





Student devoured by giant pizza slice on Halloween!



Celebrating 40 years with SMMUSD. Guess who?



Teachers on TV!
Ms. Murphy's Moment

# JAMS DRESS CODE DILEMMA

#### By SINEAD O'CALLAHAN

The JAMS Dress Code is a set of rules dictating what clothing all students can and cannot wear on campus, that all students must follow for fear of penalty. By "all students", they really means girls. Some rules include not showing your midriff, no tube tops, all skirts and shorts must go down to your fists, no hoodies, and much more. The dress code is there to follow and to "protect" us from others. It is there as a way to make sure everyone is able to learn without being distracted by their classmates. Furthermore, people who show their midriff or wear short shorts (girls in particular) are inclined to break the dress code because they might distract their

Clothing isn't something you just wear, however. Nowadays, we use it to express ourselves. We use it to express our gender, religion, sexuality, our interests, etc. This year, the dress code rules involving hats and wearing professional sports teams gear were removed. The rule regarding sports attire was implemented to protect the students from team associated gangs. While girls do occasionally wear sports gear, this rule mainly applies to boys.

The Alameda school district took away all dress code rules including not showing your midriff, no wearing tube tops, all shorts and skirts have to be past mid thigh, and no hoodies. They felt as if the dress code was body shaming girls and taking away valuable class time when they were dress coded. Isn't the reason people go to school is be educated? Many girls felt ashamed when they were told that their shorts were "too short" or their shirts were "too revealing". Many girls go to school worrying that they will be dress coded and receive detention. Many people might say, "Well just don't wear clothes that break the dress code". In today's society,

Student shows the "no shorts shorter than your fists" rule. Photo: Sinead

you are shamed for wearing clothes that are too revealing, or made fun of for wearing clothes that aren't trending. You either fit in, or you don't. With the world the way it is, it is unjust to have a dress code that is sexist and body shames girls.

# **JAMS MASCOT SEEN AS NOT GENDER INCLUSIVE**

By MAX HARRISON

The JAMS Norsemen has been debated recently because it's a very gender specific mascot. Last year, many students were asked if they would like to change the school mascot to a different name. Students thought that "men" in Norsemen excluded females at JAMS. Students felt that we needed to have a more inclusive mascot that would bring everyone together. Therefore, a few mascots were proposed for a vote to the student body. "I'm for the mascot change if everyone feels included," said Mr. The Norsemen image on the Miranda. Some teachers have been instrumental in pushing this change. There have been meetings between the administration, students, and the community. But, some students have not given the change a chance, since they think the name is original and should stay the same because it has been the mascot name for a really long time.

The proposed mascot names were waverunners, Norse dragons, jaguars, voyagers, sharks, stingrays, Norse wolves, and trailblazers. Personally, I chose waverunners because I thought it was a very creative name and because it made me think of ocean.

I wanted to get a perspective of an adult about the situation, so I decided to ask my dad and he said, "It's time to have a mascot, that represents the new generation." This shows that people care about the situation and want everyone to be included for the



gym wall. Photo: Max Harrison



Does this owl, stranded in the boys bathroom, want to be our new mascot? Photo: George Walls

new generation of people. This is why student have been trying to resolve this problem. So, the school as still thought about what they should name it since it's been the mascot name since 1947. Students from JAMS are still debating, so this problem could be resolved.



JAMS Principal, Mr. Richardson

# PRINCIPAL'S **MESSAGE**

#### By KENDRA MARTINEZ

"The goal for everybody is that they will create a kind, connected, and compassionate middle school, 8th-grade sets the tone for that. I think we are at a good start. My goal is that everyone leaves here connected to at least one other person. If we are connecting, the academic success will follow more easily. My goal for anyone in 8th-grade that leaves JAMS is that they will have the exact same options as everybody else; something won't happen here where we are limiting opportunities for kids that will then impact them later where they can't have another opportunity. For example, the kids who don't do accelerated math here can still do it in high school but have a solid foundation. I want everybody to have lots of options when they leave here. Students need to be courageous and be their authentic selves. There is pressure to be other things and I think middle school is about finding out who you are going to be one day. It doesn't end in middle school, it starts in middle school." Fun Fact: Mr. Richardson didn't get into education until he was 27 years old. He tried many different things, but always came back to wanting to help people. He said, "Teaching seemed to be like the way to do that the most. So if you feel like there's pressure to figure things out, you have a long time before you need to make that decision. I don't think kids at 18 know or should know what they want to do, you should be able to try lots of things."

### **SOCIAL VIDEOS: What Trends for Teens**

By SOPHIE CANNY

#### THE MISSION

Youtube and Twitch are constantly growing media providers taking over the web, and with so much content there is always something for everyone. One of the hardest questions for teens these days is "So, who's your favorite?" I wanted to find the answer. Fifty students were surveyed about their favorite online creator. After an open response survey with some 'interesting' answers, I boiled it down to about eight general options.

There were eight categories ranging from gamers and vlogs to comedy sketches and even makeup. The 50 responders were all very different with their opinions so category.

the chart was quite scattered. However, our ultimate winner the animation

by far the most popular category on Youtube as a whole, with the most popular man on the site being a gamer himself. Channels like Jacksepticeye, Ali A., Markiplier, etc. rule the site raking in millions of views per video. People who watch gaming playthroughs all have different reasons. Most people I asked said they find gaming captivating and interesting to watch because they can learn and know about certain games without having to play them and waste time.

THE BEST OF Avery R., Hayley M., Izzy THE DECADE A., and Jackie O. fight over Being bubbly who's the better creator. and interest-Photo: Sophie Ca ing is a key factor in online video fame. There are very few who mastered their craft when the sites first came to be. The best

> example of creators mastering their trade is Shane Dawson. Shane has been creating videos since 2008. Since then he has changed his content a number of times, from parody music videos to conspiracy theories. Shane's newest idea was to start making documentaries.

> Another incredible example of mastering their craft are 'Dan and Phil'. These British born boys met through Youtube and social media in 2009 and have worked together since. In their almost ten years of creating they have gotten their own BBC radio show. written two bestseller books. been on two world tours that sold out, became British mental health ambassadors and more. It's people like this who prove You-Tubes sterotype of being lazy or not considered a real job, wrong.

# **LUNCHTIME POLL: How JAMS Does Lunch**

By ESME URBANIACK

#### **BRING OR BUY?**

The thirty-two seventh and eighth graders in the journalism class were surveyed on whether or not they usually bought or brought their lunch, as well as which one it is that they preferred. While seventh graders and eighth graders buy their lunches the most, when it comes to preferences, what the majority of both grades preferred was bringing their lunch.

#### **EXACT AMOUNTS**

Fifty percent of both the seventh graders and the eighth graders brought their lunches to school, which makes 40.6% all together. 40% of the surveyed seventh graders brought their lunches, and 33.4% of the surveyed eighth graders did too. When put together, then 46.9% of every student surveyed brought their lunches. 10% of the surveyed seventh graders equally bought and brought lunches, along with 16.6% of the surveyed eighth graders. Of every student surveyed, only 12.5% chose this option, making it not only the least common way of bringing lunch to school, but the least chosen option on the survey, as well.

#### **POPULARITY**

Of the seventh graders surveyed, 20% didn't prefer buying their

lunches, as well as 25% of the surveyed eighth graders. The total amount was 18.8%, making it the least popular preference. Sixty percent of the surveyed seventh graders preferred bringing their lunches, and so did 53.1% of the surveyed eighth graders. In total, 59.4% of all students surveyed preferred to bring their lunches to school with them.

Twenty percent of the surveyed seventh graders didn't prefer bringing or buying their lunches over the other, while 16.6% of the surveyed eighth graders thought the same, which, all in all, makes 21.9%.

#### WHY IS BRINGING A LUNCH SO POPULAR?

The most popular option for each grade was bringing, but why? There are several reasons why, but one of the most likely ones it that by bringing their lunch to school, they have more control over what they'll eat, so they won't need to eat things they dislike or have allergies being risked. One reason that people might have chosen buying lunches because they didn't have to spend time preparing it themselves, especially if they are too busy.

#### **ANIMATION**

Animation began to trend on Youtube around 2016 and hasn't stopped growing since. Many say the 'leader' of these animators is a 22-year-old man from Arizona called "theodd1sout" (the-odd-ones-out). Formally known as James, the Youtuber has been chased at conventions and has had millions of supporters in the past three years. Most JAMS students will know who he is due to his recognizable voice and lighthearted videos that appeal to kids and teens. There is no explanation to why James, himself, became so popular. Maybe it's the marshmallow type style or catchy titles and vibrant thumbnails? I'll let you decide.

#### **GAMING**

Gaming was the second most favorited with a 15.4%. Gaming is



# A+ ASB ACTIVITIES

#### By ANA LUIZA MILK

We have so many amazing school events here at JAMS. The ASB team is doing an amazing job helping us raise our school spirit. We sent out a survey asking students about the JAMS activities and events. Our survey concluded that the most favorite activity with 65.7% of survey takers was the water balloon toss, the second most liked activity with 37.1% was the food walks and coming in very close as the third most liked activity was the sports tournament with 36.5%. The most favored events from above where just a few listed from the wide array of activities created by the ASB team.

We can all agree that it takes a lot of time and brain power for the ASB members to come up with such great ideas, but survey takers had some new ideas that ASB may consider to add to our daily activities list. For example, some creative ideas were the obstacle course, giant jenga, hide and seek tournaments, dance competitions, gaming tournaments, playing music more often and even showing movies during lunch.

# SPOOK-TACULAR HALLOWEEN

#### By KALEY JIGAMIAN

On Halloween, many students and staff showed their school spirit with amazingly creative and unique costumes. A survey was conducted prior to the day asking students about their plans on dressing up. Our results concluded that 17% of students wanted to dress up as TV/movie/show/YouTube related costumes and 13% decided to be something scary. The next most popular genres were funny or weird costumes with 11%, and group costumes with 10%.

#### COSTUME CONTEST WINNERS

BEST ALL-AROUND: Brooklyn D.
MOST CREATIVE: Mikaela N.
SCARIEST: Teraloni G.
FUNNIEST: Isaac F.

BEST GROUP: JAMS Administrators



# **BROTHERS & SISTERS**

Mentoring program helps middle schoolers make connections
By ALASIA DENNIS

John Adams Middle School has many events - it's a very involved school and is involved in the community. For example, there is a mentoring program called Brother to Brother/Sister to Sister that joins some of the John Adams students with Santa Monica College students to talk and bond with each other. The main point of this program is to expose female and male middle schoolers to positive and hard working people and environment. They pair up with each other and do a variety of activities that help gain trust in each other to talk and bond.



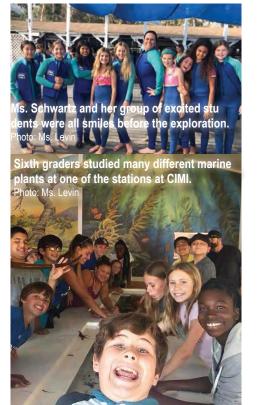


Brother to Brother and Sister to Sister students together with their mentors from Santa Monica College. Photo: Ms. Rodriguez

# CATALINA ISLAND EXPLORATION

The sixth grade class had the opportunity to attend a three day camp to Toyon Bay on Catalina Island on October 2018. Students left from JAMS at 7am on Friday morning and return around on Sunday afternoon. While at Catalina Island, students participated in many activities including day and night snorkeling, hiking, and marine life classes.





# STEP IT UP!



#### By LUISA GONZALEZ

Step It Up Kids is an ASB fundraiser in which students send texts and emails to friends and family asking for donations. As an incentive for sending 10 messages out on the first night, students receive 3 prizes and have their name entered into a drawing for one of five Cool Rooms (bedroom accessory packages). Additionally, students receive prizes if they successfully raise money.

This year, approximately 150 students raised \$60+, so they are invited to attend the Step It Up Kids Day of Awesomeness field fitness event on December 4 during period 2. Students who bring in even more donations can qualify for prizes such electronics, amusement park tickets, and cash grabs.

With 15% of the student body participating this year, ASB made a net profit of over \$8000. Last year's Step It Up fundraiser brought \$20,000 in profit. Despite the decline, ASB is pleased with the results which are better than a previous magazine drive that raised \$1,500.

The profits will be used to fund projects that benefit the student body such as lunch-time activities, contests, sports tournaments, dances, materials for clubs, campus beautification, and field trips. The students in the leadership/ASB class implement these activities and/or approve spending by other groups.

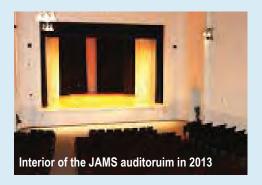


# AUDITORIUM MYSTERY

By NICOLAS CRUZ

Students have always wondered why they have never been able to go inside the auditorium. I set out to find out why.

The auditorium was closed by an earthquake that hit the streets of LA in 2014. The earthquake was stated to have a 4.4 magnitude. What does that have to do with the auditorium you may ask? Well, it turns out that because of the earthquake, one of the beams that was supporting the auditorium broke. By the time they realized the damage occured, it was unfortunately too late. "There was too much damage for it to be an easy fix. The cost was



so high that it made more sense to just tear it down and build a new one,"stated Mr. Richardson.

Now, four years later, the auditorium is still completely closed. They are starting the process in near January. "We hope to have it completed by the Fall of 2020. It will be beautiful" said Mr. Richardson.

Is it possible that four generations of students promoted have left the school without getting a glimpse of the auditorium? The JAMS auditorium has been an unsolved mystery for many years. It was the heart of our school; used for decades. They used the space for music, theater, and performances. Recently the performing groups have had to use the auditorium at SAMOHI, Barnum Hall.





Walden S., Avery S., Hank F., Miles C., Yohanes M. and Reese T.S. are the new ASB officers for the 2018-2019 school year.

# New Year New Leadership

By NIKO BARDACKE

On Thursday, September 20, 2018, JAMS had its first ever press conference with ASB. A couple days before, ASB members ran for president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and historian. In a school-wide election, Miles Carlson and Hank Foley were elected as co-presidents. For vice president, Yohanes Mihret was chosen. As secretary, Walden Sullivan ran unopposed and won. Avery Smith got elected for treasurer and for historian Reese Thai-Sandoval. Journalism students asked them questions about their goals for the school year. All the officers agreed that it was their job to get more students to participate in school spirit events.

To attract more students, ASB will plan more diverse events to find events that everyone enjoys. Based on the events from last year, the food truck event was a big hit. As Yohanes put it, "Students were waiting in line for a long time trying to get food. We noticed that students want food more than events. We are trying to take in your ideas." The more popular events will be noticed and improved. For example, to cut down the lines at a food truck day students could preorder and get tickets. They could then just go up to the truck and get their food. To make sure more students participate in events ASB is open to suggestions.

Did you know that, Heathers, the classic 1988 dark comedy, used JAMS as a film set?

# Concert Winds No More

By MIA SUBIN

At the end of the 2017-2018 school year, when all of the band students were eagerly waiting to find out what band they would be placed in next year, there was a unexpected change. Sadly, when the students walked in they saw that there was one less band, Concert Winds. There were some unexpected results to this decision. Some students were placed back into the band they were in the previous year, and for some students were advanced to the highest band, Wind Ensemble.

"Dissolving Concert Winds was a very difficult decision because it was a great opportunity for students to further develop their skills." Ms. Woo said. "But as we were looking at all of our enrollment numbers and since JAMS offers many elective opportunities, our numbers and instrumentation has been affected. We started to look at what Wind Ensemble would look like if we had little larger numbers and greater instrumentation. It would allow our students to experience a larger band environment with fuller instrumentation so we decided to fold Concert Winds into Wind Ensemble." Based on the decision of Ms. Woo and Mr. Garnreiter there have been some benefits and challenges.

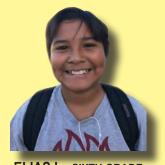
Now there is the opportunity for the music students to play with more of their peers. The students that were pushed ahead have been "appropriately challenged", but Ms. Woo reiterated that it was a good thing. Ms. Woo has stated that she has no regrets at all about her decision. "For those students who remain in Concert Band it may have been a bit of a disappointment and for those students who have moved to Wind Ensemble have to step it up." she said. She also reassures that Concert Band will be more challenging this year. She continued, "This year they are already working on more difficult concepts as well as working a little faster."

Overall, the instrumental music program continues to thrive at JAMS.



Sam E., Mia S., and Franny R., the JAMS Wind Ensemble trombones rehearsing for their fall concert. Photo: Ms. Woo





**ELIAS L., SIXTH GRADE** 

# What do you enjoy learning about?

I enjoy science because I get to learn new things, not only from books, but also from experiements.

# Are there any electives you'd like to see at JAMS?

I'd like to see a skateboarding elective so, like, in the middle of the day, we can do that.

# What do you like to do after school?

I like to skate because if I have a bad day then I just skate because it makes me happy.

# What movies or TV shows have you watched recently?

My favorite TV show is On My Block.

What music do you listen to? I mostly listen to rap.

#### What is your favorite smartphone app and why?

I like Instagram because I can communicate with other people and watch funny videos.



**NEYANA S., SEVENTH GRADE** 

# What do you enjoy learning about?

I would say I mostly enjoy art and history.

# Are there any electives you'd like to see at JAMS?

I think photography would be cool.

# What do you like to do after school?

I like hanging out with friends, drawing, or listening to music.

# What movies or TV shows have you watched recently?

Vampire Diaries, That 70's Show, and Sabrina the Teenage Witch

#### What music do you listen to?

I don't like to listen to one type of music. I like all types but mostly rap.

# What is your favorite smartphone app and why?

Definitely Instagram because I feel like I get inspiration from there. It's also how I communicate with friends.



ANDRES D., EIGHTH GRADE

# What do you enjoy learning about?

My classes are all fun but the most interesting one is art.

# Are there any electives you'd like to see at JAMS?

A skating or maybe a cooking elective would be fun.

## What do you like to do after school?

I usually skate after school.

# What movies or TV shows have you watched recently?

I haven't watched a lot of movies but I've seen Mid90s and when I watch TV, I usually watch the Simpsons, Futurama, South Park, and Bob's Burgers.

#### What music do you listen to?

I don't listen to music a lot but when I do, I listen to rap or hiphop.

# What is your favorite smartphone app and why?

Instagram or YouTube because I get to see and watch things that interest me.

# **AMERICAN LIFE**

Japanese exchange student experiences JAMS kid's lifestyle

#### By NOAH ZUCKER

Rui is a 13-year-old exchange student from Japan who was with the Friendship Cities program for two weeks. He was going into the ninth grade and was ready for a new experience. Two of the days he was in California, he spent them with one of our very own eighth grader, Spencer Kagan. Rui enjoyed playing video games, swimming, and running. They went biking on the famous Santa Monica beach path and enjoyed seeing muscle beach, climbing the ropes, and swimming in the Ocean. Spencer also brought Rui to experience the JAMS eighth grade Science Magnet Camp that went to the Science Center. Rui did not know English well so they communicated through Google Translate. "I lucked out. Translation apps have gotten so good. Otherwise this would've been a nightmare." said Spencer.

The JAMS/Japan exchange program is organized through the Science Magnet every year. Students from JAMS apply to be part of the program and make the trip to Japan during the summer in July. A month later in August, students from our friendship city, Kizugawa, also send their students to experience American life in Santa Monica and JAMS families host them during their stay.



#### MS. MURPHY SHINES ON TV!

#### By KENDRA MARTINEZ

On Thursday September 27, 2018, our very own Social Studies teacher Ms. Murphy was interviewed on the TV show, The Talk by Eve and Sharon Osbourne. She was interviewed about teaching adult education. When asked about how she felt about being on The Talk, Ms. Mur-





Hosts, Eve and Sharon Osbourne, interviewed Ms. Murphy. They gave her a \$25,000 check for adult education.

phy said, "I was excited to be on the show because it's not everyday that you get to be on TV and talk about something that you're really passionate about." Ms. Murphy tried memorizing the lines she was going to use, but when she arrived on stage she froze, so she ended up winging it.

A few of Ms. Murphy's former students were in the audience, however, Ms. Murphy was unaware of this. Ms. Murphy said, "It was an amazing feeling to see some of my students in the crowd because some of them I haven't seen for several years and it was just nice to know that I made a difference in their situations and their lives," she said,

when asked how she felt about about seeing her former students. The Talk surprised Ms. Murphy with a \$25,000 check to donate to the adult school. Ms. Murphy said, "I was surprised... I had no idea that they were going to give money to the adult school nor did I know they were going to donate that money in my name." When asked how she felt about teaching adult school she said, "What inspired me was that I love working with adults, I think it takes a lot of courage to go back to school at an older age and I feel like these people really need someone who will guide them through the process and break it down for them. I love working with adults because they are going back to school because they really want to be there and really want to move forward."

### **CELEBRATING OVER FOUR DECADES AT SMMUSD**

**By ZACHARY SWERDLOW** 



According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average worker stays with a company for 4.6 years, Stan Wilson has been at the SMMUSD district for over 40 years which is definitely not average. Stan Wilson has been at JAMS for 22 years. He has also worked at SAMO High for 14 years and for 5 years at Mckinley, Rogers, Madison and Edison as a P.E. assistant. "I love working with the kids" Stan said.

One of his most memorable moments was the eighth grade basketball with the staff two years ago. He said it was such an exciting game that Mr. Sato almost broke his ankle while playing.

After being here for such a long time Stan has noticed the biggest change is that kids are more attached to technology. This is probably not surprising. He attended Grant Elementary, JAMS and then moved on to Santa Moni- 2018 at JAMS ca High School where he graduated in 1978.



#### FRESH FACULTY FACES



#### MS. BLEVINS

Ms. Blevins is teaching Math Core 7 this year. She loves math but she finds it a difficult subject to teach because a lot of students don't enjoy it. "Sometimes I think it would be fun to teach other subjects, but I like math," she said. "If I didn't still enjoy it, I wouldn't still be doing it. So yes, I do enjoy teaching," Ms. Blevins said.

#### MR. CIERRA

Mr. Cierra has been teaching for 23 years, 18 of which were at SAMOHI. This is his first year teaching at JAMS, and he said, "I am really enjoying this agegroup, after being at SAMOHI for so long I was not sure how my transition would be, however, I have enjoyed it very much". At JAMS, Mr.Cierra teaches SAI.





Ms. Cruz has been working at SMMUSD for 20 years. For 17 years she worked as an elementary school teacher, teaching 2nd, 4th and 5th grades. This is her third year as a middle-school educator, and her first year at JAMS. Mrs. Cruz has multiple and single-subject teaching credentials and a Master's degree in Spanish.

#### MR. WATTER

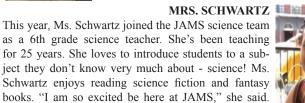
This year, JAMS welcomes a new 7th-grade math and 8th-grade geometry teacher, Mr. Watter. Mr. Watter has been teaching for six years. He loves his job. "I really enjoy the opportunity to be a positive influence in children's lives," he said. "As of right now, I cannot see myself doing anything else." He thinks he'll be teaching for many years to come.



#### MS. AVILES



Ms. Aviles is our new immersion teacher. She has been teaching in SMMUSD for 12 years, working in preschool, elementary, and even high school. She received her education at SMC and Cal State L.A., where she earned a bachelor's degree in liberal studies and a teaching credential in social science.





#### MS. NAIK



Ms. Naik is a new 6th-grade humanities teacher.. Some of Ms. Naik's hobbies include reading and spending time with her family and friends. So far she really enjoys JAMS, she likes the teachers and the students, and the overall atmosphere, calling it very friendly and welcoming.

# STUDY TIPS

#### By RUBY KINGSCOTE

If you're stressed or overwhelmed with studying or homework, you've come to the right place. Here are some helpful tips, given to you by anonymous average students at JAMS\*

- When assigned a group project, "try not to get a bad group"
- If you "wait till the night before", it will free up time to do other fun things
- Why do homework when you could "eat some food"?
- Forget doing it the night before, "they give you lunch and nutrition, use it".
- It might help to "not be stressed"
- Instead of going above and beyond, try "doing the bare minimum".
- Everyone says to take study breaks so why don't you "make the breaks longer than your actual studying"?
- To help with concentration, "make sure your study space is as messy as possible".
- If you're looking to understand what you're writing (if writing an essay) you may want to "use the craziest fonts".
- Study non-stop and "don't take any breaks".

\*These are fake and will not help. If you want to actually improve your grades, you should consider joining the AVID program. ----->

# THE BOOKMARK

#### MS. JARVIS'S LIBRARY BOOK FAVORITES

Are you struggling to find books to read? The school librarian, Ms. Jarvis, has a solution to your problem. She recommended four books, one for each grade level and her own favorite selection. All of these books can be found in the JAMS library. If you're interested in any of these book titles, you may have to rush to the library as soon as possible to get a copy. - *Elleanor Quist* 



#### WARCROSS by Marie Lu

A teenage virtual reality bounty hunter named Emika is hired to catch a hacker. (for 8th-Graders)

#### NIGHT CIRCUS by Erin Morgenstern

Two magicians Celia and Marco are supposed to compete with each other as part of a circus act. Instead they fall in love and risk the lives of everyone involved. (for advanced readers)

THE FIRST RUL OF PUNK by Celia C. Perez The story of a young girl named Malu learning how to be herself with the help of punk music. (for 6th-Graders)

## MICHAEL VEY: The Prisoner of Cell 25 by Richard Paul Evans

A 14-year-old named Michael Vey has the ability to shoot electicity through his hands. (for 7th-Graders)

# AVID CORNER

AVID is a class that helps students achieve success through critical thinking, collaboration, and high expectations to confidently conquer the challenges that await them in college. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. - Elleanor Quist



AVID Students attended the Santa Monica College Fair in October. Photos: Ms. Chacon









# What's Hot

# What's Not

By: DILLON NEWMAN AND SPENCER KAGAN

### Capital Candy

From Kitkats to Sour Patch kids, candy is a huge part of the fall season, and the students of JAMS say that their favorite candy is... TWIX! Twix is a mouthwatering candy with a crisp wafer covered in carmel, that is then coated in creamy milk chocolate. "I like Twix because they have a lot of chocolate" -Blase L

There are a lot of great and different styles at JAMS, but one stood out from the rest, Adidas. With many different styles of clothing from sweatpants, to t-shirts, to athletic tights, Adidas has something for everyone. Matched with their reasonable prices, they're worth buying from, according to the majority of students. "I like Adidas because of the style of clothing." -Spencer H.

This bestselling book turned movie has done extraordinarily well throughout its span in theaters, sitting at a 96% in Rotten Tomatoes, and a stellarly positive view from critics. With its brilliantly done take on life from Starr's perspective and the success of the original book, it's no wonder this movie has been performing stellarly among all audiences. "I liked it because it displays a lot of real world problems." -Jonathan S.

This juggernaut of a franchise has confirmed the launch of the fifth installment of the series, and clearly people are very excited for it. Super Smash Bros is a series built around gathering characters from different series and even different consoles and combining them all into one fighting game and is famous for its crazy high amount of playable characters. "I am looking forward to it because you can play it for hours upon hours with your friends and not get bored." -Karl L.





### Fashion Frenzy





Although there are many great candies like Twix, Milky Way, and Haribo gummies, there are some candies that just leave a bitter taste in your mouth. The candy that you thought is the least sweet candy is... Dots. Although the chewy fruit candy has many who love it those people are not the students of JAMS. "I don't like them because they are way too chewy and have a strong flavor" -Fynn H.

It appears as though the hypebeast era is coming to an end. Although Supreme is very popular among adults, it is JAMS' least favorite clothing brand. Although Supreme has many great pieces of clothing, including shirts, headbands, and jackets, the prices people pay for then are completely unreasonable. "I don't like Supreme because Supreme is too expensive." -Djibril C.

### Movie Madness





This book turned movie has done well in theaters, but not very well in our school. With 93% on rotten tomatoes on top of a low initial budget, they profited nearly 200 million. Despite its overall success, only two surveyors said it was their favourite movie in theaters currently. One reason for this is that unlike many other movies in theaters, it doesn't have much action and the conflict is primarily psychological. "It was overall boring." -Nico C.

### Games Galore





Halo games have revolutionized the FPS genre time and time again, but come the age of battle royales, the new game can't keep up. Halo Infinite has been confirmed for release on December 28th, and no one seems all that exited. Critics and pros alike have been left in the dark "I am not looking foreward to halo infinate becuase I don't know what it is." -Ryan G.. It makes sense for people not to know or care about the new Halo game.

# Scintillating Skateboarding

Alan Gelfand competing at a

skateboard competition.

By VINCENT GONZALEZ

Although skateboarding is not allowed at JAMS, many students enjoy it. Here are some interesting facts about skateboarding: Skateboarding was invented in the late 1940s and early 1950s and is still popular among people today. In 1976, skateboard-

ing was transformed by the invention of the ollie by Alan "Ollie" Gelfand. There are still new skatetricks board and variations of tricks being invented to this day. Russ Howell holds the official record for the world's longest hand-

This is a picture of Alan Gelfand which was two minutes. At 6 foot 7, Ron Whaley is the world's tallest professional skateboarder. People that are really good at skateboarding and these people are referred to as professional skateboarders. Around school there are kids from John Adams Middle School skateboarding.

stand on a skateboard

When you look around you might see people doing various

s k a t e -

board tricks. Manuel Lares, a sixth grader at JAMS said "I started skateboarding when I was about 9. I started skateboarding because I saw my brothers doing it and I thought maybe I should try that too. I felt as if I needed to start doing that as well. I don't

have a favorite skateboard trick although I en-

joy doing kickflips. It took
me about
2 months
to learn
how to
kickflip.
In the
future
I would

learn how to tre' flip. I think it will probably take me

like

a few months for me to learn it. I don't really get motivated by anything related to skateboarding although I do enjoy watching skateboarding videos".

Many people who skateboard have some sort of inspiration. A lot of the time it is similar to Manuel's case and new skaters gain their inspiration from people they see around them. This usually makes others want to do the thing that they are doing. This is why skateboarding is so scintillating and amazing.

Photo of a professional skateboarder that has no legs. His name is Italo Romano and he is an inspiration to many people.

# The Ups and Downs of Thrifting

By SINEAD O'CALLAHAN

People have been thrift shopping for a very long time. Thrifting is where you go to stores that have older or used clothes that people sold or gave to them. Since they are used, they are a lot cheaper. There are a lot of great finds in these stores. You can find very expensive items for a cheaper price. There are some downsides, such as, you have no idea whose clothing or shoes they were before, you don't know where they been, and what they've been through.

There are many thrift stores in the Santa Monica area. Some popular ones are Buffalo Exchange, St. Matthews, GoodWill, and Salvation Army. In all of these stores, there are all of different clothes and shoes. Buffalo Exchange has very good shoes for very cheap and their clothes are all handpicked. This makes it easy to find good clothes because they only take things they think their customers will like. When they aren't hand-picked, there still are great finds, but they are harder to spot.

Although there are great items when thrifting, the person that donated the items could have treated them very badly. They could have done anything in the items or been anywhere. Another downside is that good clothes could be damaged. Furthermore, everyone's body types are different, so finding clothes that fit may be hard. It may be hard to find clothes but in the end, thrifting is definitely worth it.



# Fashion Trends of 2018

By SINEAD O'CALLAHAN

Throughout 2018, there are many fashion trends. For example, mom jeans are a huge trend, as well as Vans, Birkenstocks, Dickies, scrunchies, and Fjallraven Kanken backpacks. A lot of items of clothing and shoes have been came back from the 80s and 90s. People wear these clothes to school, out in their daily lives, and to special events. Other than specific types of clothing, there are general types of clothing that are very popular. For instance, crop tops, short shorts, and graphic tees.

Dickies, good for skateboarding, are worn by girls and boys, and are comfortable. The pants come in many different colors and sizes. The most popular colors at JAMS are navy blue and black. Most people cuff them when wearing them. Joy V. said about Dickies, "They're comfortable and nice to wear."

In the 1960s and 1970s, the comfortable, quality shoes Birkenstocks, became very



popular. Although they died down for a while, they come back bigger and better than ever. Most of styles are against the JAMS dress code so you can mainly find students wearing them outside of school.

Elleanora L. browsed through the jeans at Buffalo Exchange. Photo: Sinead O'Callahan



### Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes Of Grindelwald

#### Rating: 8/10

One of the most anticipated movies of November was Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald. This movie is set place around 50 years before the harry Potter timeline. In it, the movie follows the adventures of wizard Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne), who is sent by a young Albus Dumbledore (Jude Law) to thwart the plans of an evil wizard named Grindelwald (Johnny Depp). Grindelwald who it is revealed in previous Harry Potter books will be defeated in a duel with Dumbledore in the following 20 years will not be dueling Dumbledore as it is explained beforehand. This movie instead follows the experiences of Mr. Scamander and his fight against Grindelwald whose plan is to take over the muggle or non-magic world. Overall, this was a great movie which I would definitely recommend to any adventure movie fan. -Liam Larwood

# **Movie Reviews**





"I thought Halloween was a great movie. It had all the details and effects that you expect in great horror movie."

#### -Joaquin N.

"Fantastic Beasts 2 was a pretty good movie. However, I think they could have incorporated more scenes that correlated with the Harry Potter series."
-Joshua H.



#### Halloween

#### Rating: 9/10

Forty years after its original release, another anticipated moviesreleased in October - Halloween. As a direct seguel to the 1978 movie, the plot follows Laurie Strode, portrayed by Jamie Lee Curtis, as she prepares for the final confrontation between herself and Michael Meyers. Michael, who it is revealed has been staving in Smith's Grove Sanitarium for the last 40 years after being captured by Dr. Samuel Loomis. Then one day, Michael escapes after the bus transporting him crashes. Michael then heads to the place of the 1978 babysitter murders, Haddonfield. Upon hearing about his escape, Strode prepares for the confrontation that is soon to come. Filled with classic suspense moments and amazing jump scares, Halloween was the October movie to see.

- Liam Larwood

# You Tube's Statistics: Are They Good?







Caden G., Patrick K., Luke H. share their opinions about YouTube

#### By DEREK NAPIER

YouTube is a platform that most of us watch every day, some for their entire lives. Have you ever thought about its stats and what is happening on the site? After Ajit Pai made the law against net neutrality some YouTubers made videos about it dying which was obviously false because Youtube still has 30,000,000 average watching YouTube a day, said Business of Apps.

I interviewed three people and hear their opinions. Caden said, "Youtube is doing very well because there are a lot of great YouTubers that make good content." I also interviewed two other people one of them was Patrick and he said, "YouTube is doing good but people aren't monetized like before." Then the second, Luke, thinks that, "YouTube is doing well and a lot of people are making a living off of it." So obviously off of these interviews a lot of people probably think similarly and, in general, people like YouTube.

Now back to the statistics. India is also becoming very popular in the Youtube scene with T-Series, an Indian based channel, almost having more subscribers than the most subscribed YouTuber for the last five years, Pewdiepie, and they already have way more views and videos then him. SET India is also a very popular Indian channel in 11th on Social Blade.



Pewdiepie and T-series, highest ranked channels on the Social Blade

Statista says that by 2021, 1.86 billion people will use YouTube and this year 1.58 billion people use YouTube. It makes sense that its doing well because it has stuff for everyone it's also very helpful for teaching and it's very useful to everyone, including elders. The number of people annually joining YouTube was at its highest in 2016 at 13% and this year 7.5% are joining. The most viewed channel in September was Osman Vargas which is a Spanish speaking channel, T-series, is second no surprise. "The most viewed channel owner surprisingly is Ryan's Toy Reviews with 24.9 billion views," said Statista. These stats are absolutely crazy as you can see but it gets crazier with Social Blade saying that there are 42.3 million accounts! What's crazier is that more than half of those are creators.

# Music favorites

#### TWO MOST POPULAR ALBUMS

### **Xxxtentacion**

The winner with 42 votes(25%) is Xxxtentacion. Xxxtentacion is a rapper who released 36 songs before he was assassinated on June 18, 2018 by gunshot. Two of his top hits are Sad and Changes. He got famous from the song Look At Me and started to gain

fans. His songs were very catchy yet depressing. Many of fans consider him a legend because of his voice and the meaning of the songs. His death was very unexpected because it was a hit and run. His album "?" contains 18 songs. -Rebekka Garcia

#### **FAVORITE MUSIC ARTISTS**

### Cardi B

Cardi B is a 26-year-old rapper who has started being recognized in 2017 by her hit song Bodak Yellow. This song got her four awards and it hits the radio about every other day. Cardi B first started her career in 2015 and she has also blown up due to her fights with Nicki Minaj. She has come out with a top album named Invasion Of Privacy. Which is also one of her most popular albums. It contains 13 solo songs and also collaborations with other people. Cardi B has a child with her husband, the rapper, Offset. She already has four albums out and I think many more to come. -Rebekka Garcia

#### **ARTIST OF THE MONTH**

## Drake

A very popular artist many people may know about is the rapper named Aubrey Drake Graham, but popularly known as Drake. Drake is a Hip hop, R&B, and pop rap artist. Drake is known for his top hit music, which consist of "In my feelings" a song from the album "Scorpion" released July 1, 2018, and has about 234 million views on YouTube. Another popular song that Drake has produced is "God's Plan", "God's Plan" currently has 239 Million views on YouTube and was published on January 19, 2018. Drake is highly known for his rap music and everytime he produces a song it has a high chance it'll reach thousands to millions of views. Drake is a highly successful in the rap community and I think he'll be going strong for many more years. -Elizabeth Joy Vine



# Ed Sheeran

"Divide" by Ed Sheeran got a total of 19 votes(11.2%). Ed Sheeran began playing guitar and writing his own songs when he was very young. As a teen he moved to London. He soon had the number one song on iTunes without ever having a record label! Ed Sheeran has gone on to sell millions of records, has written songs for movies and for other artists and even has least four Grammys and many other music awards. His newest album titled "Divide" and was release in March 2017. This became the fastest selling album by a male artist in the UK! Some of the more popular tracks off the album are "Shape of you" and "Perfect". The album was given very good reviews and has sold 6.1 million copies. -Rebekka Garcia



# Imagine Dragons

Imagine Dragons is a pop rock band that currently has four members. The band has lasted for about 10 years now, starting in 2008 and is still going to this day. Imagine Dragons biggest music hits are the songs "Radioactive" and "Believer". The song "Radioactive" came out on October 29, 2012 and hit the music charts fairly fast. The song "Radioactive" currently has 964M (million) views on YouTube and it still continues to grow. The second hit, "Believer", is a more recent song that was released in March of 2017 and currently has 703M views on YouTube. -Elizabeth Joy Vine





Mabel A. and Nia G. listen to music and share a new song. Photo: Rebekka Garcia

# **JAMS Students Crave Sports Teams**

By NIKO BARDACKE

While most middle and high schools begin their fall sports tryouts, no tryouts are being held here at JAMS. Instead, there are Crest sport sign ups that barely anyone knows about. Even the students who know about it aren't that interested in the Crest Sports program.

What JAMS should do is create sports teams that play against other middle school teams around Los Angeles. Sports teams that represent the school would have a real competitive spirit that would attract more athletes to come and participate. The creation of school sports teams would open more opportunities for school activities such as marching band and cheer leading. More students who would otherwise not participate in after school activities would now have an activity that interest them.

We have plenty of space for multiple practices after school each day. JAMS has one of the best soccer and football fields in Santa Monica. The SMC pool is right across the street where the swim team could practice. There are tons of options and we don't seem to use any of them. Our school has the perfect equipment and campus for school athletics.

"With how big this school is, I think that you guys deserve to have after school athletics that support your school," said P.E. coach Mr. Bertone. "When I was in middle school, we had a basketball [team], a volleyball [team] and track and field." "We would travel and compete against other middle schools," added Mr. Bertone. A lot of the students at JAMS don't engage in any school related activities that are not during school hours. When asked, students were mad about there not being school sports teams. Most feel that

Dean S. shoots during the tense finals of the eight grade ASB soccer tournament. Photo: Liam Larwood

we are missing a part of our school spirit. "We don't have a team to represent ourselves. We don't have a community in sports," said eighth grader Joshua Hecht. Most students are in agreement, we need a sports team.



In the eighth grade soccer tournament, Hank F. and Max F. battle for the ball.

Photo: Liam Larwood

# LeBron James Brings Hope to Laker Nation

By WILL GASPARINO

LeBron James signed with the Los Angeles Lakers on July 9, 2018. LeBron left Cleveland with great respect and moved to LA. His family flew out in a private jet and stayed in his luxurious 23 million dollar mansion. James signed with the Lakers for 36.65 million dollars. He signed for the same money he was getting with the Cleveland Cavaliers. Before he signed there was a rumor that he was going to LA because his son went on a tour of Sierra Canyon High School. Soon after, LeBron signed with The Lakers and his son was committed to attending Crossroads in Santa Monica. Will LeBron James help the Lakers get a ring?

As LeBron starts to practice with the team, he impacts the younger players as they strive to be amazing. Younger players such as Lonzo Ball, Brandon Ingram, and Kyle Kuzma will learn a lot from an older pro who has a lot more experience in the NBA. Maybe after LeBron James retires, they will be the next stars. LeBron has carried his past teams to a lot of NBA finals. In fact, he has been in the finals eight times in a row and he has won three of those eight. There are good chances of the Lakers having a comeback with their new star.. Perhaps LeBron will carry the Lakers to their 18th championship.



Lebron James dunks during his debut in a loss to the Portland Trail Blazers.

#### **Student Opinions on Lebron**



"He's good. He will create a championship run for the Lakers."
Orlando P. - Sixth Grade

"The Lakers are better, but aren't good enough to compete."



Isabela G. - Eighth Grade



"LeBron is too old to carry the Lakers to a championship." Chris A. - Eighth Grade

The Los Angeles Lakers have not made the playoffs for the past five consecutive seasons. Although, the complete opposite for LeBron. The 33 year old superstar becomes the focus of the Lakers and a possible foundation for the next super team. The goal, beating out the Warriors in the stacked Western Conference! This could depend on if LeBron James can persuade more superstars to join the team such as Russell Westbrook, Paul George, and Kawhi Leonard.

"I think timing is everything. For me to be in this position now, the excitement that I have to be a Laker, I'm happy to be apart of it because I believe the Lakers is a historical franchise, we all know that, but it's a championship franchise and that's what we're trying to get back to. I'm happy to be a part of the culture and be a part of us getting back to that point," said LeBron James in an interview with ESPN. Obviously, he wants to win a championship but he is not promising it first year. The Los Angeles Lakers are grateful to have a star that might even win them an exciting title for Los Angeles. LeBron is proud to be a Laker.

# THE JOYS OF PLAYING COMPETITIVE SPORTS

By HOLDEN HENDRICKSON and TYLER STRANG

Sports are one of the most enjoyed activities in the world. At school, many kids love playing against each other at lunch or nutrition. Some schools even have competitions with a prize, like JAMS! At JAMS 70% of kids play sports competitively outside of school, but only 40% play at school. Lots of kids at JAMS want more contests to show their skills at their favorite sport. ASB creates many fun sport contests with prizes for JAMS, but which is the most prefered sport? My friend and I created a sports survey to find out what sport contest is favored the most at JAMS. Out of the 108 students that took the survey 34% of students prefer soccer competitions. In second place, dodgeball has 24% of students. Next, basketball comes in with 13% of kids, and handball right behind it with 11% of the pupils. And coming in last, are baseball with 9%, football with 6.5%, and the very last is frisbee with 3%.

#### **COMPETITIVE SPORTS**

There are many athletic students at JAMS that play all around the city and even in other states. Paco Vanderbrook, Dillon Newman, and Luke Hecht are seventh graders that play on the California Stars, a basketball team that plays all around California. The team has even played in Las Vegas for a national tournament. Each player practices up to five hours a week and plays in a tournament almost every weekend.





They all have different attributes that contributes greatly to the team. Paco, a center, is an offensive and defensive force, finishing the toughest of layups and grabbing down all the boards. Luke, a forward, is a three point specialist, is always a go-to scoring option and is also the son of the SaMoHi basketball coach, James Hecht. Dillon, a guard, is known for being a lockdown defender and having quick ball-handling skills. "I love how active Basketball is, the competitiveness, and how active it is," Dillon explains. The trio have been playing together for 3 years and have amazing chemistry together.

On the other hand, Nico Cruz Arroyo, is an eighth grade student that plays on the LA Breakers, a soccer team that has played competitive tournaments all around South-

ern California. Nico practices almost five hours every week as well, and plays center-mid on his team. He is known for his shooting and passing ability and has been playing soccer since he was 3 years old. "I used to live in Mexico, and it's like a tradition to play," he says.

At JAMS, there are many sports stars that play competitively out of school and are dedicated to doing as well as they can.





# SO LONG, PLAIN WHITE WALLS!

By HOLDEN HENDRICKSON



Last year, students around JAMS competed to have their own unique mural painted on one of the walls in the campus. Now in high-school, these four students, Olivia Overfield, Ella Rose, Ariana Gonzales, and Denise Rosa won the mural contest and will have their creation painted on a wall near the quad. So long for those plain white walls!

# MALIBU FIRE VICTIMS NEED OUR HELP

Many families and teachers in our Malibu community have been impacted by the Woolsey fire. JAMS is currently collecting gift cards for money, groceries, restaurants, and clothes. Please send leave any donations in the main office with Stephanie Harding.

You can also donate through The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu: www.bgcmalibu.org (click on "Invest in Malibu Youth"). Please notate if donation is for "General" or "Equestrian." Please note: many folks are reaching out wanting to "adopt" families and/or provide physical items and supplies. Based upon the feedback received from Malibu families, the most helpful donations at this time are monetary, as they have nowhere to keep physical items. For support, please email Executive Director Kasey Earnest (kaseyearnest@bgcmalibu.org; cell: 310.924.4387). Other places to donate:

- Santa Monica College Foundation Malibu Fire Relief accepting donations
- American Red Cross accepting donations

### **CANDID CAMERA**





- 1. In which town do the Simpsons live?
- 2. What's is Mr. Burns assistant's name?
- 3. What name did Mr.Burns give his teddy bear?
- 4. Who is the owner of Kwik-E-Mart?
- 5. Who are the five main characters?
- 6. How old is Bart Simpson?
- 7. What instrument does Lisa play?
- 8. Which name did Bart give to his pet elephant?
- 9. Who is the principal at Springfield Elementary?
- 10. Who did Marge go to prom with?
- \* Answers below\*

### **FUNNY JOKE**

What did the pencil say to the pen?
So what's your point!

#### **FUN FACTS**

- -Did you know, you're more likely to get hit on the head with a coconut then get bitten by a shark.
- -A chameleon can stretch its tongue three times the length of its body.
- -More money is printed daily for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury.

#### Word Search Zone

E	L	Α	I	Т	N	Е	S	S	Ε	R	U	S	R
D	Α	C	0	М	Р	Α	R	E	Е	Α	I	I	S
R	Т	C	0	М	Р	R	E	Н	Ε	N	D	D	U
R	C	Ε	L	Α	В	0	R	Α	Т	Е	Т	Ε	М
D	D	0	Ε	Т	Α	R	U	C	C	Α	I	N	М
Υ	Ε	Α	М	Ε	I	S	Е	С	R	S	С	Т	Α
F	F	V	Ε	Р	C	N	0	Α	Е	Е	0	I	R
I	I	C	Ε	М	I	N	I	Z	S	R	N	F	I
T	N	Z	Ε	L	T	L	Е	М	Α	L	С	Υ	Z
S	Ε	D	I	Ε	0	0	Е	D	Е	C	L	Α	Е
U	R	Α	X	Α	C	Р	С	L	I	Е	U	E	М
J	L	Т	Р	R	С	I	Т	E	I	V	D	N	E
Р	Т	S	Α	R	Т	N	0	C	Ε	C	Е	Р	I
U	Р	Α	R	Α	Р	Н	R	Α	S	E	E	Z	R

COMPILE CITE **ESSENTIAL** COMPREHEND CONCLUDE **EVIDENCE** COMPARE DEVELOP PARAPHRASE SUMMARIZE CONTEXT CONTRAST IDENTIFY JUSTIFY **ELABORATE** DEFINE ACCURATE