

# Colors of Fall: French Club Pumpkin Painting

by Chloe Cochrane and Eleanor Kreisz

On Tuesday, October 24th, there was a pumpkin painting event hosted by French teacher Madame Ogeron in room 1003 from 2 P.M to 3 P.M.

This meeting was hosted to celebrate French culture and gather together students interested in it.

About 30 students attended the meeting on Tuesday. Madame Ogeron provided paint, plates, cups, brushes, napkins and pumpkins. Every student got their own pumpkin and were allowed full creative freedom to paint whatever they wished.

Pumpkin painting is a kind of global activity- so to explore some French culture, Madame Ogeron played a collection of French music. Some featured artists included Louane, Lou, and Fuso.

Most people had come with 2-5 other students, and everyone spent their hours socializing while painting their great pumpkins.



Image Courtesy of Blue & White Staff

French Club students take part in the pumpkin painting event.

## New English Department Chair: Ms. Dumont

by Crystal Castro

Methuen High School’s new English Department Chair, Ms. Christine Dumont, has always had a passion for giving back to the community that raised her. Having worked in Methuen Public Schools for eight years, she is thrilled and grateful for the opportunity to work in a position that allows her to give back to Methuen and enrich her passion for literature.

Ms. Dumont obtained her undergraduate degree in both History and English at Merrimack College and her master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction through Boston College. “As most students in college,” she said, “I didn’t really know what I wanted to do, so I majored in the humanities—I love to read and write.”Although she didn’t know where this was going to take her, it’s safe to say that she’s ended up in a great position.

“No two days are the same...in the best way possible,”said Dumont. From being in a variety of classrooms to her involvement in achieving the overarching goals of the English department, Ms. Dumont has much to love about her new position. She is proud to take part in Methuen High’s three-year partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and their Growing Literacy Equity Across Massachusetts, or “GLEAM” grant.

The biggest difference between classroom teacher and department chair is the daily interaction with students; an aspect of classroom teaching that she misses very dearly, she said. As department chair, Ms. Dumont must be more purposeful as to when she makes connections with students. As a classroom teacher, she taught and connected with over 100 students throughout the school day—for six hours a day, five days a week. *Continued on page 2...*

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# French Club Pumpkin Painting

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Freshman Lila Smith drew some beautiful pink cherry blossom trees on her pumpkin. Gianna Guey drew a purple frosted donut with colorful sprinkles. Eleanor Kreisz drew a zombie. Chloe Cochrane drew a green frog with its tongue out. There were many other designs as well; from a pink pumpkin with white ghosts on it to a blue paint splitter pumpkin with a face painted on it. Some students collaborated to create matching red, blue, and green M&M pumpkins. There were tie dyed pumpkins, monochrome pumpkins, and even Kirby made an appearance.

The next French club meeting will be this November on the 14th, where the club will be tasting various French cheeses. Anyone and everyone can attend, so feel free to come and make sure to bring a friend!



# New English Department Chair

Continued from front page...

Structuring the day has been one of Ms. Dumont’s greatest challenges as department chair. Before, she taught from bell to bell, whereas now, she takes part in a variety of different activities, like meetings, classroom observation, or a lunch duty.

In her free time, Ms. Dumont loves to read and spend time with her two young daughters. She is currently reading *This Must Be the Place* by Maggie O’Farrell, a novel that revolves around the themes of family, identity, and true love; three ideas that resonate with Ms. Dumont’s life.

The Dumont family is always on the go—whether that means traveling, planning activities, going out to dinner, or taking part in football Sundays. She was especially excited to see her daughters dress as Jack and Sally from *The Nightmare Before Christmas* for Halloween, and loves all things “spooky season.” She has an appreciation for the quintessential aspects of fall—“the leaves changing” and “the cooler air.” “Back to school vibes” and the energy of “turning over a new leaf” both bring Ms. Dumont an immense sense of joy, and she hopes to radiate this energy as she takes on this new position.



English Department Head Ms. Dumont.

“No two days are the same...in the best way possible.”

Image courtesy of Ms. Dumont



# Orange Shirt Day

by Cooper Ireland

Orange Shirt Day, now know officially as The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, is a national holiday within Canada, and has been celebrated annually since it was established in 2013.

This day of observance is used to remember the around 2,800 children who died within residential schools in Canada. Between 1939 and 1996 there were 139 Residential schools in Canada. Residential



Image courtesy of Google search

schools were a boarding school network designed to isolate Indigenous children from their peoples' culture and religion and assimilate them into Canadian culture.

The tragedy of Residential schools is still seen to this day as more schools are found, and more bodies are uncovered. Although these Residential Schools existed within the United States, we have no national holiday, day of remembrance, or day of observance to pay homage to the children's lives who were lost in these schools.

408 Residential schools existed in the United States, which is over double the amount which existed in Canada. Many Indigenous tribes existed in what is now the United States, and yet there is still debate over whether they should be given a holiday or a day of observance.

In the U.S. by 1900, 20,000 children were abducted from their homes and placed

into these residential schools. By 1925 there were 60,889 children in these schools.

Although holidays do exist in the US, such as Indigenous peoples day (which coincides with Columbus day) and National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Person's Awareness Day, many tribes around the United States and Canada are fighting for more representation as well as rights over their native land.

**Holidays observing Indigenous peoples are:**

- Orange Shirt Day: September 30th
- Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Awareness Day: May 5th
- Indigenous Peoples Day: October 9th
- International Day of the World's Indigenous People: August 9th
- Native American Heritage Day: The day after Thanksgiving

## Methuen Day 2023

by Kaylie Lam

On Saturday, October 7th, 2023, from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M, the city of Methuen ushered together to celebrate the annual Methuen Day, which was located in downtown Methuen, on Hampshire and Lowell Street.

At the celebration of Methuen Day, many vendors were there selling a wide variety of treats such as drinks, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, tacos, Asian fusion, and desserts, just to name a few.

Alongside with the vendors include local, small businesses and associations, some of which include Methuen Karate Association, Methuen Scholarship Foundation, Methuen Youth Soccer, Methuen Youth Basketball, Tenney Grammar PTO, and the Nevins Memorial Library. A full list of all businesses and associations is available on the City of Methuen website. Be sure to support Methuen's small businesses and associations!

Numerous entertainment groups performed at Methuen Day, which included Happy Hearts Chorus, Shadow Band, Chang's Taekwondo, Studio Dance of Arts, The Bella's, Methuen Karate, and Dance Images Dance and Music Center.

After these many performances, the winners of the "What Makes Methuen My Home" essay contest were announced. This contest was open to all 9th grade students. Students who participated had to write an essay about Methuen and what makes it their home. Essays could not exceed 500 words and had to be typed. Winners of this contest were awarded prize baskets. Congratulations to all winners!

- 1st Place) Maya Tourkantonis
- 2nd Place) Keira Fitzpatrick
- 3rd Place) Hajar Damir

After the announcement of the winners of the "What Makes Methuen My Home" essay contest, one final entertainment group performed as the main entertainment of Methuen Day. The B Street Bombers were the main entertainment group of Methuen Day and performed around 1:35 P.M.



Alongside the entertainment groups, Methuen Day offered many smaller, interactive booths for everyone, no matter the age. Some booths offered include crafting, an archery range, multiple kid activities, bouncy castles, lawn games and much more!

Methuen was established back in 1726, making it almost 3 centuries old. Methuen now has a population of about 50,000 people from all different cultural backgrounds and ethnicities. Many people of Methuen believe Methuen Day is a great way to celebrate the many different people of Methuen and hope to continue doing so!



# Rangers Win Homecoming Statement Game Over Andover

by Lily Giard

The Methuen Rangers shocked the Andover Warriors in a statement win at the homecoming game at Nicholson stadium at 7 p.m. on September 29th. The Rangers took the win, 51-18.

The weather was a major factor in the way both teams played, being a constant, steady downpour. Andover especially had difficulty with the rain, not being able to throw the football well. MHS Students participated in the White Out theme, showing support for the Rangers on the homecoming game.

The game started with an early 30-yard Rangers touchdown, thrown by senior quarterback Drew Eason to wide reciever Kian Greenly for a catch in the end zone. Kicker Omar Aboutoui completed the play by his field goal. Rangers continue to go on a run in the first quarter, 23-0 with 2:56 left in the first quarter.

The Warriors get on the scoreboard with a touchdown, but couldn't get the PAT after. The Rangers continue to extend their lead throughout the first quarter, ending in a 82-yard throw from Drew Eason to Shane Eason and Aboutoui with the PAT kick. The score at the end of the first quarter was 30-6 Rangers.

The rest of the game was a breeze for the Rangers, cruising past the Warriors easily. Eason had little to no trouble in his passing game, throwing 233 yards and going 11 for 16 in passing completion.

The rivalry between the Methuen Rangers and the Andover Warriors has been going on for decades now. The Klimas/Collins cup started in remembrance of former Methuen football player and coach Larry Klimas and former Andover football player Dick Collins. Each year when both teams play their annual football game the Klimas/Collins cup gets presented to the winner. This ongoing rivalry between both teams has made this football game special and memorable to many in the Merrimack Valley.

# Travis Kelce and Taylor Swift: Sport Meets Song

by Sarah Fairchild

On Sunday, September 24th, Taylor Swift made an appearance at the Chiefs vs Bears football game. When the Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce ran out onto the field he was seen doing a bow and arrow pose. Later in the game when Kelce got a touchdown, Swift was seen next to his mom cheering--and that's when it all clicked.

Kelce did the bow and arrow move as a reference to Swift's song "The Archer" from her *Lover* album. After this game, Swift and Kelce were seen hanging out at the Chiefs after party as they took the win over the Chicago Bears that night. Reporters stated that, "He had his arm around her at the after party." This has caused many fans, even football fans, to question if the two were dating.

After rumors started to fly, Kelce's ex-girlfriend Maya Benberry liked a comment rating Swift a 5/10 after Kelce and Swift were seen out that night. Benberry dated the NFL star after winning his dating competition show "Catching Kelce" in 2016.

After liking that comment, Benberry made multiple statements in the press. For example, Benberry told Swift that Kelce had cheated on her and that's what caused the breakup between the two. Benberry also stated, "I don't think Taylor is a 5/10 and that she liked the comment without even paying attention just like she does with every other comment on her page."

This has caused a lot of commotion between her and Kelce. She also stated, "But once I caught wind that it was shade. I deleted the comment entirely. I am not a coward and if I truly felt that way about her, I would stand on it, just like I am standing on my

infidelity answer." Benberry hasn't said anything since and Swift was seen again at Kelce's game Sunday night, October 1st.

On October 15th, Kelce and Swift were seen together hand-in-hand walking into the SNL after party in New York City. While Swift was getting out of the car, you could see Kelce open the door for her and put his hand on her waist as a way of helping her get out. Later that night an insider stated that "They were super cool. Super nice and super happy." She also noted that Swift and Kelce stayed at the party "until after 4 a.m." The source then goes on to say that the couple were kissing each other at the party that night which happened multiple times that night. The day after they were seen again hanging out together. That same day Kelce was seen leaving Swift's apartment in a green tracksuit.

Whether it will be confirmed that the two are dating is unclear, so we will have to wait and see what happens in the future.



Courtesy of Google Images

Taylor Swift (left) and Travis Kelce (right) are the focus of rumors.



# iPad Vs Chromebook: What's Better for School?

by Kira Baranowski

After years of using Chromebooks in middle school, I knew that I hated them, but now that I’m in high school, I don’t have to worry about that. Overall, I think iPads are better for three main reasons.

**Reason 1- Efficiency:** iPads are touchscreen. I think that having a touchscreen makes writing much easier and more efficient, which allows me to get things done faster. Doing work is much easier as well with an Apple Pencil.

**Reason 2 - Convenience:** With Chromebooks, I feel as though a lot of people forget to charge them and/or leave them at home, in classrooms, etc. With iPads, however, I’ve noticed that people forget them much less and always seem to have them. Not to mention, iPads are very light compared to Chromebooks, therefore I don’t mind holding my iPad in my hands while switching classes. Overall, the weight and size of iPads makes them much more convenient to use and carry around.

**Reason 3 - Speed:** Chromebooks are slow. In middle school, I would have perfect Wi-Fi but the Chromebooks would still struggle to load. With iPads, they load quickly and I can easily switch between tabs and split screen to get my work done.



Courtesy of Google Images

iPad vs Chromebook--the timeless debate.

For a wider look, here is what other MHS students and faculty had to say about the iPad vs. Chromebook debate:

**Junior Daniela Luna Juarez:** “iPads-they’re easier to carry around than Chromebooks.”

**Junior Xaviel Abreu:** “iPads—but I wish they would unblock them.”

**Junior Lais Moser:** “iPads—they’re just easier to carry around, and also Chromebooks are so slow.”

**Junior Alexa Rabs:** “iPads because they’re just easier—not as heavy to carry around, work way faster, require less equipment, small charger...”

**Junior Josh Timoleon:** “Chromebooks—easier to use, can type.”

**Senior Chris Pierre-Louis:** “iPads—easier to use, but only if you have a stylus. I prefer to type on the iPad though.”



Image courtesy of Blue & White Staff

MHS Students Josh Timoleon and Chris Pierre-Louis work on their iPads.

**TV Media Teacher Mr. Wilkins:** “I prefer having a keyboard and trackpad, and cannot stand typing on an iPad.”



# Olivia Rodrigo's Got GUTS

by Chloe Cochrane

“Everything I do is tragic, every guy I like is gay,”- even with controversial lyrics, Olivia Rodrigo’s sophomore album, released early this September, has been breaking records consistently and is shaping up to be even more popular than her debut album.

The album, *GUTS*, is a pop-punk album created by young artist Rodrigo. Her debut album, *SOUR*, took the pop industry by storm. Shaped by Olivia’s creative representations of her experience being a teenager, it was ground breakingly popular, hitting close to home for millions of people.

This gained the singer bounds of recognition and plenty of fans eagerly anticipating more music from her, making the extremely successful release of *GUTS* no surprise. According to *Variety* magazine, the album had nearly 302,000 sales and nearly 100 million streams in its debut weekend, good for the 4th best release of the year.

The album opens with the song “all-american b\*\*\*h” in which Olivia strives to encapsulate the female experience. She makes brilliant allusions to the Kennedys and American Coca-Cola curls as the song gets more and more intense- from a bit of a ballad to more of a rock song.

As the beat gets more heavy, she drops lyrics like “I am built like a mother and a total machine,” “I know my age and I act like it,” and “I know my place and this is it,” referencing the unfair standards placed on women to be what men want them to be. This powerful opener sets the stage for the rest of the album, which was charting in the top 20 of the Billboard Hot 100 within the first week of *GUTS*’ release.



Courtesy of Google Images

Rodrigo's world tour for GUTS will begin in February of 2024.



Courtesy of Google Images

The cover art for *GUTS*, the latest album from Olivia Rodrigo.

The singles on *GUTS* are “vampire”, “bad idea right?”, and “get him back!,” all songs referencing toxic relationships but taking different angles on the experience. While the song “vampire” is more angsty and regretful, “bad idea right?” writes about coming back to a relationship despite it being bad for you. “get him back!” is a song lined with traces of vengeance about being treated badly in a relationship.

These three singles have been absolute hits, all placing in the top 10 of the Billboard Hot 100, with vampire charting to the #1 spot immediately after its debut.

"vampire" features some of Olivia’s arguably best lyrics on *GUTS*, with lines like “How’s the castle built off people you pretend to care about?,” “Went for me and not her, cause girls your age know better,” and “You can’t love anyone, ‘cause that would mean you had a heart.” These lyrics are hard-hitting for many and help to explain why the song is so undeniably popular.

Some of the other most talked-about songs on *GUTS* are “lacy,” “making the bed,” and “ballad of a homeschooled girl.” Although “ballad of a homeschool girl” isn’t a genuine ballad, more of an upbeat pop tune, the song “lacy” has the slow beat and solem lyrics that compile a ballad. The tune is a gorgeous one, inspired by the jealousy that comes with thinking someone superior to you- prettier, smarter, and having everything you want. Using

comparisons such as, “It’s like you’re made of angel dust,” put into perspective what it’s like to yearn to be someone you can’t. The wistful song has resonated with many people and is a must listen for curious ears.

“ballad of a homeschooled girl” emphasizes the frustration of feeling like you don’t belong anywhere. This song is upbeat and very catchy, while also capturing more melancholic emotions. There’s a very fine line between these two things and many feel Rodrigo grasped that line perfectly.

“making the bed” is another sadder song with a slower rhythm, which is about feeling unsatisfied with who you are, knowing it is you who is causing that feeling of discomfort, and knowing it’s up to you to change that. This is another song that has resonated with many people and showed off some of Rodrigo’s most impeccable songwriting.

*GUTS* is an album with many different themes that is most definitely worth giving a chance- It’s a popular album for a reason, and trying new things is always great. Consider giving it a listen and seeing what you think!



## A New Director for Stage Door 22

by Sloan Farrell

The theater club at Methuen High School has a new addition to the staff team for the fall production of the play *Almost, Maine*. Mr. Pocoli, a math teacher, has taken on the role of directing.



Image courtesy of Blue & White Staff

Mr. Pocoli is director for the fall production of Stage Door 22.

Mrs. Walsh, who has been both the producer and director of Stage Door 22 for the past several years, announced a step back in her role in the fall production. Planning her return as the director in the spring musical, Mrs. Walsh will oversee the fall play as the producer. The role of director was offered to Mr. Pocoli because he was a member of the theater program during his time as a student at Methuen High School. Mr. Pocoli acted as “Lendall” in a production of *Almost, Maine* with Stage Door 22 in 2017.

*Almost, Maine* is a play made up of eight vignettes taking place in Northern Maine. The roles have seemingly piqued the current actors' interests, some reporting on how well-fitted they



Courtesy of Blue & White Staff

Students try out for *Almost, Maine* on the MHS auditorium stage.

feel to be in their role. The choice of the play was something that the actors were unsure of at first, when reading synopses, but once they read the script for themselves, they knew that they wanted to participate.

Junior member Valentine feels excited for the show and what's to come with the changes. They stated that they're “so excited for the show, [they] cannot wait for where this show will go.”

The returning members are relieved to see that Mrs. Walsh is continuing with Stage Door 22 because of the ambiguity of the situation over the past months. Because of the demanding schedule of directing and producing as one person, Mrs. Walsh is happy in her role and she would be interested in staying solely the producer. She feels that she, “would love to be the producer of the shows, so still stay involved in it, but not have to be at every rehearsal.”



Image courtesy of Blue & White Staff

Charlie and Emi, members of Stage Door 22

Stage Door 22 is one of the largest clubs at Methuen High School, with about 80 members. The nature of working on a production involves a close team of people, and as Stage Door 22 continues to establish themselves as a large company, their staff must grow with them.



Courtesy of Blue & White Staff

Stage Door 22 members review the script.

Currently, Mr. Pocoli is the third staff member involved in the production.

For the new members of Stage Door 22, they find the environment very warm and welcoming. Mr. Pocoli believes that “It’s a really great place for people who don’t know much about theater.” Club members say that the transition of power has been very smooth and relaxed. Students report that, although they were worried about the changes, they appreciate more people onboard. The fresh perspective that a new director can add, without losing the other perspectives can lead to an even better club and production!

To find out more about Stage Door 22’s 2023 production of *Almost, Maine*, check out their website at <https://stagedoor22.weebly.com/>



# 2023 Movie Reviews and Previews

by Luke Polomoscanik

2023, in my opinion, has been quite a strong year for movies so far and has the potential to be even greater with the movies that have not been released to a wide audience yet. Whether that be superhero movies that have exceeded even the highest of expectations or three hour long biopics about historical figures or events, there is bound to be a least one movie for you that has been released this year so far. With that I'd like to share my five favorite movies of 2023 so far and five movies that I'd keep my eye out for the rest of the year.



My fifth favorite movie of the year so far is Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer*. What I loved about this movie the most was that it took subject matter that is quite dense and difficult to understand at its face value and is able to ground it through one character's thoughts, opinions, strengths, and weaknesses, not only making it an interesting history lesson but also a fascinating character study. This allows lead actor Cillian Murphy to shine and gain what would be his first Oscar nomination.

My fifth most anticipated movie of the rest of the year is Yorgos Lanthimos's *Poor Things*, which should release sometime in early December. This film, which has already premiered at different film festivals, has had absolutely incredible reviews and has won prizes at them. The plot is a Frankenstein-like story in which Emma Stone plays the lead character and has already received hype for an Oscar nomination.

My fourth favorite movie of the year is *John Wick: Chapter 4* and my favorite thing about this film is that it is nearly three hours long and is almost entirely action scene after action scene and it never feels boring. The scenes in this film are unlike anything you've seen before as they incorporate practical effects and stunt work to give the most realistic fights possible.

My fourth most anticipated movie of the rest of year is Hayao Miyazaki's *The Boy and the Heron*, which is also supposed to come out sometime in December. Miyazaki has made some of the most



acclaimed anime films of all time, such as *Spirited Away* and *Kiki's Delivery Service*, and he came out of retirement to make this movie. While nothing about the plot revealed so far makes me interested, his name alone makes it something to look forward to.

My third favorite movie of the year so far is *Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse*. My favorite thing about it is not only is it one of the most ambitious looking animated films of all time, but that it does something new with the superhero genre, and that is making something truly unique. While it uses the concept of the multiverse like many other films, it uses it to expand the lore of the world and to explore its central characters, which is something that other multiverse movies just seem to miss. Plus it also has some of the best musical scoring for a film this year.

My third most anticipated movie for the rest of the year is Martin Scorsese's *Killers of the Flower Moon* which released on October 20th. I love stories of ambitious and dangerous people and this gives us that while also paying tribute to Native Americans that were harmed in the process of those people's ambition and greed. Plus it's another movie from the man who made *Goodfellas* and *The Departed*.



My second favorite movie of the year is *Guardians of the Galaxy Volume 3*. While it may not be as fresh and creative as *Spider-Man: Across the SpiderVerse*, it gives me everything I want out of a superhero blockbuster. High emotional stakes, actually funny humor, and exciting action scenes makes it one of the most fun movies of the year. It also serves as a great finale film for characters that have been loved for nearly a decade.

My second most anticipated movie for the rest of the year is Ridley Scott's *Napoleon*. I love history. Joaquin Phoenix, who plays Napoleon, is one of my favorite actors and I've really liked what I've seen of Ridley Scott so far. Plus the trailer made me very excited.



Finally, my favorite movie of the year is *Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One*. Just to put my love for this movie into context, I saw it three times in its first four days of release. Like the previously mentioned *John Wick 4*, this movie uses practical stunt work mixed with special effects to create action sequences that are exciting, tense, and in my opinion jaw dropping. It also has a story involving artificial intelligence that felt timely which made the threat of the villain of the story much more threatening, as it feels like something that could actually happen. Plus it has some of my favorite side characters of the year. With *Top Gun: Maverick* being my favorite movie of last year, my expectations for this were high and it didn't even come close to disappointing me.

And to end my lists, my most anticipated movie of the rest of the year is David Fincher's *The Killer*, which is coming to Netflix on November 10th. Its story involves a hit man played by Michael Fassbender, who has a change of heart after a failed hit. While the story itself is not original, David Fincher is one of my favorite directors, so any movie he's involved in has my most attention.

Hopefully after reading this you found a new movie to watch or something that may interest you coming out soon!



# Methuen Ranger Marching Band

by Kai Patterson, Eleanor Kreisz, Kaylie Lam, and Chloe Cochrane

The Methuen High School Ranger Marching Band had their first performance of the 2023 season at the Methuen High School football game on September 15, 2023. They performed their first song and half of the second. All was well until, during the performance, a loud squealing sound began to cover the noise of the band.

As it turns out, a football referee had left their microphone on by accident. The feedback from the microphone made it incredibly difficult to hear the band's performance. Pit senior, Sam Eap, was disappointed that the crowd couldn't hear the music stating, “I was going to go crazy. The feedback threw me off. And I knew my freshman who was at our keyboard was probably freaking out. So my biggest thing was to play super loud over it to block most of it out. Overall if the mic feedback didn’t happen, I would’ve been pretty satisfied with my kids.” The disappointment over the feedback extended throughout the band and the crowd. The microphone was found and turned off shortly after the band finished their performance. It was definitely a way to kick off the season.

The MHS marching band has been practicing since early this July to put out their show, “Bond”. The show is themed off of the James Bond film series and is centered around the idea of the band and color guard being spies- throughout the show, the two groups hassle over a briefcase, adding to the mysterious theme of the show. The show begins with the song “Golden Eye” from the 1995 James Bond film *GoldenEye*. The band and guard mingle in a dance feature while saxophone soloist Riley Lyons plays. The solo is followed by another one- flute soloist Emmanuel Katulege- before the music gets significantly more intense as the briefcase is snatched from the band.

Movement one ends suspensefully and is followed by a combination of the songs “Die Another Day” and “Casino Royale” in movement two. The color guard, on rifle, loses the briefcase to the band and have to fight for it back, establishing the theme of the second song. Music-wise, song two is the hardest to play, but the band displays great drive. The colorguard takes the briefcase back with special acrobatics from Quinn Plunkett. The song ends with an impactful rifle toss from the colorguard as the band impressively forms "007"- James Bond’s code number.

Movement three features the song “Skyfall” by popular artist Adele and features a saxophone solo played by Riley Lyons as well as a trumpet solo played by Sarah Baylis. Movement three is known as the ballad of the show and is a slower mix with powerful hits throughout the song. Uncommonly, the drumline moves up to the front at the beginning of movement three, and three members of drumline join the color guard on sabre for movement three.

Movement four, the final movement of the show, features the song “Live and Let Die” by Paul McCartney and Wings. Movement four starts slow but soon picks up speed. And with the drumline moving back to the back of the field and the color guard with the briefcase safe in their hands, the band is able to end strongly and proudly despite being exhausted after performing for 7 minutes straight. Truly an amazing end for a James Bond themed show.



Courtesy of Blue & White Staff

Methuen Ranger Band at the NESBA competition in North Andover

with 166.00, 3rd in Music Analysis - Ensemble with 180.00 and 3rd in Visual Analysis - Ensemble with 174.00. They were 5th in Music Performance - Individual with 85.300 and 5th in Visual Performance - Individual with 84.90.

They have finals in Lawrence Sunday Nov 5th 2023.



Courtesy of Blue & White Staff

The Methuen Ranger Band at a home varsity football game.

The marching band competes with other bands under NESBA, the New England Scholastic Band Association, and is scored in 3 different brackets. The first bracket is Overall Effect, the next is Ensemble Analysis and the last is Individual Performance.

The first marching band competition was in Melrose on Saturday, Oct 7th, 2023, in which there was a standstill due to the rain. The next competition was in North Andover on Saturday, Oct 16th, 2023, competing against Melrose and Salem Witches. They scored 3rd in Overall Effect Music with 162.00 and 3rd in Overall Effect Visual with 157.00, 1st in Music Analysis - Ensemble with 163.00 and 3rd in Visual Analysis - Ensemble with 154.00. They were 2nd in Music Performance - Individual with 80.60 and 1st in Visual Performance - Individual with 79.60.






Their 3rd competition was at Wakefield and was a standstill performance due to the rain.

Their 4th competition was in Reading on Saturday, Oct 28th, 2023, competing against Oliver Ames, Melrose, Everett HS, and North Reading. They scored 2nd in Overall Effect Music with 181.00 and 5th in Overall Effect Visual



Fall Word Search

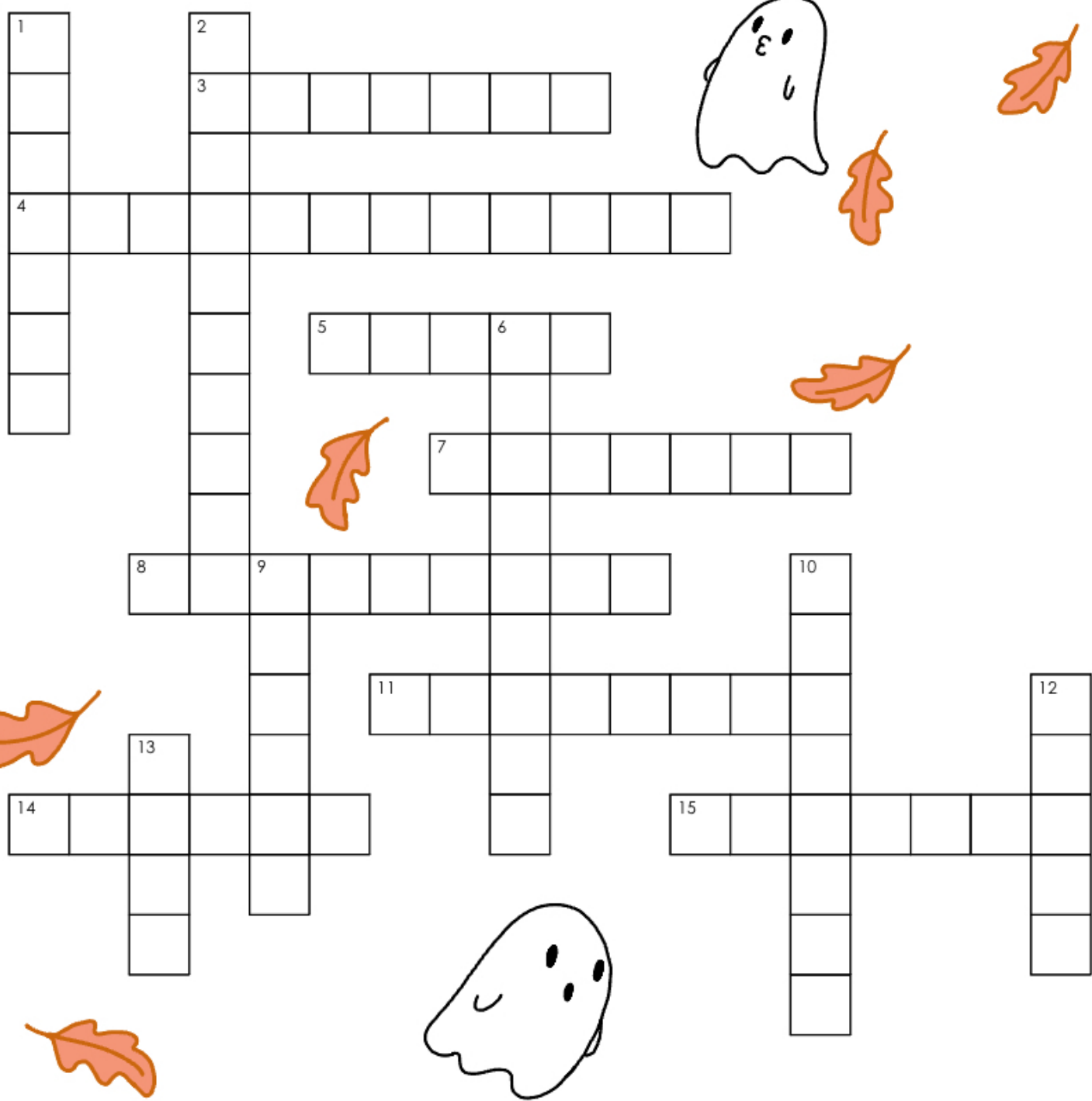
C	M	L	G	H	O	S	T	J	O	S	V	W	I	T	C	H	K	Q	N	S	V	B
Z	O	C	C	M	Y	Y	D	N	A	C	S	P	O	O	K	Y	W	V	T	K	A	H
Y	C	S	O	R	A	E	Q	N	F	A	A	D	O	R	A	N	G	E	U	E	M	W
S	T	E	T	S	Y	G	L	T	D	T	R	E	A	T	F	A	H	Q	Q	L	P	V
L	O	S	G	U	M	S	I	L	W	N	E	E	W	O	L	L	A	H	M	E	I	B
I	B	P	B	M	M	A	T	C	O	D	P	U	C	Y	O	C	U	N	A	T	R	H
P	E	I	X	F	A	E	T	A	B	W	Y	T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

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden     and .

APPLE		FALL		MAZE		SEPTEMBER	WARLOCK
BAT		GHOST		MONSTER		SKELETON	WEBS
BOO		GHOUL		NOVEMBER		SKULL	WEREWOLF
CANDY		HALLOWEEN		OCTOBER		SPIDER	WITCH
CAT		HAUNTED		ORANGE		SPOOKY	WIZARD
CIDER		HAYRIDE		PUMPKIN		TREAT	YELLOW
COSTUME		LEAVES		RED		TRICK	ZOMBIE
CRYSTAL BALL		MAGIC		SCARECROW		VAMPIRE	



## Fall Crossword



**Across:** →

- 3. 10th month of the year
- 4. Turkey day
- 5. Apparition of a dead person
- 7. A wagon ride with hay
- 8. October 31st
- 11. That one Michael Jackson song
- 14. Gobble gobble bird
- 15. Round orange fruit

**Down:** ↓

- 1. Outfit for Halloween
- 2. Horn of plenty
- 6. To scare off crows
- 9. Thing on trees
- 10. A complex path made out of corn cob
- 12. Something sweet
- 13. A large bird mostly glossy black feathers





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The Blue & White is always looking for new students to help with writing, photography, editing, and design.

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The 2023/24 Blue & White Staff