

# THE MIDDLE PAGES



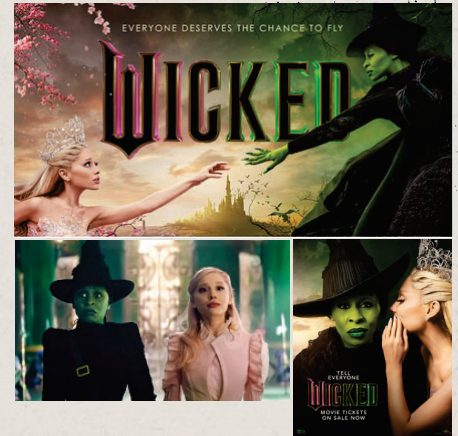
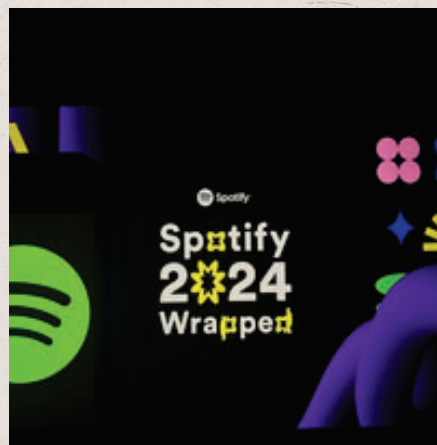
## SPOTIFY WRAPPED

In 2015 Spotify launched the first edition of "year in Music," bringing together the best of their previous end-of-year retrospectives. It set the tone for later experiences that fans came to know and love. In 2016, Spotify Wrapped rebranded the "Year in Music" as "Wrapped" and launched the playlist "Your Top Songs". In 2019 they built Wrapped directly into the Spotify app. In 2021 they debuted audio aura, Wrapped blend, and videos from fans of top artists, enhancing self expression. In 2023 they said the Spotify Wrapped campaign was all about celebrating the ways artists and creators have shaped fan's lives one note, one voice, and one idea at a time.

## SPOTIFY WRAPPED

In 2024 Spotify introduced a new aspect to Spotify Wrapped, Your Music evolution. Your Music Evolution added up to 3 personalized music phases, like, "Pink Pilate Princess Strut Pop" or, "Sweater Weather Softcore Indie era." Spotify combined AI and human curation to add descriptors and genres. This allowed them to come up with people's music phases to create a more immersive experience on Spotify.

Spotify always strives to create an immersive experience. Wrapped has been an amazing example of how Spotify has grown over the years. It has expanded over the years to reach many different people with many different music tastes, so no matter what, everyone likes Spotify Wrapped has a unique personalized wrap for them.



## WICKED—ORIGIN

Wicked was originally a book published in 1995 by author Gregory Maguire. This book was titled Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West, and it told the "real" story of the so-called green-skinned "Wicked Witch of the West" from the movie The Wizard of Oz. This movie was also ironically based on the book The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum. The book became an immediate smash hit, which made Universal Pictures sought out for it to become a movie, but before that they needed to polish the story and create it into a family-friendly musical. Executives enlisted the help of Stephen Schwartz and Winnie Holzman to create a musical that would soon become an international sensation, which would open on Broadway in October of 2003.



## "NAILED IT" CHALLENGE

By: Emily Brenneman, Charles Sexton,  
and Sloane Bretz

The Nailed It Challenge is a Family Consumer Science (FCS) cooking challenge that takes place once a quarter at Centerville Middle School (CMS). Teams of seventh grade students have thirty two minutes to make a rice crispy treat and make it into some fun design to be judged by the rest of the seventh grade student body. At the end of a short voting period, a winning team will be chosen. Mrs Midgett, the FCS teacher at CMS, says that she created the challenge because she "wanted it to be relevant, and I know that a lot of students had seen the Nailed It Challenge show on Netflix, so I referenced it off of that but made it workable to our schedule here at CMS."

### THE WINNERS

To get a better understanding of the Nailed it Challenge the Middle Pages interviewed the winners of the first quarter challenge, Austin DeBord and Fiona Cote. Fiona shared that working together was a struggle for the group. While both group members shared struggles, they also found different things challenging. Austin found shaping the rice crispy treat difficult while Fiona did not. Both students said that they overall enjoyed the challenge. It required them to work together and build soft skills such as teamwork and communication.



### FESTIVE ACTIVITIES

To conclude this article, the Nailed it Challenge brings kids together to strategize and work as a group. The problem solving skills that are not taught in normal school subjects can be developed through this challenge. Not only that but Mrs. Midgett wanted there to be a fun and exciting activity to look forward to at the end of the quarter.

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### BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Greek Gods, Monsters, and Impossible decisions. Percy Jackson has struggled his whole life. Whether he was dealing with dyslexia, ADHD, staying in boarding schools or trying to fit in.



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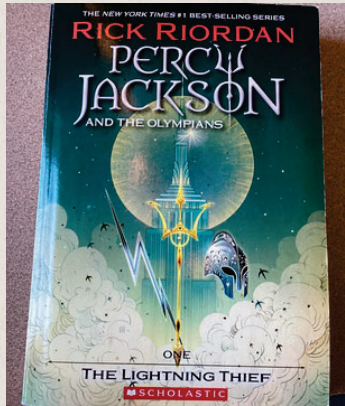
## BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Rick Riordan created this book, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* originally as a bedtime story for his son, Haley, to show there were more kids like him, who have ADHD and dyslexia.

If you are looking for an adventure book that includes mythology with a beautiful twist, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* is the one for you! A book series based on a young teenager, Percy Jackson, named after Perseus, the only demigod to have a happy ending. Greek Mythology is a big part in the Percy Jackson series including the first book, which is perfect for people who are seeking to learn more about mythology.

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## BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Greek Mythology is a big part in the Percy Jackson series including the first book, which is perfect for people who are seeking to learn more about mythology. After Percy arrives at the camp for young Greek demigods, Camp Half Blood, he is surprised to see others just like him. The demigods at camp all have dyslexia because their brains are wired to read in Ancient Greek. They also have ADHD due to their natural battle reflexes, they have to be quick and able to process and react to stimulus.

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Greek Mythology plays a big role in the Percy Jackson series. When new kids arrive at camp, they are naturally assigned to bunk at the Hermes cabin, as he is the god of travelers. In *The Lightning Thief*, there are 12 main godly parents, who new arrivals can get claimed by, such as Athena, Hephaestus, Aphrodite, and etc. Percy goes on a quest and fights many Ancient Greek monsters, who are out for his blood!

After Zeus, Greek God of the sky and thunder, gets his Master bolt stolen, Percy, alongside his most trusted friends and allies Annabeth Chase, daughter of Athena, and Grover, a satyr and follower of Pan (God of the wild), is tasked to go on a quest to retrieve the bolt. After visiting Hades, or as Grover calls him, their "friend downstairs," He tells the trio that if they return his missing Helm of Darkness, he will tell them where to locate the bolt.

To sum it all up, *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* is a perfect book for those looking for an ongoing series about adventure, friendship, and Greek mythology.



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## HEMPFIELD LACROSSE

Joining the Hempfield Lacrosse Program is more than just signing up for another sport, it is an opportunity to be part of a team that values discipline, teamwork, and personal growth. The program offers a good athletic competition, and skill development, making it an excellent choice for any student interested in playing lacrosse or simply looking to challenge themselves in a supportive environment. Here are several reasons why you should consider joining the Hempfield Lacrosse Program.

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Lacrosse is a sport that thrives on teamwork and collaboration. As a member of the team, you will develop lifelong friendships and learn the importance of working together to achieve a common goal, winning! The trust and passion built through practices, games, and team events creates a positive and supportive environment where players lift each other up, both on and off the field. Being part of this team is a rewarding experience that can help you grow as a person while creating long lasting memories.



Lacrosse is a fast-paced, and physically demanding sport that offers a wide range of benefits. As a member of the Hempfield Lacrosse Program, I can say that you will improve your strength, agility, coordination, and endurance while playing. The sport's combination of running, cutting, and stick-handling helps players stay in top physical shape. Beyond the physical benefits, lacrosse also strengthens mental toughness, teaching players how to stay focused, and think on their feet, and remain calm under pressure. The challenges you face on the field will prepare you for success in other areas of life, from school to future careers.

Being part of the Hempfield Lacrosse Program also means representing your school with pride. As a member of the team, you will have the opportunity to wear the Hempfield colors and logo as you compete. The support from the greater Hempfield community will motivate you to work, give your best effort and strive for excellence in every game.



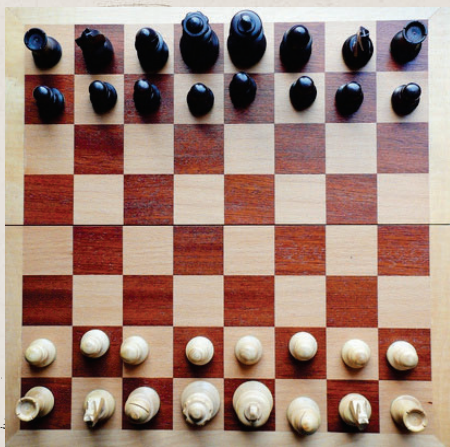
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## CHESS CLUB

At Centerville Middle School, the chess club is a great program that students can join. When this club was being advertised on WCMS, some questions the Middle Pages heard were, "I'm bad at chess. Will the chess club make me better? What's the point of playing chess? Is it hard to play?" To answer some of these questions, the newspaper interviewed chess players from the club. Declan Gaffney, one of the chess group leaders, stated that, "People that play chess are smarter because they have to be able to plan ahead. Yes, people should join chess club. It may take up Flex Time but it's worth it. Chess club is intense and fun if you have friends there. Even if you don't you can still have a blast." It is clear that chess causes people to be strategic; if you struggle with this



## CHESS CLUB

Colton Appleby, a 7th-grade chess member, has been asked the same and a few extra questions here are his questions and answers. Some people are calling people that play chess smart.

"Yes, people that play chess are just smarter." Why should I join a chess club next year? "I think that you should join to get better at chess and to test your brain." Let's say I'm bad at chess. Will a chess club make me better? "It will make you a better player and it will show your dedication to learn how to get good, so yes." How would you describe your chess experience? "I would describe my chess experience as good and informative."

## CHESS CLUB

It's never too late to join the chess club in high school and next year in middle school. It's very important to use Flex Time wisely, chess club might be the way to use that Flex Time.

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## Newspaper Staff

### 7th Grade Members

- Lauren Trimble
- Michaela Murata
- Lillian Kohler
- Delicia Chuwan
- Yariana Medina
- Luke Radel
- Colton Appleby
- Caitlyn Keel
- Scarlett Abouzeid

### 8th Grade Members

- Mars Baley
- Sloane Bretz
- Emily Brenneman
- Charlee Sexton
- Levi Heavner
- Luisa Wilson (Newspaper Editor)