



THE PAW PRINT

Western Middle School



Russiaville, IN

The Paw Print Proposes "Custodian Appreciation Week"

Find the other santa hat in this issue and then stop by Mrs. Sipes' room for a treat.



By Nas Wade and Ethan Chapin

The Paw Print staff would like to propose "Custodian Appreciation Week" for next week and the final two days before Christmas break. This week is more than just saying thank you to the custodians. It is about helping, being respectful, and being responsible. We need to do our part to take care of the school, instead of making more messes for the custodians to clean up.

When speaking with our school custodians about this idea, they gave us fabulous information about their work and what they feel could be done to improve our school. The first thing is for students to stop making streak marks on the floors. This is an annoying trend and it creates more work for the custodians. Also, please stop leaving your water bottles on the floor!

In one of the hallways, someone kicked the pipes under the sinks and the air dryers off the wall. Why do this? Why destroy part of your school? Our school is a very nice place for us to learn and to make use of, so we need to appreciate it. Think about this: when you destroy something, you are just hurting yourself, really. You might think it is funny at that moment, but later when you want to use the sink or the dryer and they are not available, it is because YOU broke them.

Let's bend down and pick up that piece of trash we see near a locker and make sure all trash and recyclables are put in the proper places, let's straighten the desks before we leave the room, let's stop leaving streak marks on the floors, let's stop tearing up the property, and finally, let's be sure to say, "Thank you," to the awesome people who clean up after us every day to make sure that we always have a safe, clean, and nice environment to learn. Let's show appreciation for what we have!

The Principal's Corner **IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A PANTHER!!!**

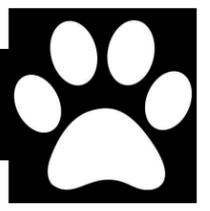


By Mr. Horrell

Here at Western Middle School our goal as a staff is for all students to learn at high levels and to be successful and grow in their learning and skills. One way we ensure this for you (the student) is through TIME. Time studying the essential standards and having you master them. Although the one thing about TIME is you also have TIME in your school day to learn and use it productively. So, when you're playing a game on the iPad or watching YouTube videos or emailing during class when you are to be listening, you are wasting valuable class TIME to work on assignments or projects you could have gotten done.....Yea you!!!! Are you as a student using TIME in the right way? We are almost halfway through the school year, so set some goals to accomplish in the next 6 or 9 weeks using your TIME wisely to achieve them.



Persist Until Success Happens





Teacher Feature: Mrs. Smith



By Shiloh Sappington, Eve Martin, and Le'na Chapel

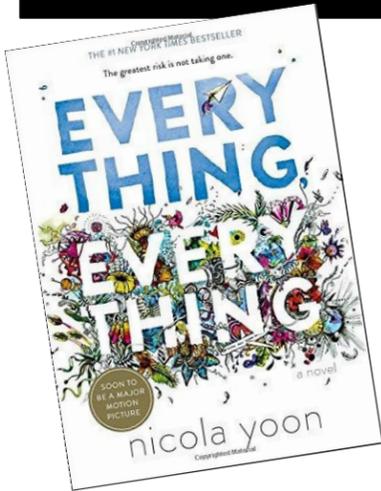
Mrs. Smith is our FACS (Family and Consumer Sciences) teacher. She likes to hang out with family. Mrs. Smith also likes to have movie nights and game nights.

Her favorite food is potatoes - just anything with potatoes! She does not have any pets because she is allergic to most animals.

Did you know that Mrs. Smith has worked here for 10 years? Many Students say that FACS class is one of their favorite classes!



Student Spotlight: Marissa Marple



Her Favorite Book!

By Cameron Young and Eli Vandebosch

Marissa Marple is an 8th grade Pathfinder. Her favorite book is *Everything Everything*. Mr. Grinstead is her favorite teacher, and her favorite subject is math.

When she is home, she likes to play the PS4. She is 13 years old. Marissa wants to get an iPhone 8 for Christmas. She does not play any sports and she does not currently have any hobbies.

This Week's Top IXL Students

You may have noticed that the students below have been in these top spots for several weeks. This is not a typo. This is a reflection of their work ethic and dedication to excellence.

8th Grade: Eliza Lutgen
Abigail Origer
Gavan Davis

7th Grade: Natalie Nutt
Chioma Ozoigbo
Jenna Yazel

6th Grade: Ethan Fisher
Braylee Acord
Lauren Bradley

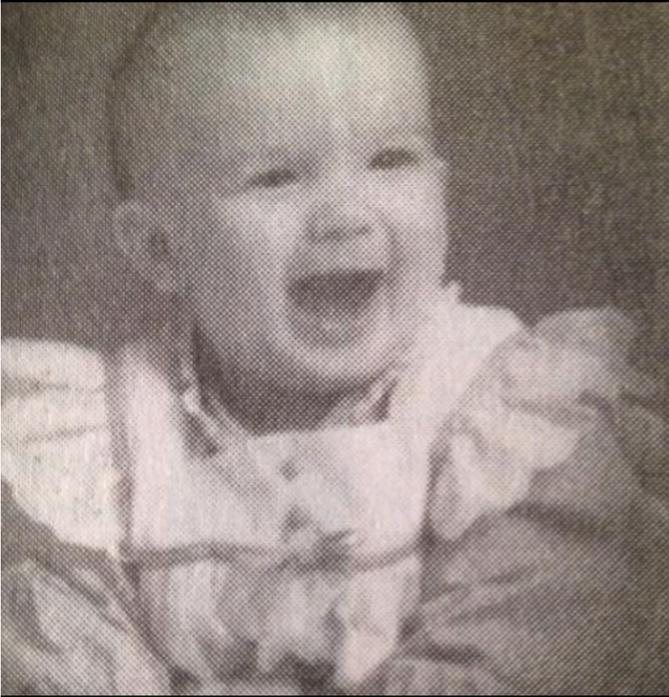


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Who Is It??



Niyeare Jones and Meridith Williams

This is a picture of one of the teachers in the middle school building. Can you guess who it is?

From now on there will be a baby picture of a teacher in each issue of *The Paw Print*. Your job is to guess which teacher it is each time. If you think you know, stop by Mrs. Sipes' room (601) during passing period. The first person with the correct answer claims the reward!

Battle of The Books Teams

Congratulations to our Battle of the Books teams on their hard work and perseverance! This year's academic competitors were as follows: Malak Eltom, Chioma Ozoigbo, Abigail Winterhalter, Aiden Raab, Jonah Raab, Justin Cline, Ben Salomon, Emily Salomon, Caitlyn Ealy, Gabriel Droscha, Cameron Shrewsbury, Lauren Bradley, Kaiden Sedlacek, Hazen Kinslow, Ari Shanks, Clayton Kelly, Sophie Kelly, Abigail Origer, Kelly Stage, and Eliza Lutgen.



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WMS Academic Super Bowl



By Habiba Moawad

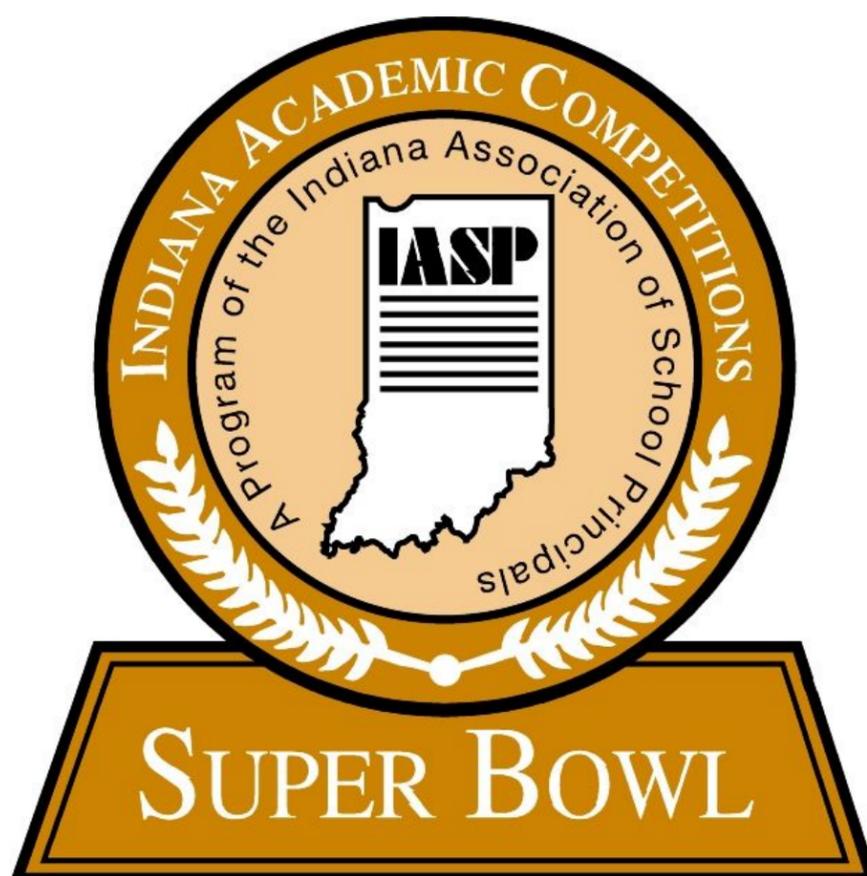
Have you ever wondered about the Academic Super Bowl? Well, in this article you will discover all about it. First, what is it? It is a series of competitions with different teams like Science, Math, Social Studies, and Language Arts. You have to answer questions according to your team's topics. There are three members and one of them is the captain on your team who answers the questions. Your team has twenty seconds to work together to prepare an answer. It works a little like Team Jeopardy. You also have one coach for each team. Mr. Bright coaches Math, Mrs. Moon sponsors Science, Social Studies is coached by Mr. Nuss, and Mrs. Lazar leads the Language Arts team.

How do you become a member? You get chosen by the teachers who think you are perfect for it. They'll assign you to a team according to your strengths and interest level. In order to be chosen, you need to meet specific requirements: be self-motivated, have an extraordinary drive and desire to learn, be willing to share and teach others, and lastly, you need to be a team player. Teammates will work together to prepare one another for the competition. Teammates have to "watch one, do one, and teach one" to be successful.

When does it start and end? Meetings begin in January and end in April. There is an invitational held at Western, and the big competition is the last week of April in Lafayette.

This year's Academic Super Bowl's topic is WWI. The science team will learn about the diseases, medicines, weaponry, and technology. Social Studies will be responsible for knowing the causes of the war, the world at the war, the United States involvement, and the war's ending. Math will cover topics such as rational expressions, equations, functions, geometry, and complex numbers. Language Arts will dive into poetry, nonfiction, fiction, and persuasive writing.

It takes a lot of time and work to be a part of this 2018 Academic Super Bowl. Do your teachers see you as a team player? Do your teachers catch you reading constantly to become more knowledgeable without their prompting? Do you often volunteer to share information with your peers? If you answered yes to all three, you may be a great candidate for an Academic Super Bowl team!



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The Sports Section: Benching Blunders



The Bills Benched Tyrod Taylor for Nathan Peterman

By Eli Vandembosch

Tyrod Taylor should not have been benched by the Bills. Nathan Peterman is a rookie and is probably nervous. Tyrod Taylor is 28 years old and right in his prime. He has been in the top 5 rushing list for quarterbacks in the last few years. Nathan Peterman should not be starting. He had 5 interceptions in the first half of his first game. Tyrod Taylor got benched on November 19th. It's just wrong.



Tyrod Taylor



Nathan Peterman



Eli Manning



Geno Smith

Eli Manning Benched for Geno Smith

By Eli Vandembosch

Eli Manning should not have been benched because he is one of the best football players in the league. Eli is a future Hall of Fame player. Why would the Giants do this?

Geno Smith has been dropped for some good reasons. He was dropped because he threw 36 interceptions in about 5,000 yards passing. A player should not even have 10 interceptions in 5,000 yards passing. Eli has 50,000 career passing yards. Geno has about 5,000 career passing yards. This is not even close. How do the Giants think they are going to get any better?



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The Sports Section: NCAAF Heisman Watch



By Eli Vandenbosch

The Heisman Watch has been high on the list of priorities for the NCAAF. Last year Lamar Jackson won the Heisman. This year he is high on the list again. Baker Mayfield, Chris Love, and Lamar Jackson are playing their best to try to win the Heisman. Who will win?

The two quarterbacks are almost equal in the passing game. The rushing game is another story. Lamar Jackson has about 1,200 more yards than Baker Mayfield. Bryce Love and Lamar Jackson are close on the rushing game too. Bryce has only 400 more yards than Lamar Jackson, and Lamar is a quarterback, not a running back. All three of these players have a chance to win the Heisman. Baker Mayfield is 1st, Bryce Love is 2nd, and Lamar Jackson is 3rd. Down below are the three players' names and the points they earned.

Name	Position	School	Year	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
Baker Mayfield	QB	Oklahoma	Sr.	11	1	0	0	0	59
Bryce Love	RB	Stanford	Jr.	0	9	2	1	0	44
Lamar Jackson	QB	Louisville	Jr.	1	2	8	0	0	37



Baker Mayfield



Bryce Love



Lamar Jackson



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The Sports Section: Russell!



Meet Russell Westbrook

By Meridith Williams, Ethan Chapin,
and Nas Wade

Russell Westbrook plays basketball for the Oklahoma City Thunder. He started playing for Oklahoma in 2008. Russell's father started teaching him the basics of basketball at a young age, because his father could already see that Russell had a future ahead of him. Russell Westbrook couldn't dunk until he was a senior in high school, but he did average 25 points every game. He was only 6'3" when he was a senior.

Russell and Oklahoma City Thunder have had many rivalries the past nine years. Their biggest rivalry as of now is the Golden State Warriors.

Russell played basketball for the UCLA Bruins. He played at UCLA for 2 years. Russell Westbrook was the second person to average a triple double ever getting 42 triple doubles. The first person to do this was Oscar Robertson. He had 41 triple doubles.

Russell Westbrook is also left handed; most NBA players are right handed. He was born on November 12, 1988 in Long Beach, California. He was born to Russell Westbrook Jr. and Shannon Horton. Russell started dribbling around in the backyard with his father at 4 years old.



Westbrook dominates his opponent. Not bad for a guy who couldn't dunk in high school!



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HAPPENING AROUND THE WORLD...



Brain-Eating Shark is Identified

By Jeffery Raines and Matthew Sipes

A pathologist who works with Wildlife and California Fish named Mark Okihiro has found the shark that he thinks is responsible for killing thousands of sharks and rays in San Francisco Bay. This happened between February and July of this year. There was something in the sharks' noses that went into their brains and starting attacking them.

Okihiro stated, "Right now I think we'll have to try and let the dust settle and see what we would like to do going forward, as far as looking at the epidemiology." *Miamiensis avidus* is the ciliate protozoan that is believed to have started an outbreak in 2010, where 250,000 fish died. Pathologists are looking at this as the possible source.



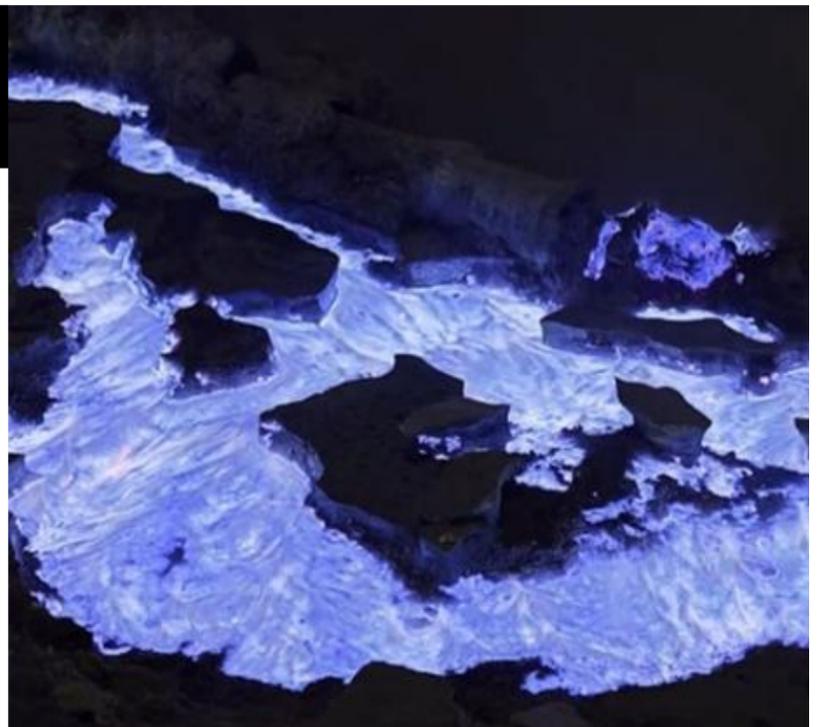
Miamiensis avidus

Blue Lava?

By Christian Wright

Lately in Indonesia scientists have found BLUE LAVA!! What? That is insane. The reason for this occurrence is sulfuric gases mixing with lava to create blue lava. This process involves the gases coming through small pores in the ground and slowly starting to mix. Breathing in the smoke or gas from the lava is enough to give you diseases in your lungs. Isn't it crazy how something so cool could be so dangerous?

The pressure and temperature cause the sulfuric gases to combust with the lava. Workers in Indonesia had to carry the sulfuric rocks in and out of the crater where the blue lava was cooling. That is risky, especially because of the diseases that can occur in your lungs. Those workers carry on their job in overtime, only to make 680 Indonesian rupiah (equal to just 5 cents in the United States). Just 30 nights in the crater, distributed over six trips, were enough to show them how destructive the environment of these mines can be.



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Gamer's Guide



By Christian Wright, Aiden Phillips, Nas Wade, and Ethan Chapman

Some of the best games to look at or pick up for Christmas are *Ark Survival*, *Madden 18*, *Rainbow Six Siege*, *Fortnite Battle Royale*, *Call of Duty: WWII*, *PlayerUnknown's Battleground* (PUBG), and *NBA 2K18*. This range goes from survival games to combat games. These are some of the hottest games from 2016-2017.

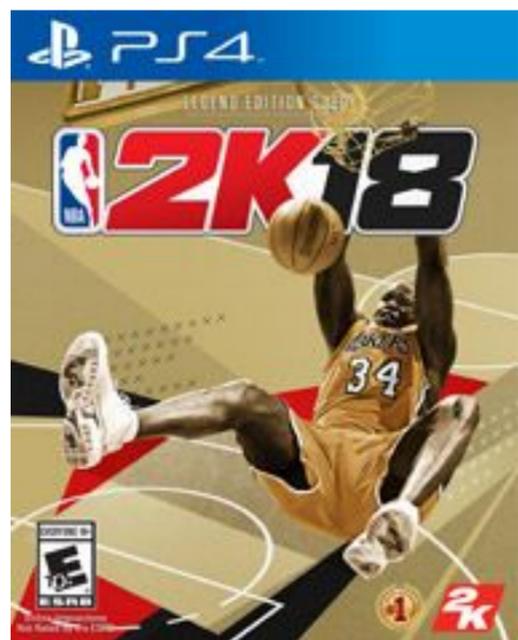


Jumping on to the sports games! We have *Madden 18* which is a game where you can choose your favorite football team and play against any other team. Every year they update teams, taking out or adding new players.

If you have XBOX Live or PS+ you can face other people online. Going to the main menu on *Madden 18*, you can select franchise mode where you can create your own character. Then continuing on franchise, you can basically play like a real football player would.

NBA2K18 is an open world game where you can play basketball at a park or play in an arena with your friends against other people. You can go to the barbershop and change your hair and facial hair, you can get tattoos all over your body, and you can go to an arcade and play mini basketball, trivia, and *NBA2K* against other players.

While playing *NBA2K* and outside of MyCareer, you can build your own team, which is called MyTeam. You can play Play Now by yourself or against other people, or you can play MyLeague or MyGM. However, in MyLeague you can rebuild or make an NBA team better by trading, signing, or choosing a different location. MyGM is kinda like MyCareer, but you don't play as your own character in a game; you play as other players. Your character is a GM, which controls the team, and you get to fire people like staff or release players to free agency. If you don't win championships, your owner will fire you and you can go to another team and hopefully win a championship. If you don't want to play any game modes, you can create your own shoes like *Nike*, *Jordan*, *Reebok*, *Adidas*, *Under Armour* and *ANTA*. All in all, that sums up *NBA2K18*.



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Rainbow Six Siege has nuzzled its way into one of the best games ever. There are two teams of six and you choose your operator, if someone hasn't taken it yet. You will be defending or attacking. If you are attacking, you are trying to break in and secure the area, grab hostages, and defuse bombs. If you are defending, you try to keep the area secure, keep hostages in your possession, and defend bombs. There are various missions and modes in the game that you can do without XBOX Live or PS+, otherwise you have to have XBOX Live and PS+ to play online.

"One of the best games ever."

TOM CLANCY'S
RAINBOW SIX | SIEGE



Fortnite Battle Royale is a survival-based game. You drop with 100 other players off of a floating bus. Then, you need to grab loot, such as weapons, resources, medical supplies, and ammo. You can build forts and stairs out of materials. Your goal is to get good weapons and resources and be the last one alive.



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Gamer's Guide



By Christian Wright, Aiden Phillips, Nas Wade, and Ethan Chapman

Call of Duty: WW II is a video game based off of World War II combat. It has a very good story behind the campaign. All of the missions are based on real events that happened during WWII. There are also multiplayer and zombies. The multiplayer has good maps and amazing guns. Your goal is to get as many kills as you can in the 10 minute time period. The zombies are very hard, but different than all of the recent zombies. Your goal is to survive as long as you can. You can use jolts (points) to get guns, unlock doors, and buy perks.

“Based on real events that happened during WWII.”



PlayerUnknown's Battleground is another survival based game. It is quite like Fortnite, but more realistic and non-animated. You drop from a plane and have to grab weapons, ammo, and medical supplies. Another way that it is different from Fortnite is that you can not grab resources and build forts or stairs. Your goal is to be the last one standing.

The game *Ark Survival* sort of explains just a little bit of how much potential it really has. The basic rundown is you can be stranded on an island a desert or ancient run down buildings. You have to build a base, tools, and taming supplies. What are you taming? You can tame dinosaurs and a few mystical animals.



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Paw-fect Puzzles and Games

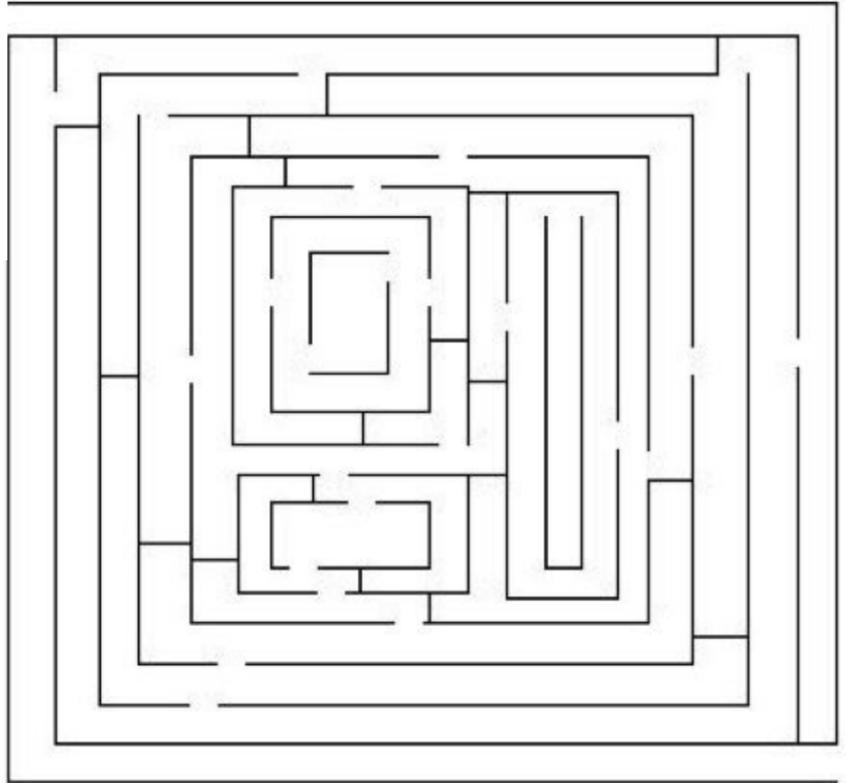


Winter Word Search

C	S	M	F	S	N	O	W
O	C	B	R	C	S	M	H
A	A	Q	O	O	B	V	K
T	R	E	S	L	F	E	I
W	F	O	T	D	Q	S	Z
L	W	K	Y	Q	I	C	E
V	Q	W	I	G	L	O	O
H	W	I	N	T	E	R	N



CAN YOU HELP ME FIND MY CARROT NOSE?



COAT
COLD
FROST
ICE

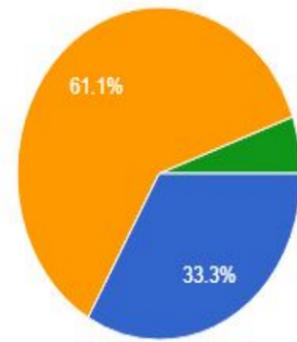
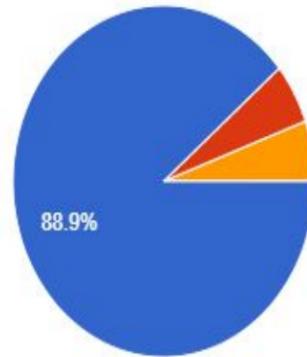
IGLOO
SCARF
SNOW
WINTER



Poll Responses from November 21:

What is your favorite food for Thanksgiving?

What is your favorite part of Thanksgiving?



- Mashed potatoes
- Stuffing
- Cream corn
- Small bread

- Eating food
- Celebrating the first Thanksgiving of pilgrims and Native Americans
- Having fun with your family
- Making arts and crafts



THE PAW PRINT POLL

Which is your favorite sport?

- Basketball
- Swimming
- Football
- Tennis
- Volleyball
- Soccer



Which is your favorite holiday?

- Christmas
- Halloween
- Valentine's Day
- 4th of July
- Thanksgiving
- Easter



Click [HERE](#) to submit your responses online.



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