



## 🎃 Spooky Halloween 🎃

Hayato M., Evalynn K., Chloe Y., Daniel J., Maddie M.

It's that time of year when people put on costumes, put out different spooky decorations, play Halloween songs, and kids are getting lots and lots of candy!

Halloween's origins go back more than 2,000 years, about people carving scary faces in pumpkins and dressing up as creepy creatures to scare away ghosts and evil spirits.

Nowadays, it's mostly just for fun, goofiness, and an opportunity to dress up, get good laughs, and earn lots of candy. Here in JMS, we have an annual costume contest for different themes, such as those costumes that look the creepiest or spookiest, or even the funniest, will get a bucket of candy as a prize. Alternatively, the best group costumes get a whole bucket of candy! Whether you get candy or not (or cavities or not), Halloween is a culture of dressing up as your favorite character, showing off your creativity, or being someone you want to be for a day.

If you want to see funny, scary, or creative outfits from Halloween, this article is for you! But before we get there, here are some stories and facts from the Student Council Activities Team.



The Monkey Group together.

“We are hoping to have our annual costume contest during lunch. Such as the spookiest or creepiest looking costumes, and those who win will get a prize, like a bucket of candy, or maybe a gift card. However, we always try to think up and try something new every year.”

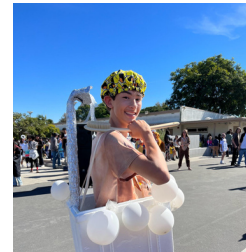
Just like the previous year, JMS's Activities Team will be hosting a costume contest, for the students

who dress up their spookiest and want lots of candy, but who don't want free candy.

“We are looking forward to lunch, to show off everyone's costumes for those students who decided to dress up. The students who dressed up will walk in a circle outside on the blacktop and have somewhat of a small 'fashion show' to let everyone see their costumes,” Thomas (Student Council Vice President) continues,

“Those students who dress up will be able to participate in this event of showing off their costumes, some people may stick to some original/classics such as a ghost, mummy, or witch. However, there may be creative students who will make their custom costumes to show off during this event.

“For the Halloween event at lunch, we're going to have four different categories, and you're going to act out the character you're dressing up as. It's going to be a costume contest, the student council will judge, and everyone is going to play and act out the role of their costume. The four different categories are going to be, funniest, best group, scariest, and the most creative costume.”



Creative Category Winner— Chris J.

The students council will be sticking with the annual costume contest, and having four different categories from the previous years. Everyone's going to show off their best costumes, to give a scare or to give everyone a good laugh. Either way, the student council will keep on providing fun and great activities for holidays all year round.

“What I really like about Halloween here in JMS is that there's a bunch of people participating and dressing up, and the best part is that if you win the contest you win some candy!”

Just like all previous years here in JMS, the student council will give their best effort to make events for holidays fun and entertaining.

# Sketchers Friendship Walk

By: Aidan O., Anthony M., Timothy V.L.

If you live around this area, you probably know what the Sketchers Walk is. You probably know what it is because the school has been talking about it for about a few weeks now, but if you don't know, it is an event that has fundraisers and they have celebrities that will be there to help support the walk. They also sign autographs in meet and greets.

The first ever Skechers Walk took place in 2009. The event raised over 18 million dollars to help the Friendship Foundation. The walk takes place in Manhattan Beach, and everyone walks all the way to Hermosa Beach. That is around 3.5 miles. 84 registered walkers participated in the walk. Along the way they gave things such as water, mocha, orange juice, and at the end they even gave some ice cream. Halfway through the walk you could see a chair with lots of halloween decorations. Lots of people were taking pictures of it and sitting on the chairs.



Group of the Jefferson Team Walking at the Skechers Walk 2023

The sketchers walk has been fundraising millions of dollars to help support children with special needs, public education, and our national college scholarship program ever since 2009.

4Ms. De La Cruz who works in our JMS library was interviewed about the money raised for the walk. She told us about how just from this year they were able to raise \$3,365 out of \$8,000. She also said that the most money ever raised from the sketchers walk was in 2021 and they raised \$15,000 because of businesses that sponsored the walk.



People in a group picture at the walk

Along the way there were many cheerleaders from all different highschools in the Torrance Unified School District. There were schools such as West High, South High, and North High, Torrance High, and more. They would cheer for walkers when they would walk by and they would perform tricks like stacking on one another. When you walked all the way to Hermosa and back to Manhattan beach they would give you a medal with the words of Sketchers Walk.

A few different walkers were interviewed about their time at the event and here is what they said.

Brandon Lee was the first person spoken to, when he was asked how long he had been doing to the for, he said that he started in 2019. Brandon was also asked what brought him to the walk, he said that he was there for a nice walk along the beach. All of the people walking got to see the amazing view of the beach.

Another walker that was interviewed was a woman named Ursula. She said that it was her first year walking. She also said that the reason why she came to the walk was so she could hang out with her friends and see the ocean. Another person that came to see the view.

The last person spoken to was Tim Cota. He said that he has been doing the walk for 2 - 3 years, and that Sketchers hired him to take pictures with all of the other walkers! He also said that he came for the people and the positive energy.

The walk had a lot of people that came. The three people that were mentioned above all gave good reasons on why they or others might have come to walk. It could have been to see the view of the beaches and the ocean. Or it could have been to hang out with friends or meet some new people. It also shows how people that have been doing the walk for a while still go, and that new people are also trying the walk! Will people come for the same reasons next year, you'll just have to wait and find out!

## Lakers Start The Season Out Rough

By: Harshil Polina

The Lakers have finished their preseason, and are having their first game on October 24. Many people are excited for this game, because both teams have talent. In the Lakers rematch against the Denver Nuggets, they lost 119-107. The Denver Nuggets are currently undefeated, and the Lakers have 2 wins and 2 losses. The Lakers have an all time record of 113-76 against the Nuggets.

The Denver Nuggets won the first quarter and fourth quarter. The score was 107 - 119. Some of the MVP's were LeBron James who played for 29 minutes, had 8 rebounds, 5 assists, and 21 points. Anthony Davis, another major player for the Lakers, played for 34 minutes, had 8 rebounds, 4 assists, and scored 17 points.

The Lakers are currently tied for 5th in the Western Conference to start the season. Their next game was against the Phoenix Suns and fared pretty well with a 100-95 win. Many Lakers fans were looking forward to this match, because the Suns beat them in the preseason and because of their newly acquired All-Star, Bradley Beal, a sharp shooter from the 3-point line.



Lebron James going for a layup.

The Suns lost the game barely, but two star players who averaged 20 points, Devin Booker, and Bradley Beal were not playing that night. Kevin Durant played and scored most of their points. We hope the best for the Lakers this season. Many critics believe that if Bradley Beal and Devin Booker played they would have won the game by a landslide. With several new players, the Lakers will need time to adjust to each other's play as the season continues to unfold. The Lakers are currently adapting to their roster and learning each other's playstyles.

## L.A. Chargers Win 3 Out of 7 Games

By: Ashley W.

So far, the Chargers have played the Miami Dolphins, the Tennessee Titans, the Minnesota Vikings, Las Vegas Raiders, Dallas Cowboys, Kansas City Chiefs, and the Chicago Bears in the regular season.

During the game against the Dolphins, linebackers Daiyan Henley and Chris Rump II injured their hamstrings, their status is doubtful.

At the last second of the 4th quarter during the match against the Titans, the Chargers were able to kick a 33-yard field goal, making the game go on to overtime. Unfortunately, the Titans were the ones who made the final points.

After 2 losses, the Chargers were able to pull through and win twice in a row against the Vikings and the Raiders. This winning streak was, however, very short-lived.



Chargers celebrate their first win against the Vikings.

On Monday, October 16th, the Chargers lost to the Cowboys. During the last quarter, the Cowboys started rallying and were able to get a 39-yard field goal, earning them an extra 3 points. For the remainder of the game, the Chargers were unable to score, losing to the Cowboys by 3 points (20 to 17).

When they played against the Chiefs at the Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, they got crushed. In the second quarter, they scored 14 more points but after the first half, they couldn't get any more. In the end, they were behind by 14 points, final score of 17 to 31.

Their most recent game was against the Chicago Bears which was held here at SoFi Stadium on Sunday, October 29th. They were able to win by 17 points, with the final score 13 to 30. Their next game will be against the New York Jets on November 6th, 2023. Good luck!

## 4 Day Week For The Win or 4 Day Week For The Bin?

By: Daksh P. Mason W. Ali A.

RING! That's the aggressive sound that blares whenever school ends, it occurs every day for about five days out of the seven in a week, or does it? We don't have to go to school for 5 days a week. Why don't we have a 4 day school week? Well, many schools across the U.S have already implemented this 4 day school week, but how would it work?



A Map of American School Districts Following the 4 Day Week

The picture above shows a map of America and the schools that follow the 4 day week rule already, the white states are states where they don't follow it at all, the brown states are states where less than 2% follow it, and the yellow states are more than 2% but less than 20%. Finally the green states are states where more than 20% follow it! Now that may seem like a lot but if you really think about it, there are only 26 states out of the 50 that allow it, and not even those have 100% 4 day school districts, only about 30% at most.

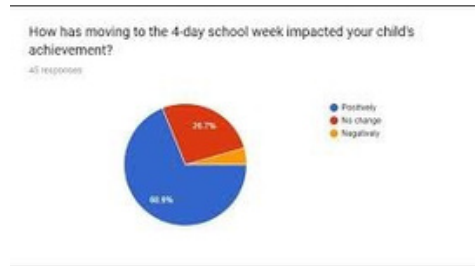
Let's figure out how it could work. You can either add more hours to each day, add more school days, or do a combination of both, a little bit of extra hours and a little bit of extra days. If you added more hours to the school days you would need to add 1 hour and 45 minutes to each day in order to make up for the missing 5th day. Doing this would mean longer classes but possibly longer breaks.

Some of the downsides of a four day school week are longer school days but also leaves more time for teachers to teach each subject in depth but if the school does not want extra hours per school day we would have about 23 and a half extra days

Some more of the things that would happen if there were a four day school week would be better mental health for the students and there would be longer breaks. To prove this, this [article](#) says "Just over 2,100

schools in 26 states have switched to a four-day school week, often in hopes of recruiting teachers, saving money and boosting student attendance, according to the most recent estimate from the Four-Day School Week [policy research team](#) at Oregon State University." This proves that schools are doing this and shows why they are doing this. They do this for reasons such as their current financial situation, the amount of teachers available, and making the students' attendance even better because there are less days to attend.

An upside is better rest, more time to do homework, longer classes means more time to teach subjects. It can also increase academic performance due to a fully charged brain. The question we have to ask is, "Do the benefits outweigh the doubts?" I know they do. "About 90 percent of districts operating four-day weeks are located in rural areas." This means that most of the schools that are doing this are probably rural so that explains why there is only about 20% of school districts doing this max, and that's because there is not a lot of rural area.



A Chart of Parents who think a Four Day School District is Good Blue is good, Red is neutral, and Orange is bad

However some students believe that a 4 day school might not be a good decision. Cullen Burch says, "The reason you get an extra day is because, oh it's like a holiday, or if there's just a chance for students to relax. Or if they relax every week then that becomes a norm and they get lazy." This student believes that if we have four day weeks every week we might become lazy because we normally only get it sometimes but if we implement this short week we can make those days harder so that the four days is deserved.

In conclusion a 4 day school week would benefit. Having more days to rest and recharge is great. We would still be able to get the same amount of work done without making the summer shorter. A 4 day school week is just good in general. Even doctors approved of it.

## Travis Kelce and Taylor Swift

By: Mari G. Diya S. Arya B. Sophia A.

Are you a fan of football or maybe you're a fan of T-Swift? If you're both, have you heard the news?! Taylor has found her man! They were seen together on October 15th holding hands. However the main question is, how did they meet?

Well they met on July 8th at Taylor's Eras tour concert where Travis was sitting at the private box. Then on September 24th he invited Taylor to go to the Kansas city chiefs game. "It all started when the 34-year-old NFL player revealed that he attempted to give the 33-year-old pop star his number via friendship bracelet during a stop on the Eras Tour." (according to the Glamorous article.)



The couple holding hands outside of Waverly Inn in New York

Back in the present time, Taylor and Travis have publicly spent a lot of time together. For instance at the *SNL* (*Saturday Night Live*) afterparty an insider told people,

"They were so talkative. They were really fun. They talked to every single person in the room that talked to them." While talking to everyone else they also had brief moments of PDA (Public Display of Affection). Another time Taylor and Travis were seen together was when they had a dinner date at Nobu 57 (a popular sushi restaurant.) The couple showed up and were very lively around each other, hanging out and chatting. Aside from their dinner dates, An article by *NBC News* writes that Taylor cheered on Kelce at the Kansas City Chiefs game against the Denver Broncos, while sitting next to his mother Donna Kelce. She has also visited many of his other games after handling her own business.

More about Donna Kelce, she thinks it's a little annoying about them dating. "Every week it's like something new. Like, really? I feel like I'm in some kind

of an alternate universe," she said. "It's really strange. But it's fun— it's a great ride. At times it gets a little annoying, but most of the time people are just so sweet, so kind, so generous. What mother doesn't want to hear that their kids are great?" according to *Entertainment Weekly*. Although she does have mixed feelings about them dating she still likes Taylor.



Swift with Donna Kelce at the Kansas City Chiefs' Arrowhead Stadium.

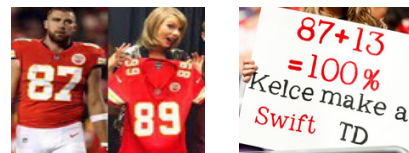
Katy Perry also comments on their relationship as well. "I ship," she wrote on Sunday, October 15 on a photo of the pair holding hands.

Fans are quite excited about their relationship, "american, muscular, famous, talented? this goes against her type omg," one person wrote in response to the news on X, formerly known as Twitter. Swifties are especially ecstatic, even going as far as printing Kelce's name on merch. An article by *TMZ* says the shirts are being sold on etsy for about \$10 to \$38, there's even a luggage with a price tag of \$206. Although most fans support their relationship, some people say the attention is getting too much. One *New Yorker* compared it to a zombie apocalypse.

"I definitely think it's too much, but I also think it's a precursor to the *Zombie* apocalypse." as well as, "I'm sure if they're in a relationship and it doesn't go well, we'll hear about it in an album."

But the NFL seems to be loving them.

The Swifties have started to gain a new interest in NFL and football. Fun facts! Taylor's lucky number is 13, "I was born on the 13th, I turned 13 on Friday the 13th, my first album went gold in 13 weeks." and Kelce's jersey number is 87. Now what is  $13 + 87$ ? 100!



A lot of Swift's lyrics could be dedicated to him. "I'll be eighty-seven; you'll be eighty-nine"

Everyone is excited for this relationship including football fans and swifties. Hopefully this doesn't end up as a breakup song!

## Russia and Ukraine

By Zara K, Kara K.

Have you heard about the ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine? It's called the Donbas War and it started because Russia annexed (took new land and make/made it a part of a different country) Ukraine's land, AKA the Crimean Peninsula.

They first annexed Crimea and started taking more in late February 2014. This started the Donbas war not even a year later in early April. Volodymyr Zelenskyy, the president of Ukraine, was offered the chance to flee from Ukraine for safety. He declined this offer reportedly saying, "The fight is here. I need ammunition, not a ride."



This is a map of the Donbas War so far.

Zelenskyy's determination brought inspiration to his Ukrainian soldiers. This has helped them protect their land and people for the nine years this war has been going on. Meanwhile, in Russia, the president, Vladimir Putin, is also determined to gain land from Ukraine. Putin had said in his speech that the operation was to "protect the people" of the Russian-controlled breakaway republics. Putin had also said he wanted to resist the further eastward expansion of the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) to restore Russia's strategic depth.

Russia had just successfully tested an experimental nuclear-powered cruise missile on Oct. 25, 2023. Putin had declined to have any intentions of using the nuclear explosion in Ukraine. He also had said that it would be pointless to even strike them with it. "We see

no need for that," Putin announced, "there is no point in that, neither political, nor military."

Russia has already taken twenty percent of Ukraine's land and killed millions of its people. Ukraine has an advantage because of its training, so they still have a chance against Russia's military. Zelenskyy is looking forward to the victory of Ukraine.



Russia's invasion has progressed since 2014.

Kolezev, Putin's daughter, had written that she did not "directly approve" of their war with Ukraine, but she believes that Russia is not an aggressor, but a victim, and it is forced to "defend itself." She also criticized someone for using the word "annexation" to describe Russia's conquest of Crimea in 2014. Kolezev also brings up how the U.S. also starts wars.

Many countries like the U.S. are sending security assistance to help Zelenskyy's country. So far as of February 2022, the U.S. has sent about \$44 billion to Ukraine. It is stated that over 3 countries that surround Europe are thinking about joining the sides of Ukraine in the Donbas war, "It just seems unfair to the Ukrainians." Ursula Von Der Leyen, European president had said.

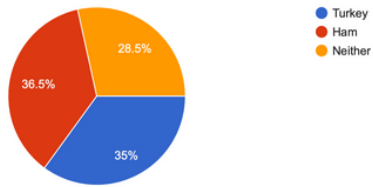
"We have been standing for exactly one year. And we still know: every tomorrow is worth fighting for." Zelenskyy said during the first anniversary since Russia and Ukraine started war. It doesn't seem like the Donbas war will be over yet. Putin also has thoughts about the war. He said, "... There is no need for massive strikes, in any case, not for now. In the future, we'll see. We do not set ourselves the task of destroying Ukraine. No, of course not."

Sources: [Aljazeera](#), [ABC news](#), [CFR](#), [Low Institute](#), [Yahoo News](#), [Newsweek](#).

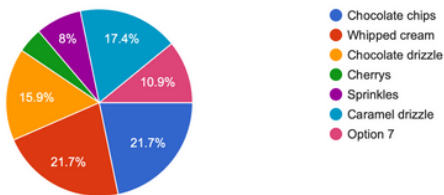
# Survey Says!

We made a poll to see what different foods everyone likes to eat here at Jefferson.

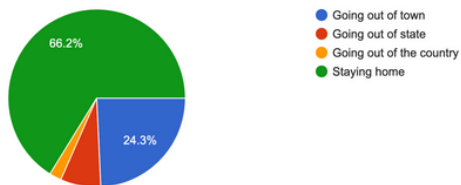
Turkey or Ham?  
137 responses



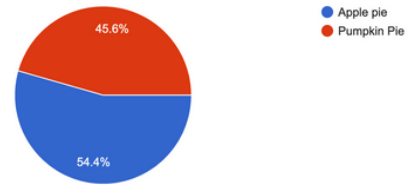
Favorite Ice cream topping?  
138 responses



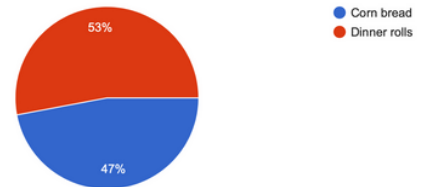
What are you doing for Thanksgiving?  
136 responses



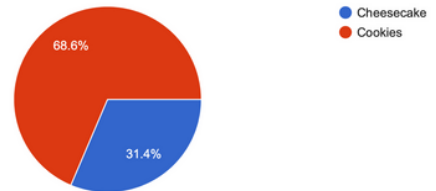
Apple pie or Pumpkin pie?  
136 responses



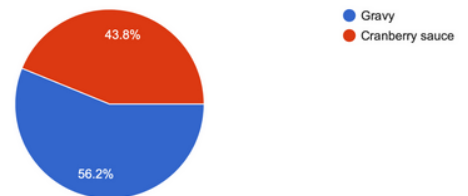
Corn bread or Dinner rolls  
134 responses



Cheesecake or Cookies  
137 responses



Gravy or Cranberry sauce  
130 responses



## Student Shout-Outs

By: Diya Sondhi

**Rohan K. , Yohan S. , Aadi J. , and Anay S. (8th) -**

Thank you, for helping out with the boxes.

- Ms. Maribel.

**Akire F.(6th)-**Your focus and hard work will lead to great success in your future.

**Xzavier S., Paul P., Kaeden N., Katelynn C. -** Thank you for always being respectful and kind. I appreciate you always checking to see how I am doing and if I need help cleaning up. I treasure you!

-Ms. De La Cruz

**Ginny W.(6th)-**You have a winning attitude and a bright future! Keep up the good work! - Mr. Norman  
Shout out to all the students that tried out for volleyball! Keep playing!

-Ms. Swartz

**Shout out to the athletes** that made the Jefferson boys and girls volleyball teams! Let's have some fun!

-Ms. Swartz

**Justin V. and Konner V (7th):** Thank you for helping edit our second episode of jms news!

- Mr.Carri

**Allie S. and Elyse P. (8th):** Thank you both for taking additional duties for multimedia!

-Mr.Carri

**Akire F. (6):**Your focus and hard work will lead to great success in your future.

- Mr.Norman

**Braylen M (6):** Your words of encouragement and fairness during class time does not go unnoticed.

Thank you for being a great friend to others.

- Ms.Hailey

**Audrey R (6):** You are so kind and helpful during class time and your kindness means so much to me and so many others - Ms.Hailey

**Audrey R (6):** You are such a ray of sunshine! Thank you for always having a positive attitude!

- Mrs.Cho

**Emily P. (6th):** I'm so glad we could be partners for the cornhole tournament. I had a lot of fun!

- Mrs.Cho

[Halloween word search](#)

## Spider-Man!!!

By: Mason W.

(Spoilers ahead) After the long wait ever since September 2021, It is here. Spider-Man 2! The game was released on Friday, October 20. The whole game takes 15 to 25 hours to complete but trust me. It's worth it. Here's the full gameplay.

The opening to this game is the definition of a hook. Right off the bat there is a huge sandman battle. The graphics are really detailed and realistic. The game mechanics are even better along with the new abilities. The traversability in this game is so fast.



Spider-Man PS5 gameplay.

The new wing webs are so fun to travel. The side quests are really cool. A lot of detail is put into the small things. The story has got me hooked. Kraven was introduced beautifully. It also showed us Miles' troubles with Mr. Negative (Li). Kraven is also super cold. I'm sorry Aaron Taylor Johnson, but this is the best version of Kraven ever. The game shows us that he only hunts because he wants to.

The way venom was introduced was so good. Instead of giving Harry the green goblin serum like in the comics, they used the venom symbiote. That made the introduction even better. But when Peter got the symbiote we got to see his slow and yet quick descent into being an absolute menace. When you play as him with the sumbiot the fighting is much more vigorous. This is probably the best adaptation of Venom.

The way Venom killed Kraven was brutal. I wasn't expecting him to bite his head off. This game was something else. We also got a tease for the green goblin after they defeated Harry. I was also really cool how Peter got the anti venom suit through Li's negative energy. I had a feeling that The Flame was Cletus Casity (Carnage). I was right and I can't believe he found his symbiote. I can barely wait for the next game. Insomniac have out done themselves once again.