

# THE COUGAR PRINT

OCTOBER 2020



## OLA in a COVID world

*By Mya Marquard*

I wake up, it's a Monday morning and I'm going to go to school in 2020. I grab my mask and head out the door. I get my temperature checked and I head inside. Inside I sit down, catch a breath, and get comfortable because this is where I'll be sitting for the majority of the day. This is what we students do here everyday now. If you've attended Our Lady of Angels before this pandemic, you may have noticed that this school has made some

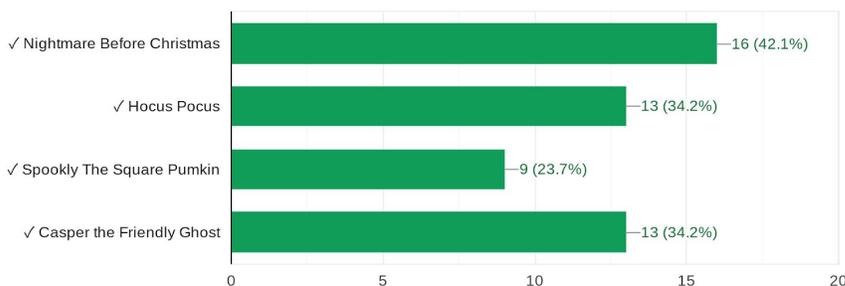
major changes to keep students, teachers, and staff safe. Everyone must wear masks covering their mouths and noses at all times. Students have dividers placed where they sit. Students also have the option to stay home and participate in virtual learning, where they will log in to Google Meets and turn in assignments via Google Classroom. Skylar, a fourth grader, says that she prefers in-person learning while Mickey, also a fourth grader, says that in-person is harder. This year may be hard for students, but it's just as hard for the teachers, too. They're doing their best to educate people online and in-person. Ms. Rosenbaum says: "I love the students and the families at OLA, however the pandemic has the teachers doing twice the work with less planning time. We are all terribly concerned about everyone's health and safety." This year has been rough for all of us. Something like this has never happened at this school before. All we can do is help each other through the school year and stay as healthy as possible, so stay strong OLA! 🐾



## Which Halloween Movie is the Best?

*Poll by Megan Smith*

Pick your favorite Halloween Movie  
0 / 38 correct responses



As of right now, "The Nightmare Before Christmas" was voted the best movie this year. Even though it started in last place, in the end it prevailed with all of the votes.

Thanks to: Mrs.Adams, Mrs.Wilson, Ms.Rosenbaum, The Third Grade, The Second Grade, The Fifth grade. 🐾

## **Is There a Better Way to Learn? At Home vs. In-Person**

*By Willa Kenny*

When parents decided whether to send their children to school in person or online, they may have asked themselves various questions, such as: “Will my child be able to concentrate in an online setting?” “Will other students comply with social distancing and mask wearing regulations?” “Is it even safe to go back to school?” or, “Will my child receive the same adequate education they do in a classroom rather than at home?” But, I’m sure everyone has wondered at some point or another if there’s actually a better option. From observing teachers’ attitudes during class, I’ve come to believe that most teachers prefer in-person. I spoke with some students in the 4th grade, and they all agreed that in-person school was better. Chessa says “It’s better in-school because you understand more, and get to participate in classes like gym.” Marty agrees, saying “In person, because you don’t need to worry about getting disconnected.” One more student named Bride tells me



“I prefer in-person school, because I get to see people.” After talking with these 4th graders, I feel like I have a better understanding of where students stand on the argument. Even though students prefer in-person school, some parents may choose online, because they feel that they may be prone to the virus with their children in the building. OLA’s protocols are safe, but things may end badly if students don’t follow the rules and if teachers don’t enforce them. Managing online students and students at school in the classroom is challenging for teachers, with people online constantly disconnecting, and having to manage misbehaving students at school. Overall, I believe that both in-person and online school each have their own sets of pros and cons, and personally, I believe it’s completely up to whichever works best for you. If everyone works together, we can continue both options for the benefit of all students. Keep up the good work!



## **Teacher Spotlight on Miss Duns** *By Alora Marquard*

Today, I talked to Miss Duns, the new 6th grade teacher OLA. Miss Duns enjoys Irish dancing and teaching history. To Miss Duns, our school is very welcoming and nice. She did not intend on teaching, but after she taught her first class she saw something different than before, and she enjoyed it. After a few years, she graduated and began her search to find a job. She’s been to a couple of schools but she believes she’ll stay here. This young teacher loves to help her students learn new things and help them succeed in life just like she did. Even though she believes that teaching is challenging, after a while her students and her fellow teachers began to make her feel at home. Miss Duns is a huge fan of Irish dancing and badminton so if you ever want to strike up a conversation with Miss Duns you know how. So, everyone, join me in giving a warm welcome to Miss. Duns! 🐾



# **STAY SAFE OLA!**

*~Photos by Marian Cleary and Brea Pierce~*