

The Westampton Eye

WESTAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

DECEMBER 2, 2020

Westampton Middle School

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

By Emily C.

Happy Thanksgiving from one to all from the Westampton Middle School Newspaper Club! Thanksgiving, from the turkey to the pie. From the football game to the family bonding. From the Macy's parade, to the laughs. It's all one day to gather 'round, eat a ton of food, watch the football game and just spend time with one another!

But is it really Thanksgiving without the turkey? Turkey wasn't the first meat on Thanksgiving Day. But that's not all. It was originally a three day harvest in 1621. You spend Thanksgiving with your family to look back on the year and feast on all that amazing food!



CORONA LIFESTYLE

By Molly M.

We all know about the new outbreak COVID-19 “Coronavirus.” It completely changed our lifestyle. Before we went places without masks, went to school, went on vacation without being quarantined, and we could play at parks. Now we can't really do any of that.

Lately, we have been Zooming for school and always having to wear a mask wherever we go. It's been forever since we got to do what we did before Covid. At the start of Covid, we could not leave our house and we did remote learning.

It is a very scary time so make sure you are washing your hands, wearing a mask, sneezing and coughing in your arm, and don't touch other people's stuff. Also, make sure you keep your distance away from people, six feet apart. If we all do that we can go back to the regular lifestyle faster.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT: MS. LEGGIO

By Aaron R.



Editor's note: This interview was conducted last spring.

If you don't know Ms. Leggio, she is a new Science teacher for the middle school. I interviewed her for *The Westampton Eye*:

Q. What school did you attend?

A. RV, Villanova.

Q. Have you taught before?

A. Yes.

Q. If so, how long? If so, where?

A. 3 years in New Jersey, 1 year in Arizona.

Q. Why did you want to become a teacher?

A. I wanted to teach kids how to use Science in real life.

Q. What is your favorite lesson to teach?

A. The human body because I was becoming a nurse.

Q. Was Science your favorite subject in school? If not, what was?

A. Yes.

Q. What is your favorite sport?

A. Football.

Q. What is your favorite type of music/artist?

A. All types.

Q. Favorite food?

A. Mac and cheese.

Q. Favorite movie?

A. Marvel!

SQUIRRELS

By Marley C.



Squirrels, according to National Geographic.com, evolved over over 36 million years ago. Today you can find flying squirrels, red squirrels, ground squirrels, marmot squirrels, American red squirrels, and many more.

Did you know that squirrels can jump up to ten times the size they are? Squirrels hide their nuts and forget about them later. Squirrels are extremely smart creatures. They can survive an impact from an extremely high height. Squirrels can grow to about 15 to 20 inches.

I have fed a few squirrels. They seem to really like peanuts and they also seem to like honey crackers. Squirrels cannot eat dried fruits like strawberries, dried grapes, and dried bananas. They also can't eat figs. You can train squirrels to climb up your leg, and you can also train them to catch nuts. After a while they also will sit on your lap and get used to having you around. You could form a strong bond with them.

Overall, squirrels are really cool creatures, and you may want to try and feed them under adult supervision.

CORNY DAD JOKES

By Aaron R.

- ▶ If a child refuses to sleep during nap time, are they guilty of resisting a rest?
- ▶ I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down!
- ▶ What do you call someone with no body and no nose? Nobody knows.
- ▶ A slice of apple pie is \$2.50 in Jamaica and \$3.00 in the Bahamas. These are the pie rates of the Caribbean.
- ▶ My friend keeps saying "Cheer up, man. It could be worse; you could be stuck underground in a hole full of water." I know he means well.
- ▶ How does a penguin build a house? I-Gloos it together.
- ▶ What do you call a careful wolf? A-ware Wolf.
- ▶ I asked a French man if he played video games. He said, "Wii."
- ▶ What type of bagels can fly? Plane bagels.



OPINION: THE PROS AND CONS OF REMOTE LEARNING

By Lady Charlene A.

A couple months ago, a virus called “Coronavirus” hit the U.S. pretty hard. People got sicker by the day and were not allowed to leave their homes often or see other people. This also caused most schools around the U.S. to close down. Students had to have school from their own home on computers and for many people, this was almost like heaven. But for others, they just wanted to go back to the school environment. Having school at home has its ups and downs. There are many pros and cons to remote learning.



One con about remote learning is that it is very easy to get distracted while doing school from home. Many students start zoning off, fidgeting, and doing things besides work like using their phones, doodling, and searching things on their chromebooks. It is more tempting to do this at home because teachers cannot see much of what the students are doing during zoom. Meanwhile, at school teachers are in the same room as their students and can easily spot students doing something not related to what they are supposed to be doing.

Another con about remote learning is that students will have less social interaction. When at school, there are many ways to communicate with your peers and teachers. Whether you are doing a group project, studying with your friends, or having lunch, there is always enough interaction at school and students can learn how to interact with other people which is one of many life skills. When you are at home, the only source of communicating is FaceTime, Google Meet, and Zoom. Although you are still able to talk, you do not get the same experience when face to face. Because of remote learning, many things you are supposed to do with other people are not capable of doing anymore so you have to do them alone.

Although there are many reasons why school should still be face to face, having school at home is great too. One reason why remote learning is convenient is because this allows students to go at their own pace. When students are in school, lots of the time they have to either wait or rush especially as a class. When at school you can do the things that work for you.

For example, it is not allowed to leave a class when done with an assignment when you are in school. But when you are in a Zoom meeting, teachers are more comfortable with letting you out. Additionally, as a whole class, it's debatable whether to put on music or not. Some students can focus with music playing, and some students cannot. When at home, it is easy for you to plug in your headphones and listen to the music of your choice.

The last reason why students should do remote is because during these times it is important to stay safe. While the classroom is a nice place to be, the virus is very serious. Staying safe is the best way for this all to end faster so we can go back to the classrooms.

In summation, there are many pros and cons to different styles of learning at school.

OPINION: WHY YOU SHOULD READ

By Lady Charlene A. and Molly M.

We like to read and we think you should, too.

You should read because it will help keep your mind off things that will get you mad or angry, sad or upset. It will help you later on in life and help you learn a lot more about different subjects in school and outside school.

Also, reading can improve your vocabulary and help you write better. If you keep reading you can move onto the harder and more challenging books. If you like to watch movies, check out the books on movies. They will recreate the movies in books; they might not be the same but it will still be interesting.

Lots of people like comic books so it will help you understand a lot more, and if you read the movie books you can understand the movies in both ways.



THE LATEST APP FAD: AMONG US

By Aaron R.

Among Us is a multiplayer game created by InnerSloth. It was released on June 15, 2018, but blew up around August or September of this year.

Among us is a multiplayer game taking place in an outer space room or a spaceship, where players become one of two characters.



You can become a crewmate or an imposter. If you are a crewmate, you must complete all of your tasks with your teammates to win the game.

If you are an imposter, you must kill all of the crewmates before they complete their tasks. If you are an imposter, you can kill people, but after you kill there is a kill cooldown that allows the crewmates to find the body within a certain amount of time without getting killed. As an imposter, you can also sabotage different areas on the map. You can shut off lights, turn off oxygen, etc. When this happens, it is the crewmate's job to fix the issues, but the imposters also have the option to fix the issue if there are people nearby so that they don't seem suspicious. As an imposter, you can also vent. Venting is when you go through vents that are placed in random places all around the map. Players typically vent after killing or trying to get to certain places faster. Among Us is typically played using a voice chat app like Discord.

You can play Among Us with your friends in a private room, or you can join an online game and chat through a chat box.

I would recommend playing Among Us with your friends but overall it is a good game.

THE RETURN OF THE NBA

By Aaron R.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the last NBA season was suspended from play for about four months. After finding a safe way to resume their season with the lowest risk of the players, their family, and fans of getting Covid, the season finished in a bubble located in Disney World. After the season ended, commissioner Adam Silver was trying to work with the NBPA, National Basketball Players Association, to find a way to get all 30 NBA teams to start a new season safely, but this time without the bubble. After a lot of back and forth between the commissioner and the NBPA, they have come to an agreement to start a new season.



The 2020 - 2021 NBA season will start on December 22. This decision was made due to the fact that the commissioner did not want to skip Christmas Day basketball games. The season will be cut short 10 games in order for the NBA to be back on track for a normal season for 2022.

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