SMA Informer

Volume 10 Issue 2

Senior Editors: Lauren Abbatacola, Mia Skibicki Anna Lisowski

Junior Editors: Olivia Brunell, Kailey Kraft

Enforcer: Alex Knup

loween, Thanksgiving, Christ-

What Are You Thankful For?

By: Mrs. Masciopinto I love holidays: Hal-

mas, even Groundhog Day! Holidays make us aware of the Inside this issue: special gifts God has given us. We share and keep alive traditions that make our lives a little Pre K and kindergarten 2 more special each time we celebrate them. With this holiday 1st-3rd grade 3 edition of our newspaper, celebrating both Halloween and 4th-6th grade 4 Thanksgiving, I wanted to share with our readers what I enjoy Junior high 5 the most. Halloween is a holi-Special articles 6-7

8

9

Picture page

Fun page

day for us to remember those who have died. It is also time for us to have a little fun! Trick-ortreating was a way for poor people to go from house to house and offer prayers in exchange for food or money. Toand say, "trick or treat." We have moved away from the idea of praying for those who have died and have concentrated on the, "treat" part! Thankfully, we also celebrate All Souls Day. That day we concentrate on the prayer part tradition. When I was a little girl, I loved to see how much candy I could get! My brothers, sisters, and I would sit and compare our treats. The winner would enjoy the bragging rights until next Halloween. I must admit CAN-DY is my favorite thing of Halloween!

Now that I am older and not collecting treats anymore, Thanksgiving is the more special of the two holidays for me. I have so much to be thankful for! I have three children and

day, we dress in funny costumes two of them live in other states. Thanksgiving is a time we usually all come together at our families' homes and get the chance to catch up on all the news. It is a time for lots of great food, and a time to sit back and enjoy all that is special to us. God has blessed us all with so many things; it is nice to be able to recognize Him and all He has given us.

What is St. Monica Thankful For?

By: Olivia Brunell

St Monica Academy is thankful for:

- Food
- Houses
- Nature
- Technology
- Pets

- School
- Positivity
- Wifi
- First response teams
- Family
- Friends
- **Books**

- Music
- Bands
- Talents
- God
- Teachers
- Sports
- Toys

PAGE 2 SMA INFORMER

Pre-K 3

By: Olivia Brunell

Preschool is having a blast while they don't have to worry so much about school! Right now they are very excited for Thanksgiving, but are even more excited to eat all of their Halloween candy! Most of them were brave and still went trickor-treating; I know I did. They got Tootsie Rolls, lollipops, Nerds, M&Ms, and so much more that they couldn't even name it all. Once they've finished all of their Halloween candy they will have another holiday to look forward to, Thanksgiving! Some of the preschoolers said that for Thanksgiving they will

be making cards to sell and to give away. Most of them said they are going to visit their family, and their families will come to visit them. Whatever they decide to do, they just hope that the weather won't be as bad as Halloween in Chicago.

Pre-K 4

By: Yamaris Martinez

When I walked into Preschool 4, they were very excited especially when I mentioned Halloween. Preschool 4 is ready and excited for Halloween. Some students will be Elsa and Anna from Frozen and Minnie Mouse. Others will be Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, soldiers and superheroes, who will be protecting our city! They can't wait to go trick or treating with friends and eat a lot of candy. Preschool 4 is also excited for reading some spooky Halloween stories in school. One more thing they're excited for is seeing everyone else's costumes!

A holiday coming up is Thanksgiving. Preschool loves to see their relatives and give them colorful Thanksgiving cards that they made for them. Preschool also can't wait to see their Christmas elves, since they haven't seen them in a whole year. Preschool has a lot to look forward to in the coming months, and hopefully so do you!

Kindergarten

By: Alexa Itounas

I interviewed the kindergarten class this week. The subject of my interview was to find out if they preferred Halloween or Thanksgiving and why. To no surprise most of the kids I interviewed chose Halloween. Hannah and Mia said

they love getting candy. Grayson said he loves candy corn, and CJ said his favorite part of the holiday is trick or treating.

Quinn and Bridgid on the other hand preferred Thanksgiving over Halloween because of all the delicious food including turkey, jello, and we can't forget about pumpkin pie with a lot of whip cream!

Whatever holiday each child chose does not matter. What matters is to have fun and make lasting memories with friends and family!

Funky First

Miss Clark's class
loves to learn math. Most
of the students in her
class love to do creative
writing in English class. In
Mrs. McQuillan's class all

wanted to be many different things for Halloween, such as werewolves, Slender Man, Tinker Bell, and more creative ideas. Some kids like Gym and other

like Spanish class. The
kids also love to paint and
draw in art class! For
Thanksgiving, they all want
to relax and home with
their families!

Spectacular Second

By: Maya Austin

Fall is finally here, and there is no better way to get into the fall mood than decorating with some DIY, do it yourself, crafts. Outside the second grade's classroom, you can see some FANGtastic pictures. This art project is made by taking a black sheet of paper, and cutting out shapes and pictures from colored construction paper, to create these Halloween themed masterpieces.

Another easy craft to spice up your room is a festive leaf drawing.

All you need for this project is white paper, crayons, and a few fallen leaves from outside. The first step is to take the leaf and put it under the paper. Next, you need to color over where the leaf is, and it will create a design of that leaf on the paper. You can use multiple leaves and colors on one sheet, or just one. After you are done, you can hang this drawing in any room to add some fall décor.

Everyone knows Halloween isn't Halloween until there is candy; so this last DIY is fun to make, and it can also be a little treat for you! This only requires a black marker, tissues, yarn, and lollipops. To start, take your black marker and draw a tiny ghost face on the tissue. Then, wrap the tissue around the lollipop, making sure the ghost face is visible, and tie it to the lollipop using the yarn. Now, you have a cute lollipop ghost to share with your friends. I hope you try these fun crafts, and have a great Halloween!

Terrific Third

By: Luke Szafraneic

We should always recycle, because we're a green school. It's a great thing to do to help our planet, Earth. First things first, the recyclers leave everything but the cardboard boxes that go down a separate chute. The recyclers sort out the paper from the conveyor belt. They take out the plastic down a separate conveyor belt as well as metal and aluminum. Only glass is left on the conveyor belt. The recyclers then try to break the glass so they can fit as much of the glass shatters into bales they make. They make these bales so that they can turn them into thousands of new aluminum cans, plastic bottles, metal cans, and even newspapers are made from all those bales, which weigh nearly 5 tons! That's a lot.

Did you know, that there are 4 R's as of right now? The first is reduce. The second R is to reuse. The third R

is recycle! Everyone should know what recycling is. The fourth and final is recovered. A lot of people do not know about this R. Recover means to turn things such as gases and liquid that we can't use, into things like electricity that we can use. The 4 R's can change the world!

PAGE 4 SMA INFORMER

Fantastic Fourth

By: Grace Gronke

How To Make A Pumpkin Cake

- 3 cups sifted flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- ½ cup finely chopped walnuts
- 1 ½ cups salad oil
- 2 cups canned pumpkin
- 2 cups sugar

• 4 eggs, beaten

Sift flour once (measure): add salt, soda, baking powder, and spice and sift again. Add nuts. Combine oil, pumpkin, sugar, and eggs, beating well with rotary beater until well blended and light. Add dry ingredients and beat well. Pour into well -greased 10-inch tube pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour or until a cake tester comes out clean! Enjoy!



www.shutterstock.com - 63697321

Fantastic Fifth

On October 31st 1000 BC, a man named Old Man Jankins was harvesting pumpkins from his pumpkin patch. When he went inside he carved pumpkins for his front porch, which was currently a frightening disaster of bats and spiders. He then decided that he should show his master. He walked to people's houses with a pumpkin mounted over his head. Everyone was so scared they gave him candy. Eventually every kid in the neighborhood was following his tracks, but dressing up as different dread-

ful things.

Here is another story of how Halloween began. One day the Mexican people decided that there should be a holiday honoring the dead. They decided that they would do that by dressing up!

The Americans found out about it and made a few changes, like dressing up as whatever they wanted and going door to door saying "trick or treat!" so the people would give them candy. After a

while, more countries started to do it. In the 20th century, they decided to decorate their houses and pumpkins, because they had so many of them!



Super Sixth

By: Rebecca Brenner

Well, it's that time of year again. Leaves are changing color and falling off of the trees, candy, kids in costumes, and Halloween of course! This time of year most people are concerned about candy and costumes, but I am interested in movies and TV shows. I think they make Halloween come alive!

Some of my favorite movies are the following: The Haunted Mansion, The Tower of Terror and Halloween Town. But that is only the half of it. If you don't have time to go to the movies, you can watch some of my favorite TV shows like Toy Story of Terror, It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown, and Godmother.

Now, if you care for movies and TV shows as much as I do, you

should give these a try. If you are not a fan of creepy and scary movies, these are all okay. So next time you sit down to watch a movie with your family give these a try!

Super Sixth Part Two

By Adamaris Martinez

I've got a super fun, easy, and just in time for Halloween candy recipe! This is what you need!

- 1 pound brown sugar
- 1 cup of corn syrup
- 2 sticks of butter (maybe more for pans)
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk

First, you make your own little Halloween witch potion and put all of the ingredients in a pan (use the biggest pan you have) and put it on the stove and bring it to a boil. After it bubbles, start a timer for ten minutes and stir constantly. When it goes off, stop and pour it into a buttered pan and wait until it dries to cut. Then finally wrap them in wax paper or elastic wrap and

it's ready to be enjoyed by you and all those trick- or – treaters! Some fun extras you can do is put in peanuts or dip the caramels in chocolate. Anyway you make them, they will be delicious!

Sweet Seventh

By: Sam Gulla

November is finally here! The month where everyone's making plans for Thanksgiving, deciding what kind of food to make to stuff everyone in your family, and getting to wear fall and winter clothes! Since it's November, we're getting into the spirit of being thankful! We are all thankful for many, many things and it's incredible! Using each letter of Thanksgiving, here's what I'm thankful for!

The Lord, Happiness, Animals, Nights, Knowledge, Sports, Gifts, Internet, Veterans, Inspiration, Nephews, Generosity.

Enchanting Eight

By: Maddie Kirby

What are your five favorite things about fall? Never really thought about it? My all-time favorite season is fall! I love fall fashion, the food, football, fall festivities, and the falling leaves.

My first fall time fave would have to be fall fashion. What I love most about fall fashion is all the

comfy sweaters and boots! I love being able to dress cozy and warm! Fall is perfect weather, the leaves are changing, and it isn't too hot or cold. You can tell that it is fall when you see everyone wearing deep oranges, plum, burgundy, and earth tones. Similar to the colors of the changing leaves.

My favorite fall-ishious dishes are my Aunt Kackey's fa-

mous Halloween chili! I love Costco's pump-kin pie (because my mom has never attempted pie). Eating endless apples that my siblings and I picked from the apple orchard, because apparently 30 lbs. of apples is very different once you bring them home. And who knew there were so many ways to make sweet potatoes? Mashed, hashed, casserole, fries, baked.this because my mom has attempted all of these, unlike the pie.

Page 6 SMA Informer

Eight Grade Article Continued:

I only know this because my mom has attempted all of these, unlike the pie.

F is for football whether it's the NFL or college you like; I prefer college ball. GO BAMA! ROLL TIDE! Some people are not crazy about football, but what I have noticed is yes, the game could be exciting, or terrible, but what makes the game most enjoyable is the people it brings together and the food they share

What's not to love about the fall festivities? We have so many to

choose from! Apple picking, Halloween decorating, pumpkin picking, hay rides, gathering and jumping in leaves, leaf collecting, haunted houses, fall fests, roasted corn, and attending football games! (Go Mustangs! What the what? I mean go Cowboys! Yee-haw!)

Falling leaves? Well.. sound sad? Okay, so I don't really like the falling part but I like the colors, and I needed five faves. Have you ever noticed all the different colors of the changing leaves? Or why some are prettier than others? Falling leaves make me sad, because that means my favorite season is

coming to and end. But worst of all that means my least favorite season is about to blow into the windy season!

Any why are these my five fall faves? Because these have all become traditions in my family, and traditions are what make some of our best memories!

Black Friday!

By: Mia Skibicki

Black Friday has been around for nearly 100 years! Black Friday is one of the most stressful shopping days in the U.S.

For those of you that do not know what Black Friday is, it is the day

after Thanksgiving where people line up in front of stores to get the best deal on things they want to purchase. Black Friday is the start to Christmas shopping!

If you are interested in going Black Friday shop-

ping, you should get up super early! Retailers open up their stores as early as 5 a.m. Have fun!



Skating Into a New NHL Year

By Kailey Kraft

The NHL is back! The NHL season started on October 8th. The Chicago Blackhawks, Illinois' NHL team, won their first game against the Dallas Stars 3-2. In their first home game, they played the Buffalo Sabres and won 6-2. Last year, the L.A. Kings won

the Stanley Cup. Will this year be the year the Toronto Maple Leafs finally break their 46 season cup drought? Will the Vancouver Canucks finally win the cup? Or will the Chicago Blackhawks win their 6th Stanley Cup? We'll just have to wait and see.



Fall Activities

By: Lauren Abbatacola

Now that fall has finally arrived, there are so many fun things to do! Even though Halloween is over you can still decorate your house with Thanksgiving decorations and even carve pumpkins! Baking is another one of my favorite things to do in the fall time. Check out the recipes in this issue of the newspapers and try them out at home, but make sure to have an adult help you. Another one of my favorite things to do is visit with all

my family members. Some of my favorite things to do with my family are go downtown, try new restaurants and just spend time together! My last favorite thing to do is to give back. There will always be people, who have less than you, and there will always be people who have less than you, so it is important to help those who have less than you!

How To Make Homemade Ice Cream

By: Michael Mack

Ingredients:

- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 2 cups half-and-half cream
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 bag crushed ice
- 4 cups coarse salt

Recipe:

1. In a pitcher or large measuring cup, stir together the whipping cream, half-and-half, sugar, and vanilla extract until sugar has dissolved.

- 2. Pour about 1/2 cup of mixture into a pint-size plastic bag and seal carefully, squeezing out extra air. Place each sealed bag into a second pint-size bag, again squeezing out extra air. Seal carefully.
- 3. Fill each gallon-size plastic bag about halfway with ice and add 1/2 cup coarse salt. Place one sealed small bag into the large bag, squeeze out most of the air, and seal the large bag.
- 4. Wear mittens or thick gloves, or wrap the bag in a towel to protect hands against the extreme cold. Shake and massage the bag for about 5 minutes or until mixture thickens into ice cream. Add more salt and ice to the outer bag if ice cream hasn't formed after 10 minutes of continuous mo-

tion.

5. Remove the outer pint-size bag before you open the inner bag so you don't get any of the salty ice on your ice cream!



Fun Page!

Find the hidden Halloween words and circle them!

BAT BOO CANDY GHOST GHOUL MASK MONSTER ZOMBIE

GZDANIEL

HOYTYVMU

OMACIBOO

SBYVCPZH

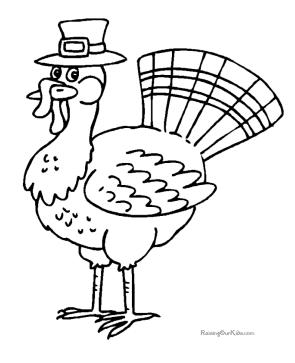
TIPIACVG

RETSNOMA

MASKDWSI

ODCPYDWS

(c) www.1halloween.net







St. Monica Academy

5115 N Mont Clare

Chicago, IL

60656

Phone: 773-631-7880

Fax: 773-631-3266

Email: Stmonicachicago.com

We're on the web!

www.stmonicachicago.com

Mission Statement

As the St. Monica Academy newspaper, we strive to provide students with news and entertainment. Through our newspaper, we hope that you will learn more about our Catholic academy and your fellow students. We will honor your stories and opinions and will publish objectively and factually. Our paper includes games, comics, jokes and fun pages for your creative side. Our goal is to live up to our motto, "We Keep Our School Informed."

Dear Mrs. Losurdo and Mr. Sheehan,

After all of these years we still remember you at SMA. We all love and miss you so much. Thank you for your time here! We will never forget you!

St. Monica Academy's Newspaper Editors

Senior Editors: Lauren Abbatacola, Mia Skibicki, and Anna Lisowski

Junior Editors: Kailey Kraft and

Olivia Brunell

Enforcer: Alex Knup

Thank you Mrs. Mash and Mrs. Jacinto for all the hard work you put into the newspaper! We are so lucky we have such wonderful teachers like you on our newspaper staff!

Love,

The Editors