

THE JAGS JOURNAL

The latest news and updates from the LCCS newspaper staff



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

**ANTI-ASIAN RACISM
ON THE RISE**

VACCINES FOR KIDS

**MARS ROVER IS THE
PATH TO THE FUTURE**

SPRING ACTIVITIES LIST

**DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S
IN YOUR FOOD?**

Teachers Get Vaccinated as LCCS Plans for Lower School Hybrid Program

by Gabriela

Recently, all the teachers of LCCS had the opportunity to get vaccinated against covid-19. The teachers received their first shot of the Moderna vaccine on March 15th, and they are due to receive their second shot during the week of April 12th.

These vaccinations are great news because if our teachers can get vaccinated we can also see new in person LCCS activities in the future. That's right, thanks to these vaccinations, LCCS is opening a hybrid program on Fridays for grades 5-8 (more information for which can be found [here](#)), and a hybrid program for lower grades PreK-4th. Because the vaccine fights the virus, and kids are less vulnerable to the virus than adults, this could offer new possibilities for in person school. Nothing is guaranteed for the fall, but this is a step towards going back to school in person.

Teachers Get Vaccinated, Continued

That said, for students who are going back to the building for the hybrid program or Jags Den Fridays, school will not look quite the same as it did before the pandemic. Everyone in the program is required to wear masks while in the building. Classes will not be returning all at once - students from each class are being split into two cohorts to reduce the number of people together in one classroom at the same time. Cohort A will attend school in person on Mondays and Tuesdays, while Cohort B will be in person on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Fridays will remain asynchronous. As a part of the new hybrid program, students will also be covid tested biweekly as a precautionary measure. Hopefully, with all of these safety measures in place, the hybrid program will be a successful start to our return to the building. Make sure to wash your hands and quarantine if you have come into contact with somebody who has caught, or has been exposed to covid-19.

Anti-Asian Racism on the Rise

by August

Why is anti-Asian racism such an important topic right now? The answer is because a lot of people are harboring hate and committing violent hate crimes against Asian Americans, women and the elderly in particular. Why are people feeling this intense hate? Some people think they are to blame for the Covid-19 pandemic.

While it is known that the cases of the virus first appeared in Wuhan, China, it is not certain how the virus began. It is suspected that it came from a particular wet market in

Wuhan. Does this mean that everyone of Asian descent is responsible for the virus? Hopefully we can agree this is ridiculous and that the attacks Asian Americans are currently facing are wildly inappropriate and need to stop.

Last Monday, a 65-year-old Asian American woman in Manhattan was physically and verbally attacked by Brandon Elliot, age 38, who was arrested at 1:10 a.m. Wednesday. In a video of the attack, Elliot can be seen kicking the woman to the ground and striking her, while yelling racist statements at her. The woman, who was on her way to church, suffered a fractured pelvis and contusion to the head, but she is recovering. Elliot has been charged with two counts of second-degree assault as a hate crime and one count of first-degree attempted assault as a hate crime. The Manhattan District Attorney said in response to this hate crime, "Attacks against Asian American New Yorkers are attacks against all New Yorkers, and my office will continue to stand against hate in all its forms."



Anti-Asian Racism, Continued

This is just one of many violent attacks toward Asian Americans in the past year. President Biden announced half a dozen new actions in response to attacks that Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in the United States. "Across our nation, an outpouring of grief and outrage continues at the horrific violence and xenophobia perpetrated against Asian American communities, especially Asian American women and girls," the White House has said.

The white house has also stated "As President Biden said during his first prime time address, anti-Asian violence and xenophobia is wrong, it's un-American, and it must stop." The White House said Biden will appoint a permanent director to lead coordination of police forces across the federal government, which is a request made by many community advocates. Community advocates are individuals with an interest in the development and redevelopment of a neighborhood or community. They are willing to participate in block clubs, neighborhood planning activities as well as religious and social activities.

LCCS has been learning about the racism that Asian Americans are facing and ways that we can be helpful. Many classrooms have participated in a poster project, creating signs advocating against bullying and racism. As cities reopen and we are about to be around people more often, we can be role models in fighting anti-Asian racism. Be kind to your fellow Asian Americans, and stand up against anti-Asian racism if you see it!



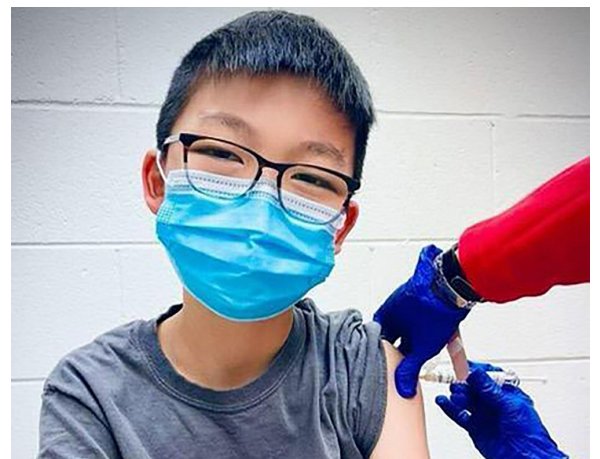
Vaccines for Kids

by Landon

More than 51 million people have been vaccinated against covid-19, but most people don't know if the kids are going to be vaccinated. People really want to get vaccinated so that things can return to normal and we can be safe. Right now, the vaccines we have are only for adults. Right now, pharmaceutical companies are starting clinical trials of covid vaccines in young children and adolescents, but they must balance speed and safety. Vaccines for kids probably will not be available until 2022.

We all wish that covid was over and that we could be together.

Though many are receiving the vaccine, the death toll in the United States has already reached over 550,000. It will be a very exciting time when the vaccine is available for kids so that we don't have to worry about getting or spreading the virus.



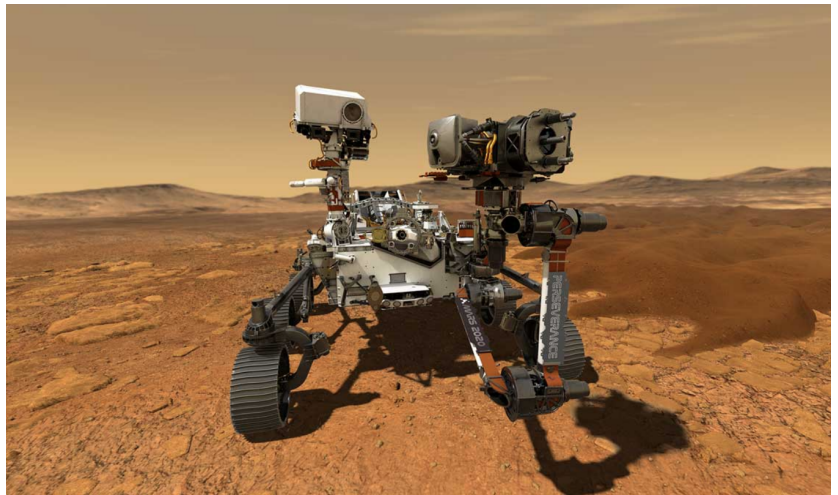
Mars Rover Is the Path to the Future

by Tanay

The first Mars rover, Pathfinder, was launched on July 4, 1997. It made countless scientific breakthroughs and helped humans advance in technology and space exploration. Ever since this leap forward in mankind, Mars rovers have advanced even more. Last year on July 30, 2020, Perseverance was launched to explore Mars. This time, NASA has a new mission in store: to study the rock record to reveal more about the geologic surfaces to see if there was life on Mars in the past.

Features of Perseverance:

- Length: 3m (10ft)
- Width: 2.7m (9ft)
- Height: 2.2m (7ft)
- Weight: 1,025kg (2,260lbs)
- Power source: Multi-Mission Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator (MMRTG). Converts heat from the radioactive decay of plutonium into electricity.
- Has a drone in it.



What has Perseverance seen so far on Mars?

One of the images taken during testing showed a Martian dust devil – a rotating column of dust – moving across the surface. These are common on Mars – most of the spacecraft we have sent there, including the Viking landers in the 1970s, have spotted them at some point.

Masks or No Masks?

by Franciszka

There is a new movement of states starting to ease-up on covid related restrictions. Some governors claim the time is right to end masks. This isn't the first time states pushed back on covid-19 related restrictions. Five states, Texas, Mississippi, Iowa, Montana and North Dakota, plan to or have already ended mask requirements. Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Tennessee never mandated masks. In Idaho, parents encourage their children to burn their masks! These actions are taking place as health experts encourage Americans to continue social distancing and wearing masks.

The reason that I put my mask is not because my governor tells me to. The reason I put on my mask is because I know it protects myself, it protects my loved ones, it protects my neighbors and my community. It may seem crazy, but the states that are opening may be doing the country a favor. We shall all find out pretty soon which model works the best. I am really hopeful for them. I would love to see my friends without a mask, but only when the time is right and we are safe.

St. Patrick's Day

by Brandon

What is St. Patrick's Day?

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17, the anniversary of the death of St. Patrick in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink, and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

Celebration of St. Patrick's Day

People usually dress in green clothes. Some other people dress up as leprechauns and give out chocolate. On St. Patrick's Day, there are also typically parades.

What happened on St. Patrick's Day this year?

The 2021 New York City Saint Patrick's Day Parade was celebrated on Wednesday, March 17, 2021. The parade is the oldest and largest parade in the world, and it has

marched on the streets of New York City every 1 year since 1762, fourteen years before the Declaration of Independence that established the United States of America. This year will mark the 260th St Patrick's Day parade in New York City.



As the Covid-19 pandemic continues across the United States, many cities took a virtual approach to this year's St. Patrick's Day celebrations. St. Patrick's Day was one of the first holidays on the calendar to be impacted as the pandemic took hold in North America last March, and for the second year in a row, cities are being forced to get creative when it comes to their festivities.

While many states have started to scale back on their covid-19-related restrictions, most cities will still not allow for large gatherings like parades. Almost all cities have canceled their annual parades and halted any in-

person activities for the holiday. However, that hasn't stopped them from coming up with new ways to honor the green-filled day.

Do You Know What's in Your Food?

by Estelle

Did you know that most of the food you eat is made of corn?

There are three different types of corn products. Whole corn, starch, and fractionated. Whole corn products are things like popcorn, chips, taco shells, and just whole corn. Starch products are meats, baked goods, candy, desserts, pre-made meals, sweeteners and so much more. Fractionated products are flour, oils, and grits and cones.

Feedlots

Do you know where your meat comes from? Yes, I know what you're thinking about: it comes from a farm. But not all meat is good. A lot of meat comes from feedlots. What is a feedlot? Well, a feedlot is a place SOME cows are treated. Instead of letting these cows have miles and miles around them of fresh grass, they are crowded in a pen surrounded by a corn mill and are eating corn, which is not good for them. They are standing in their manure. In their feed is possibly manure, chocolate, stale pastry, cement dust, molasses, candy, urea, hooves, feathers, meat scraps, fish meal, pasta, peanut skins, brewery wastes, cardboard, corn silage and pesticides.

Industrial farms

Naylor Farm is an example of an industrial farm. It includes lots of fossil fuels. There are lots of pesticides and fertilizer. They are a global market, meaning they deliver food all around the world. They have monoculture, meaning they only grow one crop (corn). They are the opposite of organic farms.

Organic farms

Polyface Farm is an example of an organic farm. For one, there are no fossil fuels, waste, pesticides, and fertilizer. Almost everything there is grown on the farm. Almost all the energy there is from the sun. It is also a local market. That means you have to go there to get food. They have many different types of crops.



Spring Activities List

by Hans

Are you wondering what to do this Easter? Are you tired of just sitting around all day because of quarantine? Then read this spring list of 25 spring activities to try! Don't forget to stay safe. Also, bring a camera to remember the time.

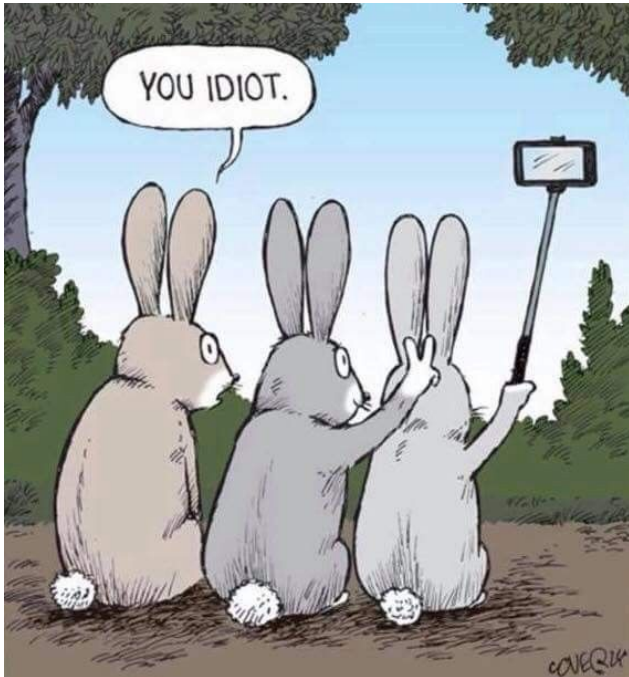
1. Go on an Easter egg hunt
2. Visit the farmers market to try a new fruit or veggie
3. Grow a plant or two
4. Jump in puddles after it rains
5. Use chalk to draw on your sidewalk
6. Read an Easter book
7. Go to the park
8. This one is for the adults and kids to do: Jump rope, use a pogo stick, or play catch
9. Dye Easter eggs and decorate them
10. Start a new family tradition
11. Put up a tent in your house and watch a movie
12. Get the entire family to play flashlight tag
13. Watch the sunset
14. Do April cleaning
15. Pick flowers
16. Explore plants and be a scientist
17. Play hopscotch on your side walk
18. Watch flowers and trees bloom
19. Watch a movie
20. Make pinwheels
21. Eat Easter candy
22. Help make an Easter feast
23. Find shapes in the clouds
24. Take a road trip
25. Build a fairy garden

Try out one or more of these fun activities while you are on your spring break!



Mememes of the Month

by August



Thank you so much for reading! Have a wonderful spring break!

- The LCCS Newspaper Staff