

# ATRIUM SUN



FALL ISSUE, 2021

Your school newspaper, written for  
you, by you!

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Hi everyone! Welcome to the Fall Issue of Atrium Sun. I cannot stress enough how hard these writers have worked to produce this issue. From the beginning- we knew we were taking on a large project. But we worked through it, and I am incredibly proud of not only the writers but Paul and Wilder because without them- none of this would've been possible. There is also a massive amount of gratitude to extend to you, the reader, for taking the time out of your day to read our newspaper. I genuinely believe that having a newspaper is crucial for a school- because this is indeed coming from the mind of your peers. Without prompt or pretext, one-hundred percent student-written and produced. As my first year of being proper Editor-in-Chief, I hoped to redesign and revive Atrium Sun (notice the aesthetic makeover?). My email is always, always, always open for suggestions or edits (please email me at [communications@atrium.org](mailto:communications@atrium.org)). I cannot wait for us to go on this journey, and I have to admit, this was one ride, but we did it, and I am incredibly grateful for that.

# CURRENT EVENTS

*by Maddie*

This October, the White House announced its plan to vaccinate 28 million 5-11-year-olds. Before now, only people 12 years and older were eligible for the vaccine in the US. But now, with the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) giving the “ok,” they can vaccinate kids aged 5-11. The FDA is an administration that is part of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Their job is to ensure all US citizens’ safety and well-being by reviewing, researching, and setting public health standards.

Doses have been prepared for all kids in this age category and distributed to over 25,000 doctor’s offices, hospitals, schools, and pharmacies. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy announced that the White House would be doing an educational campaign for parents whose children will be eligible for the vaccine. This campaign will give reliable information on the vaccine and disprove false theories and “myths” that have been said about the shots. Examples of false myths on vaccines are, “there are microchips in the vaccine that the government is using to control the population” and “the vaccine is not safe because it was quickly tested and approved.”

Getting across to parents about vaccinating their children is crucial at this point. The delta variant has presented a whole new set of obstacles. Now, kids are just as likely to get infected by the virus and spread it. This is because the new variant is much more transmissible. And, research has shown that the delta variant reproduces faster and makes more copies of itself. The plan is to partner with schools to send letters and emails home to families, support doctors, and health clinics, and give them the resources they need. They have also joined forces with the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Teacher Association, and the Children’s Hospital Association to continue to educate parents and other people on the effectiveness of child vaccination.



The vaccine's job is to teach our immune system to recognize and fight off Covid-19. So how do vaccines work? Vaccines give our bodies or force our bodies to make proteins similar to the ones found in Covid-19. This way, our immune system will recognize the virus and be able to fight against it. This doesn't mean that there is a zero-percent chance of getting the virus.

However, only a small number of people are found to be infected once fully vaccinated. This is because our immune systems will be able to recognize the virus and get rid of it. Usually, when fully vaccinated people get infected, they experience very mild systems. The most important thing is that the vaccine protects people from severe symptoms and death.

Over the past few months, there have been covid cases where the person who got infected had been vaccinated. These are called breakthrough cases. Because of this, many people question whether or not vaccines are effective. Here is a look at some data from September. There were 34,309 reported cases in September. Out of 31,993 of the reported cases but not hospitalized, 86% were not fully vaccinated. Out of all the reported cases, there were 1,694 people hospitalized; 71% of these people were not vaccinated

. Out of the 664 deaths in September, 76% of these were not vaccinated. If you think about it, this means that over  $\frac{4}{5}$  of the reported but not hospitalized cases were not vaccinated, almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of hospitalizations were not vaccinated, and over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the deaths were not vaccinated.

Hopefully, within the next few months, we will see lots of 5-11-year-olds getting vaccinated so that everyone can be safer.

# LOVE THAT DIRTY WATER

*by Oliver*

What a season it has been. The Red Sox had first place for 85 days, and it looked like they would run away with the division for a while. But of course, Kevin Cash, the analytics department, and the no-names in the Rays bullpen came through again. The Red Sox finished game 162 with a 92-70 record, tying with the Yankees for the first wild card spot. Overall, the season was an overwhelming success for Chaim Bloom and the Red Sox, with the vast majority of their additions being successes. Here's a look at everything that went right this year and everything that went wrong.

## **Here are the pickups the Red Sox made (or the ones I remember) before the season:**

Hunter Renfroe -- Had a career year, hitting 31 dingers and hitting .259, not to mention leading the world in outfield assists.

Kiké Hernandez -- Was all the Red Sox wanted, became a solid everyday player and leadoff hitter. He was stuck in center field for most of the season and was a great defensive outfielder. Not to mention being the greatest hitter in MLB history for some of the Postseason.

Garrett Richards -- Barely serviceable starter and subpar reliever, things started going south after MLB cracked down on foreign substances. My least favorite player on the Red Sox.

Hirokazu Sawamura -- Dynamite early in the season, showing off one of the hardest splitters in the league, topping out at a whopping 96 MPH. Had some injury issues late in the year, and that drastically decreased his effectiveness.

Adam Ottavino -- Similar story to Sawamura, he seemed to quietly fade as the season went on but was good at the beginning of the year, with a good fastball and a wipeout slider.

Matt Andriese -- Did not go well, and honestly, I don't know where he went. He's just gone.

Marwin Gonzalez -- Good fielder and utility player, but just wasn't swingin' it this year. Somehow, he ended up on the Houston Astros' World Series roster.

Franchy Cordero -- Acquired in a 3-team trade involving Andrew Benintendi, Cordero proved that he isn't ready for the big show to the Red Sox. After hitting a low average and a single home run (an absolute moonshot, 474 feet with an exit velo of 118 MPH), he was sent to Worcester, where he raked the rest of the season.

# SOX IN NEED OF SPARK

*by Oliver*

After Game 3 of the ALCS between the Red Sox and Astros, everyone in Boston prepared to pop out the champagne and celebrate their 5th world championship in the 21st century. After Game 5, the Sox and their fans seem to be losing hope, and the Astros were ready to prove to the world that they can win without trash cans. How the tides have changed. This is one of the craziest postseason series I've been a part of, complete with record-setting hitting and shutdown pitching. And the momentum changes are spectacular and drastic, taking a team from the highest of highs to pretty much the lowest of lows. And through it all, the Astros lead the series 3-2, heading to Minute Maid Park for the game(s) 6 and (if necessary) 7.

After Kiké Hernández's torrid hot streak, where Dan Shaughnessy of The Boston Globe called him "The greatest hitter of all time," he has come crashing way back to Earth, and the Sox are going to need him if they want to keep their season alive. Nobody on the Red Sox offense has been producing the last two games, and the only runs in that time frame have come from a Bogey 2-run bridgeball and a Raffy solo shot.

Nate Eovaldi is pitching Game 6 on Friday night, and after the Astros shellacked him in the 9th inning in Game 4, he is back on the bump to stave off elimination for the Red Sox. He (and I say this grudgingly) has to be hyped, motivated, and calm for this critical start, as he was in the Red Sox-Yankees Wild Card Game all those weeks ago. In that game, he bounced back from a frustrating regular-season loss to Gerrit Cole and the Bronx Bombers to beat Cole and send the Sox to the ALDS against the Tampa Bay Rays.

This season has been a wild roller coaster, with the Red (occasionally yellow) Sox defying the odds and making and having success in the playoffs. After being swept by the Orioles at Fenway the first series of the season, all of the preseason pessimists took their victory lap. Then the Sox rattled off nine straight wins to get control over the division and didn't look back. For a while. Then, near midseason, things started heading south, with their overperforming pitching staff falling back following both MLB's crackdown on foreign substances and simply not pitching at the high level they were earlier in the year. The final half of the season was a wide range of outcomes, with some disheartening, dead, emotionless stretches where even I ditched them for a little bit. But they always got back up.

# PATS ON TRACK; MAC IN CONTROL

On a happier note, the Patriots are trending in the right direction. Mac Jones looks like an absolute steal at pick #15, and he certainly looks like the future of the Pats. However, questionable coaching, inconsistent defense, fumbles (especially near the goal line), and flawed special teams have led to a 3-4 start (now 4-4). It has been a season of many moral victories, but few NFL ones, with Mac looking like a star, Damien Harris having some nice games, and Matt Judon proving he is worth all that Bill Belichick paid him. I am writing this on October 27th, and even with this 3-4 start, there still is a sliver of hope in New England that the Pats could slip into the playoffs.

Here are some notes from the first 7 weeks of the 2021 NFL season.

- The two multi-million dollar tight ends Bill bought for Mac in free agency this year look to be paying off, at least in some regard. The one-two punch of Jonnu Smith and Hunter Henry at Tight End has gotten off to a relatively tough start stat-wise, but I believe Belichick and Josh McDaniels will utilize them going forward. Either way, these TEs are certainly better than the Devin Asiasi and Ryan Izzo we had last year.
- The Wide Receiving core is looking really solid this year. Jakobi Meyers, the undrafted free agent, continues to be the #1 target in the New England offense, and he just fits so well in the Patriot Way. Meyers is super consistent, and he is one of my favorite players on the Patriots this year, but he STILL hasn't caught a touchdown pass. Yes, he's thrown touchdown passes but still hasn't caught one. When he does, it will be the biggest celebration since the 2004 Red Sox. The other two primary weapons Mac has at his disposal are wideouts Nelson Agholor and Kendrick Bourne. Agholor has struggled with drops and hasn't connected on one of his signature deep strikes with Mac Jones yet this year, but I still have faith in him going forward. Bourne has been a great addition. He apparently brings great energy and presence to the team, and he handles his role nicely. Despite not getting a ton of targets, he has been reliable, and his 75-yard touchdown reception against the Cowboys to send the game into OT was spectacular.

- I obviously wasn't closely watching the Cincinnati Bengals this offseason because I totally wasn't expecting a 5-2 start to pace the AFC. I also had a bit of doubt that Ja'Marr Chase would live up to the hype, especially after the preseason where he forgot how to catch a football. But whenever I look up, he is running towards the end zone after catching a deep one from his old LSU teammate, Joe Burrow.
- What's up with the Kansas City Chiefs and their 3-4 record?
- The 2nd overall pick, Zach Wilson, has struggled mightily with the Jets this year, and honestly, who didn't see this coming?
- I was so excited for Raheem Mostert to be healthy again this year, then he got hurt on the first drive of the season.
- There is a parody song of God's Plan called Mac's Plan. It is from when he was the QB at Alabama, but it still seems applicable for his new gig. Some other parodies I find funny are Call It Maybe and Walmart Flip Flops (an all-time classic).

Rest in Peace Jerry Remy, longtime Red Sox fan, player, and broadcaster. You were always a welcome voice in my living room, and thank you for all of the great memories you gave Boston. You were a great person for all of Red Sox Nation and the entire baseball community. We lost such an inspirational person too soon. Buenas noches, amigo.

Thank you to all the writers in The Boston Globe Sports Section, Dan Shaughnessy, Chad Finn, Tara Sullivan, Julian McWilliams, Alex Speier, Adam Himmelsbach and any others, as you give me so much knowledge on sports and writing. Also, thank you to the 06010 Fantasy Focus Football crew: Field Yates, Matthew Berry, Starphania Bell, Mike Clay, Daniel Dopp, Thirsty Kyle, and anyone else who makes an appearance on that fantastic podcast. Thank you.



# HOW TO BE SAFE DURING A FIRE DRILL

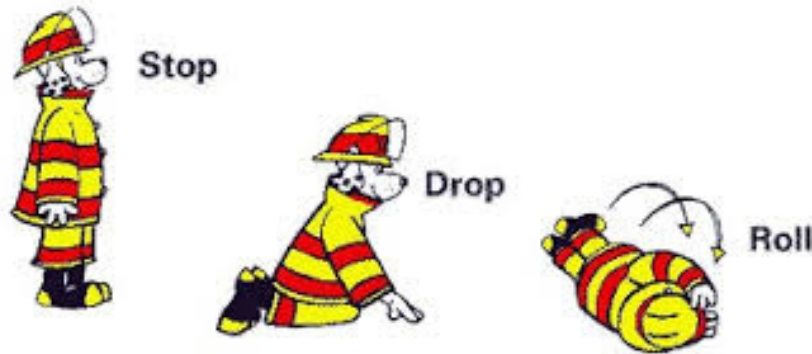
*by Jacob*

In light of the recent fire drill- we have agreed that it would be a good idea to go over fire safety rules. From the stop, drop, and roll to how to stay away from smoke, this issue has you covered. If a fire starts inside your home/building, the first step is to save yourself. Get out of the building as fast as you can, and stay quiet unless you get separated from your grown-up. If you do get separated from your adult, if you know the way out, get out, otherwise yell, "HELP! HELP!".

Once you are out of the building, make sure to call the fire department and **STAY AWAY** from the fire. If the fire is blocking your way to escape, windows and fire escapes are your other option. **NEVER** open doors that are hotter than normal, as that means the fire is behind them. If you are high up in a building, and the fire is blocking your door, go into a room, preferably the bathroom, and place a wet towel in all the cracks in the door. That will stop the smoke coming into your room. Also, wave a flashlight or a brightly colored towel/cloth out the window so people know you're in there.

# STOP, DROP, AND ROLL

If your clothes catch on fire, immediately Stop, Drop, and Roll. Stop what you're doing, Drop to the ground and cover your face if you can, and roll over and over until the flames are put out. DO NOT RUN AWAY, as that will make the flames burn faster. Once your clothes are not burning, cool your skin with water and CALL AN AMBULANCE! Burns are very serious.



## DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH

If you are reading this and are super scared, don't worry! The odds of your house burning down are very low unless you have a crazy pyromaniac living in your basement. Even though the chances are that you will never be in a fire, this information is good to have in the unlikely event of a fire happening.

Always check your smoke alarms on October 9th because it is Fire Safety Day! If you want to get into the spirit of fire safety, you can play Pedro's Fire Safety Challenge. Pedro's Fire Challenge is a fun and engaging interactive game created by the Red Cross for children ages 4-8 years old that teaches age-appropriate skills for handling a home fire emergency and other stressful situations. Pedro the penguin guides children through a set of activities on topics such as home fire safety, coping skills, and fun! At the end of the challenge, kids earn a badge.

# BLACK HOLES

*by Ptolemy*

Important Vocabulary-

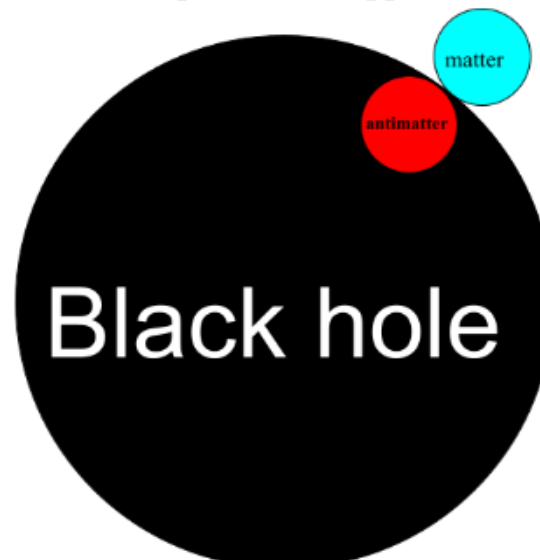
**Momentum-** A force where if something is moving, it usually continues to move. For example- if I throw a ball, it doesn't stop after letting go of it.

**Singularity-** A point where all previous information about past states is lost.

**Antimatter-** The opposite of matter. When antimatter comes in contact with matter, they dissipate.

Black holes are a group of things with so much gravity that light can't escape. Things that have more mass have more gravity. One heavy thing pulls another super heavy thing with gravity until there is so much gravity that light can't escape, and thus they look black. Black holes spin because of momentum<sup>1</sup>, and parts of them become a ringularity. This is a singularity<sup>2</sup> that is spinning. A singularity is a point where all previous information about past states is lost. If you know where all the atoms on Earth are and what forces are acting on them, you can predict what happens next. If I see a ball having momentum going east, I can expect the ball to move east, and I know in the past, the ball was west of where it was when observed.

The ball being to the west before it is where it is now an example of past information. In a singularity, we don't know what happened before or what will happen. Because atoms are crushed in a black hole, we don't remember their previous states. There are also other singularities like the technological singularity. We have no idea what AI (artificial intelligence) would look like, so we can't predict anything about it; this is another singularity. We also can't expect what happened before the big bang, so it is also a singularity.



# MORE SPACE PHENOMENA

*by Ptolemy*

Stars are made from dust and gas in space. They collapse because gravity pulls them together and then collects enough dust or gas to become a star. A star burns because the gravity is strong enough to fuse lesser elements into heavier elements. An example of this is that many stars fuse hydrogen into helium, helium into beryllium, etc. This is how stars “burn” and produce energy. At this point, our sun takes a long time. The stars die when they can no longer fuse anything, and some of them become supernovas. Supernovas are big explosions when stars die, which are very energetic. These supernovas can create a gamma-ray burst. A gamma-ray burst or GRB is a big explosion in distant galaxies. They are some of the most energetic events in the universe. This happens when a star implodes into a neutron star or black hole. Most GRBs are billions of light-years away from Earth and still detectable, showing how energetic they are. GRBs are very directed, so we don’t detect all of them. The ATcow2018 was a burst of bright energy, and we don’t know what it was precisely or its source. It was more energy than almost anything we have ever seen and was very short. It came from about 200million light-years away. There was a very hot cocoon around it, and the object it was coming from was a sphere almost 50 times the size of the Earth. We don’t know what this object or cocoon was, and this is still a mystery. The beam is the only part visible of a gamma-ray burst, so we might have missed them even if they happened. The creation of a black hole or a supernova can create a gamma-ray burst. There are still some things that we don’t understand about gamma-ray bursts.



# ELYSE'S ODDITY'S

*by Elyse*

Logic Puzzles Theme: Money

1. Say you and I have the same amount of money. How much must I give you so that you have \$10 more than me?
1. A person bought an article for \$7, sold it for \$8, repurchased it for \$9, and sold it for \$10. How much **profit** did they make?
1. A bottle of soda costs \$10. The soda itself is 9 dollars more than the bottle it was in. How much is the bottle worth?

Write guesses here:

Famous Events that Happened in November

- Sputnik 2 launches from Russia
- Abe Lincoln gets married
- Howard Carter first discovers King Tut's tomb
- Abe Lincoln was elected president
- Ireland's first female president, Mary Robinson, is elected
- Marie Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland
- Berlin wall falls after almost 30 years
- Abigail Adams was born in Weymouth, MA
- Nellie Bly starts to go around the world to beat the characters in Jules Verne's book, *Around the World in Eighty Days*.
- Queen Elizabeth the 1st ascends to the throne.
- Angela Merkel becomes Germany's first female Chancellor.
- Barack Obama was elected to become the first black president of the United States.
- The Rosetta spacecraft's Philae probe becomes the first to land on a comet successfully
- Hillary Clinton wins the popular vote for president against Donald Trump.

# WHY WITCHES ARE GREEN

*by Elyse*

If you have ever seen the Wizard of Oz, or anything related to it, you'll know of the Wicked Witch of the West. She has a black hat, black hair, and of course, unmistakable green skin. Well, what if I were to tell you that in the book, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum, the Wicked Witch was a one-eyed, older woman with white skin like Glinda the Good. When the movie came out in 1939, it was one of the first color films ever, and the directors wanted to bring some colors, lots of colors. So they made the Witches' skin green. As far as I could tell, there was no specific choice for the color green, just a choice the director made. From there, it was more common for witches to be green. So basically, before the Wizard of Oz, witches didn't have green skin.

Answers for logic puzzles: 1.) \$5 2.) \$2 3.) the bottle cost 50 cents (the soda was \$9.50)

Three Poems About Fall:

Nature's first green is gold,  
Her hardest hue to hold,  
Her early leaf's a flower:  
But only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf.  
So Eden sank to grief,  
So dawn goes down today.  
Nothing gold can stay.  
-Robert Frost

Autumn Winds

Autumn winds begin to blow,  
Colored leaves fall fast and slow.  
Whirling, twirling all around,  
Till at last, they reach the ground.  
-Unknown