

Cedar Chips

Jack-Of-The-Lantern

By Ximena D.

Some of the most classic staples of the Halloween and Autumn seasons are the pumpkin, paranormal, and costumes. The Jack-O-Lantern is often portrayed as a pumpkin wearing a mischievous expression. The origin of this pumpkin carving tradition comes from the Irish tale surrounding a man named “Stingy Jack,” and how he tricked the Devil twice. Jack enjoyed drinking and mischief, and as his name suggests, not spending money. According to the tale, Jack invited the Devil for a drink, but when the time came it was Jack who convinced the Devil to turn into a coin so he could pay for the drinks. The Devil, now a coin, was put into Jack’s pocket along with a silver cross. This silver cross made it so that the Devil could not change back into his original form. Jack would only agree to free him if the Devil had promised not to bother Jack for a year, and in the event that Jack died, the Devil would not claim his soul.

A year had passed, and, once again, Jack had tricked the Devil. Jack convinced him to climb up a tree and retrieve a fruit for him; however, once the Devil was at the top of the tree, Jack carved a cross into its bark, making it so that the Devil had to once again make a deal with Jack. Jack said that he would let the Devil down so long as he promised to not bother him for another 10 years. The tale goes on to state that Jack dies, and that God would not allow such a person into heaven. The Devil, who didn’t enjoy the fact that Jack had tricked him, would also keep his word and not claim his soul into hell.

Jack was sent into the darkness with only burning coal to light his path. He put the coal into a turnip that had been carved, and is said to have continued roaming ever since. Because of this story, many people in Ireland and Scotland began to make their own versions of Jack’s lantern by using turnips or potatoes and carving faces into them. This also serves to ward off evil spirits, one being “Stingy Jack”. Immigrants brought this tradition with them, but traded the turnip for pumpkins, which were native to the area and thus more accessible and made for a fantastic Jack-O-Lantern.

Coup in Niger- Patrick explains all.

*Can you OWN a color?!
Melanie knows!*

*Is it a fox, is it a wolf?
ask Ximena!*

*India lands on the Moon
Patrick has the scoop!*

*The Halo saves lives in
Formula One
Melanie enlightens us!*

*Cedar has a new principal!
Melanie and Ximena chat
with Dr. Farrish!*



Cedar Chips Staff:

Melanie T.

Patrick L.

Ximena D.

Advisor:

Ms. Blakemore

Welcome, Dr. Farrish! *By Ximena D. and Melanie T.*

You've probably heard that Cedar Lane has a new principal. We decided to stop by and chat with Dr. Farrish to see her vision for this year.

What school did you previously work for, and what were some of the things you did there?

I've had the opportunity to be in a lot of different schools here in Fairfax. I actually started out as an instructional assistant at Oak Creek Elementary School. Then I went to Columbia Elementary as a teacher, then Marshall Road Elementary, and finally, I went to Madison High School as their department chair, later becoming an administrator there. As AP, I oversaw Science, Fine Arts, and [finally] the Comprehensive Service Site [CSS, aka Madison Center.] I worked hand in hand with the other AP's to support their offices, and I also covered a lot of sports and after school activities.

What is your top priority for Cedar Lane this year?

I want every student to come to school feeling safe. I also want every student this year to go to class, because I was told in previous years it was hard to get kids out of the hallways, so I've made that my number one [priority] for this year. My third priority is making sure that you all have the academic access that you need. We have a lot of really bright kids here at Cedar. Academics are important to me. I am very focused on my kids, and though they may have some things they're working through, they still deserve and need access to quality education.

What are some things that you want Cedar Lane to continue doing and what are some things that you would like to see change?

Well, I'll tell you what makes my heart happy- the teachers seem to love the kids, and when I say *love*, it's like I see teachers that truly, truly love the students. That's something I 100% don't want to change. I also want to develop opportunities for kids to have access to things like social clubs or sports after school, even if they don't feel comfortable going to their base schools. I want that opportunity right here at Cedar. For instance, they could maybe do esports. I know we have the school basketball team, and I want to develop more opportunities like that- maybe cross country or yoga. I want so much for after school activities for our kids, and that's something that I'm working toward. I am also a big believer in experience and would like some field trips- to museums or I would like to go to the zoo, because I love animals, and I know people in the building who are telling me that they want to go into the field of veterinary science. I want those opportunities; it's like a chance for us to take a trip as a team.

What are your favorite things to do on the weekend?

I have two boys, and I'm a military wife. My husband was in the military active duty for almost 30 years and is retired now. My two boys play sports, and they do travel AAA basketball, which is year round. I usually wake up, and it's off to 3-4 games both Saturday and Sunday, so that's what my weekends are filled with- just activities for them, [which] are my favorite things to do.

A lot of people have noticed, both teachers and students, that you bring a lot of school spirit into Cedar. So the question is, how many black and gold outfits do you think you've had to purchase since you got here, and how many days do you think you can go before you run out of outfits to wear?

That is probably my favorite question! For me, when I come into a school I'm always going to rep it- like if you see me out in the Vienna area, you're probably going to see me in black and gold. For me, school spirit is just like all of my closet! I'm a proud principal of Cedar Lane school, and I say that because I have a true feeling in my heart that the kids that come through this program, they are stronger than any kid in Fairfax County.



Crisis in West Africa

By Patrick L.



Early in the morning on 26 July 2023, The **Nigerien** Presidency reported that General Abdourahmane Tchaine, commander of the Niger Presidential Guard, was commanding his troops in an ‘anti-republican demonstration’ and holding Nigerien President Mohamed Bazoum in the Presidential Palace. Later in the morning, the Palace was blockaded by Military vehicles. As supporters of Bazoum approached the palace, the Military blockade met them with gunfire, injuring one. Later, the Nigerien Armed Forces surrounded the Presidential Palace in support of Bazoum and secured major points throughout the country as the Presidency stated that the Army and National Guard were ready to attack the blockade.

However, in the evening, Air Force Colonel-Major Amadou Abdramane went on *Télé Sahel*, the national broadcaster of Niger, and announced that President Bazoum had been removed from office, and that a *Conseil Nationale pour la Sauvegarde de la Patrie* (CNSP), or National Council for the Safeguard of the Homeland, had been created. He stated that the reason for the coup was “due to the deteriorating security situation and bad governance.” Abdramane, flanked by nine other officers representing the different branches of the security forces, also announced that Nigerien institutions, including the country’s Constitution, would be suspended. The Nigerien Armed Forces recognized the coup the next day. On 28 July, General Tchaine proclaimed himself the President of the CNSP.

Response to the Coup

The coup was condemned by countries such as France and the United States, international organizations such as the European Union and World Bank, and individuals such as Kenyan President William Ruto and Beninese President Patrice Talon. PMC Wagner, a Russian private military company aiding in the Invasion of Ukraine, supported the coup, stating that this was a symbol of Nigerien resistance against its colonizers. This differs from the official opinion of the Russian Federation, where Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov called the coup a “serious concern” and called for a diplomatic solution.

Bazoum, despite being held in the Presidential Palace, was able to remain in contact with world leaders, such as President of France Emmanuel Macron, Commissioner of the African Union Moussa Faki, Secretary of State of the US Antony Blinken, and Secretary-General of the UN António Guterres. Following the coup, Niger was suspended from the African Union, La Francophonie, and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

On 30 July, ECOWAS delivered an ultimatum to the Nigerien Junta demanding that Bazoum be reinstated within one week or be met with sanctions and use of force. Bazoum was not reinstated when the ultimatum expired, and the ECOWAS standby force was activated on 10 August. All active members of ECOWAS, aside from Cabo Verde, pledge to contribute forces to a military intervention in Niger. However, the military juntas of Mali and Burkina Faso have threatened to join the intervention on the side of the Nigerien Junta if it were to take place.

Definition

Nigerien - of, from, or relating to the country of Niger



Nigerien Crisis as of 17/09/23

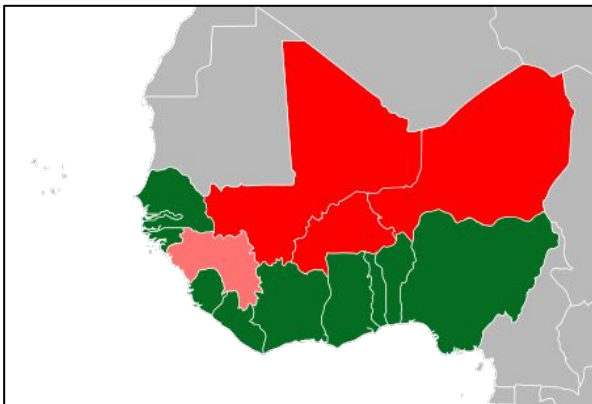


Image Source: Wikipedia

Green - supports ECOWAS militarily

Light Green - supports ECOWAS diplomatically

Red - supports CNSP militarily

Light Red - supports CNSP diplomatically

Happy Hispanic Heritage Month!

*Why does Hispanic Heritage Month start on the 15 of September?
The day of September 15 is significant, because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.*



The Halo: When Safety Gets Controversial

Melanie T.



Formula One's halo is a device that protects drivers' heads from large objects. It keeps them safe from things like flying debris, if their car rolls, or if another car is launched on top of theirs. Henry Surtees died from severe head injuries in 2009. Justin Wilson in 2015 and Felipe Massa in 2009 were both struck in the head with pieces of debris and suffered severe injuries. With fatalities and injuries such as these happening, MotorSports needed to greatly increase safety.

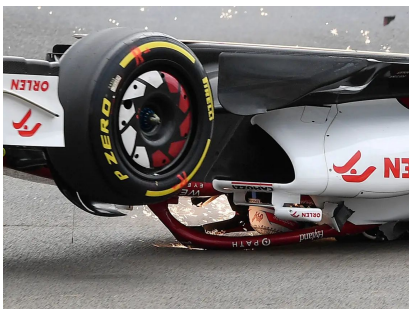
Since the halo was first implemented in 2018, it has saved numerous lives. Charles Leclerc was saved by the halo in 2018 when Fernando Alonso's car rolled on top of his Alfa Romeo. Romain Grosjean was saved by the halo in 2020 when he ran into the barrier and off the track ending in a huge, fiery crash. Drivers like Valteri Bottas, Zou Guanyu and Lewis Hamilton are all here today because of the halo.

Back when the halo was first introduced, it actually received a lot of backlash. Drivers, fans and the media all had something to say about it. The biggest problem people had was with its appearance. They thought the car looked ugly with a big bar around the top of it. Formula One has always been an open cockpit sport. People thought the halo was going against the DNA of the sport by making the cockpit slightly more enclosed. There were also concerns if the halo was affecting the visibility of the drivers, since there was a part that connects right in the center. That point was quickly mute after the drivers said that they could see just fine.

After his horrible crash in 2020, Romain Grosjean said, "I wasn't for the halo some years ago, but I think it's the greatest thing that we brought to Formula One, and without it I wouldn't be able to speak to you today."

In 2016 when the addition of the halo was first being suggested Lewis Hamilton said that it was the "worst-looking modification in Formula One history." But after his crash in 2021, he said "Thank God for the halo, that ultimately saved my life, and my neck."

This Ingenious piece of machinery gets its name from when looked at from above. Its curved shape looks like an angel's halo around the driver in the cockpit. Which I think is a little fitting from all the lives it has saved.



September News Recap

2 September - The Indian Space Research Organization launches Aditya-L1, the country's first solar mission.

8 September - A 6.9 magnitude earthquake strikes western Morocco, killing nearly 3,000 people and damaging historic buildings.

9 September - The African Union is announced as the 21st permanent member of the Group of 20, an intergovernmental organization focused on the global economy.

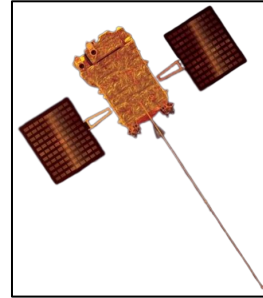
10 September - Storm Daniel, a Mediterranean tropical-like cyclone, strikes Libya, killing at least 5,000 and causing 10k-100k to go missing, as well causing two dam collapses in the city of Derna, resulting in the destruction of nearly a quarter of the city.

15 September - The United Auto Workers, a trade union of workers in the automotive industry, launches a strike against Ford, General Motors, and Stellantis.

19 September - Azerbaijan launches a military operation in the disputed territory of Artsakh, resulting in a swift victory. Armenians begin protesting against their incumbent prime minister due to his mismanagement of the situation.

20 September - Archaeologists in Zambia discover a 476,000 year old wooden house, the oldest wooden structure ever discovered.

24 September - OSIRIS-REx, a NASA mission to the asteroid Bennu, returned a sample of the asteroid during a flyby of Earth.



Aditya-L1 Probe



Storm Daniel on 9 Sep.



UAW strikers in Detroit

Notable Deaths

1 Sep. - Jimmy Buffett, American musician

1 Sep. - Bill Richardson, 30th Governor of New Mexico (2003-11)

22 Sep. - Giorgio Napolitano, 11th President of Italy (2006-15)

Indian Moon Landing

Patrick L.

Over the summer, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) operated the Chandrayaan-3 mission, which featured the first soft landing near the Lunar South Pole.

The Spacecraft

Chandrayaan-3 had three main components - a propulsion module, lander, and rover.

The propulsion module carried the lander and rover into orbit around the moon. The propulsion module also carried a Spectro-polarimetry of Habitable Planet Earth (SHAPE), which was used to study certain electromagnetic waves around Earth from lunar orbit.

The *Vikram* lander, whose design was adapted from the lander used in the failed Chandrayaan-2 mission, was responsible for the soft landing near the Lunar South Pole. The lander had four variable-thrust engines capable of altering the lander's **slew**. The lander was also able to control its altitude and thrust during the entirety of its descent.

The *Pragyan* rover was solar powered, and was able to move on six wheels. It was intended to travel 500 meters on the lunar surface at a speed of 1 centimeter per second. *Pragyan* was also equipped with 3D-vision as well as control and motor dynamics, used to navigate the lunar surface. *Pragyan* was designed to be used for one lunar day (14 **terran** days), as the lunar night would be too cold to operate the machine.

The Program

The name *Chandrayaan* comes from the Sanskrit words *Chandra* (moon) and *yāna* (craft or vehicle). The Chandrayaan programme started in 2008, when the Chandrayaan-1 mission had an Indian probe impact the moon, making the ISRO the fifth national space agency to land on the moon.



Pragyan roll out

Definitions

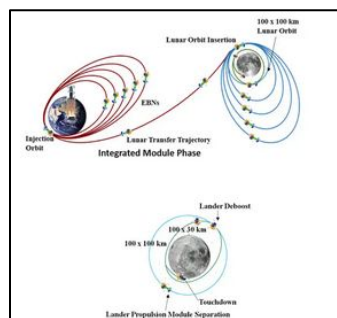
Slew - the orientation of a spacecraft in reference to a plane or fixed position such as the Earth or Sun

Terran - of, or relating to, Earth

Parking Orbit - a temporary orbit used during a spacecraft launch to orient the spacecraft towards the desired destination

The Mission

Chandrayaan-3 launched aboard an LVM3-M4 rocket from the Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota, India, on 14 July 2023 at 09:05 UTC. It proceeded to enter a **parking orbit** around Earth. Following maneuvers around Earth that placed the rocket in a position to launch something onto the moon, the ISRO performed a lunar-orbit insertion on 5 August, which placed Chandrayaan-3 in lunar orbit. *Vikram* separated from the propulsion module on 17 August to conduct the final phase of the mission. The lander arrived on the moon at 12:33 UTC on 23 August. Following the landing, *Pragyan* was deployed onto the moon to explore the lunar surface. *Pragyan* was also equipped with integrated cameras to send back videos of the lunar environment. *Pragyan*'s first video, posted on 25 August, showed the rover leaving the lander and driving onto the lunar surface. The ISRO also published two photos taken by *Pragyan* near the edge of a large crater on 27 August. On 3 September, after all its assignments were completed, *Pragyan* was put into sleep mode, deactivating most of its systems, to prepare for the impending lunar night. The same day, *Vikram* performed a brief 'hop,' used to test capabilities for potential sample return missions in the future.



Chandrayaan-3 module in a cleanroom

The Maned Wolf

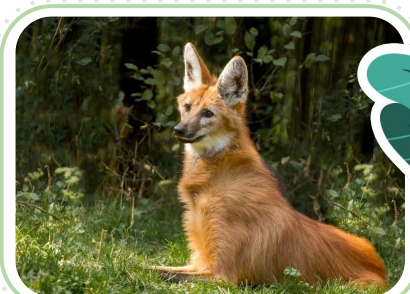
By Ximena D.

The maned wolf is a member of the mammalian class, carnivora order, canidae family, and more. It shares a similar coat pattern and appearance to that of a fox, and has the title of a wolf in its name, but it's neither a wolf or fox. The maned wolf also belongs to the genus of *Chrysocyon*, to which it is the only species of that genus.

This creature belongs to the continent of South America, and can be found in the countries of Bolivia, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, and Paraguay. The maned wolf is a near threatened species, with an estimated population of 23,600 left in the wild. Their habitat consists of wet and dry forests, marshes, wetlands, and savannas.

Maned wolves have the ability to eat plants and small to medium sized animals, which makes this species an omnivorous one. Like dogs, maned wolves use their urine to mark their territory; some have said that the smell reminds them of the way a skunk smells.

The top running speed of this animal is 47 mph, which makes it fast, but not the fastest mammal (when compared to the cheetah, which can run at speeds of 50-80mph.) The typical maned wolf weighs around 50 pounds, and stands at a height of 3 feet tall; with their signature front and hind legs being the most noticeable, and giving them the appearance of "a fox on stilts." Their appearance also consists of a warm reddish brown or orange coat, tall ears, a pair of dark black/brown nocturnal eyes, hints of white fur, and a black mane and legs.



Color War

By Melanie T.

Anish Kapoor is an artist who loves vibrant and saturated colors. He has made several well known art installations and sculptures. One of which is nicknamed "The Bean" in Chicago Millennium park.

In comes Vantablack. This is the world's "blackest black" pigment. It's so dark, it's a little unnerving to look at. Vantablack is made from carbon nanotubes and was originally used to coat spacecraft instruments. It is so black and matte that it doesn't reflect any light, which helps keep the unwanted light away from the tools.

Anish Kapoor buys exclusive rights to VantaBlack. Many artists became upset. They felt art is meant to be shared, so where was his generosity? That Kapoor keeping the paint all to himself goes against the values of the art community. And of course they want to use the paint as well.

Stuart Semple releases "PINK" the pinkest pink paint. He advertises that everyone can buy this paint. Everyone except Anish Kapoor. Literally. When you go onto the website to buy the paint, it makes you confirm that you are not Anish Kapoor, you are not affiliated with Anish Kapoor, and you are not buying this to give it to Anish Kapoor. Basically, you will not help the paint fall into the hands of Anish Kapoor. Nowadays, 50g of the pigment is \$7.99. The company also ships the pigment worldwide.

Semple expected "PINK" to be a one time thing in an effort to make a point towards Kapoor, so he was pleasantly surprised when he got so many orders on his website.

Even with all of this, Anish Kapoor posted an instagram story holding up the middle finger dipped in the pink pigment saying "Up yours #pink". In response to the instagram story, Semple comes out with new pigments like "the glitteriest glitter" and "the whitest white." People even started calling Semple the "Robin Hood of the Rainbow."

At the end of the day, people at MIT made an even blacker black, anyway. It absorbs 99.995% of light compared to Vantablack which absorbs 99.6% of visible light. To this day Kapoor still owns exclusive rights to Vantablack.

Ineffably Lovely by Melanie T.

Ivan Aivazovsky is a beloved 19th century Russian painter known for his turbulent seascapes. He has painted around 6,000 paintings in his career. Aivazovsky was a painter for the Russian Navy, so he was aboard military ships quite often, which allowed him access to paint so many seascapes.

Aivazovsky had a deep bond with romanticism, and the type of paintings he produced were apart from everyone else. He was very influential with the way he could produce this dramatic movement with such technical skill. Anton Chekhov was the first to use the phrase “worthy of Aivazovsky’s brush.” It is used to describe something “ineffably lovely.”



The Ninth Wave" (1850) is known as Aivazovsky's most famous painting.

11 feet (3.3 meters) by 7 feet (2.2 meters)

Goodbye, Ms. Garoni! We'll miss you.
It's the end of an ERA!
Enjoy your retirement!

Hugs 

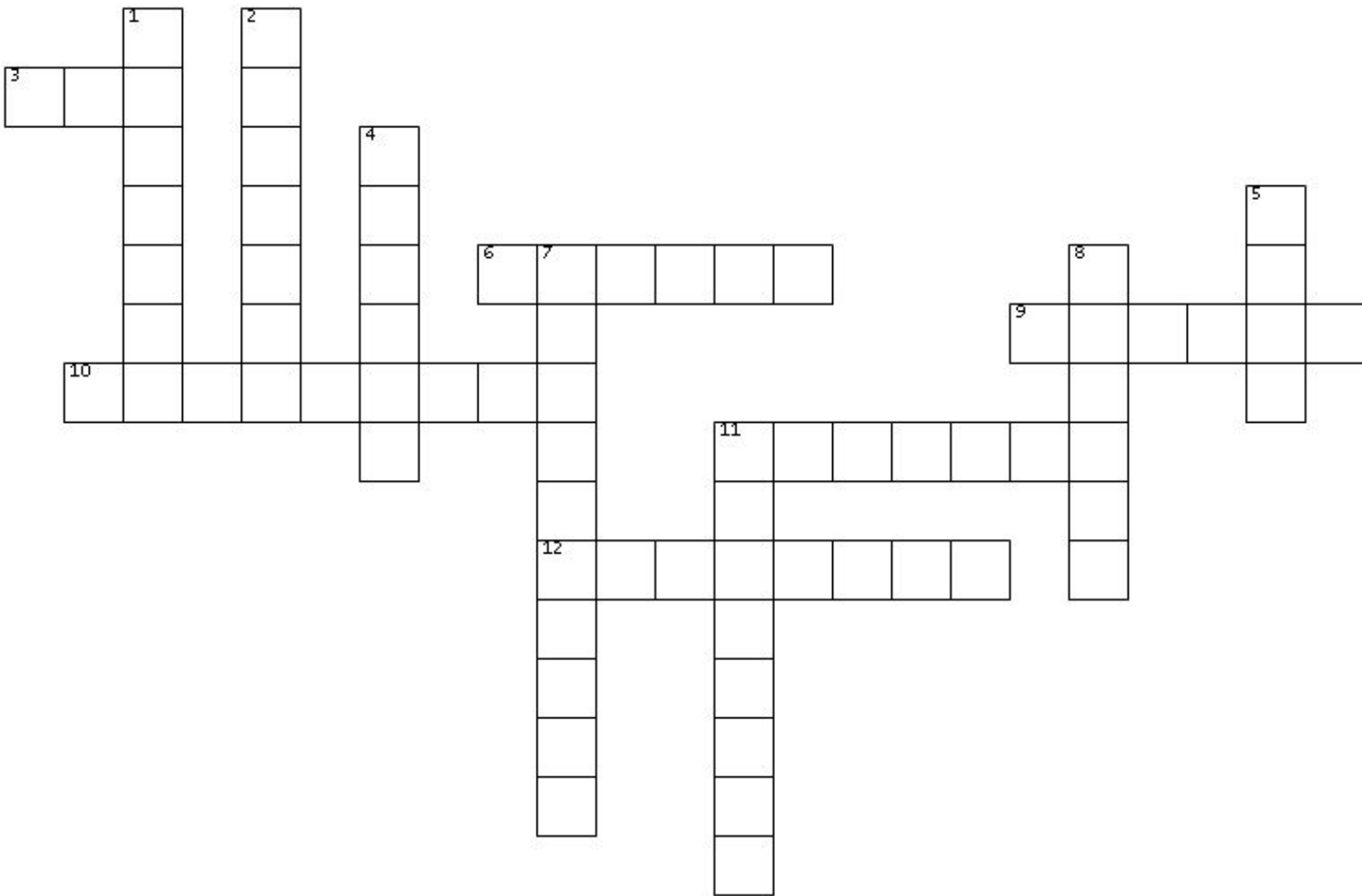
&

Hits 

- ☺ Crunchy leaves
- ☺ Start of the NFL season
- ☺ Dogs
- ☺ Birthdays
- ☺ Fun socks
- ☺ Pockets

- ☹ Raking leaves
- ☹ When your team loses
- ☹ Animal allergies
- ☹ When the cake is gone
- ☹ Toe socks
- ☹ Anything with no pockets

C.C. Crossword



ACROSS

3. A baked dish that can be savory or sweet
6. You can find teachers here
9. The sound of something breaking or someone eating
10. The 9th month of the year
11. Also referred to as squash
12. A spice or a roll

DOWN

1. A way to greet someone
2. The process of gathering crops
4. One of the four seasons
5. It's not in front of you
7. A symbol that contains a goat's horn overflowing with flowers, fruit, and corn.
8. The product of mixing red and yellow together
11. Our mascot, but plural

BACK TO SCHOOL

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

Applecider

Cardigan

Gravy

Park

Squash

Backpack

Cinnamon

Halloween

Pencil

Squirrel

Books

Colorful

Harvest

Pie

Stuffing

Breeze

Cool

Hay

Pumpkin

Teacher

Brownsugar

Crisp

Jackolantern

Reading

Thanksgiving

Bus

Falling

Leaves

Scarecrow

Turkey