

THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School * Fremont, CA * December 22, 2021

Booster Shots prove efficient against Covid variant Omicron

Ethan Faust Reporter

Doctors have recently discovered a new variant of Covid-19. This new variant is called Omicron and it is starting to spread throughout the United States. Many people in California are starting to get concerned about this variant since cases have been reported in the Bay Area in places like San Francisco and Berkeley.

Omicron seems to be strong, and could have a chance of forcing students to attend school online again.

6th grader James Lombard stated, "If the variant gets worse, I think we should go back to online school."

A plan like this could protect people from this variant and the Covid-19 virus, too. Recent vaccines that doctors and scientists have made have protected people from the Covid-19 virus. However, according to [cnet.com](https://www.cnet.com), it states that Omicron might be too strong

for Covid vaccines, so Moderna, a vaccine developer, is currently making an Omicron targeting booster shot.

With the booster shot now available for people 18 and older, this can also help people protect themselves. Omicron and Delta variant, and Covid-19 cases are rapidly increasing this winter season

8th grader Daksh Bains replied, "Yes, I think there should be a booster shot for middle schoolers because it would be more helpful and healthy for us students."

A booster shot for middle schoolers and younger ages would also be good because it would increase the chance for schools to stay in-person instead of going back into online school.

"I think that Omicron will not spread as fast because of people getting their vaccine.", 8th grade science teacher Mr. Bae stated. Omicron is a brand new variant and for now has not spread as much as Covid and Delta, but Covid-19 and the Delta variant have both been spreading fast. However, according to [usnews.com](https://www.usnews.com), Omicron has been spreading twice as fast as Delta did through Africa. As [cnet.com](https://www.cnet.com) stated, Moderna is making an Omicron targeting booster shot, hoping that Omicron cases don't have a chance of spreading fast in America.

Disclaimer: since this article was written, more details have been found around this Omicron variant.

Homerooms compete in Winter Door Decorating Contest

Ruby Sanchez Morales Reporter

The Door Decoration contest was from December 1st until December 16. The office staff continued to judge the doors this year. They judged the doors on December 17 in the morning. Homerooms that have their own classroom door already know where to start. For P.E., homeroom students are able to use the locker doors for the chance of winning.

This is a new year and most classrooms were hyped to see who is the best. Of course, planning can be stressful when you're on the clock.

Students like Jesiah Sok, 8th grader, stated issues about the contest. One being that finding motivation in students to help and support can get difficult. Then ideas can get hard when there are so many different categories that can lead on from a winter theme.



Photo from Google Images
Homerooms decorate doors for winter contest.

In past years doors were decorated like Christmas, The Grinch, or even Polar Express. To make it better, Ms. Alves suggested covering more areas than the door and making it 3D. Art isn't the exact skill for most people, but teachers can agree that the door contest is meant to bring

homerooms together to add more winter spirit into Walters. As facilitators the teachers are meant to help guide the event, but this task is meant for students to take a challenge. Even if some teachers didn't have enough motivation, making a group of students to be in charge of decorating the door works well.

Josefina Hernandez Peredes was a part of a group in her homeroom classroom of Art. Her team as well as her believe they got the advantage of winning because of their class. Competition can be fierce because Ms. Weber's class seems to be more motivated than most classes. In the end, Ms. Gentry's class took 1st place. But Ms. Weber's class won the overall homeroom semester spirit point competition.

Editorial: Students express opinion on Astroworld deaths

Marfa Gnedovskaia Reporter

On November 5th and 6th, during the annual Astroworld event hosted by the rapper Travis Scott, ten people died. The event which was held in Houston, Texas had been an annual event and had never led to these kinds of consequences before. There were about 50,000 people assembled at the event during the time of the deaths.

It was a tragic event that sparked many conversations about the safety of concerts. Many people believe that Travis Scott needs to be held accountable for the casualties at his event.

The conditions at the event looked crazy from the start. "There was a lot of mob mentality going on, people willing to do whatever to be in line for merch, food, shows, you name it. A lot of fights broke out throughout the day," said Neema Djavadzadehin, a concert-goer, in an interview with the

New York Times, adding that it was "hectic from the beginning."

I believe that Travis Scott should be held accountable for these deaths. People don't just die from a concert. It was noticeably unsafe to the people and the staff at the event. People cannot be suffocating in a crowd, of course it's a concert and people will inevitably be close together, but if people are close together enough to be dying from the lack of air. That is too much.

"The situation is absolutely unacceptable," said Genivieve Bauer, 8th grade, "he (Travis Scott) could clearly see ambulances in the crowd, there is footage of people asking stage staff for help. It's so dumb that people brush it off as if its normal."

I absolutely agree with her statement. A lot of people don't see this as an actual problem, but the way he handled it was also very poor.

8th grader, Kaylee Montavo said, "Travis Scott should have hired a better security team and a better management team." Along with that she explained that she would have handled the situation very differently. I agree that these types of situations can be handled and should be handled.

Could you imagine going to a concert and watching people drop dead? That is terrifying and just can't be reality. Travis Scott could have done something about it.

Many musicians stopped their shows to help fans, others paused and drew attention of security to the spot. Looking further, he could have hired a better security team. Travis Scott has enough money to do that, unlike other artists who could have been just starting out.

Review: Disney movie, *Encanto*, represents Latinx people

Evelyn Rodriguez Reporter

The Disney movie, *Encanto*, was released on November 24, 2021. This movie is about a Colombian girl named Mirabel and her family, the Madrigals. The Madrigals live in a magical house in a place called Encanto. Mirabel is the only one in her family without magic. The representation of Latinx families and culture in this movie is well done.

For the Latinx community, this movie is something that can inspire young children. I believe that Disney lacks representation of people of color, especially in Disney Princesses.

"Yes, they always keep it focused on white people and they never give POC people enough representation in the media," added Morrow Ivanez, 8th grade. I think that this is also an opportunity for children around the world who are a part of this community to see a connection between them and the characters in this movie. Young people of color, like me, grew up with little or no representation

in movies, we never saw Hispanic princesses or at least positive representation of Hispanic characters. This movie changes that, children will finally be able to see characters that look like them. Children will see characters that have features like theirs and be proud of their ethnic features.

In this movie we see a character design like Mirabel's. Mirabel is seen as a young Latina woman with round, green glasses and short, curly hair and a copper skin tone. I think young girls will see Mirabel and be able to relate to her.

In the movie, there are many people of color from Afro-Latinos to pale skinned Latinos. The Colombian culture shown by Disney in this movie is very accurate. For example, in this movie they show Arepas con Queso, and their outfits in the movie. All the characters in this movie are wearing traditional clothing.

Altogether, I recommend this movie but I think Disney needs to give people of color even more representation. We still have a long way



Photo from Google Images
The newest Disney film, *Encanto*, represents people of color.

to go. I hope in the future other companies like Disney are able to increase the diversity of their characters, so children have some sort of positive representation.

Life size Gingerbread House in San Francisco open for the public

Katherine Reed Reporter

Gingerbread houses are one of the more famous traditions to do during the holiday season.

Some families bake and build a homemade gingerbread house in their homes together and then some families participate in traveling miles and miles to San Francisco to see the professionally done gingerbread house at the Fairmont Hotel.

Mr. Cameron White, a front desk clerk for seven years at the Fairmont Hotel said, "Families have made it a yearly tradition to take a portrait in front of the gingerbread house. Some families have come for years and years."

Every year for about the past twenty years, the engineers and culinary staff of the hotel start making plans in July. Each year since it started, the gingerbread house got bigger and bigger. This year the Victorian Gingerbread house is 22 feet tall and 23 feet wide, completely life sized and yes, edible!

According to sf.funcheap.com, "The gingerbread house typically uses 1,000 pounds of powdered sugar, 150



Photo by Katherine Reed

Many people come to see the life size Gingerbread house located at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco.

gallons of egg whites, 1,900 pounds of candy for decoration, and is made up of more than 8,000 gingerbread bricks."

It roughly takes about 520 hours of constructing, outfitting, and

lifting the gingerbread house into the lobby of the Fairmont Hotel.

Mr. Cameron White stated, "The gingerbread house takes about 3 weeks to build."

The gingerbread house first goes up on the 27th of November, and the hotel staff takes it all down about a month later.

Although a lot of people visit there every year, a Bay Area native, 7th grader Destiny Meyer mentioned, "No, I haven't seen the life-size gingerbread house in San Francisco. But I would want to visit because I want to eat it!"

Other people like Destiny would like to visit the famous gingerbread house at the Fairmont Hotel like 8th grader Kalea Rogers, who stated "If I can, because it seems like fun."

Go to the Fairmont Hotel. The address is 950 Mason St., San Francisco, CA 94108. You can call for details or questions at (415) 772-5000.

Crippsmas Place event attracts many people in Fremont

Amalia Rigmaiden Reporter

The holidays are starting up and there are many events for different holidays, especially Christmas. One of the events that happens every year is Crippsmas Place in Fremont. Crippsmas Place lets people give to 6 different charities and lets families have fun while driving or walking around streets full of decorations.

According to crippsmasplace.org, "The 70+ homes of Crippsmas Place are on Cripps Place, Asquith Place, Nicolet Court, Wellington Place, and the stretch of Nicolet Avenue between Gibraltar Drive and Perkins Street."

Crippsmas Place started in 1967 by a man named Robert "Spider" Cantley as a fundraiser to help cancer patients after his mother was lost to leukemia. He did this for a little over 60 years until he retired.

After his retirement, somebody else took over named Kate Amon in 2004.

Since then, Kate Amon is the president of everything for Crippsmas Place and started donating to 6 different charities. Kate Amon, President of the Crippsmas club said, "One of the most fun parts about it is when kids recognize all the characters."

Crippsmas Place is full of great things but one of the best things there is the decorations. The decorations, some people say, are elaborate and decorative.

Lilliana Leon-Franco, 5th grade teacher at Grimmer Elementary explained, "I love that it brings families and the communities together."

Crippsmas Place gives to six specific charities after they get the money people donated. One of them is



Photo from Google Images

Crippsmas Place in Fremont attracts viewers from around the Bay Area..

the Adopt an Angel fundraiser. The other charities are the Leukemia Lymphoma Society, SAVE (Safe alternatives to violent environments), HERS breast cancer foundation, Fremont Family Resource center and Ohlone's Humane society's wildlife rehabilitation center.

WEB helps 6th graders feel welcome in middle school

Jenise Camacho Reporter

WEB is run by three teachers: Ms. Baird, Mr. Kinnear, and Mr. Bae. WEB started at Walters a few years ago. It stands for Where Everyone Belongs. They meet once a month during lunch, but more often when there are upcoming events.

WEB is a group of about twenty 8th graders that help the 6th graders fit into the school, since it's their first year in middle school. 6th grade science and math teacher Ms. Baird said, "WEB is about welcoming our 6th graders into the Walters Middle School community and helping create a school culture where everyone feels like they have someone they can talk to."

They help focus on making sure the 6th graders are feeling welcome to their new school. They ran WEB Day in August where they played games and got to know the 6th graders. Throughout the school year, they have gotten 6th-grade buddies to eat lunch with, help with homework, and help run events like the 6th-grade holiday movie.

The librarian, Ms. Kent-Berge, stated, "WEB is a way to connect with others and express yourself better."

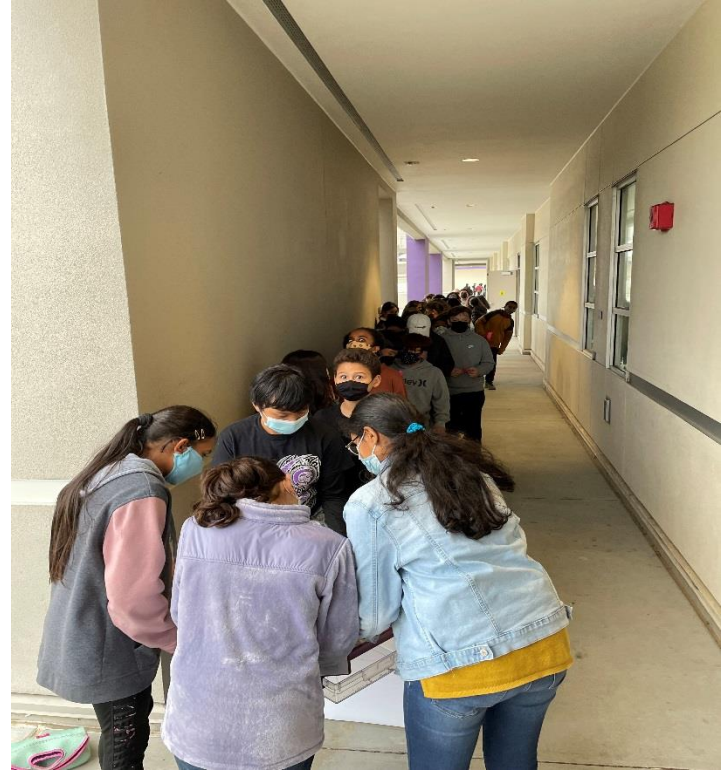


Photo by Ms. Baird

Tanvi Sheth, Sofia Valdivia, and Sana Kamlesh (left to right), three WEB leaders, sell tickets to the 6th graders for the holiday movie event that took place in the library.

Winter Concert starts off holiday season

Charles Olivas Watts Reporter

On December 15th, our school band had a concert. The concert was at 6pm in the big gym. Our band teacher, Mr. Cruz, hosted the concert.

Mr. Cruz said, "I'm excited for this year's concert because it's been over two years since our last concert."

Some of the songs that were played at the concert were slow songs, holiday songs and a lot more.

Natalie Aye, 7th grade band member, commented that they've been preparing for this concert for the last two months. Natalie plays the trumpet in part 13. Band students were excited to play in this concert.



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Basketball coach, Mr. Ovalle, supports students on the court

Armando Dominguez Martinez Reporter

The boys' basketball team is looking strong, but every good team has a good coach. This year, the coach is Mr. Ovalle. He is from Modesto, California. He's taking this year very seriously and he wants to win every game his teams play. He coaches both teams, the A team *and* the B team.

He used to coach the Kennedy High School basketball team for two years, and he also coached a college basketball team. Mr. Ovalle has been teaching for 7 years at Kennedy as a history teacher and is here to prepare players for the Kennedy basketball team.

Mr. Ovalle thinks the basketball team can get a lot better after having played the first round of the season. He wants to turn players' weaknesses into strengths. He also wants teams to follow the game plan so that the team can win. He loves how the two teams are all getting along and that they show respect.

Mr. Ovalle would love to have a bigger gym since there are a lot of kids practicing and lots of people watching the game. One interesting fact about him is that he would be a soccer coach if he wasn't a basketball coach.



Photo by Armando Dominguez Martinez

Mr. Ovalle is the boys' basketball coach at Walters for both the A team *and* the B team. During the school day he is a teacher at Kennedy High School. Then he heads over to Walters to coach the boys basketball team.

Staff Feature: Campus supervisor, Jose, helps keep campus safe

Jayden Van Syckle Reporter



Photo by Jayden Van Syckle

Our campus supervisor, Jose, is cared about and respected by kids across campus.

Jose Ornelas-Avila is a campus supervisor on campus this year. His job is to make sure everyone is safe and follows the rules. He didn't attend college because he decided to start working right after he graduated high school. He started working for the Fremont Unified School District in 2017.

According to Jose, he loves history. He always found it interesting and loved that he could help students if they needed help in history class.

Jose loves to come to school because of the respect he is given. He stated, "I feel like the students listen to and honor what I have to say."

He mentioned that the only thing he is upset about is waking up in the morning and the cold

weather. Otherwise, he loves coming to Walters every day because of how well he is treated. "I feel loved," he said.

Many students think positively of Jose. They see him as a friend that they can hang out with. Arvin Khadka, an 8th grader, said, "I haven't known him for a long time, but he has always been chill."

On days when Jose comes into classes to bring a student to the office or drop something off, the class gets excited to see him. When Jose rides around on campus in his golf cart, students like to greet him.

Issac Chang, an 8th grader, added, "Other than him telling me to run a lap in PE when I am not sitting on my number, Jose seems like a really nice guy."

First Person: What it is like to be a reporter for a semester

Roger Gonzalez Reporter

This year has been interesting for all students. Everyone has been learning new things, meeting new people, and attending new classes. Everyone gets an elective for the semester or for the entire school year; some being easy while other ones being hard. I ended up in Publications.

Publications is a class where students produce the yearbook and newspaper with the help of our teacher, Ms. Yuen. I decided to be a reporter for the school newspaper. That means that throughout the semester, I wrote articles that would go into the school newspaper.

When I first started, I had doubts about myself and how my articles would turn out. I didn't believe in myself, which caused some stress. After I looked at the first article that I wrote, I realized that it was not the

best. It was bad compared to other ones I have made.

Once I started working hard on my second article, I realized that I was not as bad at writing as I thought. That took away a lot of the stress I had at the beginning of the year. Now, I enjoy finding sources and making articles.

One of my classmates, Jayden Van Syckle, an 8th grade reporter, is a friend of mine who also writes articles for the newspaper. Being a reporter helped Jayden accomplish many things. Jayden commented, "Being a reporter made me less anti-social." The reason for that was because when making articles, he needed to go out and interview people. Slowly but surely, he got better at conversing with other students.

Another friend of mine also got placed in the publications. His name is Armando De Jesus Dominguez

Martinez Ruiz. He is also in 8th grade and a reporter for the school newspaper. What he got from this class was being able to view the world in a different perspective than normal. Amando stated, "I had a fun time going out and interviewing and overall it is fun to make an article." What helped him make good articles was to go over the notes he wrote at the beginning of the year.

Another one of my peers is named Daniel Vaidhyan. He is an assistant editor and he is in 7th grade. He likes to edit articles and our teacher, Ms. Yuen taught him how to be a good reporter. Daniel said "If I become a journalist I can write good articles and if I can get a job related to writing it will help me in that, too." Daniel also said that overall he enjoyed being in the class and helping everyone out with their assignments.

Yearbookers share why they enjoy being on the yearbook team

Ara Bolourchi Reporter

The yearbook has the best memories of every school year. Students can use yearbooks to look through their memories from the entire year. Making the yearbook is hard and takes a lot of time and effort. It takes from late September until March.

There are seven people who work on the yearbook team, 7th and 8th graders: Rocky Yang, Kushi Aravinda, Ryan Vang, Kon Chence Delaney, Aniyah Matthews, Sarah Vivero, and Natalie Krause. They all work together to complete the yearbook and make sure that it looks perfect.

Each member of the yearbook staff wanted to join for a different reason. Sarah Vivero, 7th grade, stated, "I wanted to join the yearbook staff to have an opportunity to make the yearbook."

Some students found interest in being part of the yearbook team because they wanted to do something fun that they had never done before.

Ryan Vang, 7th grade, explained, "I joined the yearbook staff because I wanted to try something new and it seemed interesting."



Photo by Khanh Do

Yearbookers have worked hard for the entire semester and now get to share the cover design of the 2022 yearbook!

Other yearbookers know people who were on the yearbook team and that made them want to try being on the yearbook team, too.

Kon Chence Delaney, 8th grade said, "My sister's friend joined the yearbook staff and thought I'd like it." The price is now \$45. Order yearbooks at www.yearbookordercenter.com, order #6803.

December/January Calendar

December 22-January 10: Winter Break

December 24: Christmas Eve

December 25: Christmas Day

December 26-January 1: Kwanza

December 31: New Year's Eve

January 10: return to school

Russians celebrate New Year with remarkable traditions and feasts

Arthur Nechayev Reporter



Photo
from
Google
Images

The New
Year
holiday
brings joy
and
holiday
spirit to
families.

With years of both prosperity and famine, Ex-Soviet culture is very different from other cultures. And that is no different for Russian New Years. On Russian New Years, people drink champagne, cook many iconic Russian dishes, and give gifts. But most importantly, the Russian New Year is a way to enjoy yourself and connect with friends and family.

But the Russian New Year wasn't always this way. According to www.timeandday.com, before the 16th century the Russian New Year was celebrated on the time when the tax year ended, on September 1. But in the 16th century, ruler Peter 1 tried to "westernize the world", so he transitioned to the Julian Calendar (and moved New Years to January 1 in the process).

Taiwan and China's conflicts were built up over decades

Zain Ul Abdeen Mazhar Reporter

A shadow war has been waged between China and Taiwan for more than eight decades now, dating back to the 1940s and WWII. According to the BBC, when Japan surrendered at the end of WWII, this caused China to take over Taiwan.

As a result, The Taiwanese locals were never fond of the Chinese government and the sudden change of power. The China-Taiwan relationship has deteriorated further since, when the Chinese civil war leader, Chiang Kai-Shek, fled to Taiwan upon failing to win the civil war. As a result, they did extremely well in Taiwan politics. Therefore, the locals grew to dislike China even more than before.

Their relationship improved in the 1980s, but then China put in a system that would give Taiwan full autonomy upon acceptance. Taiwan refused to accept the offer, but it made the rules of visiting China less strict than before.

In 2000, when Taiwan elected Chen Shui-bian as president, Beijing was alerted, as Chen Shui-bian promoted the idea of an independent Taiwan.

When he was re-elected in 2004 China passed a law that if Taiwan tried to separate from China or tried to gain independence, China would take "non-peaceful" measures.

"It doesn't really give Taiwan that much freedom and looks like a breach of morals," 7th grader, Amalia Rigmaiden stated.

Therefore, at this point, their relationship started to weaken again. In 2008, Chen Shui-bian was followed by Ma Ying-jeou who wanted to improve relations between China and Taiwan but after 8 years in 2016, when Tsai Ing-wen was elected as president, Beijing started paying even more attention to Taiwan as she led the Democratic Progressive Party which was also like Chen Shui-bian and promoted the idea of an independent Taiwan.

After Donald Trump was elected as U.S president in 2016, Tsai Ing-wen spoke to him by phone and formal relations with the U.S had been cut. Even though these formal ties were cut, the U.S promised to supply Taiwan with defensive weapons and stated that if

Then from 1919 to 1937, the Boshelvicks banned New Years in Russia, stating it is a borgorious holiday. In 1947, the holiday became a non-labor holiday and in 1976, the president started showing up on TV shows for new years.

Nowadays, the Russian New Year is a very big holiday. The Russian New Year is very similar to Christmas. Marfa Gnedovskaia, 8th grader said, "I usually decorate a Christmas tree, eat iconic Russian dishes like olivye and shashlik, and drink champagne at 12 AM."

People usually invite or go with other friends to someone's house to celebrate New Years and watch the president's speech on TV. Makar Velikanov, 7th grader, said, "I usually go over to my friends... Even the Kremlin tower rings right at 12 o'clock, signaling that it is New Years. My family also opens a canned watermelon that they canned in August everyday for New Years."

Russian New Years is surely a very interesting holiday with many differences and similarities to English New Years. Russian New Years has many traditions like eating delicious dishes, watching the Kremlin tower, and drinking. But no matter how you celebrate New Years, people always like meeting their family and friends during this special occasion.

China attacks Taiwan then it would be a heavy concern. In 2018, China has tried to make it so Taiwan is acknowledged as a part of China by pressuring websites and threatening them, as listed in BBC.

Mr. Sachs, an 8th-grade history teacher stated, "America should support Taiwan and the other democracies in the south China Sea." In 2020, Tsai Ing-wen was re-elected and that same year the U.S had been strengthening its reach to Taiwan.

Eventually, in September of 2020, the U.S sent the highest-level state department official to Taiwan. China was on high alert again. China, being suspicious of the meeting stated that if the U.S gives Taiwan any wrong ideas about independence then that will damage China-U.S relations.

In 2021, China flew the largest amount of jets into Taiwan's air space in a year. 8th grader Marfa Gnedovskaia, commented, "This action was very unnecessary, and it shouldn't have been done as a means of intimidation."

First Person: Into Minecraft Dungeons new Seasonal Adventures

Liam Aliling Reporter

I am very excited to be playing Minecraft Dungeons Seasonal Adventures! The update comes out on December 14th. The first Adventure is going to be called Cloudy Climb. They will be adding new cosmetics and skins, such as flairs and emotes. There is also paid content for Seasonal Adventures, which gives you premium items.

“I’m excited, but my parents won’t get me the paid content for the game,” 6th grader Massimo Frijmersum DiPietro said. The challenges are weekly and you can play them anytime. Also, there is a new progression system called Adventure Points (AP as I am calling it), which you redeem AP at the Adventure Hub. You can find skins, emotes, and flairs.

My favorite emote (so far) is the “Ironic Dance”, where the hero will dab. Yes, I know it’s cringy, but I don’t really care. I have plans to play it with my group of friends who play, which I have dubbed The Pack, when it releases, and also during the break. There is also a new single-player location called The Tower, where you become a Tower Avatar, and you play through different levels, where each floor gets progressively harder. 6th grader Anthony Gill thinks that Seasonal Adventures is pretty cool.

When the update gets released, I plan to do an Ancient Hunt and some regular levels with The Pack and some Tower floors by myself. *minecraft.net* stated, “The journey continues as Seasonal Adventures—free, themed events—up the ante in Minecraft Dungeons. Join weekly challenges to earn



Photo from Google Images

Fans are excited for the new update features added into Minecraft Dungeons.

Adventure Points and work towards unlocking exclusive rewards, through an all-new progression system.” I feel like this will open up even more opportunities for players to be doing things in the game, since the game’s release around 18 months ago. The final DLC for Minecraft Dungeons, Echoing Void, was released on July 28th, 2021.

7th grader Jonathan Bae said, “It feels so exciting and I can’t wait to try it out!” I feel him. I am also much hyped to try this new chapter in Minecraft Dungeons.

A new chapter dawns on the tactical survival game “Fortnite”

Rishi Pal Reporter



Photo from Google Images

Fortnite Chapter 3 begins as the last chapter comes to a close with a climactic ending.

Fortnite, a 3rd person survival game developed by Epic Games, has ended its second chapter with a live event called “The End.” Even though Fortnite is loved by a lot of people, a lot of people don’t like the game. Malakai Mazo, a 7th grade student, said that Fortnite is terrible.

Even though Fortnite is hated by a lot of people, a lot of people still enjoy the game. In the live event, the player is being attacked by the Cube Queen, one of the main antagonists. Meanwhile, 2 characters called Agent Jones and The Foundation are trying to save the player while escaping from Dr. Slone, another antagonist who works for the Imagined Order, which is an organization that keeps order within Fortnite. When the characters escape, they open a bunker, and the player jumps in. At the end of the event, the Fortnite Map is flipped. The Cube Queen dies and the player gets knocked out by a wave. Ekamjot Kaeley, a 7th grader, said that the Fortnite event was good.

After a day of downtime, Fortnite Chapter 3 was released. In the new chapter, there are new movements, such as sliding and swinging. Even though people thought the live event was good, some people didn’t like the new chapter, such as Utsav Kundi, a 7th grader. He stated that the new Fortnite chapter is bad.

Artemis program by NASA plans to return to the moon by 2024

Tate Aliling Reporter

Artemis is a space program created by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or NASA. Its goal is to return to the moon by 2024, and put the next man, first person of color, and first woman on the lunar surface.

The first shuttle, Artemis 1, will launch on February 12, 2022. It will go around the moon, similar to Apollo 8 back in 1968. It will be the first test and launch of the massive Space Launch System (SLS) rocket.

In addition, it will be carrying the brand new Orion Space Capsule, which will be able to explore space and go to places such as the Moon and Mars. It won't be manned, but their passengers include 2 crash test dummies wearing spacesuits (nicknamed "manikins"), a Silver Snoopy award given to astronauts, 4 Lego minifigures, and a Snoopy plush wearing the same spacesuit that the manikins are wearing.

The reports from the manikins and their suits will help out with the next mission, Artemis 2, which is going to have astronauts aboard.

The SLS Rocket is the next generation of rockets with an astonishing height of 212 feet, with 2 solid rocket boosters. Meanwhile, its spacecraft, Orion, has a maximum



Photo from Google Images

The Artemis mission plans to reach the moon by 2024.

occupancy of 4 astronauts. Instead of carrying a lander, it will dock to a space station called Gateway, and the lander will also be docked there and land whenever they need to.

Eduardo Godoy, a 7th grader, says that returning to the moon is important since it gives us technology that we can use on Earth. He wants to become an astronaut and visit the moon. "I am very excited for the launch because I have been waiting for a whole year," Eduardo stated.

Ojas Girish, the founder of Walter's Astronomy Club, 8th grader, said, "I feel great that we are returning to the Moon, but the SLS, Orion, and Artemis launches are expensive; they cost 20 billion! Apollo was less expensive than that, billion. Starship (the spacecraft/lander that Elon Musk is making) is less expensive to launch;

its cost to launch is 2 million, and can land without a lander, but the SLS is a new generation of rockets," he commented. He would prefer to go to Mars, because it is a new world to research and discover.

Nevertheless, returning to the Moon is a major step in history, because it will help us colonize other worlds, and help us learn about the universe. Currently, NASA is the only country that has landed people on the moon, but other countries and private companies, such as Russia and SpaceX, are going to land there, too. The reason the mission was named Artemis is because Artemis, in Greek mythology, is the goddess of the moon.

The mission's layout is relatively similar to how the Apollo spacecraft got to the Moon. They will launch from Cape Canaveral, Florida from Pad 39B. The spacecraft will go to the Moon, orbit, and then return to Earth, and reenter.

Later missions will go up with a lander, for moon landing. The second mission and all missions planned after this will be manned. When Artemis 1 launches, you can watch the launch at nasa.gov/artemis or on YouTube.

Students and teachers adapt to in-person learning, with varying opinions

Angel Villalobos Reporter

After a long year of Zoom, we are back at school. Some people preferred Zoom over in-person learning. However, a lot of people favor in-person learning, too.

8th grade history teacher Mr. Sachs said, "I liked Zoom; it is a great tool, and I think it will be used more, not less, in the future, for workplace and public school settings." Zoom can have its benefits.

However, some teachers, and most students prefer in-person learning. "Nothing beats a personal connection. Students need to be with their peers and socialize," 8th grade science teacher Mr. Bae stated. "I definitely prefer teaching

in person as opposed to Zoom. At the same time, I understand that students had difficulty adjusting to in-person learning after being online for almost two years. There's been a lot of behavioral issues, but I'm confident things will smooth over in time. It will probably take around 2 years."

In contrast to most teachers, some students do not prefer Zoom. "I hated Zoom; it was hard," commented Jedrek Hernandez.

Anime Club draws in lots of fans during lunch

Ashley Hernandez Ayala Reporter

A lot of people like to watch anime. A lot of people at Walters watch anime in the Anime Club. Anime are Japanese cartoons, there are some in different languages but most are Japanese. Here are the most common ones: One Piece, Naruto, Attack on Titan, Demon Slayer, and Sailor Moon. There are more, but these are the most well-known.

The history of anime began in the 20th century. The first ever anime was made in February of 1958, according to Wikipedia. It was called “おとぎマンガカレンダー,” which translates to Otogi Manga Calendar. It was shown on TV for the first 4 years. Now, all types of anime are streamed on TV; mystery, romance, thriller, and more. These are just some genres that are streaming on TV right now.

This year is the 65th year since the invention of anime, and it has been shown in Anime Club for a few years now.

Heidi Lopez, a 6th grader, said, “Anime is entertaining for others, not just me; there are so many different types you can watch that I like.” Anime is among the most popular Japanese and Korean shows there are.

If you are interested in watching anime, Anime Club is a place where you can watch them with friends, and



Photo from Google Images

Anime has a variety of characters that are in a lot of episodes, such as Naruto and Demon Slayer.

have fun. It's on the 2nd and 4th week of each month, and Ms. Johansson is the teacher for the Anime Club in Room 16. You just need to sign in through Google classroom; the code for the classroom is Z3OMRA6.

Mr. Cumpian plays the drums and hosts the Drum Club

Trenton Gilbertson, Marfa Gnedovskaia Reporters

Mr. Cumpian is an 8th grade history teacher. He also teaches an elective called American Popular Music. During lunch, he hosts a drum club. His history classes are known for short stories and John Green videos. His tests aren't hard, and classes are overall fun.

In American Popular Music, videos are shown about different genres of music. He says that it is a very fun elective, and that people should join.

During lunch, in the drum club, students can explore different types of drums, and how to play them. He has been playing the drums for a very long time. Mr. Cumpian inspires himself every day when playing them. The early nineties was when Mr. Cumpian discovered the drums and the art of playing them. “That's for me!” he said when he first saw drums.

He has been playing ever since. “I play drums at school and with friends,” explained Mr. Cumpian.

He doesn't have much time to play the drums these days, with all the work he has. The drums he plays are called the Djembe. They are West-African drums, and are rope-tuned and skin-covered. Additionally, they are played



Photo by Daniel Vaidhyan

Mr. Cumpian plays the West African drum, djembe, and has been playing them for decades.

with bare hands. They are in the shape of a shell, and have been used traditionally for hundreds of years.

Mr. Cumpian has been playing drums for decades now, and loves the art a lot. He wishes that more people would join his club and play the drums with him during lunch.