



The Loudoun Chronicle



Boo!! Welcome to the first issue of The Loudoun Chronicle. This is a collaborative newsletter between the S6 and all other year groups to showcase Loudoun's amazing talents.

Newsletter Team: Amy Fraser, Erin Frater, Charley Robertson.

THE HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN

Taking place between autumn and winter, Halloween creates time for celebration and superstition. Although the exact origin is unknown, it is believed the holiday derived from the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, which took place in Ireland. Where people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off roaming ghosts and other supernatural spirits. In the eighth century, Pope Gregory III designated November 1 as a time to honour all saints and martyrs; creating the holiday, All Saints' Day. The evening before was known as All Hallows' Eve and later Halloween.

Halloween, one of the world's oldest holidays, is still celebrated today in a number of countries around the world. However, Halloween isn't celebrated in the same way across the globe. In Mexico and other Latin American countries, Día de los Muertos—the Day of the Dead—honours deceased loved ones and ancestors. In countries such as Ireland, Canada, Britain and the United States, adults and children alike revel in the popular Halloween holiday, which derived from ancient festivals and religious rituals. Traditions include dressing up as your favourite scary monster or celebrity, trick-or-treating and parties.

By Amy Fraser

COMMUNICATION CENTRE SPOOKY PUMPKIN ART

Ashley, Hayley, Lewis, Joshua and Caitlin from the Communication Centre made these fun and colourful Pumpkin paintings using sliced apple dipped in orange paint.

Photos by Erin Frater.





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Spine-chilling Short Stories

It was the silence that got me. In the excruciating hours of being in the cramped wardrobe, I'd become accustomed to the screaming. The sudden, deafening silence however was too much. It seemed thick, making my ears ring, choking me with the coppery tang of blood in the air, trickling through a crack between the doors. Mostly though, the air was stagnant.

I held my breath, listening intently into the suffocating silence. Nothing. I clasped my head between my hands, biting back a whimper. I hated this. I hated being trapped in this mouldy wardrobe. I hated the howling wind outside that had stopped abruptly with the screaming. I hated my friends, most likely dead by now, for dragging me out here to spend the night. I hated whatever that thing was that had killed with a touch and tortured for hours. I hated the silence that was slowly driving me mad. I hated the fear that perforated every tremble, muffled sob and muted breath. Most of all, I hated the anticipation.

Then I heard it.

A growl.

The doors crashed open, splintering.

I screamed.

Screamed.....

Screamed.....

Silent, again...



By Jasmin Jardine 4 Skye 2

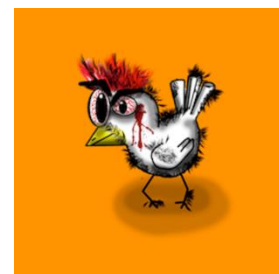
One cold dark night I was going onto the M73, all of a sudden a couple of ghosts walked in front of the car. They disappeared into thin air. Mum got out of the car. No one was there. We went up the road. A chicken flew into the car. The Car, No Chicken, No Blood...

All of a sudden....Bang!

I looked outside. A man was there, dead. He disappeared into ashes. I turn around and looked beside me. A man with no eyes and blood all over his face stares back at me. His hand is covered in blood with a hole in it. Before he turned to ashes he screamed

"I went to hell, hell is feared. I'm going to hell!!!"

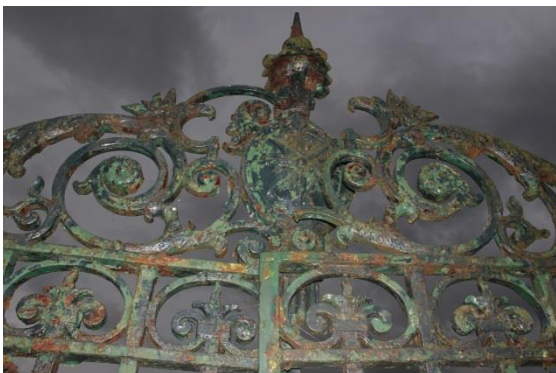
David Greenshields 2Skye 1





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Eerie Photographs
by Erin Frater





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Beware... Monster Stories!



I know it's here. I know who it wants. It's underneath my bed. "Father, can you come and check underneath my bed. There's a monster!"

Every night my father came thundering up the creaking staircase. However, this time was different.... He looked underneath.

"Farin, there's a monster underneath your bed!!" he screamed.

A hand shot out from under my bed and grabbed him, my father. A beast swallowed him whole and spat out the blood and bones. He was gone.

"Mother, can you come and check under my bed, there's a monster!" I shouted. Mother's next.....

Blair Kennedy 4Hoy 1

I stared over the edge. The seventy metre drop over the jagged cliff made me dizzy. I looked behind me and saw the hundreds of pairs of red glowing eyes in the woods. I took a step back. There was nowhere left to run. One of the creatures started to emerge from the trees. They were going to kill me. I saw the sharp horns and blood-soaked claws. I was going to die but I wouldn't give them the pleasure of killing me. I looked down, then back into the eyes of the beast who was advancing towards me. I spread my arms, and fell backwards.

Steven Morrice 4Arran1





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Haunting Book Reviews

The Haunting of Jessop Rise by Danny Weston

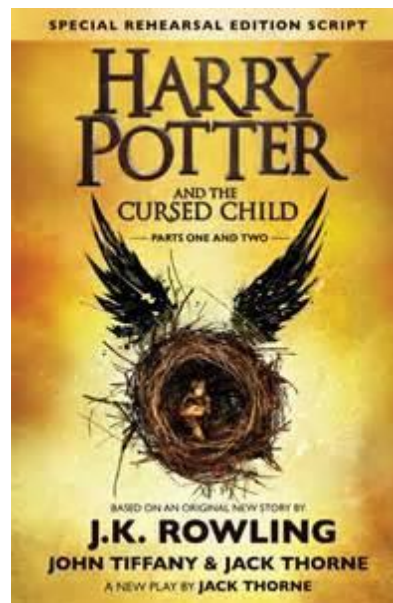
The Haunting of Jessop Rise is a very good, but scary book. With a couple of ghosts and strange happenings, which would normally happen on a foggy night with no stars to be seen....

It's a very good book although I recommend you don't read it at night when you're the only one left awake. It's hard to stop reading or put down and the last paragraph and chapter ends on such a cliff hanger!

Eilidh Primrose 2Barra1



Harry Potter and the Cursed Child by JK Rowling



Harry is now working in the Ministry of Magic and a father to four children, the story focuses on one child in particular, Albus. Albus attempts to change what happened to Cedric Diggory but instead changes the present and has to fix it.

I would recommend this to my friends.

Briony Hughes -Smith 1 Harris 1



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Creepy Story Extracts

"Just as Stanley was beginning to give up he saw a small figure hunched up beside a bush of blood-red roses. He rushed over to her and just as he had suspected—it was a little girl. She was wearing a jet black jacket that covered most of her face, allowing her to blend in with the darkness."

Isla Harrison 3 Hoy 1

"A slash of lightening, a dull crack of thunder and a quick pitter patter of rain seemed to snap wolf out of its analysis, the metallic hackles coming up. Wolf sprung on Prey, its claws sinking smoothly into the soft flesh. Death would take Prey soon, but Wolf could still have some fun. Soon, Prey died. A river of blood slithered towards the keys on the floor, soaking them; the liquid claiming them."

Morgan McPheator 3 Hoy 1



"Thud! Jim woke with a start—he felt the floor move. He sat up and looked down at a blank piece of paper sitting on his lap. "Strange", he thought, "he was sure he'd created something on here. Wasn't there a picture on that paper?" he stood and looked around; everything was the same as last night. Nothing had been moved, so what made that bang? There was another, and another, louder and louder until there was a shake so violent it sent him stumbling into his small bookcase. A flicker of moonlight lit the room briefly as the curtains parted above him and closed again. There was a twang."

Jak Smith 3 Arran 1

"We don't own any dolls, but the boys have been complaining about a doll that visits their room in the middle of the night. We just thought it was nightmares!" said Mr Davidson going into panic mode. "Get the boys, and get out of the house. Now!" ordered Mr Davidson. The phone cut off and Skye's mouth gaped in shock. She swivelled round to look at the doll, but it was gone! Left in her place was the crumpled throw that the doll had once been under. Skye heard fast, faint footsteps pattering up the stairs and the lights snapped off. It was a cold, crisp evening and Skye Peters was left in darkness."

Molly Murray 3 Barra 1



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Halloween Soup

Ingredients

4Tbsp Olive oil- Probably the most widely-used oil in cooking, olive oil is pressed from fresh olives. It's...

2 Onions finely chopped- Onions are endlessly versatile and an essential ingredient in countless recipes. Native to Asia...

1 Kg Pumpkin-Pumpkins are the most famous of all the winter squashes, and are most associated with Halloween...or squash (try kabocha), peeled, deseeded and chopped into chunks

700ml vegetable stock or chicken stock]

142ml pot double cream

4 slices whole meal seeded bread

Handful pumpkin seed from a packet

Method

1. Heat **2 tbsp. olive oil** in a large saucepan, then gently cook **2 finely chopped onions** for 5 mins, until soft but not coloured. Add **1kg peeled, deseeded and chopped pumpkin or squash** to the pan, then carry on cooking for 8-10 mins, stirring occasionally until it starts to soften and turn golden.

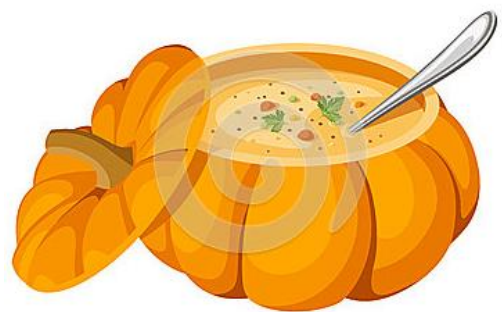
2. Pour **700ml vegetable stock** into the pan, then season with salt and pepper. Bring to the boil, and then simmer for 10 mins until the squash is very soft. Pour the **142ml pot of double cream into the pan**; bring back to the boil, then purée with a hand blender. For an extra-velvety consistency you can now push the soup through a fine sieve into another pan. The soup can now be frozen for up to 2 months.

3. While the soup is cooking, slice the crusts from **4 slices of whole meal seed bread**, then cut the bread into small croutons. Heat the remaining **2 tbsp. olive oil** in a frying pan, and then fry the bread until it starts to become crisp. Add **a handful of pumpkin seeds** to the pan, and then cook for a few mins more until

they are toasted. These can be made a day ahead and stored in an airtight container. Reheat the soup if needed, taste for seasoning, then serve scattered with croutons and seeds and drizzled with more olive oil, if you want.

BBC Good Food. Pumpkin Soup.
25/10/2016.

<http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/7730/pumpkin-soup>





Halloween Cake

Ingredients

Cake

50g of SR Flour
50g of Soft Margarine
50g of Caster Sugar
1 Egg
1ml of Baking Powder

Decoration

Glace Icing
50g of Icing Sugar
Water
Colouring

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180 degrees Celsius, No4 Line cake tin.
2. Place margarine, sugar and sieved flour into a bowl.
3. Add beaten egg. Beat till light and fluffy.
4. Spoon cake mixture into tin bake till springy to touch.
5. Remove from oven and cool on cool wire.

Decoration

1. Make up glace icing adding a little water at a time to make a syrupy consistency.
2. Add a few drops of colouring.
3. Pour on centre of cake, spread evenly.
4. Using a separate piping bag with chocolate glace icing pipe a swirl on cake starting from the middle and working out to edge.
5. Draw a skewer from the centre out towards the edge to create a web pattern.



By Sophie McGeough courtesy of Mrs Brown



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Loudoun's Favourite Scary Movie!

We conducted a poll and the results are in-

3. The Shining



2. The Conjuring 2



1. Insidious

