by treating others positively and giving them space when you feel like they need it.

Most people with social anxiety do not like attention, so there aren’t many ways to help them. When people seem to be acting oddly, uncomfortable, or unnecessarily intimidated, it is possible that they could have social anxiety. However, you shouldn’t be going around asking them why they are acting a certain way. They may not realize that they are acting unusual. As Ms. Donovan claims, “There are coping mechanisms you can put into place to help these students.” Indubitably, the best way to relieve social anxiety is to let them do it themselves.

If you have anxiety, remember to tell others. Hiding your anxiety only makes you more anxious. Tell people you trust like close friends or family. When having an anxiety attack, remember to steady your breath because it will affect your heart rate and thoughts. Remember that what you think is happening, is not actually happening. If you shift your attention towards something else, you will start to worry less. Most people with social anxiety exclude themselves, but it is important to include yourself and face your fears. Not doing anything will earn you the same result versus when you change what you do, you’re changing your life and for the better.

All in all, whenever you feel anxious, remember these methods. If you have social anxiety, don’t worry, because one day, you will overcome your anxiety. If you know someone with social anxiety, give them space and soon enough they will conquer their fears.



Ms. Donovan, the 7th grade guidance counselor claims, “It starts with being friendly to everyone, making sure you’re always treating people positively.”



Mrs. Rosado, the 8th grade guidance counselor explains that, “The best thing you can do is to not judge and just be kind.”

# Feel Good

## Snackchat is Starting with Hello

By Vania Guadarrama and  
Jordan Miller

SnackChat, a program started by Ms. Golembiowski (Ms. G) the peer counseling teacher, has helped include students who may feel isolated. Middle School can be filled with judgement and the need to fit in. Students who may stand out or are different can be teased or made fun of. To many, lunch is the best part of the day. However, there are students that dread walking into the double entry doors into the cafeteria. Lunch break make some students anxious because they might feel alone and afraid to open to new peers. An Indian Ridge program called SnackChat has focused on making the school a more inclusive community. On Fridays, SnackChat members and attendees hang out in Room 216, Ms. G's classroom. Emily Knapp, a 7th grade attendee, states she feels there is "no loneliness, just kindness" when she attends SnackChat.

It all started 2 years ago, when a student saw a girl sobbing with her lunch tray on her lap, alone in the bathroom. When the girl asked her why she was in the bathroom she said the other students were being rude to her and not letting her sit at their table. When Ms. G heard of what was happening in the girl's bathroom during lunch, she sprang into action. Ms. Golembiowski says, "We, as peer counselors, all together, decided to come up with a solution." She began searching for solutions and she came up with SnackChat.

SnackChat have been positively impacting the volunteers' life in and out of school. They have learned to accept everyone and be a more inclusive person. Audrey Helig, a 7th grade SnackChat volunteer, says "Being in SnackChat has made me more aware of how people treat other people." Anna-lisa Bjorklund, another 7th grade SnackChat volunteer said, she learned the importance of kindness because SnackChat "shows you should include everyone and ... we all do stuff together." Considering that the volunteers are making their school a more inclusive place, Joey Fisher, a 7th grade volunteer, states that her participation in including other students makes her "feel better because [she's] helping people out every day."



Ms. G is the Snackchat and Peer counseling teacher.



These are some of the SnackChat volunteers. Joey Fisher, Audrey Helig, and Anna-lisa Bjorklund. (From right to left)

# Cubs of Character

## Citizenship

By Sharon Hopengarten and Dani Larios

For the month of November, the Cubs of Character trait is citizenship! When students show citizenship, they are respectful of others, school property, follow school rules, are honest, and do what their teachers tell them. It helps to equip them to understand the consequences of their actions, and those of the adults around them.

**8th:** Stephanie Andrade, Kassidy Thornton, Tyrese Manning, Callista Humphreys, Damon Bell, Kevin Rosenberg, Ethan Sardinas, Jordyn Lopez, Kailyn Irwin, Carlos Sanchez, Alexander Polesello, Mileishka Lopes Torres, Jonathan Santini, Charlotte Finnegan, Sebastian Rodriguez, Aimee Howell, Jenna Sakhleh, Stephanie Amelizell, Nicholas Ciccone, Sebastian Rodriguez, Jonathan Santini, Estefanic Parra, Camila DeLeon, Cami Cala, and Noyal Varghese.

**7th:** Joey Fisher, Maliha Sikder, Shawn Paredes, Michael Carbajal, Tyler Jenkins, Sophia Aponte, Michael Pugliese, Lauren Holschauer, Addison Bakkus, Aliyah Sarmiento, Emily Quinn, Sara Cruzat, Kevin Andricain, Anna Lisa Bjorkland, Scott Crecco, Augustina Campos, Marvin Mercelus, Zara Maraj, and Hannah Keller.

**6th:** Mason Gordon, Avital Ohayon, Jonathan Unman, Milena Papagni, Daniella Valdivieso, Sophia Cadavid, Joshua Castillo, Alejandra Correa, Lucia Farreras, Cynthia Coffman, Javier Santiago, Michael Previti, Ryan Cartwright, Stella Seamon, Emily Stevens, Lana Tarr, Nicholas Ciccoae, Koda Travers, Madison Jennings, Trevor Terry, Hunter Colagreco, Dylan Saunders, Lindy Ramirez, Joshua Castillo, Jordan Streisfeld, Juan David Bolivar, Thomas McEachron, Madison McEachron, Jeremiah Nowakowski, Mason Gordon, and Chloe Wood.



Jason Soucie-  
“Citizenship is important so we can respect other people.”



AJ Whorle- “Being respectful to others and teachers.”



Brody Miller- “It’s important because it means you’re playing your part.”

# Staff ‘Spot’light

By Dani Larios, Sharon Hopengarten, Jonathan Ramirez, and Dalila Blanco Oriolo

## PTO

Friday, November 2nd was this year's annual Jaguar Jog! The Jaguar Jog is Indian Ridge's only fundraiser and it's hosted by the PTO, or Parent Teacher Organization. It's an event where students can be excused from class to go out on the track and walk with their friends. At the track, there's a DJ Booth, water, and temporary tattoos that can be applied! After forty-five minutes on the track, students go back to class. In their later classes, students are called to the auditorium to the Jaguar Jog Dance. Students dance to the DJ's music and are provided with drinks and cookies as well. It's an event that kids will certainly enjoy.

Kirsten Kustin, the president of PTO has been the president for about 4 years. The Jog is held as the only fundraiser of the year so that parents are not being asked to donate multiple times throughout the year. "It's also so that we can involve all the teachers and all the kids as much as possible," she said. Mrs. Kustin said that the money raised from the fundraiser, "goes into a bank account, and at each PTO meeting, we vote based on teacher and administrator requests. So, it goes to computers or textbooks or athletic gear." Kustin confirms that this is Jaguar Jog's 23rd time implemented at Indian Ridge.

Helen Lacayo is a member of PTO as well. Ms. Lacayo says "Last year they set a reserve for \$40,000, so we can do the gym floor again with part of the money [from] this year." In her estimation, the Jaguar Jog typically makes "50 to 55 thousand" each year. Most of the money for the prizes come in the form of donations, either actual gift cards, money, or products.

The PTO holds many other events during the school year, not only for the students, such as dances, but also for the teachers. They put together breakfast buffets, coffee bars, and lunches for the teachers around the holidays, at back to school time, and during Teacher Appreciation Week. The whole PTO is incredibly supportive and does so much from the heart to help our school.

### Thank you PTO!



Mrs. Birke and Mr. Jacklin at the Jaguar Jog.



Nicholas Forero and Hunter Ring at the Jaguar Jog.



Kirsten Kustin and Mr. Murray at the Jaguar Jog.

# “Paw”se to Remember

## Dia de los Muertos (Day Of The Dead)

By: Vanessa Flores, Gabriel Maya, Rylie Gilland



Picture By: Margarcia, GPJ Mexico

This is a picture of people dressed in traditional outfits at a Day of the Dead festival.

The people of Mexico celebrate Day of the Dead, on November 1st and November 2nd. Day of the Dead is a holiday to remember friends and family whom have passed. People believe that the spirits of the dead visit their families on this day. The people believe, According to International Business Times, "The dead are never dead to us, until we have forgotten them."

The Aztecs, a civilization in Central America, started Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) over 3,000 years ago. They believed in life after death, in otherward known as the afterlife. They believed in 13 layers of heaven (overworlds) and 9 underworlds. The Aztecs honored their ancestors with a month-long celebration. Day of the Dead is celebrated with festivals, parades, and gatherings.

During Día de los Muertos, the main tradition people celebrate is putting up Ofrendas. Ofrendas are altars in which are dedicated to a loved one who has passed. They place photos of the person the Ofrenda is for underneath the arch. They also place flowers, called marigold, around the alter. The marigolds are believed to help guide the spirits to their ofrenda. Food is also placed underneath the altars as offerings to the spirit. During festivals people dress up in specific colors that all represent different things. Though the meanings may vary, yellow symbolizes sun and unity, white represents hope, and pink is for happiness. People wear skull masks called calacas, which are to recognize and honor the dead.



Picture By: Dane Storm

This is a picture of an authentic traditional Ofrenda made during Day of the Dead

Día de los Muertos is a very important and meaningful holiday that is meant as a celebration of life. Family members get together to remember lost ones and how they lived, not to feel sorry for them. The people of Day of the Dead believe, "Memory is a way of holding onto the things you love, the things you are, the things you never want to lose." Día de los Muertos is a beautiful tradition that has been celebrated for thousands of years, and for this month.

# YEARBOOKS ARE NOW ON SALE!

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### \$50 on the eStore!



## *Your Adventure Begins Here!*

# SAFETY AND SECURITY NEWS



## SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY

\*Students should not be on campus before 8:40 AM, unless they have made arrangements with a staff member and have a pass. Before Care will be allowed to enter the campus at the front of the school. The front office will open for regular business hours from 8:30 to 4:30 p.m.

\*ALL GATES WILL BE LOCKED DURING THE SCHOOL DAY 9:30 TO 3:30P.M. ALL VISITORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO CALL OUR MAIN OFFICE AT 754-323-3300 to gain access to the front office.

\*Parents and visitors will be allowed to enter campus beginning at 8:30a.m. All late sign-ins, early sign-outs and business with the office or guidance will begin in the Single Point of Entry-the Main Office. Please know that you will always need to have your government issued photo ID with you to be allowed on campus, and you will be processed through the Security Tracking and Response (STAR) System, and escorted to your destination.

## SCHOOL WIDE DRILLS

All Broward County Public schools are required to perform monthly Fire and Code Red Drills to ensure all safety protocols and practices are adhered to by students, staff and visitors to the campus. All parents/guardians will be notified of school wide drills one day prior to the drill via a Parentlink.

Please ensure your child/children understand the importance of all drills and adhering to directions provided by the supervising adult. At the conclusion, of all drills we will resume our regular daily practices.

### IRMS UNIFIED DRESS CODE

Parents, I also need your help in making sure your student(s) come to school in the proper unified dress code. Students must wear a solid colored polo shirt each day. On Fridays ONLY, students may wear Indian Ridge Spirit Shirts. IRMS hooded sweatshirts may be worn over polos, and zip up sweatshirts of any kind may be worn, UNZIPPED, over polos. Pants or shorts must be either Navy, Black or Khaki in color; No blue jeans or sweat pants are allowed to be worn (except on cold weather days which will be pre-announced). All other dress code provisions of the Code of Student Conduct will be followed.

### ID BADGES ARE A MUST!

The School District is requiring that all students and staff wear ID Badges at all times. Indian Ridge has given each student their first temporary badge and lanyard with school picture. Students will need to purchase a new ID if they lose or misplace the one provided. Students without their ID badge will be monitored and could face progressive discipline per the District Discipline Matrix. As this is a safety matter, IRMS needs your help in sending your student(s) with their ID badge every day.