

# CENTURION

# SPOTLIGHT

VOLUME XXII, ISSUE I // CYPRESS HIGH SCHOOL // SEPTEMBER 2021  
9801 VALLEY VIEW ST, CYPRESS, CA 90630



# HOMECOMING

Students enjoyed a groovy night of dancing  
at the first in person dance in two years!

*See Front Page, page 2*



@cypressjournalism



@cyhype



@cypresscenturionspotlight



cyhype.com

# CENTURION SPOTLIGHT



## Let's Groove Tonight!

STORY BY: ANNA NGUYEN

Centurions grades 9-12 all had a blast at the 70's themed Homecoming Dance on October 2nd. Leading up to the dance, there was a Spirit Week and an important football game that featured a "funky" half-time show in preparation of the big night out.

Prior to the weekend events, it was Spirit Week at Cypress, from September 27th to October 1st. Students could be seen all around campus dressed to fit the theme of the day in their fun and creative outfits. The spirit days were flower power, tie-dye, Star Wars, vintage 70s/ 70s icon and orange and blue. On Thursday, September 30th, ASB hosted a pep rally which featured outstanding performances from Advanced Dance, Cheer and Song as well as some competitive activities for volunteers to participate in. This year's homecoming court was announced during the assembly.

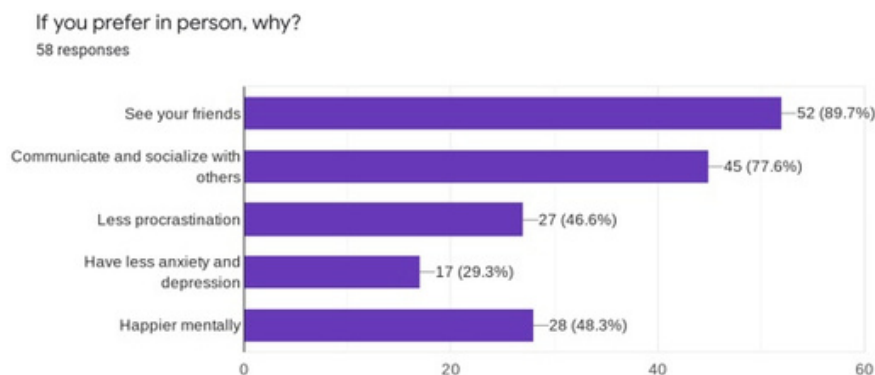
Bright neon colors packed the stadium Friday night at the homecoming football game vs Crean Lutheran where our Cypress football team ultimately beat the Saints 43-7. Students and families filled the stands with plenty of Centurion spirit, dressed head to toe in neon to cheer on the boys. This year's halftime show featured Cypress dance teams, Choir, Band, Cheer and Song to show off their stellar performances. These groups had been prepping for the big night for weeks now, and their hard work paid off! Cheers were heard all around from the stands during the show and especially when the 2021 Cypress Homecoming King and Queen were crowned. Congratulations to Devinder Hayer and Keira Colclasure for their win and to our football boys for their huge success.

Finally on Saturday, October 2nd, the night everyone had been waiting for had arrived, homecoming night. The dance proved to be worth the wait as ASB's 70s themed homecoming dance was a big hit among attendees. All around the quad was 70's themed decorum, Chick-Fil-A to enjoy, photobooths, games and plenty of dance space for everyone. There was something for everyone and all of the night's attendees had a fun-filled evening. Bonnie Koo (12) was happy to be at the dance, "The last time I went to a homecoming dance was in Freshman year but this one was just as memorable. I plan to go to as many school events this year and this one was so fun and I'm really glad I was able to go."

## Online Vs. In-Person

WRITTEN BY

DEBORAH SON



Cypress High School, was filled with excitement, risk, and big changes since the COVID-19 pandemic danger decreased and students returned. To know more about the students' opinions of online school versus in person, Centurion Spotlight decided to create an anonymous online survey. The survey consisted of whether they preferred online school or in person school, their reasoning, and how their grades were affected due to this sudden change.

The survey concluded that more students preferred in person school over online school, the most popular reason being that 48% had a better mentality, 90% were able to see their friends, 77% were able to socialize with their classmates, and 46% were able to procrastinate less. On the other hand, students liked to have school online because 74% were in a comfortable environment, 67% had better grades, 64% were able to wear their pajamas, and 41% did not have to drive to school every morning.

Francine Lois Gascon, a freshman student at Cypress High School said, "I like going to school in person because I can connect with people more and I can take a break from screens."

The campus security aide, Carlos Garcia, was here last year even through the pandemic. However, he said that he liked seeing the students in school because it was "empty" before the students came and flooded the hallways.

As students continue to be in person at school, they will need to adjust to more changes after having online school for a year.

## Centurion Fall Fashion Climbs to New Heights

WRITTEN BY: ANELINA ALEGRE

A glimpse into the student body of Cypress High School reveals new clothing styles emerging this fall. As students revamp their wardrobe to fit the flourishing trends, they exhibit unique new fashion colors and designs.

A popular style that's been trending lately are shoes with thick soles. Many students have been strutting around campus wearing boots or shoes with high platform soles, adding depth and flair to an ordinary shoe. Platform shoes were a popular item in 70's fashion, and they've made a comeback in 2021. According to CR Fashion Book, platform shoes originated from the Greeks in 600 BCE more than 2,000 years ago. At the time, tall shoes represented social standing: higher shoes meant higher social status. Since then, platform footwear evolved to become the biggest shoe trend of the 70's disco era. Today, chunky shoes are striking the fashion sphere once again. Mundane shoes have been transformed into impressive, eye-catching attire.

Another trend that has appeared are neat fall sweaters. With cooler weather breezing in, cozy sweaters are returning as fashionable as ever. Fashion preferences have recently shifted from solid monotone sweaters to more vibrantly colored and patterned ones. Vogue mentioned fashion designers getting "especially inventive with their creations," producing eccentric sweater styles that easily stand out. Vibrant colors represent the lively nature of the ever-changing fashion industry.

Flannel attire has been around for nearly two centuries now. They're considered both trendy and versatile, easily adaptable to any outfit choice. Flannel throw-ons are both comfortable and timeless. A significant number of students have been sporting plaid flannel jackets around campus, whether neat and buttoned up, or worn over a shirt. Flannel wear is a sight that's been around seemingly forever, but it never seems to get old.



Gina Zorilla (12th grader) rocks chunky Converse

Photo Credit: Anelina Alegre



Nikki Thach (11th grader) styles a trendy fall sweater!

Photo Credit: Anelina Alegre



Janelle Malaiba (11th grader) sports chunky Doc Martens

Photo Credit: Anelina Alegre

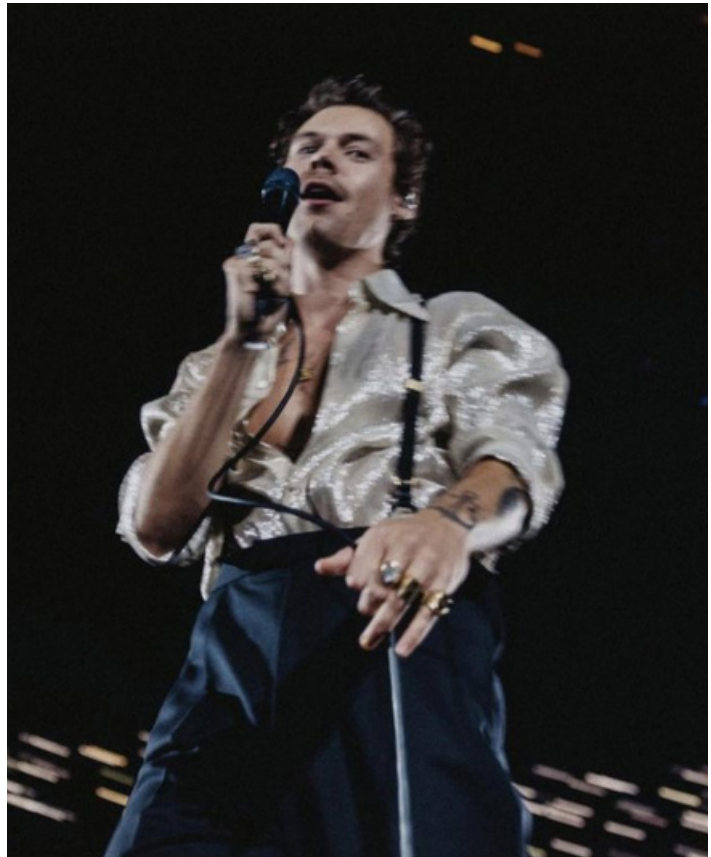
## Harry Styles Comes to Town

WRITTEN BY  
RUBY MILBURN

Pop culture icon Harry Styles began his Fine Line tour “Love On Tour,” on September 4, 2021. After being postponed over a year due to Covid, Styles initiated his tour in Las Vegas, where he sported a new variation of his classic tour outfit, with a sparkly pink vest and pink pants. Fans have been going crazy over the wardrobe for this tour, as well as the set list and special note changes during performances.

The young star who began his career in boy band One Direction has gained support from all over the world, and fans are continuously coming up with creative ways to get his attention during shows. Styles often interacts with his audiences and responds to signs his fans make. One fan held up a sign saying she just got broken up with, to which Styles said, “I’m sorry,” and continued to sing the next lyrics of the song “Sign of the Times” to her which say “everything will be alright.”

The song “Fine Line,” a fan favorite, has been featured all over social media as audience members share their videos of Styles’ note change during this transcendent song. Styles has also received elevated reactions from adding “What Makes You Beautiful,” by One Direction, along with “To Be So Lonely” to his setlist.



Harry Styles thrills fans at a recent concert  
Photo Credit: Harry Styles' Instagram

Harry Styles super fan, and teacher here at Cypress, Mrs. Jennifer Davidson, discovered Harry during quarantine through watching videos of Harry performing with Stevie Nicks on his last tour. She started watching his performances, and eventually listening to music from his band One Direction. Davidson stated, “I hope he continues to be a performer cause that’s his thing. He’s a rock star.”

Supporters pursue Styles as he moves across the country and continues to amaze audiences with his exceptional charm and talent, and fans wonder if the conclusion of the tour will result in a new album release.

# CENTURION SPOTLIGHT

## ***HALLOWEEN SEASON***

Find out what the Centurions are up to during the spooky season!



### **HALLOWEEN COSTUMES**

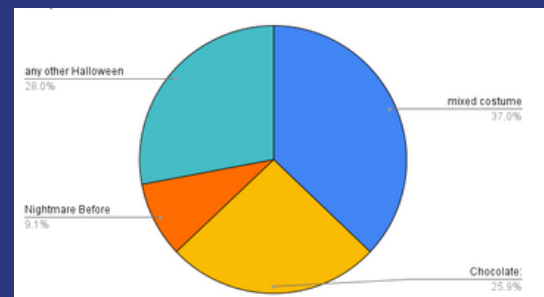
**WRITTEN BY ANISH ASHOKKUMAR**

Halloween is coming up, and in a recent survey of over 100 Centurions, students revealed much holiday information, including how much they are going to spend on their costumes and what their favorite candy and movies are for the spooky holiday season.

Exactly 51.8% of students said they are going to spend over \$10 on their costumes this year. Also, 24.8% of the students decided to make homemade costumes. A smaller amount, 8.5% of students, are buying their costumes for \$5-\$10. Finally, 14.9% of the students are buying their costumes for 0 to \$5.

It is no surprise that students are making homemade costumes because of the time during quarantine. Some people during quarantine learned to be crafty and learned how to make their own costumes and save money by not going to the Halloween store to spend money on a costume. Many students however decided to spend money on costumes to save time and get the coolest costumes. A small number of students are spending \$5-\$10 on costumes. It is a great way of saving money and saving time. Finally a decent amount of students are buying costumes for \$0-\$5 making their costume really cool but at the same time simple and money saving.

### **FAVORITE CANDY**



Of course, many people like to eat candy on Halloween, especially after trick or treating! Our survey revealed that the most popular candies for Cypress students include Reese's, Kit Kat, and regular old candy corn or anything chocolate. When it comes to movies, by far, students in the survey said they like to watch "The Nightmare Before Christmas" on Halloween night to celebrate the holiday.

There might not be enough gatherings this Halloween due to Covid-19, but with a good costume and a good sugary treat, this Halloween will be as good as any holiday.

## Volleyball Team Works Together To Make League Finals

WRITTEN BY: TALANIA WILSON

On a hot and sunny October 5th, girls volleyball won 3-1 against Tustin in our home gym. In an interview with athletic director Jeff Russell in early September, Coach Alex Griffiths said, “We are very grateful to have this opportunity considering that we didn’t have a season last year”. In the same interview Zoey Henson, one of the volleyball captains said, “It’s great to be back in the gym.” The girl’s volleyball team has been absolutely dominating this year, with Varsity winning five in a row! The second place Centurions have a 18-3 overall record, and a 9-1 record in League.

Henson says the way they prepare for games is by doing a lot of mindfulness, because volleyball is more of mental sport, although they also work on ball control. Julia Peet, the second volleyball captain, says that she feels pure joy when she plays a game, and that volleyball is the “best sport ever.” Both captains love how close their team is and how it really is like a family more than a team. The girls continue in League finals this week.



Girl's Volleyball defeats Kennedy on October 5, 2021. Photo Credit: Talania Wilson

## Former Cypress Student Returns!

WRITTEN BY: ADAM HAWARI

Mr. Adam Wilk, the new chemistry and physics teacher, may look familiar to some. He is back at Cypress High School after graduating from Cypress years ago. In addition to teaching multiple science classes, he is also a baseball coach and cross country coach.

According to Wilk, the best part about finally being back on campus is the daily interaction he gets from students. His experiences at Cypress, back then as a student compared to now as a teacher, are very different. He said that there are now “more students” and it’s “more diverse.”

As a kid, Wilk always dreamed of being an athlete, and worked until he became one after high school. His ten years in professional baseball got him to play for numerous MLB teams like the Tigers, Angels, Mets and Twins, amongst other teams, as well as the NC Dinos of the Korean Baseball Organization.

Wilk formerly studied at Long Beach State before being drafted by the Detroit Tigers. After finishing his career he received his teaching credential and Master’s Degree in Critical Thinking from National University.

He became a teacher because he enjoys working with students and it allows him to coach student-athletes into being the best version of themselves.



Mr. Wilk showing his school spirit on jersey day.

Photo Credit: Adam Hawari



## Cypress Welcomes Mr. Kim!

WRITTEN BY: YEJI JONG

Cypress High School welcomes Mr. Kim: a new teacher in the English department, who graduated from Cal State Long Beach. His passion for teaching started in his Junior to Senior year of high school due to his English teachers that made learning enjoyable which further encouraged him to learn outside the classroom.

Mr. Kim's favorite part of teaching so far has been interacting with the students. He starts the week off with celebrations, where he asks his students if anything memorable happened over the weekend. On the other hand, the more difficult part of being a teacher to him is managing the work-life balance. Still, he stays optimistic and is looking forward to getting to know the faculty and students better by going to more activities and events such as football and basketball games and chaperoning dances. Outside of school, Mr. Kim enjoys watching basketball (especially his favorite player: Kyrie Irving) and listening to artists such as Kenderick Lamar.

During his time thus far at Cypress, Mr. Kim learned valuable lessons that school/college didn't teach him.

"People are really different in real life. In school, learning is very textbook, but in practice, you never know and you can only know so much about a student," he stated.

He advises college students wanting to be teachers to try observing as much as they can and to be in the classroom often.



Mr. Kim is a new English teacher at Cypress!  
Photo Credit: Yeji Jong

Mr. Kim states, "Before you even decide on going to college to be a teacher, really find out why you want to be one."

A word of advice he has for his students is to always be kind since no one knows what others are going through. He sometimes advises himself to not be so critical whenever he makes mistakes.

"I tell myself that it's ok to make mistakes and I shouldn't be too hard on myself."

Let's all warmly welcome Mr. Kim to the Centurion family!



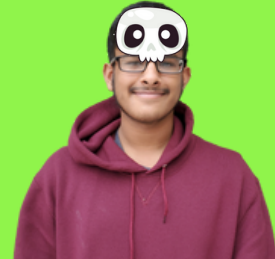
The Centurion Spotlight 2021-2022



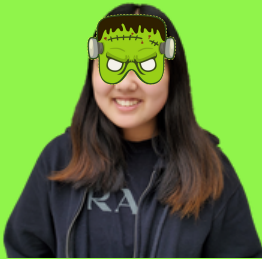
Jake Harris  
Staff Writer



Talania Wilson  
Staff Writer



Anish Ashokkumar  
Staff Writer



Deborah Son  
Staff Writer



Ye Ji Jong  
Editor-in-Chief



Adam Hawari  
Staff Writer



Ruby Milburn  
Staff Writer



Anelina Alegre  
Staff Writer



Anna Nguyen  
Staff Writer



Kristy Takacs  
Adviser

The Centurion Spotlight is produced monthly by the students in the Journalism Class in Room 325.

