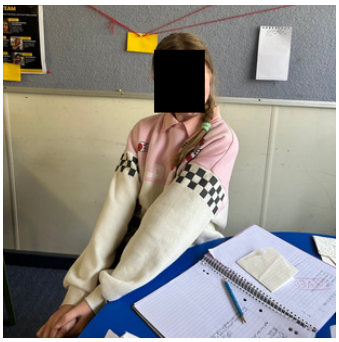
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THE TALKATIVE TARADALIAN

Thief at Taradale Primary School!

Are you the thief? Are you the witness? These questions answer it all.



Gracie [redacted]
Crime Reporter



Crime has reared its villainous head. Theft reports are popping up all over Taradale Primary School and I'm getting swamped with crime reports.

In a case earlier in the year, the first crime struck. Perla and Thea's Nutella biscuits were stolen!!! I asked them, "Are you scared other items will go missing?" Good to get concerns from victims.

"Nah, not really," Perla quoted for the paper.
"Um, well I'm not really scared anything will go missing, but it is a problem that should be fixed," Thea added with concern for everyone. Everyone that is, except the THIEF! Despite numerous crumby leads, (get the joke), this case is still unsolved.



In another crime which was theftless someone in Grade 4,5,6 has been making fake-ish John Pork letters and leaving them on people's desks. And who is John Pork? I've got a buttload of evidence but whoever is doing it is still at large! I've sorted the evidence into 4 categories; Sus, Wife, Murder and John Pork himself. None of these John Pork letters make sense but maybe I can piece them together and find the culprit.

The big question is, why? Why is this person doing this? Is there a reason? These are the big questions. So, ask them to yourself.
If you know anything, please tell me immediately.

Thank you for reading this issue of The Talkative Taradalians.



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TALKATIVE TARADALIAN

Lot 19 is a fresh start for every young artist



The Lot 19 Arts Precinct Spring Sculpture Prize 2026 ran from October 10 to October 25. It is an art exhibition for people of all ages. There is a main prize and a kids prize. There is also a memorial prize and a people's choice prize. If you win the main prize you get about 8,000 dollars in cash. For the kids prize you win an art related gift voucher. Lot 19 has an art exhibition every year, so if you haven't had time to enter this year you could always enter another year.

Lot 19 has been running this prize since 2006 to this day. It features up to $8,000 worth of prizes each year. There are Judges to choose who the winners are for each category. There is only one winner for each category. There are different judges every year, but this year's judges are Linda Sproul, Leslie Gurusinghe and Dr Bill Sampson.

Francesca [redacted]
Arts & Culture Columnist



Taradale Primary School entered about seven art works into the Lot 19 Sculpture Prize. In their art class they were making paper magic clay and wire sculptures. All of the kids were very proud that they had their art works on display at Lot 19, even if they didn't win the under 16's prize! They were also excited by the fact that if you had an entry in the exhibition you got a free ice-cream. All of the entries were very unique. All very colourful. Some people say they are a lot like the kids who made them! So if you had an entry, I hope you went to see it and got your free ice-cream!







EDITORIAL

School is for learning, not wasting time



Perla V[redacted]
Editor-in-Chief

Teachers dedicate themselves to helping children meet their learning needs. In return, lots of students disrespect them in several ways, including calling out, conversing with friends, and taking longer than required to get things ready for class time. Why they do this, well that's a mystery. Many of the students may accidently be participating, however it appears that the bulk of them do this on purpose. Even if they don't have bad intentions, it doesn't make it okay. If students think the school-work they receive is boring, teachers can do work to help with that issue, but at the same time, most children have the ability to endure it.

On average, about a third of primary school classroom time is wasted per lesson, which is one point six hours daily, which is eight-point five out of twenty-five learning hours weekly. Although wasting time doesn't seem that bad, it has many effects. Some of which include teachers feeling offended by the disrespect, children not learning how to properly focus, and becoming behind on work. Lots of people say that it's always the same people disrupting class, however this isn't always correct. Some people can be influenced by others, and begin to think that it's okay.

The solution to this may be teachers being clearer about the rules, or having individual conversations with the people they think might be participating in the disruption. Teachers aren't the only ones who can help by telling others. Students can give people sitting beside them a friendly reminder to listen, or even better they can gain the ability to realise this, and try to stop. Students can waste their own time if they want, but they do not have the right to prevent others from learning.

Everyone will most likely have a slightly different opinion about this topic. For example, one person may think that all work they are given is stupid and that it's best to just not listen, but others may think that staying productive in class is extremely important, no matter what anyone says. These would both be very strong opinions however many people would have much more subtle ones. Lots of 4/5/6 students said things like, "It's very disruptive for kids trying to listen, or "I find it quite irritating unless it's for a reason." Students and teachers should work to resolve this problem for their own good.

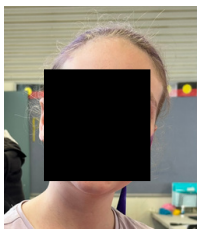
FEATURE



Frankie C[redacted]
Features Reporter



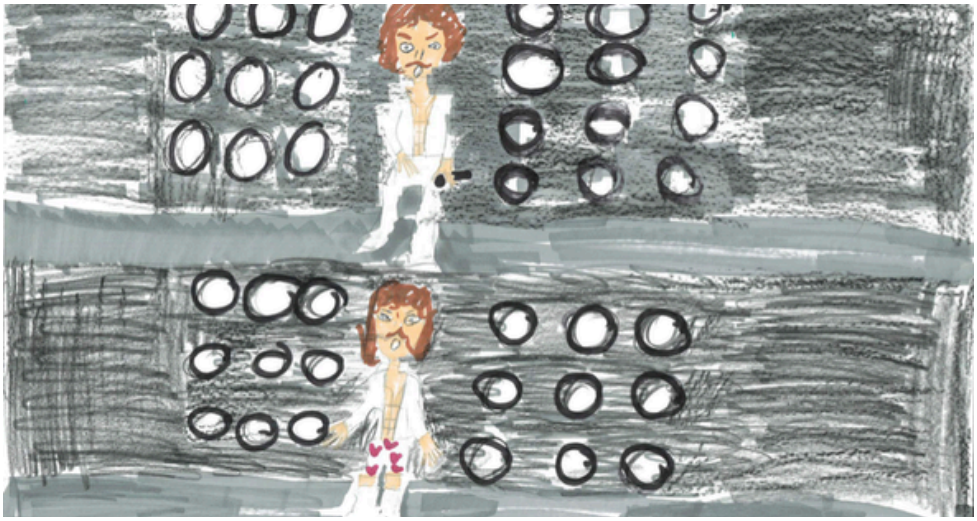
Lily [redacted]
Satire Columnist



Heidi [redacted]
Cartoonist



Benson Boone is coming to Australia



Benson Boone's Wanted Man Tour is coming to Australia this November. As fans clammer to get tickets that are largely sold out, there is still hope that they may still get to see their idol live. Benson has started professional vocal training for the first time in his career, and Aussie fans can't wait to hear the effect of this first.Although, there are still some concerns about vocal strain, considering the concert goes for more than an hour without a break.

Benson Boone's stage design features a long cat walk finishing with a heart; the cat walk begins at a circle with the centre cut in halves so fans can sit in between and enjoy the show. Fans can't wait for every feature of Boone's concert, including his signature backflip, the blue chandelier, and Olivia O'Brien, Ashe, and Luna Li as the opening acts. Olivia O'Brien is an American singer and songwriter known for her appearance in "I hate u, I love u." Ashe is an American singer known for her song "Moral of the Story." Luna Li is a Toronto based singer.

Some Taradalians have been asked what they think of the upcoming Wanted Man Tour: Thea says *"I think that this is such a sick tour and I'm a big fan."*Anonymous states *"Benson Boone is totally awesome. He is my idol."* Grace comments *"Absolutely thrilled he's coming to Australia."* Lily says *"Benson Boone is unbelievable. His name should be Benson Moon. After a poor fan saw his bare moon, Benson Boone then shouted "Hi!" Imagine someone walking in on you and thinking to just say Hi! Benson Boone is entitled. He thought the bathroom was only his and had the audacity to expect nobody to walk in. Benson Broom is an even better name because his moustache looks like the tip of a broom."*

The Wanted Man Tour is coming to Brisbane at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre, Melbourne at the Rod Laver Arena and at Sydney After Play Arena. Fans are super excited, so get your tickets while you still can; For sale on Ticketek.

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TALKATIVE TARADALIAN

Where did it all start?



Rosa [redacted]
Local News Reporter

Light your Jack O Lanterns because you'll need to read this. Welcome to the history of Halloween in Australia. Let's get into it shall we...

Halloween wasn't always such a big thing in Australia. It has been celebrated with decorations, candy and all the modern fanfare for about 10 years, but before that there still was little pockets of Halloween celebrations happening in different communities.

The first recorded Halloween celebration in Australia was local to Taradalians. In 1858 on October 29th at the Red Hill Hotel in Castlemaine, there was a Scottish Ball to mark the event of Halloween. Scottish and Irish miners and immigrants who arrived during the gold rush brought the customs from the UK which included Scottish dancing, bagpipes, fancy dresses, kilts, haggis dinners (haggis is a savory pudding and sausage made from a sheep's heart, liver and lungs mixed with oatmeal, suet, onions, stock and spices) and Robert Burns poetry.

Then Halloween basically got forgotten in the ages until the 20th century. Around this time, American pop culture such as Hollywood films, television and retail marketing were reintroduced into Australia, reshaping the traditions of Halloween. From then on, the trick-or-treating began. Now local communities celebrate it in their own special ways. Some go trick-or-treating, some wait at home for the trick-or-treaters to come, some go with friends and some go with family. A few locals use produce like pineapples, watermelons or papayas for carving!

I hope you have a Happy Halloween he, he, he...

And here's a joke.
What's a ghost favourite snack?
Booberries!
.

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Swooping for Survival

Why Magpie Swooping is Just a Father Protecting His Family





Harper [redacted]
Environment Columnist

As we live our normal lives, magpies are on high alert as they lay their eggs. 1500 people have been swooped this year from male magpies in Victoria. A large population of parks and bush land magpies settle to incubate and protect their eggs from threats and dangers. Many people are clueless on why magpies think we are threats, and a large change in their daily habits.

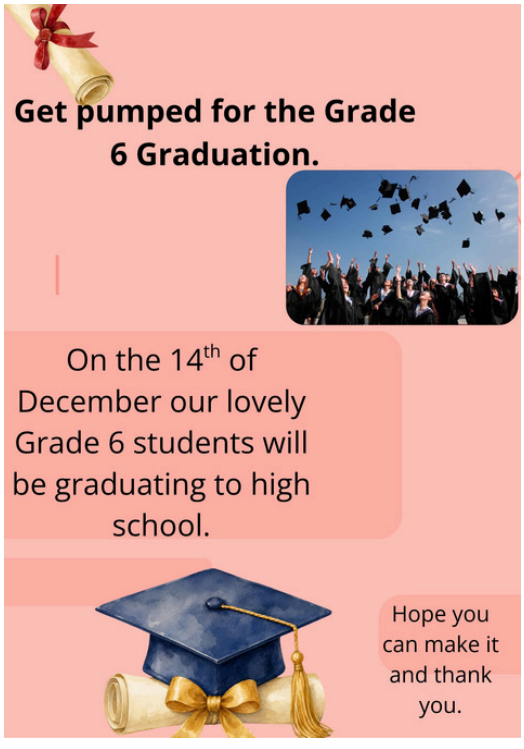
Owen said “I am not scared”.
Lily said “I will just walk away”
Liv said “I don’t know”.
Daya said “No, because I like birds”.

Magpies are actually gentle creatures but their swoops can be painful. Their population is large and widespread, and categorized as "Least Concern" with an increasing trend on the endangered list. Their swooping time is known to be early spring, but they can strike anytime if aggravated or their nests are disturbed.

Magpies are lovely birds and we should respect them. If a magpie swoops you don’t react because it can distress them more and who wants a protective magpie heading at there face!!



"WHAT A CAREER! SHE STARTED OUT STEALING SILVER THIMBLES AND LOOK AT HER NOW!"



GUESS WHICH TEACHER THIS IS ABOUT!



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JESS IN OCTOBER



A photojournalistic essay by ***Sidney W[redacted]***
Photographer













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JESS CONTINUES





















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Things to do this weekend



Trick or Treat!

THE CASTLEMAINE SHOW

By Tahj S[redacted]
Photojournalist

OCTOBER 30TH TO THE 31ST

LOTS OF FUN MUSIC AND TONS OF FOOD

There is a large variety of food stalls and it is near restaurants if you don't want to eat anything from the stalls. There will be jazz and folk music performances nearby.





Some fun activities you can do include: livestock and horse judging, sheep exhibits, wool spinning, blacksmithing demonstrations, children animal meet and greet ponies, lambs, and goats, and you can buy show bags. The Castlemaine show is happening to celebrate agriculture community heritage and regional crafts through authentic country fair run by the Castlemaine District Agriculture Society.

LOCAL WEATHER WITH IVY

TARADALE WEATHER OF THE WEEK



IVY G[redacted]





Vega [redacted]
Video Producer

Watch the live news here!
Live Weather Report

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HALLOWEEN fashion



Liv [redacted]

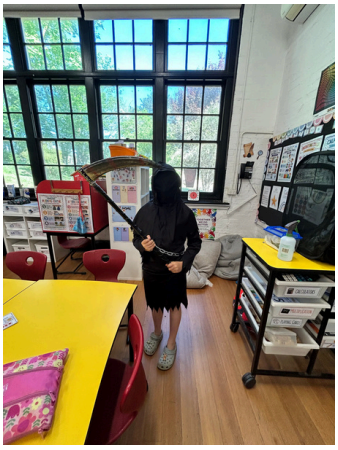
Fashion Columnist

Halloween is coming very soon, in fact in a day and I mean one of the main things about Halloween now is the costumes. Halloween didn't originate from just trick or treating and the costumes. Halloween actually started over 2,000 years ago as the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. The countries it started in were Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Isle of Man. People would light giant bonfires and would wear animal skins and heads to disguise themselves so wandering spirits didn't do any harm to them. It was called Allhallowtide.



It started in the 8th century, where the Christian Church designated November 1st as All Hallows. The night before was known as All Hallows Eve which later turned into Halloween. The modern Halloween we know today with costumes and trick or treating started in the United States between the 1920s to the 1950s but in the 1930s to the 1950s companies began producing affordable already made costumes using plastic and crepe paper.









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They’re here to make the world better!



Francesca [redacted]
Art & Culture Columnist

Three lovely people have visited all the schools in the Mount Alexander Shire to make all the towns a better place for everyone to live in. They do three activities with each class. They ask what things the kids like about their community, what could be improved and an individual survey of each kid.

Their names are Fin, Jodie and Aron. Fin and Aron have only started working for the council recently. The different departments are Youth Activities Support Officer, Youth Development Officer, Mount Alexander Shire Council, Youth Advisory Group, Amplify Committee and Xtreme Inc youth projects. Jodie, on the other hand, has been working for the council for ten years!

Aron started working for the council because all his other jobs weren't much fun for him, since he loves to move and help people. He had tried a lot of different jobs until he tried this one and it seems to be the right job for him. But for Fin it was her first job ever, basically she went straight out of school into that job. It just seemed right because she had volunteered for the council many times. Because she started a long time ago it was one of the first jobs Jodie had ever had. She loved helping people and making things better for everyone. So the job fitted her perfectly.

Aron was proud of the fact that he always tried new things even if they were a bit scary. Fin was proud of finding herself a new job and helping herself through times that might be hard for her. Jodie said that she was proud of a lot of things in her life and a lot of different people helped her to accomplish the harder things in life.

***Back in the day, Fin was a student at Taradale Primary School. The teachers were very proud to see her doing so well.**

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ON AIR AND ON SCREEN



SEE WHAT OUR PODCASTERS AND NEWS REPORTERS HAVE BEEN UP TO!

PODCAST EPISODES

Wear It Purple Day Episode

Sports Day Episode

Halloween Episode

Editor In Chief Episode



Chloe S[redacted]
Podcaster



Patrick
Multimedia Producer



Sidney W[redacted]
Photographer

NEWS EPISODES

Sidney Interview

Interview with Lisa



Vega
Video Producer



Bonnie
Hair and Make-Up Artist







Romy R[redacted]
Social Media Blogger

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CLASSIFIEDS

Important Events



Ulla [redacted]
Marketing Designer



Happy Birthday to these Taradalians:



Poppie.B: 1st of November

Frankie.B: 2nd of November

Levi.W: 7th of November

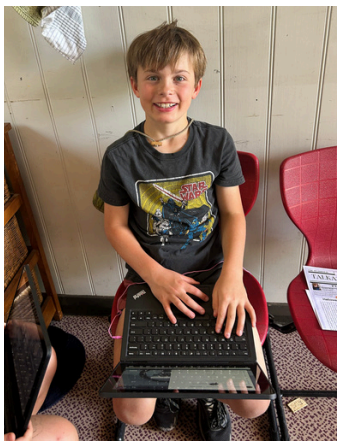
Sidney.W 18th of November

Cooper.S 21st of November

Atlas.P 28th of November













Fwoggy Advice



Grace R[redacted]
Advice Columnist





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Levi W[redacted]
Marketing Manager



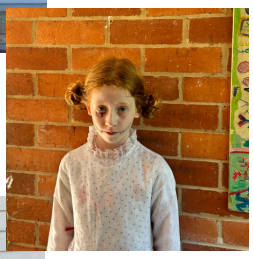
HAPPY LOVE YOUR RED HAIR DAY

Every year on the 5th of November we have a celebration for our lovely red headed wonders and this year we would like to give them a big woohoo.

Clementine S[redacted]
Illustrator











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EPICURIAN

RECIPE OF LE` FORTNIGHT

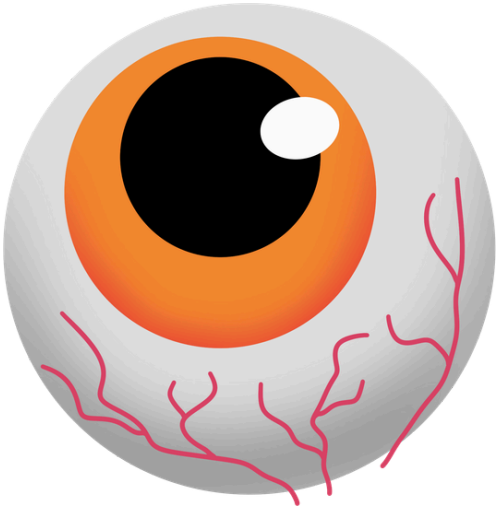
HALLOWEEN ADDIDTION



Owen S[redacted]
Food Columnist

Spooky Vampire Hunter Soup & Eyeball Dumplings

THE SECRET: Stuffing the savoury dumplings with chopped sun-dried tomatoes and inserting a black olive slice into the front creates a realistic, creepy "eyeball" that bleeds red tomato oil when cut into.



Ingredients:

1 small cooking pumpkin (approx. 1kg), peeled and cubed
3 whole heads of garlic
2 red onions, chopped
500ml vegetable stock
150g plain flour
1 tsp baking powder
60ml sun-dried tomato oil (from a jar of sun-dried tomatoes)
50g sun-dried tomatoes, finely minced
60ml milk or plant-based milk
A handful of pitted black olives, sliced into rounds
Olive oil, salt, pepper, and smoked paprika



Step 1: The Vampire-Proof Base

1. Preheat your oven to 200°C.
2. Toss the pumpkin cubes and chopped red onions in olive oil, salt, pepper, and a generous pinch of smoked paprika. Spread them onto a baking sheet.
3. Slice the very top off the 3 whole garlic heads to expose the cloves. Drizzle them with olive oil, wrap them tightly in foil, and place them on the baking sheet alongside the pumpkin.
4. Roast for 40 minutes until the pumpkin is charred at the edges and the garlic is completely soft and golden brown.
5. Bring the vegetable stock to a boil or a very hot simmer before pouring it into the blender.
6. Squeeze the roasted garlic cloves out of their papery skins directly into a blender.
7. Add the roasted pumpkin, onions, and hot vegetable stock. Blend until ultra-smooth and velvety. Pour into a pot to keep warm.

Step 2: Crafting the Eyeballs

1. In a bowl, mix the plain flour, baking powder, a pinch of salt, and the finely minced sun-dried tomatoes.
2. Make a well in the center and pour in the sun-dried tomato oil and milk. Stir until it forms a soft dough.
3. Grease your hands and roll the dough into 12 to 16 small, smooth balls.
4. Take a slice of black olive and press it firmly into the front of each dough ball to create a "pupil". The red sun-dried tomato flecks in the dough will look like bloodshot veins.



Step 3: The Séance (Assembly)

1. Bring your blended pumpkin soup to a very gentle simmer over medium-low heat.
2. Carefully drop the eyeball dumplings olive-side-up into the simmering soup.
3. Cover the pot with a lid and let them steam in the soup for 10 to 12 minutes until the dumplings puff up and are cooked through.
4. Ladle the soup into bowls, ensuring 3 or 4 eyeballs are floating on top and staring upwards. When guests cut into the dumplings, the rich red tomato oil will leak into the orange pumpkin soup.

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PUZZLES OF THE WEEK



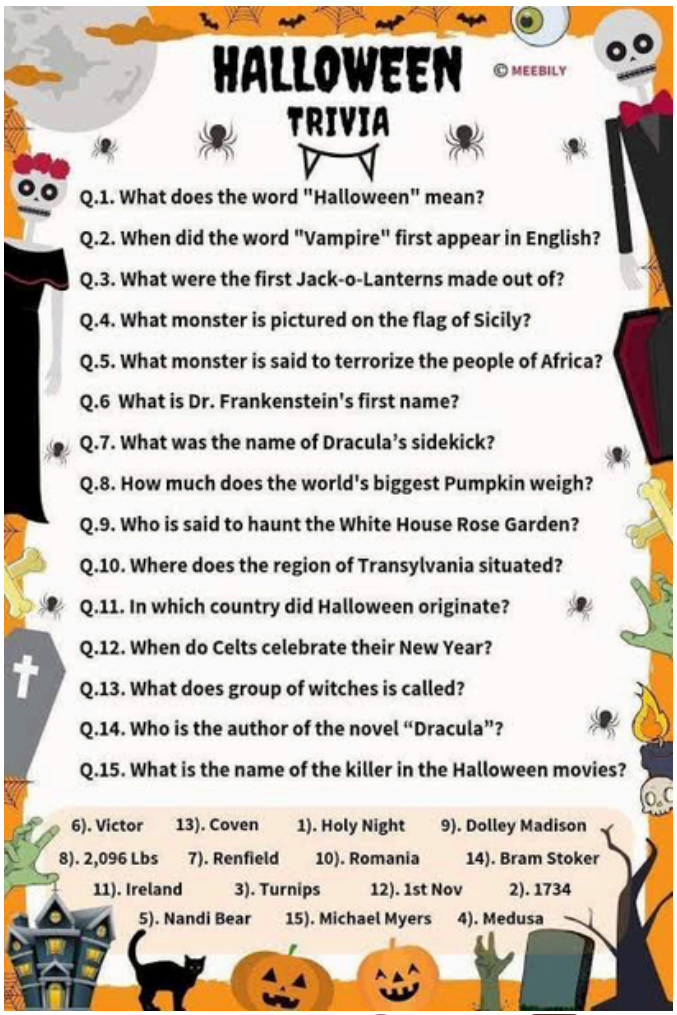
Jayden [redacted]
Puzzle Editor

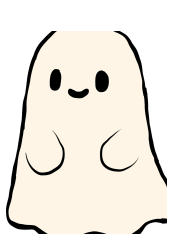
Can you solve the word search and spot the odd one out? And if you've got a sharp eye find the hidden candy corn. There are 4 to find!

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

Find these words:

BATS, BLACK-CAT, BONES, CANDY, CAULDRON, COSTUME, GHOST, GOBLIN, GRAVEYARD, HAUNTED, HAYRIDE, MONSTER, OCTOBER, POTION, PUMPKIN, RIP, SKELETON, SPIDERWEB, SPOOKY, TRICK-OR-TREAT, BONES, VAMPIER, WITCH, WEREWOLF, ZOMBIE



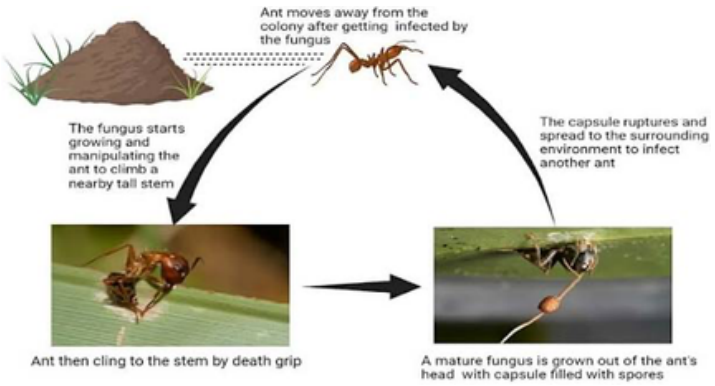






ZOMBIES REALLY DO EXIST!

Believe it or not, there's a real 'zombie' fungus! The Ophiocordyceps unilateralis fungus is a parasite that infects ants and takes control of their bodies. It makes them leave their nest and climb to a humid spot where the fungus thrives. Once it has fed on the ant and killed it, the fungus spreads to its next victim. Creepy – and totally true!



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SPORT



LEXI [redacted], SPORT REPORTER

DO YOU LIKE SPORTS?

Do you like sports? Why or why not?

Edie said "It's fun because you get to play with friends." Phoebe said "Yes, because there's lots of fun stuff."
Lily said "Yes, keeps people active."

What's your favourite sport?

Eden said "Basketball."

April said 'Soccer."

Cooper S said "Running."

What sports do you like to play in PE?

Edie said "Farmer Sam and Kickball."

Phoebe said "21."

Tahj said "Tennis."

Do play sports out of school? If yes, what sport?

Lilly said "Soccer."

Cooper S said "Basketball and swimming."

Jayden said "Soccer."

How do you think sport helps a person?

Phoebe said "Training."

Lily said "It makes people less anxious."

Ulla said "It makes you fit."

If you got to try a new sport when you are older, what would it be?

Jayden said "Basketball."

April said "Footy."

Tahj said "NFL."

SPORTS FUN FACTS

Tennis is a racket sport played on a rectangular court over a net. The longest tennis match in history took place at Wimbledon in 2010 with John Isner and Nicolas Mahut. It lasted 11 hours and 5 minutes across three days.



Volleyball was invented in 1895 by William G Morgan in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Six players per team are on the court at a time for indoor volleyball, split into three on the front-row and three on the back-row positions.



The original game was played with a soccer ball rather than a specialized basketball, and balls didn't turn orange until the late 1950s for better visibility. Philadelphia Warriors centre Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points in a single NBA game against the New York Knicks on March 2, 1962, holding the all-time single game scoring record.



The original 10 rules of Australian rules football were formulated on May 17, 1859, by Tom Wills, William Hammersley, James Thompson, and Thomas Smith at the Parade Hotel near the Melbourne Cricket Ground.



Soccer (association football) is the world's most popular sport, played by over 250 million people across more than 200 countries. The first ever sport made was 15,000 years ago and was wrestling and running.



Eliza [redacted]

New Employee



Hi I am Eliza

I am new to this school and I like it so much...

I have met a lot of friends.



I love this school 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊

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