



The Palos Print



Winter Edition

A Palos East Student Publication

March 2021

The Words of 2021

By: Emily Stefaniak

Starting off a brand-new year, Mrs. Laka's 3rd grade class decided to come up with a "Word for 2021." In every country, state, city, and home, people could come up with words for this new year but so far, we only know the words from Mrs. Laka's class. This made me think, what is MY word for 2021? I came up with one and asked a few East students for theirs!



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Emily Stefaniak (me)

Word for 2021: Strong

Reason: We are all waiting for this virus to end and need to be strong in the meantime.

Nicole Stefaniak

Word for 2021: Exciting

Reason: We get to go back to school and we get to see our friends.

December Sutton

Word for 2021: New

Reason: It is a new start from a frustrating year.

Daniel Topor

Word for 2021: Unexpected

Reason: We don't know what's coming next in this new year.

Rama Afsheh

Word for 2021: Fresh start

Reason: It's a new year and it's like starting a new book.

These are the ideas of just a few East students, but you can keep it going by picking a word for yourself, and then ask anyone else! It doesn't have to be an interview like I did, it can be a simple question! They do not have to be from Palos East, you can ask your family.

I am sure we can come up with lots of great words for 2021!

COVID-19

By: Alex Schuble



The Covid-19 pandemic has affected many people in different ways. I decided to see how some students and staff at Palos East have dealt with quarantine. I interviewed two students and a teacher. Keep reading to see what they have to say!

Name: Cecilia Dursa

Grade: 3

How has the coronavirus and quarantine affected you?

A lot of activities that we do have been cancelled and I can't see many of my friends and family anymore.

Have you taken this time to learn any new hobbies or skills? If so, which ones?

Yes, I have been working on dancing and singing.

Have you increased your screen time or played more video games than usual?

Yes, I have been playing a lot of Roblox currently.

Which cancelled events or activities have you missed the most?

I have missed doing religious education the most.

Did you ever think that you would be in the middle of a pandemic?

Never.

When you are an adult, how do you think you will describe the pandemic to the next generation of kids?

It was a very hard time.

Name: L.E. Galbincea

Grade: 4

How has the coronavirus and quarantine affected you?

It has affected me and my family by not letting us go out as much or see our family that much.

Have you taken this time to learn any new hobbies or skills? If so, which ones?

I have not learned any new hobbies or skills, but I have been playing a lot of music.

Have you increased your screen time or played more video games than usual?

I have been playing a lot more video games than normal.

Which cancelled events or activities have you missed the most?

I haven't really missed anything.

Did you ever think that you would be in the middle of a pandemic?

No, not in one million years.

Name: Ms. Buschman

Grade: Kindergarten Teacher

How has the coronavirus and quarantine affected you?

The virus hasn't affected me too much. I actually did get the virus, so I experienced it and I am very healthy, and everything is good. The quarantine has definitely affected me in many ways. It has affected me as a teacher because obviously we all know teaching is much different now because of the virus. But it's also affected me with my family. I get to spend a lot more time with my daughter because we're together all the time, but I haven't been able to spend as much time with the rest of my family because we don't live together. In school, I don't get to do the things I usually get to do, but I think we're still having a good time. It looks a lot different.

Have you taken this time to learn any new hobbies or skills? If so, which ones?

To be honest with you, I did work on something this summer—a new skill. I practiced learning how to juggle! I wasn't very good at it, but when you're stuck at home, especially in the summer time, I really had nowhere to go and nothing to do, so I decided I was going to learn how to become a better juggler. So, I worked on my juggling skills and I also worked on my gymnastic skills. I practiced my cartwheels and my back walk-overs because I used to be a gymnast. So those were the two skills I worked on over the summer.

Now, I don't have as much time since I'm back to work, but those summer months were very difficult because I couldn't go anywhere or do anything, so I decided juggling and gymnastics. Those were my biggies.

Have you increased your screen time or played more video games than usual?

Well, does Candy Crush count as a video game? I've probably played more Candy Crush than I used to. I don't watch a lot of TV, but my screen time on my phone probably has increased because when I'm stuck at home, when I'm not juggling or doing gymnastics, I am on my phone. My favorite video game is Candy Crush, so I do play a little more Candy Crush than I used to because I have more time to do it.

Which cancelled events or activities have you missed the most?

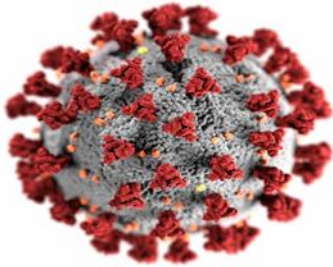
The events that I've missed the absolute most...I love music, I love listening to music, and I really like going to music concerts. So usually in the summertime, I spend a lot of time going to different concerts, and I didn't get to go to any this summer. So that was the one big event area that I missed the most and did not get to do this summer. What I look forward to the most is when they can start doing music concerts again. I miss my concerts!

Did you ever think that you would be in the middle of a pandemic?

I'm sure most people will answer this the same way, but no, not ever. It's interesting because this experience is new to everyone, whether you are 5 years old or 55 years old. Nobody ever expected any of this to happen, and we're learning how to handle it every single day. Every single day we're learning about what direction it's going to take, because we don't even really know when it's going to be over. So, yeah, I never expected to get it. I never expected it to take this long. I never expected for it to affect me, affect you, the way that it did. So, there's a lot of things that are definitely new because of the virus and this pandemic.

How do you think you will describe the pandemic to the next generation of kids?

Well, that's a difficult one. Honestly, the next generation of kids that come in, I'll just let them know what a historic event it was. What we're doing right now is history making. We are a part of history. As we grow older, there are going to be kids that weren't even alive during this time. We need to tell them what a historic event this was. It changed the world. It changed so many different things, and hopefully we'll get back to some sort of normal, but our normal might look a little bit different because of this. I'm definitely going to be letting those kids know what a big part of history we lived through.



The Coronavirus

By: Ben Schroeder

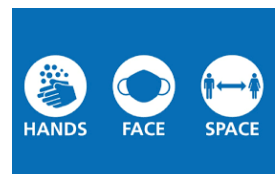
Have you been interested or scared by what you hear on the news about the coronavirus? Well, I can explain everything. The coronavirus is a virus that was first identified in Wuhan, China. It is also referred to as Covid-19. The symptoms of the coronavirus are fever and chills, cough, shortness of breath or trouble breathing, fatigue, body or muscle aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, vomiting, diarrhea, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, confusion, and an inability to wake or stay awake. You might be thinking, "WOW, that is a lot of symptoms!" It sure is.

The coronavirus is easily transmitted, which makes controlling the spread of the disease extremely difficult. You can help stop the spread of the Coronavirus by staying home, wearing a mask, and by practicing social distancing. Some people die from the coronavirus, but statistics show that 97-99.75% of the people who contract the coronavirus recover. The reason the coronavirus is so deadly is because it has never been seen before, so no one is immune to it. As of this writing, almost 30 million Americans have had the coronavirus. Also, another reason the coronavirus is so contagious is because 25-30% percent of people who contract the coronavirus are asymptomatic. This means they have no symptoms of the virus, but they can still spread it to others. The coronavirus spreads from person to person typically through respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing, or talking. It spreads easier inside than outdoors. This is because usually indoor spaces have less ventilation, and it is harder to keep people six feet apart.

Now for the update.... There are currently three coronavirus vaccines that have been approved for emergency use by the Federal Drug Administration. Two of the vaccines require two doses, spread out over 6 weeks, for a person to be immune to the virus. The other requires a single dose. As of today, about 15% of all Americans have had at least the first dose of the vaccine.

I hope you found this information useful, and remember the 3 W's:

WEAR your mask, WASH your hands & WATCH your distance!



Q U A R A N T I N E A C T I V I T I E S

By: Melody Saweikis

(Yawn!) Quarantine can get boring VERY quickly. I wanted to share some of my favorite things to do in quarantine.

Games

I love playing games, either a board game with my family (family meaning the people that I am quarantined with in my house) or one on my device like a phone, iPad, Nintendo Switch, etc. Board games are super fun! *Quarkle*, *Monopoly*, *Sorry*, *Game of Life*, *Candy Land*, *Scrabble*, *Guess Who*, and *Operation* are all fun games. (Okay, I know *Operation* is not the best game for parents, but it sure is fun for kids!) Now, if you prefer something on a device, here are a few choices: *Among Us*, *Wordscapes*, *Procreate*, *Cut the Rope*, *Smash Hit*, *Puzzle Fuzzle*, and one of my favorite games, *Psych*!

All About *Psych*

Let me tell you more about *Psych*. *Psych* is an incredibly fun game! It is a game that is more for older kids. In the game, you need to come up with a fake but believable answer to fool the other players, and then you also try to pick the right answers. You can play with your friends and family! You get three free decks and the rest you have to pay for, but I think that buying some are worth it. My favorite deck to play is called "The Truth Comes Out." For example, a question would be: If Jake started a band, what would the band be called? (Definitely try out *Psych*, it is free!)



Art

I love art! It can be very relaxing to color, paint, or draw. However, it can be hard when you have limited supplies and you do not have money for them (or cannot go out to buy more). That is why I love the *Art for Kids Hub*. This is a channel on YouTube and YouTube Kids. *Art for Kids Hub* is a channel that shows you how to draw. All you really need is something to draw on and something to draw with. (Coloring your work is optional.) Another fun art thing to do is decorate something like a cookie jar with gems, stickers, paint, and anything you can find around your house.



Outdoor Activities

If you run out of screen time for the day and have no desire to color, play outside! Here are a few games to play outside: Hide and Seek, Kick the Can, Four Square (you need your family to get into this one!), Hopscotch, Red Light/Green Light, Mother May I, Simon Says, Freeze Tag, Shadow Tag, and the normal Tag are all fun games to play outside.

How to Play Mother May I

This is how to play Mother May I. First, you need at least three people to play. Everyone except the person who was chosen to be Mother goes across from the other players. Next, all the players line up as if they were all about to race. Then, the first player will ask a question like, "Mother, may I take two baby steps forward?" And then Mother can say, "Yes, you may," or "No, but you may take one big step over here." The game will go on until one of the players touches Mother, then they win the game!



I really hope that you try out some of these ideas for things to do when you're bored at home!

Mask Fashion

By: Sasha Razukas

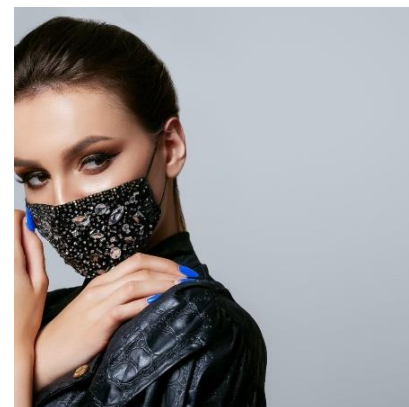
Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, there is something that you see everywhere—the surgical face mask. Let's focus on turning this white and blue disguise into a work of art!

Mask Mind Reader

Mask fashion is just as important as the quality and comfort of your mask. Many people think of masks as a restriction instead of a fashion statement. Yet, it is more than just a fashion statement, it is a statement of personality. Did you know that you can learn a person's hobbies, favorites, and sometimes even traits?! Just observe closely as you see people in public and you will soon see examples everywhere!

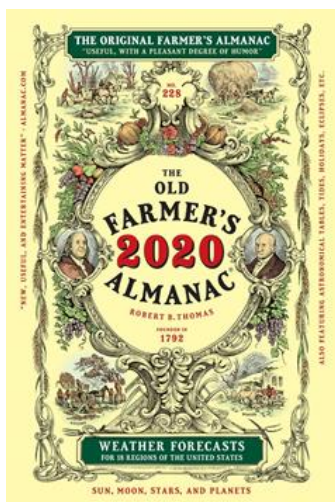
Modern Mask Fashion

Now, I will give you the inside scoop on modern mask fashion and some hot new trends! Based on my observations, the most common trend at Palos East is navy blue with black ear strings. This trend is also my personal favorite because of the simplicity of it. The colors navy blue and black go perfectly together and just make an amazing work of art. Some people wear tie dye masks with beautiful sparkles, and others wear camouflage masks. In my opinion, all of these are beautiful!



THE FARMER'S ALMANAC

By: Jude Yousef



Will we get MORE snow? Maybe we should check the Farmer's Almanac! The Farmer's Almanac is a publication that comes out every year. It is known for making predictions about the weather we will see in the upcoming year.

The Farmer's Almanac predictions come from a forecaster who uses a "top secret mathematical and astronomical formula that relies on sunspot activity, tidal action, planetary position and many other factors" to predict weather sixteen months ahead of time. The forecast is annually released for the United States and Canada. When making their predictions, they divide the United States into seven zones. Illinois is in Zone Two, along with Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky.

Here are the predictions they made for this winter. During the 2020-2021 winter season, the Farmer's Almanac is forecasting that it will be very cold and snowy. The Almanac predicted that until the end of November, snow would not appear on the forecast for the Great Lakes. It seems like they were right on that one! Winter temperatures will be much above normal, despite some cold periods from early December to late January.

While we had some warmer temperatures in November and December, it seemed to get pretty cold around here in January and February. Precipitation will be near normal. Snowfall will be below normal in most areas, with the snowiest periods in early December, late February, and mid-March. It seems like the Almanac was a little off here, because we did not get much snow in December, but we had a LOT in February! Still, it is interesting to see what the Farmer's Almanac predicts!

*February: Black History Month***Martin Luther King, Jr.**

By: Zavain Jointer

I decided to write about Martin Luther King Jr. He was born January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia. His parents were Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King. He had two brothers, A.D. King and Donn Clendenon, and a sister, Christine King Farris.

He was very smart and skipped two grades in school. When he grew up, he became a pastor. He married Coretta Scott King in 1953. They had four children, two sons and two daughters. (He named one of his sons Martin Luther King III!) He was a good man. All he wanted was freedom and for Black people to be treated fairly. He spoke to people about his ideas.

He had to go to jail many times, all because he was trying to change the law so that it would be fair.

In 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. went to Washington D.C. to protest people being treated unfairly and to give a famous speech called "I Have a Dream." Some people rested their feet in the water, some people stood up, but they all listened. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream was that all people could play at the playground with each other, He wished that people didn't have to go in separate bathrooms, He wished that people didn't have to drink out of different water fountains, He wished that all people could go to the same school. That was his dream.

On April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee, Martin Luther King Jr. was killed when he was shot in the chest by James Earl Ray. We celebrate his birthday on the third Monday in January every year.

*March: Women's History Month***Frida Kahlo**

By: Maeve Clarke

Frida Kahlo is probably the most famous female artist of all time. Frida was born in Mexico City, Mexico on July 6, 1907, and she died on July 13, 1954. She was known for her talents in painting, on average, her paintings sold for \$1,655,750!

Frida was 18 years old when she got into a bus accident. She was put on bed rest because of the accident, and she would paint in her bed while she was recovering.

Frida was married to a man named Diego Rivera, and their marriage was one of most famous alliances between artists. Frida was a student of Diego, which is how they met. They painted each other's portrait for 25 years. She also did many self-portraits, and used her Mexican culture in her artwork.

Frida had a lot of health problems and pain issues, but that didn't stop her from being politically active and making art. Her health got worse, and she died at the young age of 47. She is remembered as a feminist, artist, and an icon.

Kahlo's 1945 painting, *Magnolias*



PRESIDENTIAL FUN FACTS



By: Maeve Clarke and Moonah Samra

George Washington—1st President

- George Washington was born on February 22, 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia, and he died on December 14, 1799, in Mount Vernon, Virginia.
- He was president from April 30, 1789 to March 4, 1797.
- He never actually had wooden teeth; it was just a myth! His false teeth were most likely made of a combination of ivory, human, and animal teeth, and lead, copper, and silver alloys.



Thomas Jefferson—3rd President

- Thomas Jefferson was born on April 13, 1743, in Shadwell, Virginia, and he died on July 4, 1826, in Monticello, Virginia.
- He was president from March 4, 1801 to March 4, 1809.
- Jefferson was an architect. Also, he owned over 6,500 books!

Abraham Lincoln—16th President

- Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809, in Hodgenville, Kentucky, and he was killed on April 15, 1865, in Washington D.C.
- He was president from March 4, 1861 to April 15, 1865.
- He is known for many things, including helping to end slavery.
- He also created the Secret Service, just hours before he was shot and killed in Ford's Theater.



Benjamin Harrison—23rd President

- Benjamin Harrison was born on August 20, 1833, and he died on March 13, 1901.
- He was president from March 4, 1889 to March 4, 1893.
- Benjamin Harrison's nicknames were "Kid Gloves Harrison" and "Little Ben."
- The voice of Harrison was recorded on phonograph cylinders in 1889; his was the first voice of a president known to be preserved, but it was only 36 seconds of a recording.
- Harrison was also the grandson of the 9th President, William Henry Harrison.

Theodore Roosevelt—26th President

- Theodore Roosevelt was born on October 27, 1858, and he died on January 6, 1919.
- He was president from September 14, 1901, to March 4, 1909.
- Theodore Roosevelt was blind in one eye after a boxing injury in the White House.
- Roosevelt was the first president to win a Nobel Prize.
- Roosevelt also had a great memory—he could recite poetry and other things that he had read 10 years ago!



Herbert Hoover—31st President

- Herbert Hoover was born on August 10, 1874, and he died on October 20, 1964.
- He was president from March 4, 1929 to March 4, 1933.
- Herbert Hoover was an orphan.
- Hoover was able to speak Chinese.
- He had many pets, one being an opossum!



Barack Obama—44th President

- He was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, on August 4, 1961.
- He was the first African American president, serving from January 20, 2009, to January 20, 2017.
- He previously worked as an Illinois state senator from 1997 to 2004, and then as a U.S. senator in 2005 to 2008.



If you want to learn more fun presidential facts, check out these sites! Constitutioncenter.org or Factmonster.com



History of Valentine's Day

By: Emily Stefaniak

Every year on this very special day, boys and girls give each other chocolates, candy, cards, or flowers. If you don't know what I'm talking about, then I will tell you now, I'm talking about Valentine's Day. People still do not fully know the real answer as to why we exchange all of these treats, but we all know that it had something to do with St. Valentine. People believe that St. Valentine secretly married couples on this day.

Valentine's Day has changed throughout the years. Back in the Middle Ages, people started making handmade cards to give to each other. In Africa, South African women actually wear hearts on their sleeves.... sort of! Girls pin the names of their crushes on their sleeves to reveal who they admire.

There are many traditions for this very special day. During festivities on Valentine's Day, some schools have the boys in one class pick from a jar of papers. Each piece of paper has a girl student's name on it. Boys would pick from the jar and then do something sweet for that girl.

Where we live, we give gifts of cards, flowers, chocolates, and other things decorated with the colors pink, red, and white. If you want to learn more about Valentine's Day, I suggest searching for information on the internet or reading a book about it.

Happy Valentine's Day



The m&m History

By: Indre Luksys

Have you ever opened a pack of M&M's and wondered how they were first created?

Well, if you have, start reading! M&Ms come in different varieties of flavors, such as peanut, pretzel, caramel, peanut butter, dark chocolate, you name it! The original colors of the milk chocolate M&M's were red, orange, green, blue, yellow, and dark brown. The most common color you will find in your pack of M&M's is blue. Blue is 24% of the pack, orange is 20%, green is 16%, yellow is 14%, and red and brown are both 13%. M&M's come in a round circular shell, with the letter M printed on, with a chocolate filling inside. M&M's were different back when they first came out in 1941, as they had different colors and came in different packaging. You would be surprised if you found out how M&M's looked back then!

In 1932, Forrest Mars Sr. (the creator of M&M's) moved to England and started to produce chocolate bars for the troops during the Spanish Civil War. During these times, there wasn't a big source of air conditioning and in hot seasons like summer, many candies melted. So, this caused many candy sales to decrease. One day, Mars saw British soldiers eating small chocolate beads in a sugary shell that prevented the candies from melting.



This gave Mars an idea to create a candy of his own that would be able to resist melting. These candies wouldn't even need air conditioning to keep from melting! Mars decided to return to America and contact Bruce Murrie. Bruce Murrie was William Murrie's son, who was the president of the Hershey Candy Company. Mars thought it would be a good idea to use Hershey's chocolate for his new candy because during the war, there was a shortage of chocolate and sugar. They both agreed on producing the candy with his chocolate. This is how M&M's got their name, to represent Mars and Murrie.

Then, in 1941, in Newark, New Jersey, Mars was given a patent for the processing of his candy. M&M's were packaged in a thin, short cardboard tube, with violet, yellow, brown, red, orange, and green M&M's mixed together. M&M's were then sold to the military and were added to soldiers' rations, but after the war, M&M's were sold in stores. In 1948, the cardboard tube packaging was switched with a small bag that is used today. In 1950, Mars decided to imprint a black "M" on M&M's, due to people copying the chocolates. In 1954, the "M" was changed to white, and buyers knew how to make sure they were buying the original candy by remembering the slogan, "Look for the M on every piece."

M&M's have a big history, and it is amazing how everything started with just an inspiration from soldiers! M&M's are one of the most popular candies today, and they are also one of my favorite candies. M&M's have been here for more than a hundred years, and the tradition will continue to grow.

Interesting Facts about **m&m's**:

*M&M's were launched into space as the first candy to go to space, in 1981.

*The red M&M's were removed in 1976 because a study found that red food dye can cause diseases. (Mars didn't use red food dye in M&M's, but they removed it so buyers didn't get confused.) In 1987 the red M&M's came back because the study was proven wrong.

*On [mms.com](https://www.mms.com) you can customize and order M&M's with any of the 24 colors they have there, and you can even add an image of your own to be printed on your M&M's.

This is how M&M's looked when they were first created!



Check out these super cool M&M's flavors and products!



These are personalized M&M's with sentences and photos on them!

RECIPES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

By: Moonah Samra

The first recipe I would like to tell you about is flan. Flan is originally from Spain. Many other countries like Italy, France and even Mexico like to put their own spin on this dessert. There are many different recipes for this dessert. I can say that I have eaten flan and helped my mom make it before. Some of the main ingredients in flan are eggs, milk, sugar, condensed milk, and evaporated milk. It is so good that you probably want to learn how to make it. To make it easy for you, I will give you a step-by-step recipe from the internet, so you can make this tasty treat whenever you like. Make sure you ask your parents for help before you start. (Also, it tastes best cold!)

Ingredients:

Caramel Sauce:

- 1 cup sugar
- ¼ cup water

Flan Mixture:

- 6 large eggs
- 1 can (12oz) evaporated milk
- 1 can (14oz) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 tbsp. vanilla extract
- 12 oz. Milk



Directions

- In a heavy saucepan, cook sugar and water over medium-low heat until melted and golden, about 15 minutes. Brush down crystals on the side of the pan with additional water as necessary. Quickly pour into an ungreased 2-qt. round baking or souffle dish, tilting to coat the bottom; let stand for 10 minutes.
- Preheat oven to 350°. In a bowl, beat the eggs, one at a time, until thoroughly combined. Add remaining ingredients; mix well. Pour over caramelized sugar.
- Place the dish in a larger baking pan. Pour boiling water into larger pan to a depth of one inch. Bake until the center is just set (mixture will jiggle), 50-60 minutes.
- Remove dish from a larger pan to a wire rack; cool for one hour. Refrigerate overnight.
- To unmold, run a knife around edges and invert onto a large, rimmed serving platter. Cut into wedges or spoon onto dessert plates, spoon sauce over each serving.

<http://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/creamy-carmel-flan/>

Knafeh

By: Moonah Samra



Next up we have Knafeh, which is a Middle Eastern dessert. It is from many places such as Egypt, Turkey, Palestine, and Jordan. Although it is from all of these places, it is specifically from the city of Nablus, which is in the country of Palestine.

One thing you should know if you are going to make this is that there are two types of Knafeh—rough or smooth. Khishneh (Khish-neh) is rough and Na'ameh (Na-meh) is smooth. Knafeh is made with sweet cheese, but it can also be made with mozzarella cheese. It is also made with shredded phyllo dough and pistachios on top. When it is all finished, you make a simple syrup and drizzle it on top. If you want, you can sprinkle some pistachios on top.

In modern times, the city of Nablus in Palestine holds the Guinness World Record for the largest Knafeh ever made. In 2009, it took over 170 bakers to make the biggest Knafeh, and it was 230 feet long and 3 ½ feet wide!

Knafeh (Continued)

By: Moonah Samra

I am going to give you a recipe from the internet, so that if you want to make this, you can. I also added pictures after each step to show what it looks like.

Simple Syrup:

- 4 cups granulated sugar
- 2 cups water
- 1 tsp lemon juice

Mix the sugar, water, and lemon juice together in a pot. Place over medium-high heat and bring to a boil, stirring occasionally until the sugar dissolves. Remove from the heat and set aside to cool completely.

For the Knafeh:

- 18 oz. shredded phyllo dough
- 36 oz. mozzarella cheese, grated
- 1 1/2 cup butter, melted
- Orange food coloring, powdered or liquid (optional)
- 3/4 cup crushed pistachios

Preheat oven to 375°F. Make sure to thaw the shredded phyllo dough before using. Transfer it to a large bowl, then using your hands, begin pulling the strands apart, breaking them into smaller and smaller pieces kind of like ripping it apart until the dough is completely shredded.



Pour the melted butter and food coloring (if using) over the shredded phyllo dough and mix it with your hands until the butter and food coloring are evenly distributed. It is best to use a pair of latex gloves or rubber gloves so your hands don't get coloring on them. The coloring can stain your fingers, but it will come off.



Spread half the dough in a large round cake pan or a 9x13 baking dish. Press firmly into the pan, but don't put too much force! Just use enough force so it all fits in the plate or whatever you choose to make it in. Spread the cheese over top of the dough, leaving at least an inch of space around the edges.



Cover the cheese with the remaining dough, making sure to cover the edges first to seal the cheese and prevent it from leaking during baking. Press in firmly—not too firm, but just use enough force so it will all fit.

Bake for 15 minutes. Once baked, remove from the oven and carefully flip over onto a serving tray or plate. Gently lift the baking pan away from the Knafeh. Then, let it cool for 5 minutes or less.



Spoon the cooled simple syrup over the Knafeh, then gently pour the remaining syrup over top. Adjust the amount of simple syrup you use to suit your taste. If it's your first time making this, just drizzle some on top of the knafeh. Decorate with crushed pistachios and serve warm. Knafeh is best the day it's made, but leftovers will keep well in the fridge for up to three days. You can just warm it up for 10-20 seconds in the microwave before serving, and if you like, you can put some of the simple syrup on top. Also, the simple syrup will not go bad if you have it for a long time, but if you are new to this dish, I would recommend not making too much of the simple syrup. For additional information about this recipe, Google



<https://www.redpathsugar.com/recipe/knafeh-middle-eastern-sweet-cheese-pastry>

Chocolate Chip Cookies

By: Moonah Samra



Third, we are going to be introduced to chocolate chip cookies. Chocolate chip cookies are from Massachusetts. The women who created chocolate chip cookies are Ruth Wakefield and Sue Brides.

Ruth Wakefield and Sue Brides started making chocolate chip cookies in 1938. Ruth made the recipe during the time she owned the Toll House Inn in

Whitman, Massachusetts.

The original recipe was made by Ruth Wakefield in the 1930s. It first appeared in the 1938 cookbook, *"Tried and True Recipes"* and was intended to accompany ice cream.

The original name of the chocolate chip cookie was Butter Drop Do Cookies. Then, they were renamed chocolate crunch cookies, and finally, chocolate chip cookies. Chocolate chip cookies were actually a mistake. Ruth Wakefield added bits of chocolate to her Butter Drop Do cookie batter, expecting the chocolate to melt, but when she opened the oven to check on the cookies, the chocolate chips had not melted. So, that is how they got their name as chocolate chip cookies.

One of the biggest chocolate chip cookies was made in Rock, North Carolina in 2003. It weighed 40,000 pounds and had a 101 feet diameter. Chocolate chip cookies are very popular and a great treat. Today, you can find the Recipe on the back of every bag of Nestle chocolate chips.

Ingredient Checklist

- 2 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup butter, softened
- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- ¾ cup packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 2 cups NESTLE® TOLL HOUSE® Semi-Sweet Chocolate Morsels
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Directions

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Combine flour, baking soda, and salt in small bowl. Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla extract in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in morsels and nuts. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto ungreased baking sheets.

Bake for 9 to 11 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on baking sheets for two minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.

Tips: *Cookies may be stored in the refrigerator for up to one week or in the freezer for up to eight weeks.

PAN COOKIE VARIATION: Grease 15 x 10-inch jelly-roll pan or a pan of your choice. Prepare dough as above. Spread into prepared pan. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. Cool in pan on wire rack. Makes four dozen bars.

SLICE AND BAKE COOKIE VARIATION: Prepare dough as above. Divide in half; wrap in waxed paper. Refrigerate for one hour or until firm. Shape each half into 15-inch log; wrap in waxed paper. Refrigerate for 30 minutes. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Cut into 1/2-inch-thick slices; place on ungreased baking sheets. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on baking sheets for two minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely. Makes about five dozen cookies.

I would like to say that during these crazy times, we are bored staying in our houses, and not being able to play with our friends and relatives, but I think it is a great time to learn new things and spend time with your family. If you are ever bored, just try one of these recipes and enjoy!!!

How to be a Good Photographer

By: L.E. Galbincea

Photography is the art of taking photos. It can be fun, calming, or just a hobby. This is how to be a good photographer and some tips and tricks that I've picked up along the way.

Supplies You Will Need:

- Camera
- Tripod, which is a three-legged device (optional)
- Computer or a phone
- Lighting such as a flashlight or a ring light. You could use your ceiling light or the sun's light, too!

Setting Things Up:

Take the camera and put it on the tripod, or adjust the camera however you see fit.

Tinker with the lighting until you see fit. Good lighting is when it is not orange or blurry; those are signs of bad lighting. Make sure the camera is in focus.

Tips:

NEVER use the flash unless completely necessary. You should only use the flash in situations like when it is really dark.

Be sure that everything is in the shot and in focus. Some good photo subjects are cats, dogs, parks, or whatever else you want. My favorite photo subject is random household items, such as a pencil. Pictured here are photographs that I took of nature and my cat.

Editing:

Some good editing software programs are Photoshop, Snapchat, and Instagram. On Snapchat, you can take photos with funny filters. You can do the same on Instagram, or even on your phone's built-in editor, in your phone's camera app. Edit your photo.... then

BOOM you can post or print your photo immediately!

I hope you enjoyed my article and I hope the tips were helpful. Keep snappin', folks!



Exploring Tulum

By: Zoe Farano

Tulum is a town on the Caribbean coastline of Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula. It is surrounded by natural beauty and deep history. When I went to Tulum, my family and I saw big castles, rocks, lizards, and a beach.

The beach in Tulum, Playa Ruinas, is one of the most beautiful beaches in Mexico. You can explore the ruins and then you can cool off at the beach. The Temple of the Frescoes in Tulum has social and religious importance.

When I saw the Temple of Frescoes, there was something on the building that looked like a frog, but it actually represented the Mayan god Itzamna. This can be found in the Temple's corner.

6 Interesting Facts about Tulum:

1. Tulum is the third most visited archeological site in Mexico. Two million people visit each year.
2. The original name of the site was Zama, which means "sunrise." They later changed it to Tulum, which means "wall."
3. The coastal reef acts as a barrier so ships do not sink.
4. Tulum had a school of astronomy, which was attended by Aztec nobles, natives, and people from other cultures.
5. Tulum was one of the few Mayan cities that was still inhabited when the Spanish explorers came, but it was wiped out by diseases brought by the Spanish.
6. The city of Tulum was a major gateway for connecting the Mayan Peninsula with other people from Honduras and the Gulf of México.

I enjoyed Tulum because I like history and learning about different people and cultures. For more information, you can go online and visit www.mayanpeninsula.com and search Tulum.

