

Dear Maggie,

This might seem like a personal question but; how much hot glue is too much hot glue? My kid is batty for Halloween and my dining room table could be the set of Project Runway right about now considering all the scraps of fabric and the toilet paper rolls he's going to "make into nunchucks". I'm no Tim Gunn so I'm going to need some guidance here! I have heard murmurs about a Halloween Festival while chatting on the blacktop but when I checked all 50 of those Facebook pages you suggested, I couldn't find any information about how Halloween is celebrated at SMOS. Please help me make this Halloween eerie-sistable!

-Mummy of the Year

Dear Mummy,

While I usually consider myself more of a Gretchen Wieners than Caty Heron from Mean Girls, I definitely side with Cady on this one. When it comes to hot glue, The Limit Does Not Exist! I'm here, warts and all, to lift your spirits to tell you that you are correct, SMOS does have a Halloween Festival each year. Luckily, I've been around for roughly 104 years so I have seen it all and I can tell you that Halloween has been celebrated in a variety of ways over the years. I have watched the celebrations evolve from a Trunk or Treat event to an after school event with pumpkin carving, face painting and games to its current iteration where many of these fun things are combined into an event during school hours. The reasons for its evolution over the years ranged from the changing dynamic of the neighborhood, to too many Fall events filling families schedules and many parents at the time expressed a desire to not have another event where kids were pumped with sugar and boy do I feel that last reason deep down in my soul!

Currently, Halloween Fest is hosted by the Student Council and will be held on October 27th this year. Each class gets a 30 minute time slot in the morning where students can celebrate in their costumes while participating in games and activities, like cornhole and freeze dance, and a costume contest. There will even be chances to win prizes! In the afternoon, teachers and room parents usually organize a party where each class celebrates individually.

Despite the copious amounts of pumpkin spice and everything nice at Halloween Fest, this fest isn't a total free for all! There are a few rules; no weapons (sorry about the nunchucks bud!), only safe shoes for recess or gym, if the costume requires wearing a mask, it can only be worn outside at Halloween Fest or during the class party, limited face paint, regular makeup is ok. Lastly, while I do want everyone to look fa-boo-lous please choose an appropriate theme for school. Save the severed heads and gorey eyeballs for another time.

I believe this year's Halloween Fest will be fang-tastic, I can feel it in my bones (well, I would if I had any)! Thanks for coming to my pun-kin patch this week! Creep it real Dragons!

-Maggie