

National Junior Honor Society

ACTIVITIES:

*Collected toiletries for the womens shelter.

*Sold pizza on Friday to staff and proceeds went to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

*Sponsored a Friday Dress Down Day and donated all money to local food pantries and the Community Food Bank of New Jersey.

*3 people volunteered at the Hillside Community Food Bank of NJ: Argita Idrizi, Catherine Garcia, and Kayla Nikaj.

*Anyone else who is 14 years old who wants to volunteer at the Community Food Bank can see Mrs. Foster or Mrs. Frohlich for details.

Remote Learning Challenges & Wins

Irena Avalos

Here are some of the many challenges that occur when learning remotely:

Spotty WiFi: Not being able to hear people or people not being able to hear you, glitching out of Google Meets, and not being able to open another tab and work on your assignment with the Google Meet open.

Teachers Not Calling On You: When you have a question but the teacher can't hear and/or see you, so you're left not knowing what is going on.

Teachers Taking Attendance Too Quickly: For people like me whose last name starts with an A,

B, C, or D, and are the first students to be called during attendance, if we're not there when the Google Meet starts, we're late and could get points off of our participation grade.

Taking Tests and Quizzes: When you have a test online and your computer is glitchy because of the Google Meet and you don't end up finishing the test on time, so you could end up with a 0%.

70 Minute Periods: Sitting down in the same spot and not moving for 70 minutes can really take a toll on a student, especially their back. By the end of the year all of us will be shaped like the letter C.

Even though there are many challenges that come with remote learning, there are some perks as well:

Getting Up Late: School starts at 8:20 everyday. On days where students are remote, they get to wake up any time before 8:20 and still be able to attend class. They can basically wake up at 8:19, and still get to class on time because they don't have to get ready.

Casual Attire: Because during the Google Meet others can only see your face, you can wear whatever you want and no one will be able to tell.

Taking Naps: On Wednesdays, every student has 35 minutes for lunch, which means they can spend this time how they want, even by taking a nap.



New crew named Expedition 64 is going to the International Space Station

Sahir Baksh

In the latest news in Space, NASA is sending a crew of astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) called Expedition 64. This crew comprises seven members on board of the ISS. Their names are Kathleen Rubin (Expedition 48, 49, and 63), Sergey Ryzhikov (Expedition 63, 50, and 49), Sergey Kud-Sverchkov (Expedition 63). Michael S. Hopkins, Victor J. Glover, Soichi Noguchi, and Shannon Walker.

They launched the members into space on Wednesday, October 14th, and will end their mission on April 18, 2021. There will be two space ships arriving to the ISS. Soyuz MS-17 was the first one and arrived safely at the ISS on October 14th, carrying 3 members. The remaining crew members will go on another spacecraft called SpaceX Crew-1. It was expected to launch on October 31st, but will be delayed until early to-mid November because of some technical difficulties that the SpaceX rockets had in previous launches.



Marita Chamoun



Marita Chamoun

The Response to School Bullying

Logan Yoon

Bullying can be a problem in schools, and many students have experienced some form of bullying. There are many ways someone can be bullied. However, due to coronavirus concerns and with the rise of remote learning, cyberbullying this year will be more prevalent. I asked the principal, Mr. Bargna, what the school will do this year if there was such a problem. He responded: "We do not tolerate bullying. If there is an accusation of bullying, the anti-bullying team will conduct a thorough investigation, where parents are notified, and bullying paperwork would be completed. The anti-bullying specialists would then interview both parties and any witnesses. The interviews would be analyzed by the anti-bullying committee and they would determine if bullying occurred. Consequences will then be determined, and after the investigation is completed, a copy of the findings are sent to the superintendent, and parents are notified of the decision. If any student is being bullied they need to make their teacher, guidance counselor or administrators know, so it does not continue." So if you or someone you know is being bullied, please inform an adult, and seek help.

Staff

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Pandemic Numbers and Outbreaks

Argita Idrizi

Worldwide there is a pandemic spreading rapidly, which has caused much chaos, depression, and stress for people all around the world these last few months. The United States is the leading with the most coronavirus cases and deaths. There have been over 7.89 million cases of coronavirus and over 220k deaths here in the United States. Cases are increasing throughout the country, which is making scientists expect a second wave. Here in New Jersey, coronavirus cases are increasing everyday, but the Midwest numbers at this time are growing at a faster rate. Two or three months ago, New Jersey was actually named one of the safest states in America because of how much our cases had dropped since March. Overall, this national pandemic is a huge deal and looks as if cases are only going to increase over time. Approximately 240 vaccines are in early development, with 40 being in clinical trials and nine already in the final stage of testing on thousands of people. However, scientists don't think a vaccine is likely to become widely available until mid-2021. Until a cure or vaccine comes out, people have to continue to wear a mask, keep social distancing, and wash their hands to prevent even more spread.



Joleen Kattoura

How The 2020 Election Will Change Elections For Years To Come

Matthew Brodsky

This election year has been one of the toughest elections due to the coronavirus pandemic, Black Lives Matter, health care and so much more. The Republican candidate for President is Donald Trump and Vice President is Mike Pence. The Democratic candidate for President is Joe Biden and Vice President is Kamala Harris. The candidates are struggling to find ways to please their voters. People that are voting are finding it hard to vote this year because most voting locations are closed and mail in ballots are taking over. So what does all of this mean for years to come? We can expect many changes in future elections. These changes might include more mail in ballots and who knows what else might happen. No matter who wins this election, it will make a huge impact on our daily life and future elections.

The Student Council Election Winners

Logan Yoon

The Student Council Election has passed, and the results are out. The winners of this year's election are...

President: Sara Zevi Khan

Vice President: Irena Avalos

Treasurer: Logan Yoon

Secretary: Ethan Tansey

Class Spirit: Solei Buchanan

Please visit the Student Council Google Classroom for upcoming events and activities such as the virtual door decorating contest for Halloween. The winner of the contest, will receive a \$50 gift card to Millers Bakery.

How Learning Has Changed and Students' Opinions on It

Anna Bergelson

Ever since the pandemic outbreak last school year, schools have closed all over the world and students have been learning remotely from home. However, this year, Cliffside Park schools have reopened and have welcomed students after a long summer. They incorporated both hybrid learning and remote learning into student schedules.

The first day back to school was a strange time for everybody at CPMS and was an all virtual day. Students and teachers got to see each other for the first time. Many students thought it was a bizarre experience, but also fun to finally see and interact with others at school. Below, students answered questions about hybrid/remote learning and voiced their opinions:

Are you a hybrid or remote student?

I am an all-remote student.

What is the thing you miss most about regular learning?

The thing I miss the most about school is seeing my friends.

How has your experience been with hybrid/remote learning?

For me, my experience with remote learning has been pretty nice. It is easier for me to do remote learning than to go to school in person.
-Clare Kwon

Are you a hybrid or remote student?

I am a hybrid student.

What is the thing you miss most about regular learning?

I miss longer school days and hanging out more with my friends.

How has your experience been with hybrid/remote learning?

At first, hybrid learning was a bit strange. I was not used to wearing a mask at first, but eventually I got used to it. Now it is like second nature to me.
-Irena Avalos

Are you a hybrid or remote student?

I am an all-remote student.

What is the thing you miss most about regular learning?

What I miss the most is doing the hands-on lab experiments in science class.

How has your experience been with hybrid/remote learning?

While doing remote learning, I focus better and I feel more comfortable doing work at my own desk. I really do not mind remote learning.
-Catherine Garcia

Holiday Activities

Kevin Matias

The Holidays are coming! In order to stay safe and get into the holiday spirit, here are some ways to celebrate!

1. Secret Gift Exchange: If you are with a group of people, having a gift exchange can be very fun. Everyone gives someone a present. Then everyone has to guess who gave it to them.

2. Sleep Under your Christmas Tree: Sleeping under your Christmas tree can put you in the holiday spirit with the lights and ornaments above you.

3. Bake a Gingerbread House: Making a Gingerbread House is a great holiday tradition...not to mention delicious.

4. Holiday Movie Marathon: Watch as many holiday movies as you can in a certain period of time. It'll be entertaining for the whole family.

5. Holiday Song Playlist: You can listen to your song list while decorating your house and wrapping presents.

6. Ice Skating: Ice Skating is a fun way to enhance the holiday spirit. It can make for some great memories.

7. Adinkra Painting: Painting Adinkra symbols in a grid patterned cloth can be very creative. You can use the three colors of Kwanzaa: red, black, and green in your design.

8. Cookie Swap: Everyone makes a batch of cookies and they share them with their friends and families. A contest can decide the best cookie. It is very delicious trying lots of different cookies.

9. Decorating your House: Decorating your house for the holidays is a creative tradition. Lights and other decorations can make your house look like a Winter Wonderland.

10. Make your Own Candles: A fun Hanukkah activity to embrace the festival of lights is to make your own candles. It'll be a great activity that you can light and reuse for all eight festive nights.

When an annual family tradition begins to get boring, don't be afraid to try a new one. It might be the best holiday you ever had.