

# The Pigeon's Squawk



- MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH -

APRIL 2021

MHSS

## BUST YOUR COVID STRESS

*"Stressed spelled backwards is desserts." --Loretta LaRoche*

*by Abbycado*

Feeling the pressure more than ever during this pandemic? You're not alone. Follow these tips to stay as calm and collected as the meditating dog.

**Call an enemy you haven't talked to in a year.** Life is about seeing things from different perspectives; sometimes we need to reconnect with old foes to do this. Shoot them a quick text or, better yet, give them a call to see how they are doing. We recommend that you stay calm during your interaction, but you know, it is what it is.

**Hug a tree.** We should all channel hippie vibes at some point in our lives. Be one with nature and go somewhere public to treehug everyone can admire you. Bonus points for posting a selfie on social media!

**Switch everything around in your room or on your desk.** Psychological studies show that moving things around in is a great way to get a new point of view. Apply this to your own room. For example, put your bed right in front of your door so nobody can get in or disturb you. Or move all sixty pairs of your shoes to the middle of your floor so you can look at your Air Forces

whenever you need to calm down.

**Laugh really hard at a joke that is only mildly funny.** Don't do this to be a jerk. We're suggesting this because sometimes we don't put enough effort into laughing. It can spur on

some much-needed stress relief if we just tip the endorphin scales in our favor. For example, cackle at that one insanely cheesy Dad joke or maybe even come up with a super corny joke yourself (like the one above).

**Watch sad TV shows.** This may seem counter-productive, but watching a depressing show/movie will make you less stressed about your own life and get you more focused on the sorrow and despair of the characters in the show. Check out *Grey's Anatomy*, *This is Us*, and *Six Feet Under*.

**Make a list of all the crazy things you've done in your**

**life and anonymously send it to your parents.** This is an amazing stress reliever because you can finally get all those things off your chest that you're technically not "supposed to" tell your parents--like that time you snuck out after they went to bed or when you went somewhere you weren't supposed to. Plus, it's anonymous; they'll never know it's you.



*This pup is hoping to get a reTREAT after his meditation.*

# A BLIZZARD...IN APRIL?!

*by Vinny Dishes*

A large snowstorm is expected to grip the entire state of New Jersey later this month. Heavy snow and strong winds are anticipated to occur in every county.

However, the area that is expected to be hit the worst is the Middletown area. One to two inches of snow is expected to fall in this area and this will send people into a frenzy. Experts predict that grocery stores will become crowded and there will be fights over everything (*everything*). Grocery stores will be left an absolute mess.

All schools and workplaces will be closed. Roads are expected to be treacherous, even before the snow

starts due to disputes on the highway over gas and snow removal. Accidents on the road are expected everywhere.



*Watch out: This could be your back yard some day soon.*

Most of New Jersey in general is not very efficient with snow removal; this will result in people being trapped in their houses. And, just one day after the big storm, the temperature is expected to rise to a burning seventy degrees. This will cause confusion, headaches, and an uncontrollable desire to wear shorts in the snow.

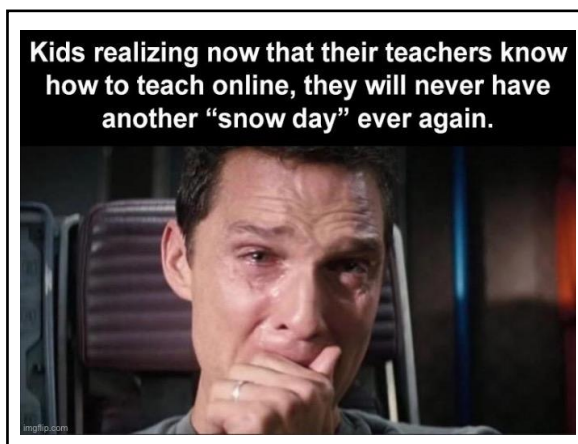
Other parts of New Jersey are expecting snow, but the impacts will not be as severe as they will be in South Jersey. This is an historic snowstorm in the making!

# SEE YA LATER, SNOW DAYS

*by Vinny Dishes*

Is having school called off because of snow s a thing of the past? Snow days are a chill day where school is canceled due to a snowstorm, which results in a day off. This encourages crazy snowball fights and the beautiful art of being lazy.

As the pandemic continues, schools are staying virtual. Due to teachers knowing how to teach online, snow days are simply replaced with virtual classes. Sadly, some schools just must not care about cold rain lumps falling from the sky, making the roads dangerous and the pull to put on ski pants and make snow angels unavoidable.



*Snow days need to come back or else there will be tears.*

This is sad, because snow days are something all kids should be able to experience. All throughout this pandemic, people's mental health has suffered. People are starting to go stir crazy--and now, the pandemic is canceling snowstorms, too? Not ideal.

All schools, regardless of location, should be having snow days whether they need one or not. Snow isn't even necessary for a snow day.

People need snow days now

more than ever. Do not argue with the power of snow days: They are indestructible and unbeatable. Nothing can top them, and nobody can say otherwise.

# SOUTH TORN OVER SYLLABLES

*The name of a simple candy has MHSS students taking sides*

*by Krissy J*

The Middletown South cafeteria has plans to add caramel candies to their menu, sparking student body outrage and civil war over the pronunciation of caramel. There are two clear sides: cara-mel vs. car-mel. Students have been forced to pick a side and stick to it. Now, those factions have defected to varying parts of the building.

What's more, those who refuse to pick a side are having the candies withheld from them for the foreseeable future. "This is a real cause, something to fight for," a sophomore said while dodging books being thrown at her in the front lines of the library. "We can't allow people with wrong opinions to continue to mispronounce a word in the daily vernacular of thousands."

The cara-mel students have taken the math wing, cafeteria,

and surrounding areas. Recent reports say they have seized the library, and the car-mel students have taken the science wing, and majority of the second floor.

A junior fighting for the car-mel cause who asked to remain anonymous, had this to say: "This is our first 24 hours with no candy casualties." There was a look in his eye that told more than his words could ever attempt. "There's

nothing left to eat except caramel. It's going to get worse before it gets better," he said.

The art wing has been entirely overrun overnight; press correspondents have been identified on the scene, and are attempting to remain safe. One cara-mel student in the cafeteria said, "I'm not even that passionate about this. But it's better than regular school."



*These tiny pieces of cooked sugar are causing the biggest scandal in 22 years.*

## The Pigeon's Squawk

*The Pigeon's Squawk* is produced by the Journalism II and Advanced Journalism classes at Middletown High School South, in Middletown, New Jersey. We will get you the news in the most amusing way possible, with complete disregard for honesty or accuracy.

### Editorial Board

Abbycado  
Angeline A  
CrazyAzy  
Krissy J  
Nrooke Bovak  
Vinny Dishes

### Advisor

Lisa "I love kittens" Whitmore

*PS: Nothing in this paper is true. And we're not responsible for any typos.*





# THE SECRET LIVES OF TEACHERS

*Ever wonder what South educators do when the school day's over? Some may think that teachers do boring teacher things...but here, we reveal the truth.*

*by Abbycado*



*Mr. Koumoulis has become an overnight sensation on TikTok, with 100M followers.*



*Mrs. Lavin is starring in an upcoming spy movie. Producers sent her to South to prepare for her role.*



*Mr. Lightbody works the catwalk on the popular TV show "Project Runway." Rumor has it, he'll be walking Fashion Week this fall.*



*Mr. Wright trims his Christmas tree til spring to "keep the Covid out."*



*Mr. Rooney meditates for an hour each day, which he says helps him find his "zen."*



*Mrs. Fran plays in a rock band with her mad guitar skills. "I do the Pythagorean theorem when counting beats," she says.*



# REMOTE'S DARK SIDE

*School in your PJs? Yes! But virtual learning has some pitfalls*

*by Nrooke Bovak*

Even though we've been learning remotely for over a year now, teachers and students alike are still working on perfecting it. This way of learning may help to keep everyone safe from COVID-19, but the side effects that come with it can be unexpected. Here are just a few of them:

**Don't be alarmed if your hair starts to change colors.** This is

completely normal and is nothing to worry about. In fact, experts say it's caused by all that blue light from your computer screen. Most people have experienced a color change to purple, but others have experienced shades of orange and yellow. The good news: With online learning, you never have to leave your house or see anyone again.

**You may experience some weird cravings.** One of the most common food cravings is pickles and peanut



*Behind the computer, she's eating pickles dipped in peanut butter.*

butter. While this may sound like a weird combination, it is actually widespread. Another food combination that is becoming more and more popular in today's society is putting orange juice in your cereal instead of milk. While this may seem gross, it actually adds a whole new level of flavor to the common breakfast food. Eat up!

**Other side effects include your height changing, your shoe size increasing by five sizes, and losing the ability to drink water.** Some people are set on all remote learning to stay safe. Unfortunately, their safety may come at a price--namely, pants that are suddenly too short (or long), shoes that are too small, and a constant craving for Red Bull. Taking frequent breaks to walk aimlessly around the house or catch a quick Google-Meet-nap can mitigate these effects.

# ABRACADABRA ADVISORY

*by CrazyAzy*

During quarantine, everyone has found new interests or hobbies that they enjoy or would like to try. Most recently, many users have started making TikToks where they cast spells on people. But casting a spell is not as easy as you think, and while doing it can look cool, there are long-term effects to think about before trying this trend.

Case in point: One student, who followed a TikTok tutorial, turned her crush into a *rabbit*. She thought she followed all of the steps properly, so what could

possibly go wrong? The next thing she knew, a bunny named Bob showed up to history class and sat right where her actual crush Bob usually sits.

The student, who asked to remain anonymous, is distraught: "I have tried everything in my power to reverse this spell and nothing has worked. He just uncontrollably hops around and won't even return my texts." She asks that anyone who has a solution reach out to her at 732-000-1111. If not, she may need to buy some carrots--or find a new crush.

# HORRORSCOPES

*Fast forward a few days, and find out what your life has in store*

*by Nrooke Bovak*

**Aries:** Be prepared for a failing grade on that test. Your arch enemy will get an A (competitive much?).

**Taurus:** You're usually calm--but get ready for a list full of things to complain about.

**Gemini:** You'll be stuck watching a movie with your family instead of getting social at that party.

**Cancer:** You will soon find out that people won't be friends with you because of your crabby attitude.

**Leo:** You'll miss out on a once in a lifetime experience because you're too focused on being the center of attention.

**Virgo:** Your habit of overthinking (obsessing) is going to backfire on you, right after you make a crucial, life-changing decision.



*Wondering what's going to happen in your future? The MIDD South pigeon knows...*

**Libra:** You'll have a hard time confronting people this week. Don't be surprised if you feel like an outcast!

**Scorpio:** Your obsessive jealousy is going to make it hard to get a date.

**Sagittarius:** You're always on a quest for knowledge--but stop being so nosy or your friends might stop calling.

**Capricorn:** You may have been cursed with a bad day, but your stubborn personality isn't going to help.

**Aquarius:** Try not to take criticism to heart, because you will be receiving a lot of it and we know you have a hard time listening to others.

**Pisces:** Your day just took a wild and unexpected turn. Don't be too afraid to face challenges, and don't get all emotional about it, either.

DISCLAIMER:

## You have been trolled.

***The Pigeon's Squawk* is not a factual publication. None of the information or views expressed in this newspaper are even remotely truthful.**