



WE A.R.E. SPARTANS

— ACHIEVEMENT RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY EMPATHY —

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Learning to Bee Positive

By Katty Lodewyk

IMMS 7th Grade

This year, many willing and some unwilling IMMS students have gotten to eat outside during lunch due to COVID-19 space restrictions in the cafeteria.

Being one of the outside eaters, I know from firsthand experience one thing: Food attracts bees. Bees in the trash, bees in the food, bees *everywhere*. Many kids are experiencing these difficulties, and they all had one main message to communicate: Eating outside is definitely the short end of the stick. In addition to lots of bees, it can be super hot or weather complications such as rain can cause lots of confusion for both students and staff.

But this was short lived by IMMS students for about two weeks before things changed. Now, students who do not fit into the cafeteria spots get to eat inside, sitting in one of their grade-level classrooms. Whichever grade they're in, I'm sure they have experienced difficulties in this eating situation, as well. Among the challenges: Maybe they had had hot lunch and were supposed to eat in the cafeteria, but it was full by the time they got through the line; or maybe they are frustrated that they don't get to eat or have recess with their friends anymore.

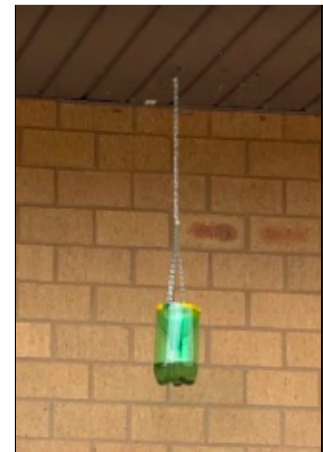
There are many changes that are happening fast this year, including this very article assignment itself. I was given this assignment to make it all about the bees, but that, of course, changed. This is my recommendation to students: Now you might see this inside thing as a great new eating arrangement, or maybe you preferred outside. Either way, like how I wrote this article, just try to make the best with what you've been given. Maybe you're not eating with your friends or whatever, why not try to meet some new people! Just be thankful you're not eating with the bees.



Photos by Katty Lodewyk, Grade 7

Above: IMMS students start the year with outside lunch.

Below: Wasps swarm the trash, and a trap is hung to keep them away.



In the halls and getting to class on time!

By Maggie St. Clair

IMMS 7th Grade

The halls have become so packed that steps need to be taken to clear the paths.

It would be nice if everyone picked a side to walk on like cars do. If everyone on the road did what they wanted, there would not be a lot of movement and fewer car accidents. So what if we did it like cars do?

The halls are a little crazy for middle school students, and I think they could be better like in the pictures at right. It will show how the halls should be and how they are. The halls are so bad sometimes that kids will get tardy for classes because they are stuck in the hall crowds. So students and possibly even teachers could get to their classes at a decent time.

A big factor of the hall jams are people stopping in the middle of the hall to talk to a passing friend or even to wait for a person at their locker. The crowds they cause are huge. Teachers create times specifically for talking to friends like at lunch, or recess, and maybe the beginning of class, and possibly on Fridays, as well. I also know most ARRE time teachers do talking circles.

It is also important that we are mindful of the other people in the halls so that you are not the cause of someone dropping their stuff in the halls. Walking at a reasonable pace means people in the halls can get to the place they need to be. Most people, at some point in the day, have to go from one half of the school to the other while needing to stop at their lockers.

After lunch, most kids go to their lockers to grab their bag and set their lunch down. But that is a lot sometimes, so one way to avoid the hassle would be to set your stuff in your next class or a class next to it to avoid the crowd and get to class on time.

The pictures at right show examples of what to do and not to do. The first picture is what not to do. You can see two students walking on both sides of the hall, going the same way; the student headed in the opposite way has to make their way through the students and ends up dropping their stuff.

In the second picture, it shows what we could do. People walking on the right side of the hall, which will create efficiency throughout the halls. It is also important to make sure when crossing the halls that you are not in anyone's way.



Photo illustrations by Maggie St. Clair, Grade 7

Above (what not to do): Emily Karls, Keelyn Hensgen, Majima Crowell. **Below (what to do):** Emily Karls, Keelyn Hensgen, Mr. Miller, and Majima Crowell.



The pros and cons of backpacks in class

By **Kate Mischnick**
IMMS 7th Grade

Many of you have probably noticed that backpacks are allowed in the classrooms this year to help cut down on the number of students in the hallways between classes. Like most of the new COVID-19 precautions, there have been mixed opinions on this new shift. Just like the rest of the protocols the school has changed, there are pros and cons to this idea. People are wondering whether or not this change is here to stay.

Use this [link](#) to fill out a Google Form on whether or not we should keep backpacks in the years to come. We would love to hear your opinion on this topic!

The pros to keeping backpacks next year:

- Less crowding in the hallways between classes
 - Students will be able to travel between classes much more quickly
- Students are more likely to remember their supplies
 - Students will be able to carry much more with them to class

The cons to keeping backpacks next year:

- Fire hazard
 - One of the reasons they weren't allowed in the first place
- Encourages bad posture
 - Students will be carrying more weight around
- Can cause a distraction

IMMS runners win top spots at conference meet

The IMMS girls' cross country team won the 10-school Rock Valley Conference meet at UW-Whitewater on Thursday, Oct. 14. Eighth-grader **Hannah Kirch** won the meet, and seventh-grader **Brooke DeShong** finished second overall and ran the fastest time in her grade by more than one minute!

Also earning awards were eighth-grader **Weiya Zhou**, seventh-grader **Annabel Willenbacher** and sixth-grader **Logan Billings**.

Led by **Aidan Vosberg's** second place finish in the race, the boys' team finished in second. Eighth-graders **Griffin Martin** and **Henry Piec** also finished in the Top 10. Seventh-graders **Jojo Lazo** and **AJ Krey** and sixth-grader **Ford Schneider** also boosted IMMS.

Vosberg made an amazing leap at the finish line when another runner fell in front of him and ran one of the fastest times ever by an IMMS runner at the 1.8-mile conference meet.



IMMS runner Aidan Vosberg leaps over a fallen runner at the finish line of the Rock Valley Conference meet.

Fun on the farms

By Rachel Stolyarov
IMMS 7th Grade

It's Fall, the season of pumpkin spice, jack o' lanterns, and colorful leaves. What better way to spend this wonderful season than running through corn mazes, getting spooked in haunted houses, and carving pumpkins? We at the newspaper love these things and know some of you love them, too! So we decided to collect destinations where all these things are possible!

1. Schuster's Farm, located in Madison and Deerfield.

Schuster's Farm offers daytime and night time activities. Some of the day time activities are a corn maze, goat walk, animal area, jumping pillow, kiddie zipline, curtain chaos, duck racing, and of course pumpkin picking! At night be sure to check out the flashlight maze and Schuster's haunted forest! Schuster's Farm also has amazing food and treats! On weekdays the farm pass is \$7.58, and on weekends it's \$12.32. For more, visit <https://schustersfarm.com>.

2. Busy Barn Farm is a fun place for everyone to enjoy the fall and it's festivities!

Some of their activities during the Fall Festival are the corn maze, pumpkin picking, meeting the new baby animals, obstacle courses, hay rides, and hamster wheel activities! They also have treats, food, and coffee! Admissions are about \$12.50 per person. For more, visit <https://www.busbarnsfarm.com>.



3. Eugster's Farm.

Last, but certainly not least, this farm is a great place to go if you have little siblings! Eugster's Farm has a lot more animals and produce than rides and activities! You can pick pumpkins, bottle feed baby goats, visit baby pigs, get some fresh produce and enjoy treats like caramel apples! Admission is about \$11 per person. For more, visit <https://www.eugsters.com/fall-festival>.

All of these farms are wonderful destinations for family fun and adventure. Please email the IMMS Messenger, via Ms. Ndlovu at NdlovuT@mcfds.org, to share your experience, and we might include your story in an upcoming issue.

Ways to paw through the pumpkin patch



Photos by Ada Geiger, 7th grade

Kalscheuer's Pumpkin Patch in Middleton is a great place to see farm animals and a variety of pumpkins and gourds.

Harvesting fall treats

Hey, Hey! Creepin' it real. The time's almost here. Halloween is right around the corner; time for cheer. No tricks, just treats. Here are some delicious recipes selected by Brooke DeShong, IMMS Grade 7.

Pumpkin Bread

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 325°F and set an oven rack in the middle position. Grease two 8 x 4-inch loaf pans with butter and dust with flour.
2. In a medium bowl, combine the flour, salt, baking soda, baking powder, cloves, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Whisk, set aside.
3. In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar on medium speed until blended. Add the eggs one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Continue mixing until very light and fluffy, a few minutes. Mix in the pumpkin.
4. Add the flour and mix on low speed until combined.
5. Turn the batter into the prepared pans, dividing evenly, and bake for 65-75 minutes, or until a cake tester inserted into the center comes out clean. Let the loaves cool in the pans for about 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack to cool completely.

Optional toppings: nuts, powdered sugar and chocolate chips.

Bakers note: This pumpkin bread is one great recipe if you love pumpkin! It's so warm and moist and has the perfect amount of spices and warm pumpkin taste. The bread does not take long to prepare and bake but the results are amazing.

~Recipe from Once Upon a Chef



INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/2 sticks
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 15-oz can 100% pure pumpkin

Allergies: gluten,dairy



Carrot cake cupcakes

INGREDIENTS

- 1 ¼ cups flour
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup light brown sugar packed
- ¾ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- ¾ cups canola oil
- 2 large eggs
- 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 Tablespoons milk
- 1 ½ cups grated carrots
- One jar frosting

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350F and line a 12-count muffin pans with paper liners.
2. In the bowl, whisk together flour, sugars, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg.
3. Stir in canola oil. Add eggs, one at a time, Beat until well-combined.
4. Stir in vanilla extract and milk.
5. Add carrots and nuts (if using). and stir until combined.
6. Evenly divide batter into cupcake liners, filling each ¾ of the way full. Transfer to the oven and bake on 350F (175C) for 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean or with moist crumbs.
7. Allow to cool before decorating with frosting.

Bravery against bullies

By **Eva VandeKieft**
IMMS Grade 7

“Hey! What the- Urg!!! Them again?!” Kai glared after the school bullies. Or villains if that’s what they grew up to be.

“They took your phone again?! They are gonna get it!” Kai’s sister, Nya, said getting ready to go after them, down the school hall, when Cole held out an arm to stop her.

“You’ll just get in trouble. You, too, Kai,” he said.

“OW! Aww, it didn’t work,” Jay said. He was working on another science project. It should have been a robot but it wasn’t working right. It shocked him again.

“Cole is right, Kai. You know you will get back eventually. Move that part over a little, Jay,” Zane said. He had gotten pushed over to them.

“Hey watch where you’re going!” The villains/school bullies yelled at someone. Kai looked over and saw a blond guy walk away from them.

“Huh. Does he have a-” Kai was cut short when the blond guy reached them and held out Kai’s phone.

“This belong to any of you?” he asked.

“Uh, yeah. Me. Thanks?” Kai said, taking his phone back.

“How did you do that!?” Jay asked, staring at the phone then at the blond guy, who was already walking away.

The blond guy paused, then said, “Bumped into them.” He walked off.

“What?! He meant to do that. Man, that guy is brave,” Cole said.

“Oh, I forgot to ask him his name!” Nya said. The bell rang, and everyone rushed to their classes, while also getting pushed around in the rush of other people trying to get to their classes.

“Meet you guys at lunch!” Cole said. Zap!

“Ouch!” Jay cried again.

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Kai was sitting through one of his least favorite classes. It was history. Man, thought Kai, they can make our powers sound boring. Kai glanced around the room and did a double take. At one of the back desks, he saw the blond guy that had returned his phone. He looked just as bored as Kai did. He saw Kai and smiled a little at him. Kai smiled back.

“Mister Kai!” the teacher said now suddenly right in front of him.

“Huh!? 1990?!” The class laughed at him. Kai saw the blond guy roll his green eyes at the class.

“I don’t remember asking a question. You weren’t paying attention. See me after class!”

Kai slumped in his chair. He was planning on talking to the guy that had given him his phone back, but now that had changed. Bored as ever, he scowled through the rest of history.

## IMMS Fall Messenger Staff and Contributors

Brooke DeShong, Ada Geiger, Katty Lodewyk, Kate Mischnick, Maggie St. Claire, Rachel Stolyarov, Eva VandeKieft. For information on how to get involved, contact Adviser Ms. Ndlovu at [NdlovuT@mcfdsd.org](mailto:NdlovuT@mcfdsd.org).

## IMMS Messenger October Prize Challenge

1. Easy Puzzle Level: Learning in the IMMS fun ways harvesting bravery. List the method for creating this statement. (Hint: You have to read through the paper!)
2. Creative Level: Submit a headline puzzle statement of your own. We are looking for creative, sensible statements.

Submit your name and response(s) to Ms. Ndlovu at [NdlovuT@mcfdsd.org](mailto:NdlovuT@mcfdsd.org) by Oct. 29. For challenge 1, a winner will be randomly selected from entries. For challenge 2, the winner will be selected based on creativity through voting by the Messenger staff.