



VILLAGE QUARTERLY

The Pencil Case Problem

By Helen Hernandez



You're expecting an angry rant about the injustices of the Pencil Case Act of 2023. If you're unsure about what this is, let me give you a recap:

One fateful day, the students of Village School were presented with smaller pencil cases of assorted colors. There were anguished yells, disappointed looks upon receiving a black one, and various trades.

Meanwhile, I sat in Latin class, looked upon my despairing classmates and my black pencil case, and was filled with a sadistic sort of happiness. Finally, finally I was equal to my classmates, at least pencil case-wise. I no longer had to worry about expensive, massive pencil cases stuffed with equally fancy pens that spilled all over the floor when dropped from a desk.

You see, I'm not the kind of person who wastes money on fancy pens and cases. For years, all my notecards and pens and pencils were stuffed into a tiny box, until I upgraded to a pouchlike bag, which was still dwarfed by the massive cases of my classmates. I didn't mind the change. I was equal.

This new rule, the despair of others, was my savior. You might hate me for laughing over the graves of many expensive pencil cases and pens. Let me change your mind by telling you these reasons for my joy. As I said, equality. You know, some people can't afford massive, suitcase-like pencil cases. (Namely, me.)

They're more convenient. Isn't it nicer to have four pens fall onto the floor instead of forty? Isn't it better to carry around a smaller pencil case instead of a bulky, heavy one? Before, when a pencil case fell onto the floor, it would make a resounding CRASH and get the attention of your whole class. Now, it just makes a little bump and turns no heads.

And your pens are not doomed to sit in your locker forever. You can switch out your pens from your locker to your pencil case every day if you like. Your arsenal of pink highlighters are still of use. Just not your pencil case.

Who knows? Maybe someday the rule will be abolished and you can go on a mad Target shopping spree and buy all the expensive pens that will fit in your giant pencil case. I'm keeping my little one.

Village School Sports

By Eleanor Keevil

Fall sports are now coming to a close, and what a wonderful season it was! We had many victories in our field hockey and tennis teams, and running club.

Field hockey team played three schools, winning two of the four games played! With 8th graders Margaret Kimbrough, Amari Shah, Ruby Fordhann, Noura McElwain, Eloise Lorish, Eleanor Keevil, Phoebe Fishman, Wallis Hrabe, and Amy Paulson, 7th graders Tahlia Long, Marian Becton-Evans, and Addie Curtis, 6th graders Lucy Wispelwey, Lucy Sutton, Avni Madaan, Avril Reppucci, Julia Reppucci, Leland Truslow, 5th graders Bela Henderson, Bela Shah, Winter Chapman, Zilfa Špiljič, Nola Zorc, Betty Becton-Evans, Alice Fordhann, and Frannie Heins, we were bound to have an amazing season.

Our tennis team had an exceptional season as well,

winning matches against Miller and Regents, and coming close to beating the Covenant tennis team. Our top five doubles players include: Eleanor Keevil and Margaret Kimbrough, Molly Clark and Wallis Hrabe, Jules Cockrill and Marion Becton-Evans, Ashby White and Flora Whily, and Amari Shah and Phoebe Fishman. Our top ten singles players include: Molly Clark, Wallis Hrabe, Ashby White, Eleanor Keevil, Margrerat Kimbro, Jules Cockerill, Flora Whily, Marian Becton-Evens, Amari Shah, and Phoebe Fishman. Great job everyone!

Running club consists of grades 8th, 5th, and 6th grade. Runners Phoebe Fishman, Noura McElwain, Ruby Fordhann, Kira Wolfman, Sophia Gromoll, Vivian Amberly, Ellie Williams, Ellie McWhorter, Zifla Špiljič, Zoe Kavanaugh and Tempe Tatum all had fantastic races. Running a total of 5 races, the team had many victories.

Fall 2023 Announcements



- **Friday Movies** continue this fall with the following options: Miraculous , Elemental, Totoro, Little Mermaid, Little Woman, 1776, and Minions
- **Snack Bar** Menu: Chocolate milk: \$1.50, Chips: \$.75, Granola bars: \$.75, Juice: \$.75, Gummies, \$.50. Remember to bring your money! School loans stop at \$5.00.
- The same rule is back this year for **after school**: only use your computer for homework, and always have it on a hard surface.
- **Clubs**: Math Club meets on Wednesday, Cross Country on Mondays and Wednesday, practice for field hockey is on thursdays.
- If you are a fifth grader and are wondering, "What day will I get candy?" **Candy Thursday** will be on 27th of October.
- Also remember: **tours** start this month! Be sure to offer a friendly hello to our visitors.

Craft Fair for A Cause

By Sophie Gromoll and Julia Reppucci



This craft fair will be the best one yet, with fun stands and cool crafts. It will take place on December 9 at the PVCC Parking Lot. The teachers sell hot chocolate and sometimes pizza and it's a lot of fun to walk around, shop, and visit with your friends.

The first Village School Craft Fair took place in December 2002. Each year, students make homemade goods—jewelry, baked goods, soap, and more! They then sell their homemade crafts to classmates, schoolmates, friends, family, and teachers. At least 20% of all proceeds are donated to a local organization that the current sixth grade class chooses.

This year, we are raising money to meet our goal of helping out Albemarle County's Families in Crisis. This program helps out unhoused students in our local county middle and high schools. We will use the money raised to purchase holiday gifts for these students.

It's fun to sell things that you made to people, to drink hot chocolate, and hang out. While you are buying presents for people you care about at the Craft Fair, you are even more importantly helping to buy gifts for people who may not have that luxury. These are students our age in our own community. It's a great cause, so come to the Craft Fair!



BIRDHOUSES AND POSTCARDS FOR SALE, CRAFT FAIR 2022

Village Spotlights



My Faves

Food: Nachos

Animal: Owls

Ms. Mariah

Ms. Mariah started working at Village School at the age of nineteen. She knew she wanted to teach here when she met Mr. Heartwell's daughter, who was in the summer camp she taught dance to. She told her dad that Ms. Mariah would be a good dance teacher and she was hired. She was homeschooled in middle school, went to college at PVCC and majored in dance. Her favorite dance class to teach was fifth grade because they are always eager to learn and try new things. If she had to teach any other class it would be science.

My Faves

Food: Caribbean Food

Animal: The one and only Cilantro!

Ike



Ike started teaching at Village School in 2018. He knew he wanted to start teaching when he found out how much of an impact his work made as a choreographer. Ike went to middle school at Buford Middle School and is currently taking classes at PVCC. He really enjoys theater and film so he's trying to major in something within that realm in the future. He loves teaching all the grades. If he could teach any other class it would be drama.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



When: October 27th, 7:30-8:30 am

Where: Village School



Bring your family and friends to school to eat pancakes and sides and have fun! The entry fee of this event is \$10, and it's all going to The Book Bus, a local women owned business in Charlottesville. They travel around Albemarle and Nelson county, but mostly Charlottesville. Their main priority is to give free books to children and teens, and adults too.



Astrology *Let's ask the stars...*

Your zodiac sign depends on the day you were born, and each has different traits. Each sign is represented by a constellation and is one of the four elements: fire, earth, water, and air. Have fun exploring and learning about your zodiac sign.

Aries (March 21-April 19):

The Ram, Fire Sign

Independent and strong, you stand by your opinions. You are passionate and have a lot of energy. If you're an Aries, you also share this zodiac with Lady Gaga! This halloween you should be the Wicked Witch of the West.

Taurus (April 20-May 21):

The Bull, Earth Sign

If you're a Taurus you have the same zodiac sign as the famous Dwayne "the Rock" Johnson! Taurus have good memories and are known for their kindness although they can be stubborn sometimes. For Halloween you should dress up as a dandelion, resilient and down to earth.

Gemini (May 22-June 21):

The Twins, Air Sign

Being the very playful and fun person that you are, you care very much about your friends. Geminis are very curious people and you share the same sign as Tom Holland. For Halloween you should definitely dress up as Draco Malfoy, a fellow Gemini.

Cancer (June 21-July 22):

The Crab, Water Sign

If you're a Cancer, you have the same Zodiac sign as the famous singer, Selena Gomez! Cancers are known for being super kind and sensitive, and also caring for others. Cancers can be very diverse: some are bold and brave, and some would rather keep a low profile. Whether a bold or shy one, for halloween you should dress as a ghost.

Leo (July 23- August 22):

The Lion, Fire Sign

If you're a Leo, you are very confident. You also have the same zodiac sign as famous Kylie Jenner. Leos are very big hearted. They love luxurious things and you guys are very fearless. You should be an inflatable dinosaur for Halloween.

Virgo (August 23- September 22):

The Maiden, Earth Sign

If you are a Virgo, you have the same Zodiac sign as Beyonce and Zendaya! Virgos are very practical and logical, and sometimes perfectionists. Virgos are kind and hardworking, and want things to be done the right way. If you are a Virgo, you should be Cruella DeVille for Halloween.

Make At Home

PINECONE HEDGEHOGS

MATERIALS:

- 1 medium sized pinecone
- 1 piece of beige colored felt
- 2 medium sized googly-eyes (or black beads)
- 1 tiny black pom-pom
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Bottled glue (Elmer's)



INSTRUCTIONS:

Cut out a medium sized circle with felt for the face of the hedgehog (the size depends on the size of the top of the pinecone). Then cut one line to the center of the circle.

Fold one of the sides that was cut so it is overlapping with the other just a bit. Then glue them together (do NOT use a glue stick, use bottled glue) to make a cone shape. Let the glue dry before you move on to the next step. It should look like the picture below and be around 1 - 2 inches tall.

When the glue is dry, glue it on to the top of the pine cone. To decorate it add googly-eyes or black beads for the eyes. Add the tiny black pom-pom for a nose. Glue on two small semi-circles on the top of the head for ears. After that you're done.

Astrology, continued

Libra (September 23- October 22):

The Scales, Air Sign

If you are a Libra, you have the same Zodiac sign as Kim Kardashian! Libras are known for being graceful and balanced. If a Libra is in your grade, they could be like the mom of the grade in some situations. Their symbol is a scale, which represents balance. For Halloween, you should be Cinderella.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21):

The Scorpion, Water Sign

If you're a Scorpio, you have the same zodiac sign as Drake and Katy Perry. You are a mysterious person, and often misunderstood. Scorpions are determined and loyal. You value honesty in your friends, and hate when people are fake. Scorpio is often mistaken for a fire sign, but is in fact a water sign. For Halloween you should be a Vampire.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21):

The Archer, Fire Sign

If you're a Sagittarius, don't freak out, you share a sign with Taylor Swift. You are very loyal and have big curiosities and passions. You should dress up like a Taylor Swift album for Halloween.

Capricorn (December 22- January 19):

The Goat, Earth Sign

If you are a Capricorn, you have the same Zodiac sign as Dolly Parton! Capricorns are known for being stubborn and self-entitled, but you are actually resilient and very funny. If you are a Capricorn, you should be a burrito for Halloween.

Aquarius (January 19- February 18):

Water, Air Sign

Aquarius are clever and truthful people. You have a great personality and are very protective of yourself and others. You also share your sign with Harry Styles! For Halloween, you should dress up as a hippie from the 1960s. Groovy.

Pisces(February 19- March 20):

The Fish, Water Sign

If you are a Pisces, you have the same Zodiac sign as Olivia Rodrigo! Pisces are very similar to Cancers, and they make great besties. Pisces are super creative and in touch with their emotions. They are kind and friendly, but also really sensitive. If you are a Pisces, you should be a goldfish cracker for Halloween.

Yay or Nay Lunch

By Ellie C.A. Williams

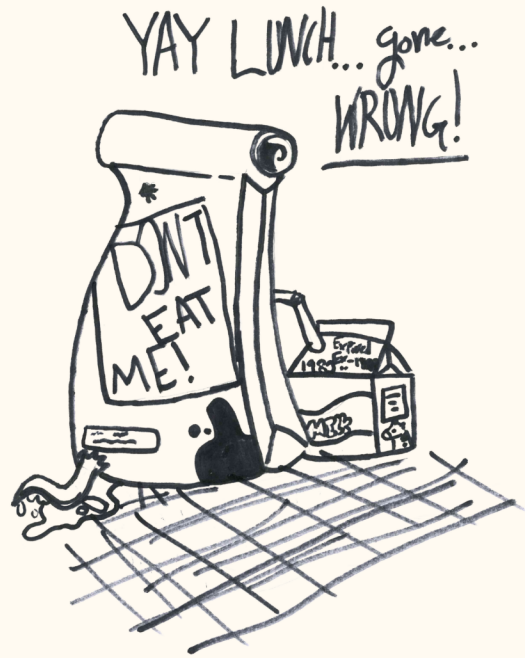
Yay lunch. Ahh, a very controversial subject. Some people enjoy it, others not so much.

From our school, we've heard the following comments: "The pancakes were delicious!", "Burritos make me sick", "They took away the one good thing. They took away the foods I like and made me...not like them."

In general, people like YayLunch because it is convenient, well organized, supports local businesses, and let's you eat hot food (where as food from home or a traditional cafeteria can sometimes be soggy and cold).

On the other hand, our students and teachers have several cons, such as that the food is overpriced for the portions given, it lacks a variety in cuisine, is tough for dietary restrictions, and the packaging can be wasteful.

I recommend Yay Lunch, or at least to try it. It's a great program for getting lunch for a school. In October of 2023, the food calendar is: Mondays, Fuzzy's Tacos. On Tuesdays, Fabio's Pizza. On Wednesdays, A Seat At The Table, and on Thursdays, Multiverse Kitchen. I personally recommend Thursdays; the pancakes are really good, for the price of 7 dollars.



Drawing by Zoie Ledford

Ask an 8th Grader

Last year when I was in sixth grade, the homework was a lot but manageable. This year I started to do more activities because I had the time, but now the homework is absolutely insane. I never have any free time anymore. How do I manage the crazy 7th grade homework?

- Stressed in Seventh

Dear Stressed in Seventh,

The difference between homework in 6th grade and 7th grade is not minor. Managing your homework can be very difficult, especially if you have other activities occupying your time. One of the most important things is to learn to utilize your study hall. Generally, study hall is a great time to knock out at least one subject. Make a plan, something along the lines of I'm going to do math homework every study hall. Then, if I have time, I'll do science. Once you figure out a good study hall rhythm, you'll also figure out a good homework rhythm. Another thing that can help you manage your homework is to stop procrastinating. For me, I like to do my homework as soon as I get home from school, and then it's not hanging over my head. The change can be a lot, but trust us, it just takes time. Give it a few months and it'll work itself out.

xo, an 8th grader

How should I handle drama that doesn't involve me?

-No Drama

Dear No Drama,

Drama that doesn't involve you is tricky sometimes. Especially if it's between two people you care about. Try to be supportive from a distance. Say something like I'm sorry, that sounds really frustrating and leave it at that. You are not obligated to take that on. Stuff happens, but it blows over. Chances are, in less than a couple of months everyone will be friends again and all will be okay. Take care of yourself first. This is hard, but it is not your fault and you do not need to feel like you need to solve it all.

xo, an 8th grader

What should we do if it is late, you have a homework assignment due tomorrow, and you don't have anything you need for the homework?

-I'm the Problem, It's Me

Dear I'm the Problem, It's Me,

If the problem is you don't have the right book notebook, try asking a friend to send you pictures of the right pages and use scrap paper. If it really is late and you need special materials you don't have, then go to bed and come clean to your teacher. The odds are saying "I don't have my homework, I couldn't do it because I didn't have any of the materials" isn't going to get you in trouble if it's just a one time thing.

xo, an 8th grader

