

THE CARDINAL CHRONICLE



DRIFTWOOD MIDDLE CREATES SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

An Unexpected Undertaking

JANELLE PRAGER FEBRUARY 8, 2021

Well, the yearbook has now officially turned into a newspaper! A new issue of the Cardinal Chronicle should come out every week, specifically every Monday, and will include information about a plethora of events, clubs, sports, activities, and more. The yearbook was scrapped after the challenges of 2020, but to make up for it, the yearbook staff decided the Cardinal Chronicle would be the perfect replacement. The Cardinal Chronicle will have all the information the yearbook would have had, plus some! One yearbook staff member had this to say regarding the change of plans: “Well, the transition wasn’t easy, to say the least. At first, it was hard because I did not know the first thing about making a newspaper. However, it did get easier over time, and now I am excited to learn about a new writing style, and to see how people react to the Cardinal Chronicle!”



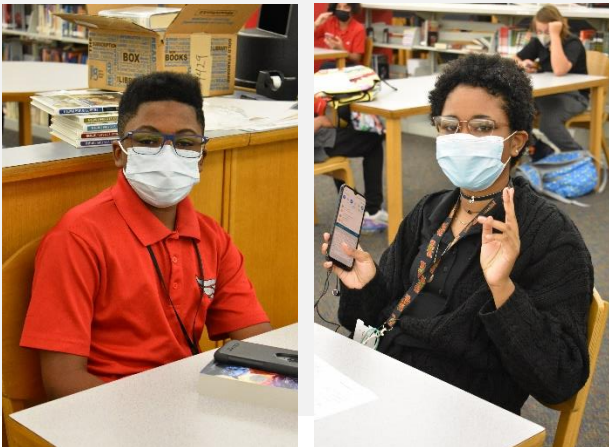
The DMS logo sits alone in a vacant field, waiting for all the students to return. The Cardinal Chronicle will keep our readers informed of all the important happenings occurring at our school.

MASK-UP Driftwood

LAUREN WEIR FEBRUARY 8, 2021

This year’s fashion trends have been like no other...masks! When students returned to in-person learning, Driftwood saw some of the coolest masks yet! Well, why is it important to “mask up”? Ever since the coronavirus, one of the most important things to keep everyone safe is the use of a mask. Though this item is of great importance, that doesn’t mean you can’t have a little fun with it! Homemade or store bought, a mask can say a lot!

Kiara Alvarez shows off her matching Stitch jacket and mask, while Kamil Duverge rocks the ever-stylish home-made mask.



Basic masks are always fashionable as Jasiah Byrd and Teyana Levers demonstrate during their return to face-to-face instruction.



THE LADY CARDINAL FLAG FOOTBALL TEAM STARTS STRONG

The Lady Cardinals are off to a good start this year with a 2-1 record so far. The season started off a little tough as the flag football teams were the first sports to have a season. Prior to this year, soccer had always been the first middle school sport. The challenge for the coaches this year was getting students’ paperwork and reaching the virtual students with all the necessary information and paperwork. However, Coach Kornhauser and Coach Henry have worked together and organized the ladies into a working team. Ava Alvarez and Kailyn Echevarria are sharing responsibilities at the quarterback position. Tearra Mortimer has brought her expertise as running back and receiver to lead the Cardinals in scoring. “Every time we have a game we always practice, practice, practice to make sure we are ready.”

Says 8th grader Vivian Ali, “Thanks to football I have been more energetic and more involved with everything I do.” As of right now, no one is really supposed to come and watch the games. That doesn’t matter to some people as they are so excited that they sneak over to watch the games anyway! Football has a reputation of being a very rough, dangerous sport; however, the team says that they have so much fun and meet so many new people that it is worth the extra excitement.

Update to the story. We are sad to report that the Girls’ Flag Football season is over due to the coronavirus.



Health & Safety Tips

Health & Safety is paramount in these harrowing times.

Hello everybody! Due to the virus and many other negative occurrences in our world, everyday has been hard on most people around the globe. So, the Driftwood Middle School newspaper staff is here to play its part in helping people stay safe. In this section, tips, advice, and suggestions will be given on what students and staff members should do during these challenging times.

Safety Tips:

- As always, wear a mask.
- Stay six feet away from other people.
- Sneeze in your mask if you have one on or block your sneeze with your arm if you do not have a mask currently on.
- Avoid going to gatherings like parties and reunions that have a lot of people in attendance.

Health Tips:

- Make sure to eat plenty of fruits and vegetables.
- Exercise daily.
- Spend time with your family.
- Get about 8-10 hours of sleep every day.
- Stay hydrated and drink a lot of water every day.

Quarantine Survival Guide

Productivity Suggestions:

- Play outside or ride a bike.
- Spend time with your family and friends: Time with family and friends is precious and valued but is underappreciated and taken for granted. That is why you should stop reading this article and go spend some time with your loved ones.
- Learn something new: You could learn a new language like French, Creole or Japanese. Some hobbies you can learn or start to do are drawing, making a website, learning how to program computers, and more!
- Play and take care of your pet or a friend's pet.
- Study certain subjects and topics for future reference.
- Help siblings and/or parents by doing chores around the house.
- Hopefully, this list at least gave everyone reading this an idea of what can be done now that most students are attending class online and stress is growing in frequency and amount with the new dangers being thrown at everyone. Although it seems that things will not get any better, just remember that with everyone's help, life could be just a few steps away from returning to how things once were.

Authors-Ethan Huber & Zacharie Aksu

Who's That Baby? Shani Bandell

This year we are having our very own newspaper! The yearbook crew decided to have a section in our newspaper where you, the reader, can play a fun game and try to figure out our own fellow students and school faculty by their baby photo. In this section, we will include a baby photo of a student or faculty member and you will have to guess who you think is who. Next week, when the next newspaper comes out, it will state the answers from last week and, of course, there will be new baby pictures of students or faculty. We hope you enjoy our new newspaper and this section. Have a wonderful time figuring it out!



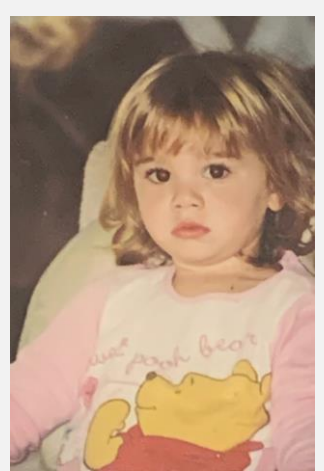
2) 8th Grade



1) 6th Grade



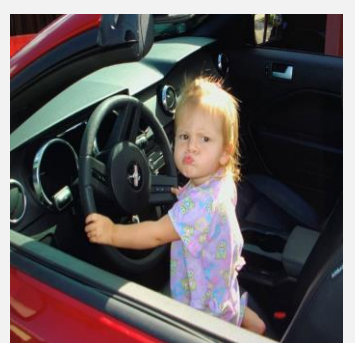
3) 8th Grade



4) 8th Grade



5) 8th Grade



6) 8th Grade

A Real Perspective on Coronavirus

JASIAH BYRD

As she walked down the corridor looking left and right, she passed patient after patient as her “PPE” weighed her down. Then the alarm sounded! She rushed down the hallway “Alright give me some room. Get me an IV line and push two milligrams of insulin to calm him down.” And, that is only half of what nurses and frontline workers go through during this pandemic. As of now, four hundred and sixty-three thousand people have died of coronavirus, and it is worse for our nurses and frontline workers. Personally, my mother is a nurse during this pandemic and what she tells me that happens during this crisis is fascinating and scary. For instance, she told me that a twenty-year-old boy got Covid-19 and, as a result, died of loss of oxygen to the brain. I wonder what his family and friends are going through losing their son or friend. My mother says that, during the pandemic, the hospitals are not always giving the proper protection to the nurses because they run out of supplies. Then, sometimes, nurses do not even know that a patient has Covid, so they are not even prepared to deal with the patient. Sometimes, my mother is stuck with more patients than she should have because of the national nurse shortage. I asked my mother, “what is one thing that you would recommend to all of us?” and her response was, “Just be careful because stuff is real, and you need to protect yourself and your family.” So, there you have it, folks. Covid-19 is real, so wear a mask, be socially distanced, and take any other necessary safety precautions so that you can protect the people that you love. I know it may be hard but, trust me, it will all be worth it in the long run.



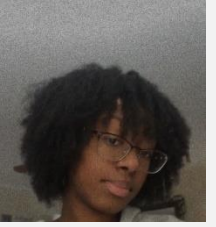
Ms. Edwards, Jasiah’s mom, poses in her PPE. She works hard to contain the virus and help those infected by it.



Ms. Edwards is only one of thousands of nurses dealing with containing the virus, and trying to protect themselves and their families while doing so.

SEND HELP

ASIA BABOOLAL

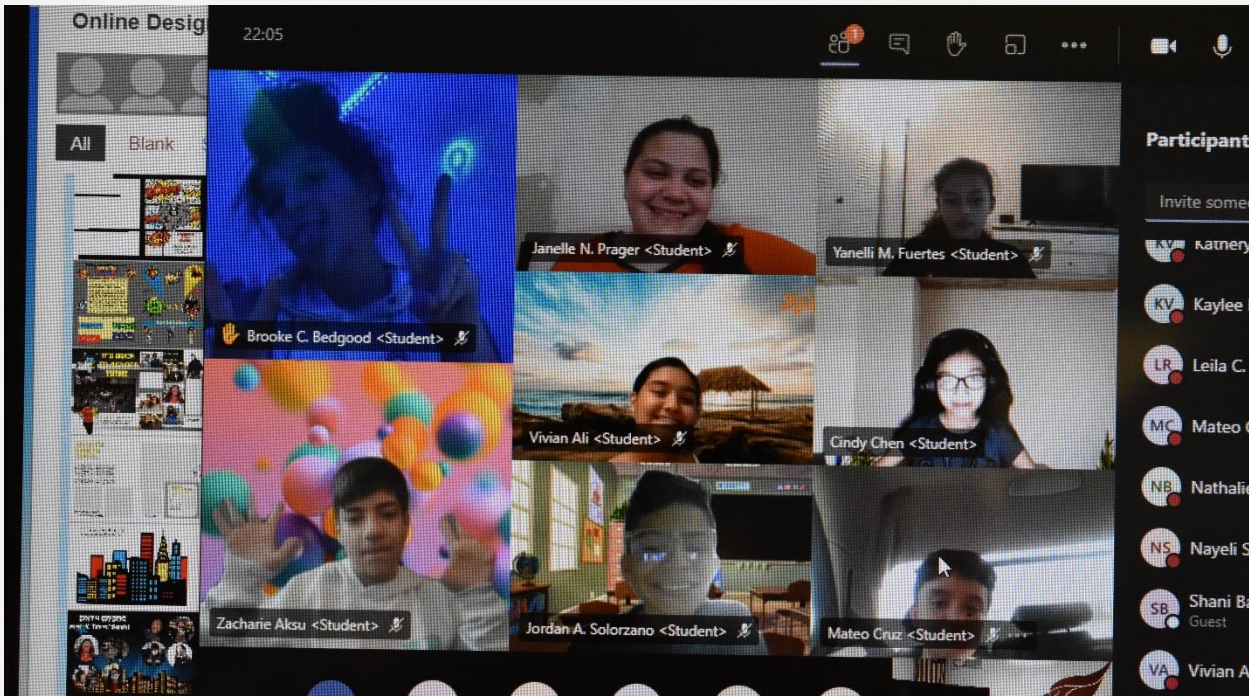


Hi! My name is Asia and I'm a normal 8th grade student. I'm in my room around my computer trying not to get distracted right now. This year, I'm having trouble with my grades. Online school is really complicated, and I can't seem to grasp it. I have 2 A's and 4 D's... not looking good at all for my GPA and my high school options. I'm in 8th grade which makes it even worse! I don't know what to do. Maybe I'll ask for tutoring because I've never been this preoccupied. I have about 5 incomplete assignments for each of my classes. I don't have anyone to keep me on track. I'm not in a space that is dedicated for learning, so I can't seem to stay on task. I need to learn time management skills. When will I master e-learning? Send help please!

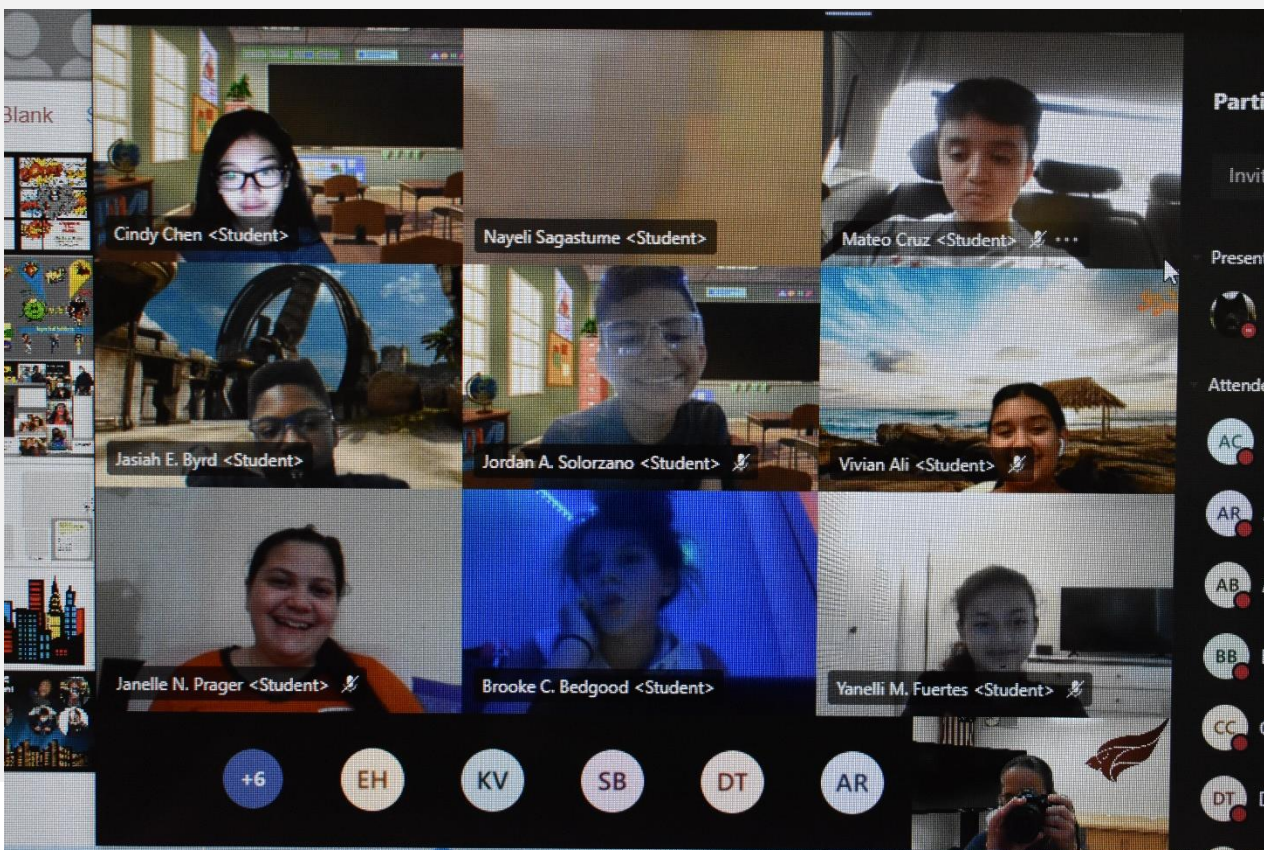
Weekly Words of Wisdom

WITH MRS. WILCOX

“Treat others how you want to be treated.” This quote is known as the Golden Rule. The Golden Rule is the principle of treating others as you want to be treated. So, with that in mind, treat others with dignity, respect, kindness, tolerance, and good will. The hope is that you will receive what you give.



The Driftwood Yearbook staff, AKA the newspaper staff, collaborates on news topics that are relevant for the times. Transitioning from a yearbook to a newspaper has been interesting, but worthwhile. As you can see from these pictures, it has also been entertaining.



Transitioning from online school to coming back face-to-face was challenging. My experience from doing online school was very difficult for me throughout the first two quarters. At the beginning of the year, it was easy for me because they were teaching, and the teachers were very engaged in the whole learning and Teams process. Starting first quarter, the teachers had their cameras on and would engage students, helping us learn things. I found online school to be very hard because I can't focus. The easiest way of learning for me was visual and collaborating with other students. Online school was also frustrating because I would have computer problems, or my mic wouldn't work, and I would get marked absent. Getting marked for being absent or tardy shows on your reputation, so that was kind of hard for me. I also felt that the teachers stopped teaching as they had done before. As a result, my grades started dropping. Sometimes, I asked for help and they would not reply to emails or would respond late to me, so I decided to come back to school physically. Transitioning back to school was weird because I haven't been in a school building since March of 2020. It is a very weird feeling being back in school. Coming back to school has done so much for me because, now, I don't have to worry about getting marked absent or my grades dropping. My grades have improved so much since I've returned. I was also glad to come back to school because, now, I get to see my friends again. I think coming back to school was a great idea but also a little risky since we have the virus going around, but it was worth it.

Author: Danaysha Thomas

KEYWORD

Living History

AUTHOR: BROOKE BEDGOOD

Do you ever just wonder what it is like for a student doing school from home? Well, you're in the right place. Based on my perspective with online learning, let's just say it's complicated. Learning from home has its ups and downs. From my experience on online learning, it could be hard to keep up on the work when the teachers are over-assigning work, which leads to bad grades. In my mindset, if I see a bad grade, I try my hardest to jump right onto it and I'm positive other online students do the same thing. My situation can be a little different, though. Imagine doing online school in the middle of moving! Yeah, I know it sounds pretty hectic, right?

Even though online school can be hard, it also has its positive side. Waking up and going to school in pajamas! We've always wanted to do that as kids. Now we can! Pretty cool right! I feel like I'm not as controlled when I'm at home or whenever I am on a Teams meeting for school. Online learning is fun, but school in-person does help on the social side. Being able to talk to your friends, eat lunch with them, and even being able to switch classes together, is fun. I kind of forgot what it feels like to go to school. Being stuck in your house for 6 hours every day is no fun. Ever since this major pandemic hit, it has messed up everything.

Being stuck inside, family and friends losing their jobs, even close ones getting sick by this Covid situation are all difficulties people are facing. Overall, online school may not be the best, but it keeps everyone safe.



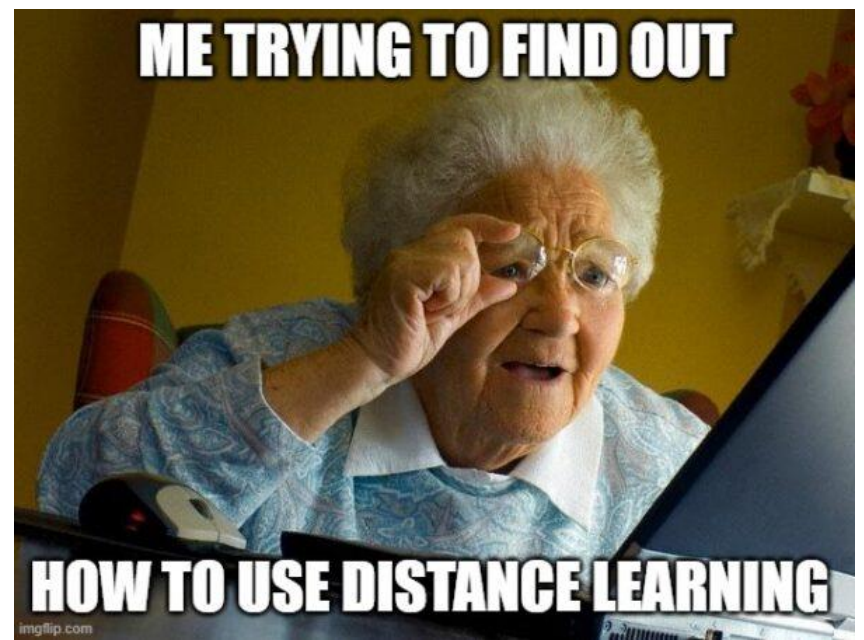
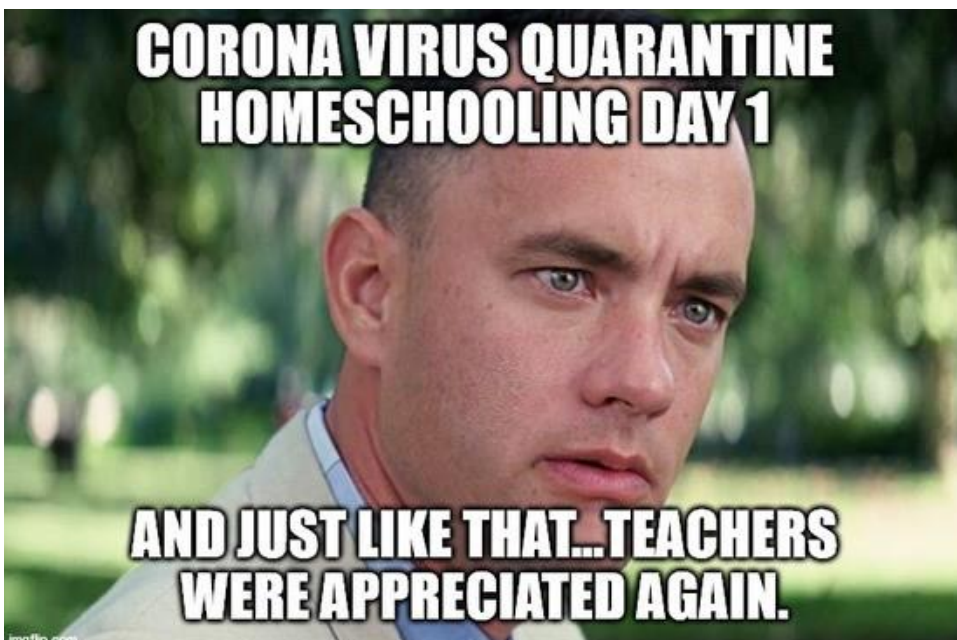
“A man can make what he wants of himself if he truly believes that he must be ready for hard work and many heartbreaks.” Thurgood Marshall

Paying Tribute to a First Thurgood Marshall

AUTHOR: JASIAH BYRD

February is Black History Month and we pay our respects to the man who became the first African American Supreme Court Justice, Thurgood Marshall. Mr. Marshall was an African American lawyer and civil rights activist. Born in Baltimore, Maryland, he graduated from Howard University School of Law. President John F. Kennedy appointed him to the United States Court of Appeals. Four years later, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him United States Solicitor General. In 1967, he appointed him Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States after retiring Tom C. Clark. See what you can carry out when you put your mind to it! Thurgood Marshall started his career with a struggling law firm. Then, he ended his career in the Supreme Court, which is the highest court in America. So, as I leave you here today, just remember nothing is too hard for you to do if you put your mind to it.

E-LEARNING MEMES



KEYWORD

As If School Wasn't Tough Enough-A 6th Grade Perspective

AUTHOR MATEO CRUZ

Covid-19... yeah you know that virus - the virus that made the world go into panic mode, the virus that made schools close, and the virus that caused businesses to shut down. So, now, I am coming to you from a sixth-grade perspective to tell you about my experience regarding transitioning from elementary to online middle school, and, finally, in-person middle school. "Going in person for school was a good decision. I was talking to a wall in online school, so I did many other things during class, like watching TV or playing games (not very good decisions). Now that I am at school, I can restrain myself from distractions. I can talk and chill with my friends. So far, it's been good." – Mateo Cruz



“Before and After”

The outbreak of the coronavirus has put a pause on life as we know it. We all lived our usual lives before COVID-19, doing normal things such as going to the grocery store, attending family meetings, going to the movies, going to school, and getting picked up from school by our parents at the end of a school day, etc. Then, being so exhausted from all the daily activities, our bodies just need to relax and unwind so we tend to fall asleep faster and ready for the next day ahead. Also, wearing a mask and a face shield out in public would have been out of the norm and people would look at you differently. Hand sanitizer was only used whenever you thought that you might have come into contact with something dirty. Socializing was a normal occurrence. We could go to restaurants or any crowded area, hug someone without the fear of contracting a deadly disease. After the coronavirus, there is much more appreciation for the things we once took for granted. We still do these things today, but to be safe, we do them differently. Today, the new norm is wearing a mask, social distancing, plenty of handwashing, and safe food and item handling. Since COVID-19 is an infectious disease which can be spread easily, and even cause death, all these measures need to be taken seriously. Inside the school system is where our most dramatic modifications have taken place. In the beginning, everyone was afraid and scared when they heard of the virus but did not think that everyone would be so immensely affected. At first, school was closed for the most part until the school district implemented ways that would be in the best interest for the students and staff to return. After many discussions, the decision was made to partially open schools which would give parents and students the option to either do school at home online or at the physical school, which would mean that those who decide to attend school would have to adhere to the CDC guidelines. Most schools are either closed or reopened, some with online learning in place. Online learning can be difficult since many kids don't have access to the internet, or their parents simply can't afford to get such luxury. For some students, this change can have a great impact on their lives and can interfere with the way that they learn.

Since I shared my perspective, I decided to add other students' perspectives and to ask them what they think on the subject. Here are their responses. "Being in person for school was a very good decision because personally my grades got better because I don't have the opportunity to go on my phone and watch TV. The school environment is very lovely to be around. I couldn't ask for a better school." – Alora Gomez
 "Being in 6th grade was a big change from elementary school. More classes and more teachers can be stressful, and it took me a while to adjust to the changes. However, it's been fun. I feel like I have more freedom and all my teachers are very kind. I've also met some great people this year." – Kamil Duverge
 "I feel that kids should start going back to school slowly as the virus gets weaker, so it doesn't spread." - Logan Valentin
 Life has been a little more challenging for 6th graders, unlike 7th or 8th graders who are used to an online environment. 6th graders are a little bit challenged because of this, since they never worked in an online environment for school.

Author: Ashalee Rogers



DRIFTWOOD WEEKLY ROUNDUP



CLOSING THOUGHTS

Greeting Cardinals! This week was quite busy not only for students, but for the teachers at DMS. This week was the anniversary of the tragic events that occurred at Stoneman Douglas HS on Valentine's Day in 2018. As a show of solidarity several staff members participated in the Chris Hixon Memorial Walk on Saturday, February 20, 2021, in honor of the coach who died trying to save his students. DMS TEACHERS ROCK!

Thank you to the following teachers who represented Driftwood MS: Mr. Joseph, Ms. Bennet, Ms. Walters, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Cephas & daughter, Ms. Erasmus, Ms. Gancitano, Mr. Penichet, Ms. Schloss, Ms. Prescott, and Mr. Birdsong.



Author: Alora Gomez

We all know what crosswords and puzzles are. Some may love them, while some may not like it because it makes their brain hurt. Let us go back. The very first jigsaw puzzle is said to have been made by London mapmaker, John Spilsbury, in the 1760s. Mr. Spilsbury mounted one of his master maps onto wood and then cut around the countries. He gave it to children in the local school to help them with their geography education. And, in that act, jigsaw puzzles were invented. Personally, in the beginning of the quarantine, I was obsessed with them. They kept me busy and were just overall fun to do. Down below you could see a crossword puzzle. The crossword puzzle was made in December 1913, on the “eve” of World War I. Arthur Wynne, an editor at the New York World, needed a new game for that paper's FUN section. So, the crossword puzzle was created! We added some fun to your reading with a crossword puzzle and word search below. Enjoy!

Write down the names of the colours 7

11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Name: _____

BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

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