

Ho Dao College (Sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen)

HALLOWEEN

BUZZWORD

News report

HO DAO COLLEGE CELEBRATES HALLOWEEN

by Priya Ghale (3A)

From October 27 to 28, our school organised fun activities in the library to celebrate Halloween. Fake skeletons, spider webs, tarantulas and Jack-o'-lanterns were put up in the library as decorations. Students of all secondary classes participated in the activities during break time.

Traditional Halloween Trick or Treat was planned to welcome the students at the library entrance. One student dressed up in Halloween costume and walked around the library while handing out candies to everyone. Many students got thrilled and were lining up for sweet treats. There were games for students to enjoy. A Halloween puzzle game called 'Separation Anxiety' excited and challenged some students. There were 20 pictures with vocabulary words, and players had to find the correct picture to match the vocabulary. Some students found the words hard as they tried to pick out the right ones. Many students showed eagerness to try their hands at another game called The Claw Machine Challenge. The claw machine was full of small plastic balls. Inside those balls, there were interesting yet, simple challenges for students to complete, like touching their heads. After completing each challenge, players got candies. Students were eagerly queuing up to play this game. Students were pushing each other to get their chance because the game was highly entertaining.

On the last day of the activities, a Photo Booth was set up in the library. Students could dress up and create their own Halloween costumes and take photos in front of a Halloween backdrop.

The atmosphere in the school library was lively, and students moved from one activity to another enthusiastically. We hope that such fun activities are organized time and again, so students can get a chance to enjoy different festivals in the school.



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Halloween quiz

MATCH WORDS WITH THE CORRECT PICTURES

by Ho Wan Ki, Helen (3A) and Priya Ghale (3A)



- skull
- werewolf**
- wizard
- potion**
- tombstone
- Frankenstein**
- candies**
- bat
- vampire**
- haunted house
- ghost**
- a witch's hat
- witch
- costume**
- scarecrow
- pumpkin**
- broomstick
- skeleton**

E.g. Jack-o'-lantern



A HORROR-FILLED DAY OF HALLOWEEN

by Chan Wai Tsun, Wilson (3D)

Vocabulary
building

Other ways to say

SCARY

Frightening

Example: It's **frightening** to think it could happen again.

Creepy

Example: It's kind of **creepy** down in the cellar!

Shocking

Example: It is **shocking** that they involved children in the crime.

Bone-chilling

Example: The film evokes **bone-chilling** reminders of the war.

Alarming

Example: The rain-forests are disappearing at an **alarming** rate.

Spooky

Example: It got a bit **spooky** when James started telling ghost stories.

October is the perfect time to tell scary stories, but real-life horror-filled events are not for everyone. I had a firsthand experience with the supernatural, which left a chill running down my spine!

I still remember that day. It was Halloween. My friend, Sam, and I had agreed to an overnight camping trip. We went to Sai Yuen Farm, which is far away from the hustle and bustle of the city. After arriving at the farm, we found a good place on the map to pitch our tents. It was deep in the woods.

We felt peaceful as we trekked to our camping spot and soon began to set up our tents. However, as soon as the dusk fell, the place became eerily quiet. We could only hear the rustle of the leaves on the forest floor and an owl hooting in the distance.

"This place is creepy," Sam said. "I think I heard something," he soon whispered as a brisk gust of wind raised goosebumps on our arms.

"Oh, come on, don't be a coward. It is just the wind. Don't make a fuss," I said to calm him down.

Suddenly, the wind stopped blowing. We didn't think much about it at that time and started to kindle the campfire. But after a while, our campfire ran out of charcoal. I left to pick up some twigs and firewood to keep the fire going long into the night.

As I was picking the firewood, I heard a noise! It sounded like someone was running on the grass and stepping on some branches that snapped under the weight. I thought it was Sam and turned back to look. But no one was there! I stood still and observed my surroundings. I think I saw something move, but when I blinked, it was gone! All at once, I felt something brush past me.

I quickly turned and left without looking back. By the time I reached our campsite, I was sweating badly. Sam and I hurriedly packed our bags and left the place. We arrived home without any incident that night. Nevertheless, I dare not think about it anymore.

I am never going camping on Halloween!



Book review

MONSTER HOUSE

by Tsang Wing Sum, Sweety (3D)

This story is about a strange house. DJ Walter, the main character of the story, is a twelve-year-old boy who lives across the street from this mysterious house. Mr Nebbercracker, the elderly, who lives there is strange too! Weird things are happening around his house: toys mysteriously disappear and end up on his lawn. This Halloween, DJ wants to explore the monster house with his friends, Chowder and Jenny. After he dreams that the monster house has gobbled up every trick-or-treater insight, he is determined to solve the mystery!

Overall, it is a lovely book, and I liked reading it. I think that the story is quite interesting. The adventures in the plot are exciting, and the ending is heartwarming. Through this storybook, I learnt more about what people do on Halloween. Seldom do I celebrate Halloween in Hong Kong. But children in many western countries go trick-or-treating, and it seems like a fun experience.

I recommend this story to all who want to improve their English reading skills because it is easy to read and understand. It is a great book to start your daily English reading habit.



Written by Dan Harmon, Rob Schrab, Pamela Pettler and Lynda Edwards

Published by Scholastic Academic



HALLOWEEN JOKES

What did one bat say to another?



Let's hang out together.

What kind of music does a mummy like?



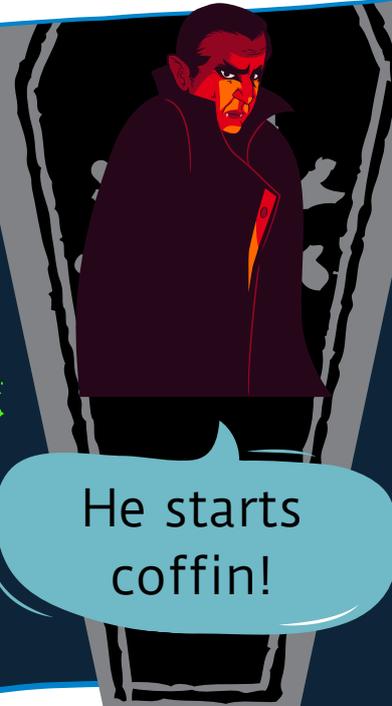
Wrap music!

What did one ghost say to the other?



Get a life!

How can you tell when a vampire has a cold?



He starts coffin!

Why did the skeleton climb up the tree?



Because a dog was after his bones!

What do witches put in their hair?



Scare Spray!

What kind of TV do you find inside a haunted house?

A WIDE SCREAM TV.



CARVE A JACK-O'-LANTERN FOR YOUR HOME

by Yung Tsz Man, Kenson (3D)

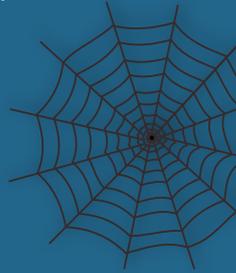


Are you still worried about how to dress up or decorate your homes for Halloween? Try to DIY some Halloween costumes. You can find many easy crafts on YouTube. To decorate your homes, cut out paper silhouettes as décor, buy giant balloons or plastic spiders from a craft store or make a Jack-o'-lantern. I think the most important decoration for Halloween is a Jack-o'-lantern. Carving a Jack-o'-lantern is a popular Halloween tradition in America.

It is easy to make. There are no large-sized pumpkins available in Hong Kong like those in America, but you can buy smaller ones at a supermarket. You can also buy them through an overseas online store and then ship them by sea to Hong Kong before Halloween.

The materials and tools we have to prepare for carving out a Jack-o'-lantern:

1. A large-sized pumpkin
2. A candle
3. A spoon
4. A sharp knife
5. A marker pen



Steps:

First, use a knife to cut one-third of the pumpkin from the top. Don't throw the top part. You can place it next to your carved pumpkin.

Next, use a spoon to scoop out the seeds and flesh.

Then, draw a scary face with a marker pen and cut the part out that you drew. Be careful while using a sharp knife. Finally, put a candle in the pumpkin to finish the Jack-o'-lantern.

Your Jack-o'-lantern decoration is ready!



CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN

by Sui Ka Ying, Olivia (3D)

Article

Origins of Halloween

Halloween is celebrated each year on the last day of October, and this year it falls on Sunday, October 31. Halloween was originally an ancient religious observance where Celts would light bonfires. People believed that on this day, the souls of the dead return to their homes. So they dressed up in costumes and lit bonfires to ward off spirits. It was known as All Hallows Eve before but later became known as Halloween.

It became increasingly secular over the centuries until its religious trappings all but disappeared. Today Halloween is considered a holiday for dress-up and fun, especially for children. In this way, popular Halloween tropes such as witches, ghosts, and goblins became associated with this festival.

How to celebrate Halloween in Hong Kong

Businesses in Hong Kong have marketed Halloween as a grand carnival event. As a result, the phenomenon of festive commoditization has emerged. About a month before Halloween, Hong Kong theme parks and major shopping malls begin to hold festival-related activities and games to encourage people to participate in festive activities. The theme parks would also sell special-edition dolls, water cups, candies and plush toy decorations.

So join in the fun, dress up, go trick-or-treating and enjoy Halloween with your family.

Watch out for another issue of BUZZWORD in December!

