

## HAUPPAUGE STUDENTS CHOOSE TO “BE HAPPY. BE BRAVE. BE DRUG FREE.”

Hauppauge Elementary students participated in Red Ribbon Week this past week. Red Ribbon Week is the largest drug-abuse prevention campaign in the nation and has been devoted to the well-being of children since 1985. It began as a way of honoring DEA Special Agent Enrique “Kiki” Camarena, who lost his life in Mexico in the line of duty, fighting to keep illegal drugs out of our country.

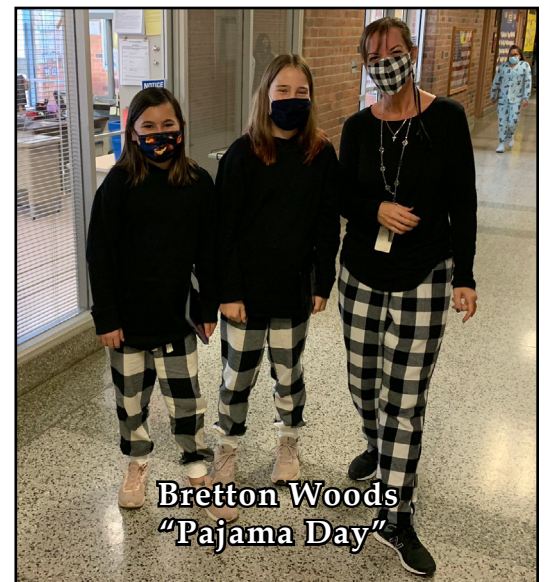


**Kerry Dwyer, Guidance Counselor  
with Pines Students “Wearing Red”**

Enrique “Kiki” Camarena was a Drug Enforcement Administration Agent who was tortured and killed in Mexico in 1985. In honor of Kiki’s memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges of satin. Parents then began to form coalitions using Camarena as their model while embracing his belief that one person can make a difference. These coalitions adopted the symbol of Camarena’s memory, the Red Ribbon. Today, the Red Ribbon serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities.



**Tracey DeRose, Music Teacher  
with Pines Students “Wearing Red”**



**Bretton Woods  
“Pajama Day”**



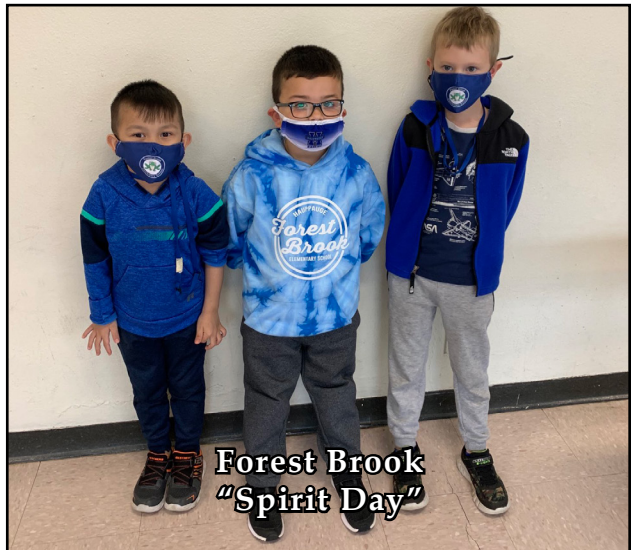
## Red Ribbon Week

At Pines Elementary, *Red Ribbon Week* was recognized through a virtual presentation from *Smithtown Horizons* and a variety of themed days throughout the week. The Pines PTA has also joined in supporting this week by having all students treated to a Motivational Media presentation in their classrooms on Tuesday.

The students followed various themed days, beginning on Monday, October 26th with their day of wearing red to kick the week off, and culminating on Friday, October 30th, with a day dedicated to saying "BOO!" to drugs in their Halloween costumes.

Forest Brook Elementary School also participated in *Red Ribbon Week*, as well as Bretton Woods Elementary. Each school followed their own schedule of themes for the week.

We are happy to acknowledge our students' participation in *Red Ribbon Week* as we continue to encourage them to "BE HAPPY. BE BRAVE. BE DRUG FREE!"



Forest Brook  
"Spirit Day"



Forest Brook  
"Pajama Day"



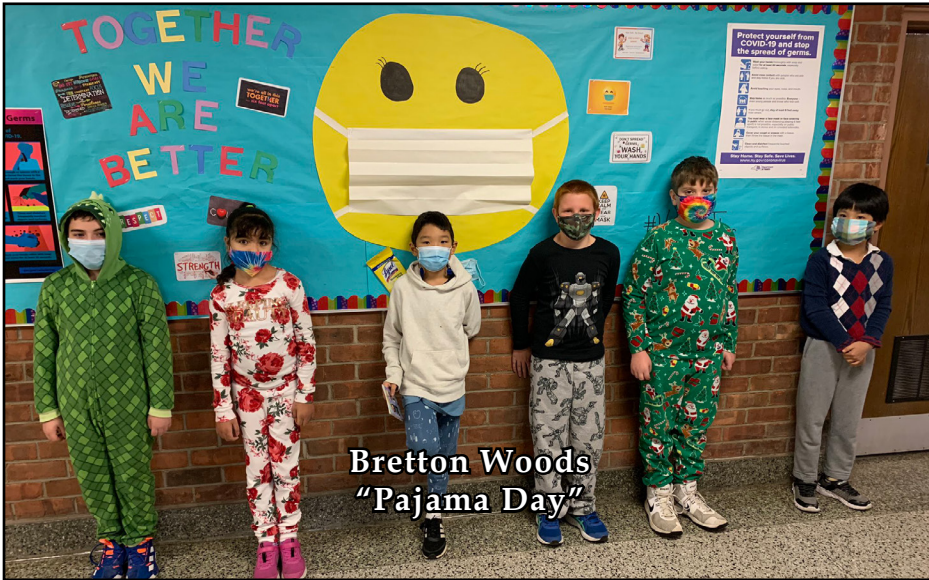
Forest Brook  
"Pajama Day"



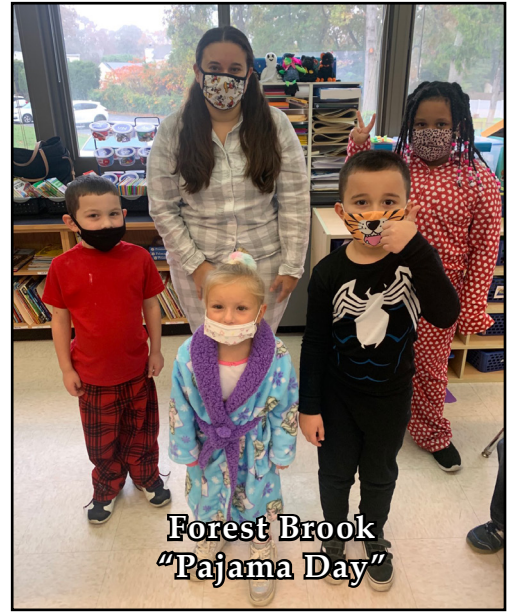
Pines Students  
"Wearing Red"

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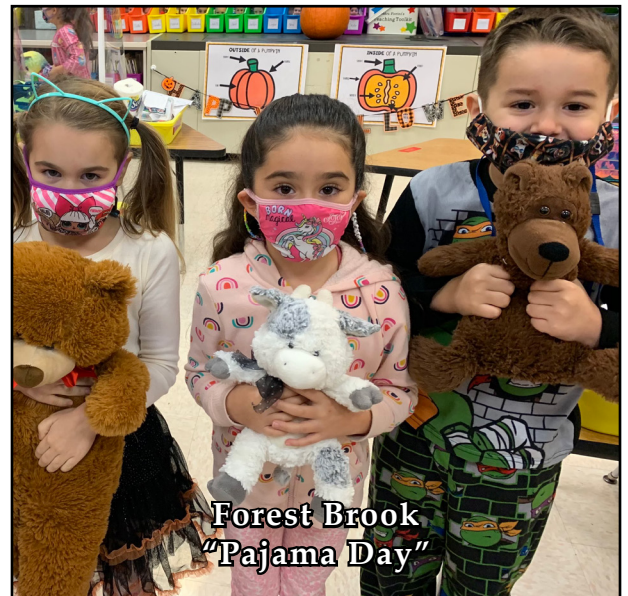
Bretton Woods  
"Pajama Day"



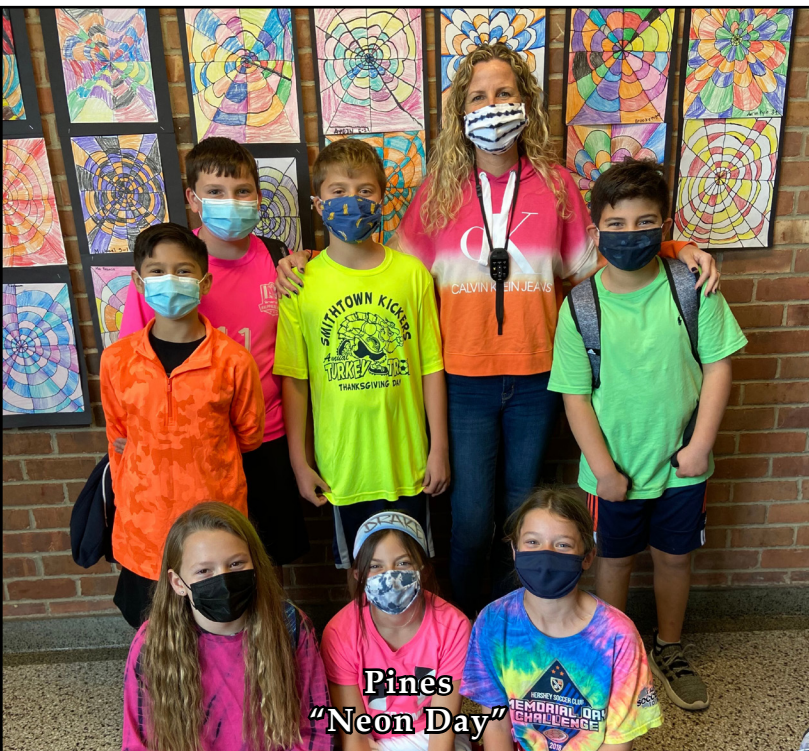
Forest Brook  
"Pajama Day"



Pines  
"Neon Day"



Forest Brook  
"Pajama Day"



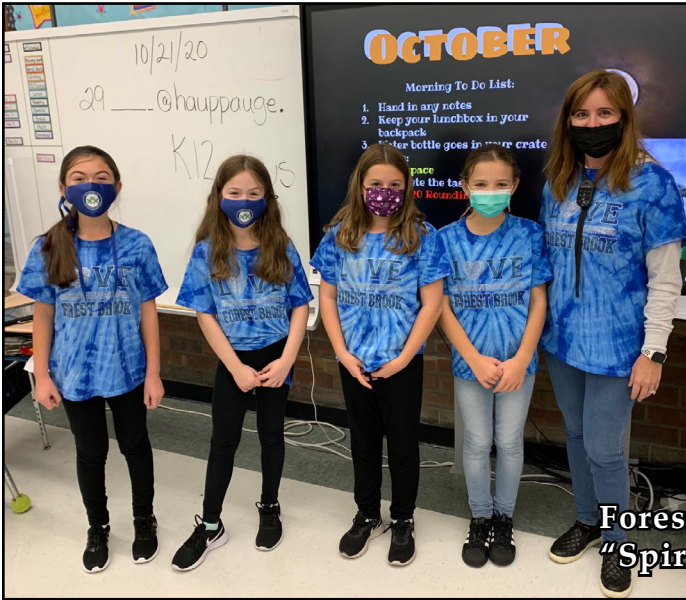
Pines  
"Neon Day"



Pines  
"Neon Day"



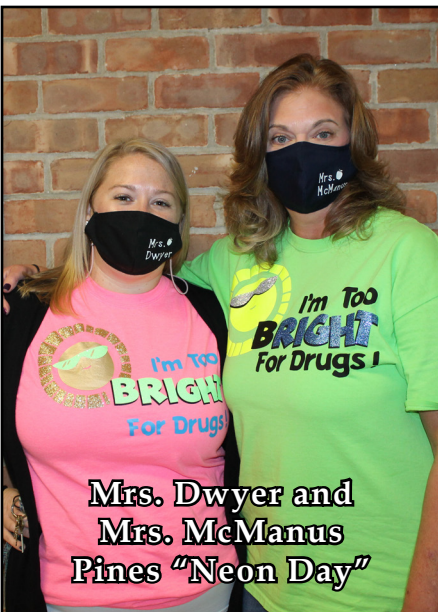
# Red Ribbon Week



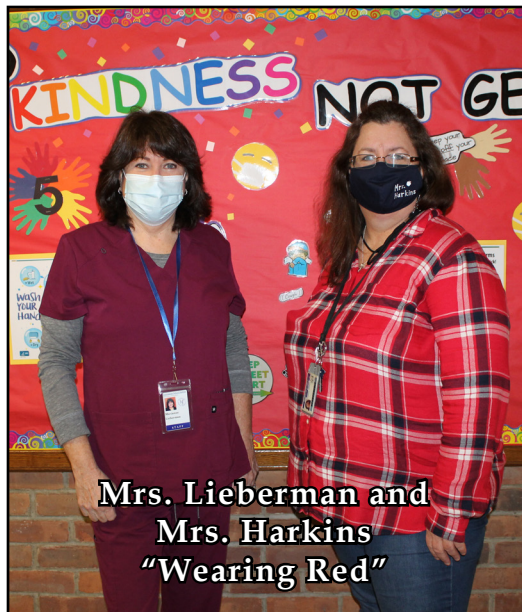
Forest Brook  
"Spirit Day"



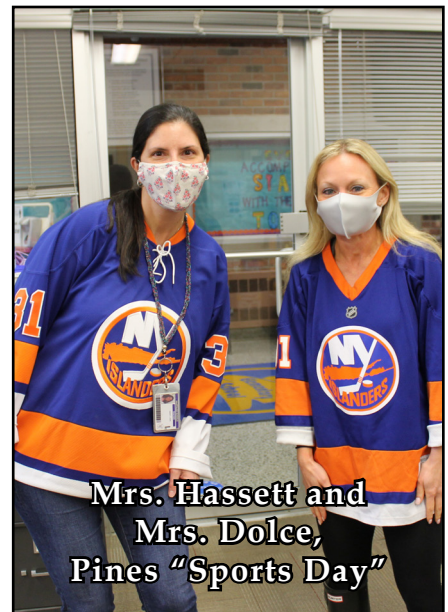
Pines  
"Wearing Red"



Mrs. Dwyer and  
Mrs. McManus  
Pines "Neon Day"



Mrs. Lieberman and  
Mrs. Harkins  
"Wearing Red"



Mrs. Hassett and  
Mrs. Dolce,  
Pines "Sports Day"



# PINES STUDENTS WELCOME THE GIANT PUMPKIN

The annual Giant Pumpkin arrived at Pines Elementary School on Wednesday, October 7th when Mr. Gries, a past Pines parent and the owner of Michael's Nursery in Commack, delivered the pumpkin to Pines. Mr. Gries began donating a giant pumpkin each year when his sons were students at the Pines, a tradition he proudly continues even though both of his sons have long graduated from Pines ES.

Each student is given a chance to guess the weight of the giant pumpkin and the winner is the student who comes closest to guessing the actual weight. Each class walked past the giant pumpkin to inspect it in the main lobby and make their best guesses. As the grand prize, the winning student gets to take the pumpkin home. This year 5th grade student, Nicholas Caminiti guessed the exact weight of the pumpkin - 162 pounds!

Congratulations to Nicholas and to all of our students for using their math skills to make their best "guestimate." Special thanks to the Gries family for their pumpkin donation every year!



**The Giant Pumpkin**



**Dr. Claudine DiMuzio, Principal,  
with Nicholas Caminiti, Winner**



**Mr. Gries and  
Friend**

**Congratulations!**

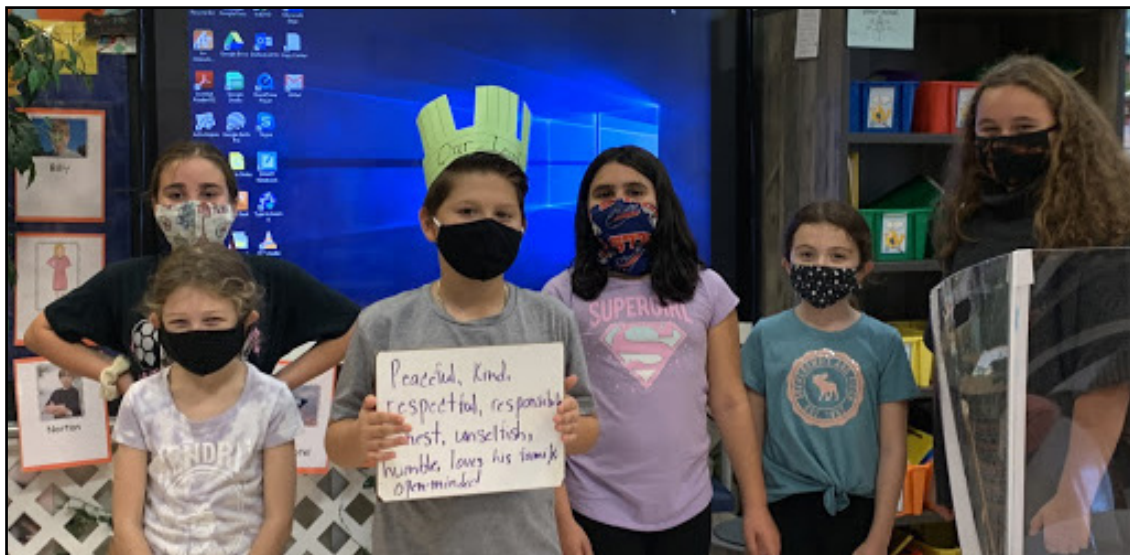
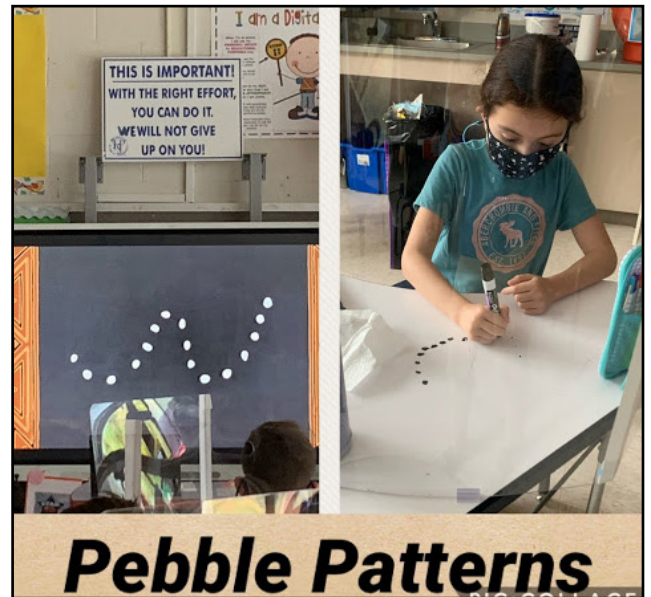


## PINES STUDENTS GO ON A “JOURNEY INTO AMERICAN INDIAN TERRITORY”

Each year, Pines 4th grade students enjoy an in-house field trip called “Journey Into American Indian Territory”. This year was a virtual event and it did not disappoint. The students enjoyed a day filled with presentations about different aspects of Native American history and culture.

The day began with an Eastern Woodlands Museum presentation that included artifacts and examples of tools, toys, and weapons used by American Indians. Next, they learned about the Haudenosaunee government and how it operates. The children learned how the Native Americans value the strengths and opinions of both men and women equally, but in different ways.

Throughout the day, the students participated in games, crafts, and activities that were examples of how they learned and practiced important skills long ago. Though the event looked and felt different than it usually does, it was as amazing as ever! Thank you to our Pines PTA! Once again, Pines students understand that this is a year of adaptation and patience, but it is still a year filled with learning and fun!







## MIDDLE SCHOOL STAFF MEMBERS CREATE A HALLOWEEN SURPRISE FOR THE STUDENTS



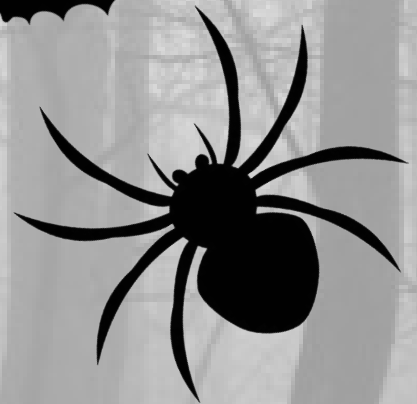
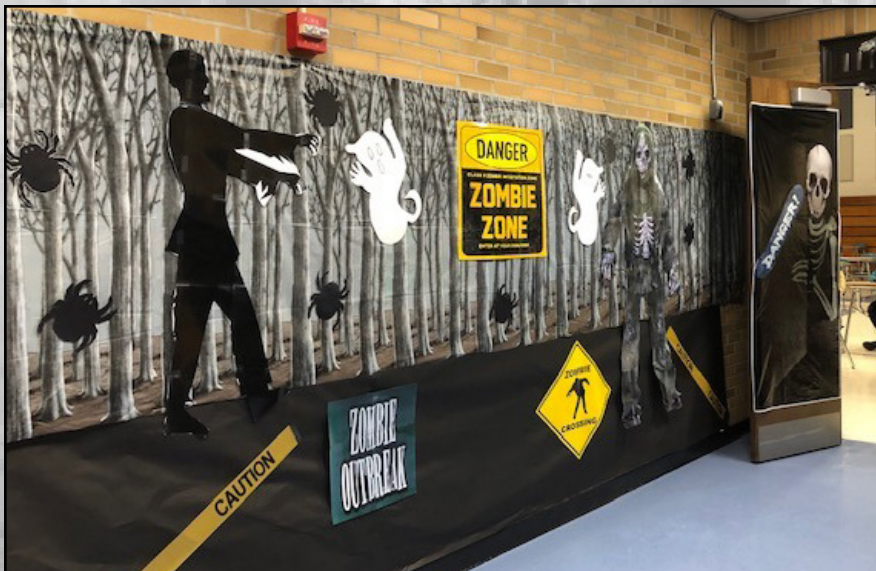
Things are looking pretty scary, and awesome, in the middle school today! Library teacher aides, Darlene Martello and Susan Annunziata, created an array of spooky decorations to line the entrance to the cafeteria as a surprise for the students. They hoped to put them in the Halloween spirit!

Darlene and Susan had help decorating and hanging their creations from cafeteria monitors, Janet Millesen, Barbara Memoli, Paulette Grandov and Lisa Abrams.

Thank you, ladies, for planning and executing such a great surprise!



The Middle School  
"Boo Crew"





## PINES STUDENTS VISIT THE "MAGICAL PUMPKIN PATCH"

On Thursday, October 22nd, the Kindergarten students at the Pines sprinkled magic pumpkin seeds on a grassy area next to our playground with the hopes that pumpkins would magically grow overnight - and they did!

In prior years, students were able to browse through the pumpkin patch and select any pumpkin. This year due to COVID precautions, pumpkin fairies labeled the pumpkins with each student's name. When the students visited the pumpkin patch all they had to do was pick up their assigned pumpkin without touching any other pumpkins.

A big thank you to the Pines PTA volunteers for beautifully decorating the pumpkin patch and organizing this fun filled event!



Ms. Rand's Kindergarten Class



# Pines Magical Pumpkin Patch



Ms. Marcus' Kindergarten Class



# Pines Magical Pumpkin Patch





## PINES STUDENTS TAKE A "HARVEST WALK"

During Physical Education class, Pines students are participating in the 1st Annual Pines Harvest Walk. The goal for this event is to have students practice and learn about the lifetime physical activity of walking, while they earn fall-themed beads.

The students earn a bead or charm for each lap completed. All of the students have been very enthusiastic and are working very hard to complete their laps and earn beads. At the end of this unit, students will string their beads on pipe cleaners to make a bracelet.

Way to Go Pines!!



Pines Harvest Walk



Pines Harvest Walk



Mrs. Kunzig Handing  
Out Beads



Mrs. Barbieri Handing  
Out Beads







# New York State EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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## Parent Dashboard



The New York State Education Department designed the Parent Dashboard to be an informative and user-friendly way for parents and the public to access information about New York State schools.

[Click here to access the NYSED Parent Dashboard](#)





# Halloween should be spooky, not scary!

## Governor Cuomo asks for your help to make sure everyone has a healthy and safe Halloween.

Halloween celebrations and activities, including trick-or-treating, can be filled with fun, but must be done in a safe way to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The best way to celebrate Halloween this year is to have fun with the people who live in your household. Decorating your house or apartment, decorating and carving pumpkins, playing Halloween-themed games, watching spooky movies, and trick-or-treating through your house or in a backyard scavenger hunt are all fun and healthy ways to celebrate during this time.

### Creative ways to celebrate more safely:

- Organize a virtual Halloween costume party with costumes and games.
- Have a neighborhood car parade or vehicle caravan where families show off their costumes while staying socially distanced and remaining in their cars.
- In cities or apartment buildings, communities can come together to trick-or-treat around the block or other outdoor spaces so kids and families aren't tempted to trick-or-treat inside – building residents & businesses can contribute treats that are individually wrapped and placed on a table(s) outside of the front door of the building, or in the other outdoor space for grab and go trick-or-treating.
- Make this year even more special and consider non-candy Halloween treats that your trick-or-treaters will love, such as spooky or glittery stickers, magnets, temporary tattoos, pencils/erasers, bookmarks, glow sticks, or mini notepads.
- Create a home or neighborhood scavenger hunt where parents or guardians give their kids candy when they find each "clue."
- Go all out to decorate your house this year – have a neighborhood contest for the best decorated house.
- Carve and decorate pumpkins at home – try some new creative ideas and have a family contest.
- Play Halloween-themed games with members of your household.
- Watch spooky movies.
- Trick-or-treat room to room in your home.



Department  
of Health



**If you feel your family can't wait until next year for the more traditional Halloween activities, and you are planning to celebrate outside your home this year, make sure you follow these simple Do's and Don'ts to help keep your family and your community safe and healthy.**

### **Do:**

- Enjoy virtual celebrations or socially distanced activities that are outdoors as much as possible.
- If there are a high number of cases in your area, it is important to skip any in-person celebrations or activities altogether.
- You can check the number of cases in your area on the **New York State Department of Health COVID-19 Tracker**.
- Trick-or-treat only with your household family group. Consider a family costume theme!
- Always stay socially distanced from those who are not living in your household. (You don't want to get too close to a witch, a ghost, or especially a virus!)
- For those choosing to give out treats, avoid direct contact with trick-or-treaters.
- Give treats outdoors. Set up a station with individually bagged or packaged treats for kids to take. Participate in one-way trick-or-treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard).
- It is best to take candy only if it is individually wrapped in a sealed wrapper or baggy, and is available to grab and go placed separately from other candies, so kids can easily pick up their treats without touching candy another child will take (e.g., no bowls).
- If setting a grab and go station, set it six feet from your front door, which will allow trick or treaters to feel comfortable to approach, knowing they will not be in close contact with anyone at the location.
- All individuals over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering must wear face coverings or cloth masks. Most Halloween masks won't be sufficient to meet Department of Health guidance, so ensure you wear a face covering that provides adequate protection.
- See if you can incorporate your face covering into a costume, but remember, a face covering must always be made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around the face.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer before, during and after any Halloween activities.
- Consider carrying Halloween-themed or decorated hand sanitizer or leaving some out for your treat-or-treaters to use.
- Only give out, or pick up, commercially wrapped treats that are sealed.

### **Don't:**

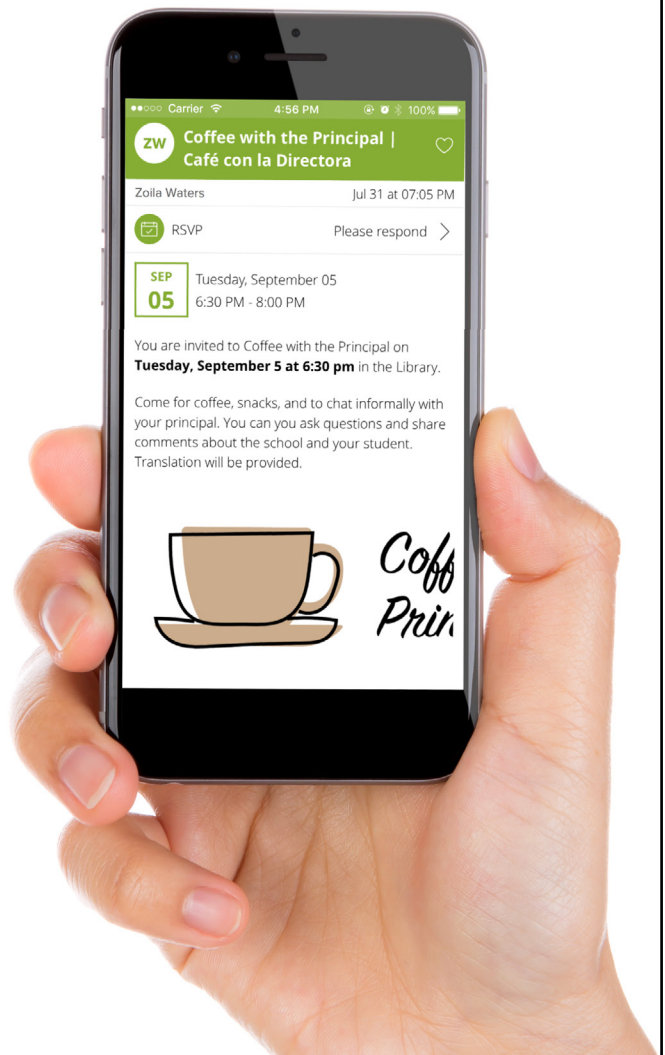
- Trick-or-treat or leave out candy if you are sick, live with someone who is sick, have been exposed to someone known to have COVID-19 in the last 14 days, are under isolation or quarantine, or have traveled internationally or to a state affected by the **NYS Travel Advisory** in the last 14 days.
- Participate in traditional trick-or-treating where treats are handed out at the door and where you cannot stay socially distanced.
- Pick out candy from a bowl or receive candy directly from someone's hands.
  - If there is crowding in front of a home, or if treats are directly taken from a bowl or directly handed out from someone's hands, skip that house and find a safer option.
- Trick-or-treat in crowded streets or neighborhoods where social distance cannot be maintained.
- Trick-or-treat indoors, unless you are at your own house with family members.
  - You should especially avoid any crowding in elevators, hallways or stairwells.
- Trick-or-treat in large groups.
- Take candy from someone else's candy bag.
- Host or attend a party or any type of gathering or event, whether it is indoors or outdoors over the mass gathering limits set for your area.
  - Events lasting several hours or that have people who have traveled from other areas where transmission is higher put your family most at risk of COVID-19 transmission.
  - If you do go to an event and see a large crowd, or if there are others there who are not wearing face coverings or staying socially distanced, you should leave and find another way to celebrate Halloween.
- Wear a Halloween mask instead of a face covering, unless the Halloween mask meets the face covering guidance.
- Wear a Halloween costume mask **OVER** a cloth face mask; it can make it difficult to breathe.
  - Instead, skip the costume mask this year and choose a cloth face mask that compliments your costume or is Halloween-themed.





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