



## Preparing for Midterms

**By: Mackenzie Regelman**

Winter break is coming up, which also means piles of review packets and study guides for the upcoming midterms. Many students have a hard time getting the motivation to study, but the hardest part, in my opinion, is actually figuring out *how* to study.

Many students say that math is the hardest subject to study for because they don't know how. Mrs. Ross teaches two CCP math classes and said, "After each quiz or test, go back over previous material-keep it fresh in your mind. Don't wait until the night before."

If you're still having a hard time remembering what to do for certain problems, I've found that doing one easy problem and one hard problem from each section helps make it obvious what I don't know. If you can't figure out how to do it without looking at your notes, go back and do another one from that section. If you still can't



**Student studying for upcoming midterms**

figure it out, ask your teacher! Most teachers are willing to help during a planning period. If they aren't able to, try finding a video online of someone explaining a similar problem.

English is another hard subject to study for. The best thing to do for an English midterm is to figure out what it will look like. Will it be more grammar oriented or will it be extended responses? If it consists of grammar, look over your notes from the year and memorize what you don't already know. If it'll be made up of extended responses, look back at your feedback from old assignments. Try remembering what you did well and where you went wrong so when you get your midterm you don't make the same mistakes.

Science has been voted the hardest midterm in McDonald High School, with one in three students saying it will be the most difficult. Much like English,

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**continued...** the best way to study is figuring out what the test will look like. If you have to memorize things, make sure you study little by little leading up to the test, rather than studying all at once the night before. If you have to use formulas, make sure you understand how they work and when to use them.

The best thing to do for history is to make a plan. Make a list of every chapter you've covered so far, then divide it evenly so you can study one chapter every night leading up to the test. Kaylyn Skowron, a ninth grader, said, "I think that a little bit of studying is necessary, but if you study too much you'll overwhelm yourself." Try not to cram so you don't burn yourself out; thirty minutes to an hour should be enough each day.



The most important thing to remember during midterms week is to not stress yourself out too much. Amanda Monk, a sophomore, says that the way she de-stresses is listening to her favorite artist, Harry Styles, while she studies. Make sure that you set time aside for yourself, whether that consists of taking an extra nap, talking to a friend, or playing video games.

# Winter Athletics Update

by Brandon Weiss



The winter athletic teams have finally kicked off for the season and are off to competitive starts.

The boys and girls bowling teams both won their first bowling matches against Lowellville at our home lanes along with their second game being a win as well. Their 3rd game was tough and leaves the team with a 2-1 record.

Senior Isaiah Jadloski said, "The bowling season is going great. The outcome of the season all depends on how good we do and if we have our spirits. We are definitely top three, but I couldn't say who's dominant because we haven't faced all the teams yet."

The boy's basketball team also won their first game of the season against Lordstown, the final score was 56-40, a great start with a 1-0 record. Senior Michael Porter said, "The start of the season was pretty good, the last couple of games were a struggle but we still beat Ridge, which is very important to us. I see the season ending up being pretty good in the end."



The girl's first basketball game of the season was another W against Lordstown with a final score against the Red Devils at 53-5. Their second game was rough against Liberty, 71-39, making their current record 1-1. Senior Lea Gabrelcik said, "The season, I believe, will be pretty good. There will be some obstacles to overcome but we will be able to get through it."

Weight lifting has started for the 2022 fall football season next year. Players from Junior High will start to come up to play on the big dog gridiron with the current players in the high school. Hopefully, they stick with the lifting due to the team needing more support for their Offense and Defense. Also, the track team is starting to lift for their up coming season.

# Some Tips to Help you Drive This Winter

By: Ryan Koniowsky

Seeing as it is already snowing pretty hard it would be nice to know some precautions to take when driving in winter weather.



One of the best ways to keep yourself safe in the winter is getting a nice set of snow tires. There are other things you can do to your tires to prevent you from sliding, but this is the most effective.



If your front wheel starts to slide, don't panic. Take your foot off the accelerator, and if you still don't have control very lightly push the brake. Then you are going to slightly turn the opposite direction from where you are skidding. Try not to over steer your car

and if you did it successfully you should have control over your car.

If your car gets stuck in the snow you need to start digging a path around your tires, and make it a few feet in front and behind the tires so they have room to move. You need to turn off traction control if you get stuck. To dislodge some of the snow from your tires go into drive, go forward a bit, completely stop your car and switch into reverse, then go backward, repeat. Don't floor the gas as it will only get you stuck. Instead, gently pushing on the gas for a bit will help get you unstuck.

Some useful things to keep in your car during the winter may include sandbags, salt, dirt, or kitty litter, as you can put a couple handfuls of that under your car tires to increase your traction, and if you keep enough of it in the back of the car you could use the extra weight for traction. If you are lucky enough to

have someone in the car you might just be able to push the car while lightly pushing the gas to get unstuck.

Now, if you have exhausted all of your resources you could call someone to get your car unstuck like Nationwide, AAA, Progressive, etc. Many insurance companies offer roadside assistance in their plans and can come help you if you are a member of their plan.

When asked about some ways to prevent an accident in bad weather, Senior Theresa Greathouse said, "One thing is that if you don't necessarily need to go somewhere when the weather is really aggressive then don't. One last thing I can say is that if you do end up crashing always make sure you have some sort of gloves, blanket, socks, or a hat in your trunk for back up if the police or whoever take a long time to get to your crash site."



# MHS Presents: The Villager Podcast

By: Hannah Werle



The Villager is proud to introduce our new show, the MHS Villager Podcast. Hosted by students Hannah Werle and Mackenzie Regelman, this new branch of journalism will be mixing comedy, events, and the newspaper to create an entertaining update on McDonald High School's latest happenings.

## Description:

Students Hannah and Mackenzie explore events going on in McDonald High School through interviews, debates, and humor.

## When to Listen:

The podcast will publish once a month

## Where to Listen:

The Villager Podcast currently releases on [Anchor](#) and [Spotify](#), although we are looking to expand onto other listening platforms soon.



# McDonald, Briefly--

By: Mirryn Hobbs

Students at the high school worked hard to decorate the doors of several of our teachers. Holiday cheer filled the school as the doors were covered with festive wallpapers. Students can check out these fun creations along their way to class! See additional photos on page 8.



Caidan Morris, junior, collected dog food and treats for the Healthy Hearts and Paws project in Brookfield, Ohio. This organization works to give troubled dogs a positive and healthy outcome. People who donated were entered for a chance of winning a \$50 gift card to Station Square restaurant! Donations were collected in the office at the high school.





# McDonald, Briefly--*continued*

The National Honor Society welcomed its new members on December 2nd. A beautiful ceremony was held where juniors Mackenzie Regelman, Joey Skowron, Mindy Brown, Mariah Leskovac, Caleb Domitrovich, and Caidan Morris were introduced. The students chose their future paths by lighting the candles of leadership, service, scholarship, or character. Congratulations to these bright students!

## Game Review - Terraria

By: Quintin Bell

*Terraria* is said to be a 2D *Minecraft* clone, but this is not true. *Terraria* has much progression in the base of bosses, money to trade, crafting recipes, crafting stations, and much more.

*Terraria*, developed by Re-Logic in the beginning of January 2011, is built on Microsoft XNA and written in C#. The game was released for Microsoft Windows on May 16, 2011 and had multiple revisions to add new NPCs, monsters, bosses, and items.

Update 1.3 also added a final boss, which put an "end" to the game. The final major update, named "Journey's End", revamped all of the textures, added a bunch of different bosses, items, weapons, and really gave the game what it finally needed-- an end to the decade of *Terraria*. Released on *Terraria*'s 9th anniversary, it marked the end of major development for *Terraria*. But Re-Logic is still moving the game to many different platforms. So what will the game be like when you first boot up the game? You will be able to create a pixelated character with hair, 5 styles of clothes for both girls and boys, and create a world, which is also customizable. After that, your long adventure through *Terraria* starts.



What I personally like about the game is the replayability of the game. You're able to easily create new characters and new worlds. They have a bunch of set world generation so seeing something new is possibly endless, and shows off how expansive this game is. It also has more than 1 evil face in the world - something I like about a large open world game. If you are able to have an open world, why only have 1 villain?

But what I dislike about the game is how slow progression is. You have to go down and mine to upgrade your hp -- and even then it is still not enough! What is even more awkward is also the world generation. For instance, if I go to the desert all I may see is a pit that goes all the way down to the core! The world generation may be in vain, but what if you reach the midway point? You get to struggle through more of the game!

Despite the cons outweighing the pros at times, I still adore this game. It has unique graphics which makes it easier to remember. It's really expansive and holds a good difficulty curve (unless you hit midway, then it just jumps up). But once you beat the game, there is some post-game content that you could explore. For a rating, I would give this game a 8/10. It has lived up to its decade of work, but with minor issues not everyone could enjoy.

# Horoscope - Sagittarius (November 22nd - December 21st)

By: Quintin Bell



**Element - Fire**

**Lucky Numbers - 3, 7, 9, 12, 21**

**Planet - Jupiter**

**Strengths - Generous, idealistic, great sense of humor**

**Sagittarius Dislikes - Clingy people, being constrained, off-the-wall theories, details**

**Color - Blue**

**Greatest Compatibility - Gemini, Aries**

**Day - Thursday**

**Weakness - Promises more than they can deliver, very impatient, will say anything no matter how undiplomatic**

**Sagittarius Likes - Freedom, travel, philosophy, being outdoors**

**Overall -** Sagittarius are the more curious people in the zodiac. Their open mind and philosophical view motivate them to wander around the world in search of the meaning of life. They are adventurers who meet a lot of people during their explorations. As an archer, Sagittarius is said to never fail in hitting the mark and this depiction alludes to the power of prophecy, hence, the claim that seers and prophets are born in this sign.

**Affirmation -** "As I focus on the details of life and make discriminating choices, I stay on track and on time. As I listen to others and consider their opinions, together we savor life's pleasures."

**Information adapted from -**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sagittarius\\_\(astrology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sagittarius_(astrology))

<https://www.glamour.com/gallery/sagittarius-celebrities>

Debate by: Veda Agler

## Pancakes

# VS

## Waffles



I had asked twenty students if they liked pancakes or waffles better and the result may shock you as picking between a breakfast item was very hard for many of the students. In the end,

thirteen students picked pancakes.

When I had asked why, many said they taste better. Mariah Leskovac said, "They don't just have good flavor, but I feel you can have many different toppings on them."

Pancakes do come in many different styles and flavors, but you can have a hard time eating or enjoying them when the syrup can't get ahold of the fluffy stack.

Mariah continued, "I usually always go for pancakes for breakfast because they are easier to eat and never fail to fill you up."

At the start of this debate seven students picked waffles, which I thought was going to win for sure.

The students who did pick waffles said

that they love the crunch and the different kinds you can make. Alivia Morrison said, "Waffles are so much better because you can fill the little squares up with syrup and enjoy it that way."

Many other students agreed with her, although with this many students felt that they couldn't put many toppings on waffles compared with pancakes. That being said, it never stopped them from enjoying the amazing taste. Alivia added, "I grew up eating waffles and loved when my mom always made them."



# Movie Review:

By: Mirryn Hobbs

# Book Review:

## Coraline

The movie *Coraline* tells the story of a young girl who finds a hidden door to another world. This world seems to be a perfect fantasy version of her boring life at home.

In her dream world, her once ignorant parents are now caring and loving. She visits this fantasy doorway every night, however, one thing seems off. Every person in this dimension has buttons for eyes. A dreamy garden, a large array of activities, a perfect family... what's not to like? When things seem perfect, it becomes extremely easy for her to ignore the cracks under the surface.



As things progress, Coraline's "other mother" has a request for her. If Coraline wants to stay in this magical place, she must sew

buttons into her eyes. This immediately breaks the shield that covered the darkness and rotten core of Coraline's fantasy. When Coraline finally escapes from this now haunting reality, she realizes her real parents have been stolen by the other mother and so she quickly travels back through the doorway in an attempt to find her parents and defeat the evil mother for good. Things begin to rot away and disappear as she travels through the land looking for missing eyes in order to find her parents. Coraline must race against time as the ground begins to disintegrate beneath her.

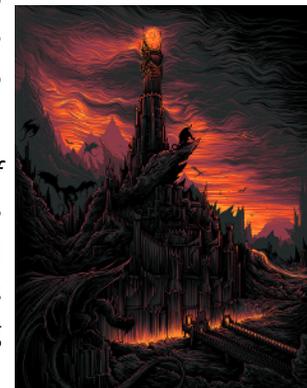
This is definitely one of my favorite movies. Although it is said to be targeted to a younger audience, I believe this can be enjoyed by all ages. The magical plot of this movie along with the underlying themes and messages makes it extremely enjoyable and teaches viewers to appreciate what they have. Things that seem perfect tend to have many problems. The artwork and colors throughout the movie are beautiful and vibrant. Also, many characters shown can be closely related to real world problems and situations.

I believe the work in this movie can be closely compared to that of Tim Burton. If you are someone who is interested in dark fantasy and a deep plot, I believe you will most certainly enjoy this movie!

## The Return of the King

*The Return of the King* from 1955 is part of a large series of books which were later turned into films. This series tells the story of a group of heroes who set out to save their world from the evil to come.

Particularly, *The Return of the King* is my favorite of the books. The final battle and climax that takes place in this book makes it extremely thrilling and enjoyable.



As war closes in on the main character Frodo, he must prepare for the journey that he had been destined for from the start. Frodo, along with Samwise, must travel great lengths of danger in order to destroy the golden ring for good. During this journey, Aragorn, Legolas, and Gimli are dealing with troubles of their own.

War has finally reached its peak for these characters. The brave ones are defending their own land as Frodo struggles against time. Deceit and evil work against Frodo and Samwise and even turns them against one another at times. The overcoming of these struggles shows the strength of the two characters in this series. From giant spiders, ents, dragons, and more, this series never becomes boring! There are many fantasy creatures to learn about that keep the story adventurous and exciting.

I find this book to be especially satisfying because after reading about all of the adventures and hard work the hobbits put in, seeing them complete their destiny was a fulfilling end. *The Return of the King* shows readers every emotion, allowing them to have a true experience. I think that it is very important to ensure that readers feel satisfied with the outcome of a series, especially as long as this one, and *The Return of the King* does that.

This book may not be for everyone. If fantasy as well as long books are not something you enjoy, then this may not be for you. However, if you do enjoy a fantastic story that is suspenseful and whimsical, *The Return of the King* is a perfect match.

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# Back Page Pics By: Veda Agler

