

ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY'S
2024 SCARY STORY WRITING CONTEST WINNERS

KIDS INK

A LITERARY MAGAZINE WRITTEN BY KIDS FOR KIDS

Candy Eater

Catherine, Grade 3

When I go trick or treating,
I hope to get sour patch kids.
I hope people set up a haunted
house that scares kids with real life
clowns.
Nothing scares me - nothing!
Walking down the street in the dark,
I see a shadow following me.
Nothing scares me - Nothing!
A vampire followed me home.
Nothing scares me - Nothing!
A ghost was in my bedroom wearing
my sweater.
Nothing scares me - nothing!
My bag is full of candy, and I leave it
in my room.
I come back and it's empty!
My Mom ate it all - that's the
scary thing!!



Untitled

Deirdre, Grade 3

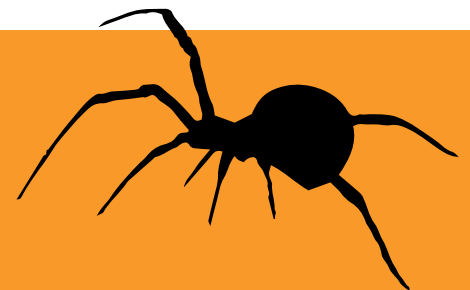
It was a dark and stormy night. I was walking down a path. Someone was following me, I tried to ignore it but I could not. I went to my house and locked my door. I went back out there and in the blink of an eye I was gone. I woke up and all I saw was a man that had clown makeup and black clothing. I had no idea where I was, but it was dark. I tried to run but he caught me. I knew he was going to strike. Last thing I heard was my mom screaming. Every day I scream at 3:00 AM but no one answers.

The Field Trip

Maya, Grade 4

The field trip to New Jersey was supposed to be fun, but it turned into a nightmare. Every night when we fall asleep, we're pulled into a dark, terrifying world where we can't escape. I'm Wendy, and ever since the trip, my classmates and I have been trapped in the same nightmare. We're always running from something we can't see, but we can feel it getting closer each night. The world gets darker, and the shadow feels like it's almost touching us. The air is cold, and a thick fog makes it hard to breathe. No matter how fast we run, we don't get anywhere—it's like we're stuck.

Last night, I heard something breathing behind me, closer than ever before. I didn't want to turn around, but I could feel it—something big and terrifying. My legs were so tired, but I kept running. Then I tripped, and everything went black. I woke up in my bed, heart pounding, but I knew it wasn't over. It's getting harder to wake up every morning, like the dream is trying to keep us trapped. I barely made it to school today, still shaking. "Morning, Mrs. Callahan," I whispered, still too afraid to sleep again.



Untitled

Edward, Grade 5

In the aztec time the aztecs were afraid of a man half lion and half human. His name Was Jamal histrodnia the People were afraid of him because he could look like a normal human and then attack in the right time. So the aztecs started worshipping to their god hoping thay they are not next. It Was said that jamal when he turned human he looked like a handsome men that attracted many women. Aztect women were in troble not only Will he attack women he would ruin the aztec crops. This caused mayham in the Villages of the aztecs many people went missing left a right they were running out of food. One Day a girl named tasha was going on a walk and then saw a beutiful man called Jamal. Jamal said to tasha "we should go and take a walk in the forest". TO the forest was skechy it was empty,and scary it took a while but she agreed. Then out of nowhear jamal turned himself into his real form and ready to atack. Tasha ran looking for the nearest Village. "Help help" she scramed and then the god of fire militon decided to help her but in one condition "you must hand me your future son" tasha said yes immediatley. In the end militon burned jamal so much he became the sun. And thats why we have the sun. It says that jamal's soul still lurkes around the World.



Untitled

Eliya, Grade 2

It was a dark and stormy night.
lights went out all through the town. I
looked outside and flash! lightning went
crazy.
And then something appeared in the
shadows. It was coming to my house and
I shivered.
I called for my parents. But they were
nowhere to be seen.
Then I saw it.
It was just a dog :)



Untitled

Bianca, Grade 3

At midnight, on a chilly night,
Werewolves howl out of sight.
The door creaks open with
Ghastly air, footsteps coming
Loud and clear. Did you hear?
But there is no one there.
The chandelier flickers
And you hear an eerie cry,
When you look out the window
There is nothing but a murky sky.
In the night, ghost whispers
Make you shiver and feed your fears.
Quiet streets and rustling trees,
Spirits lurking in your dreams.
Witches flying in the air,
Zombies creeping in your nightmare.
The wind whispers for all to hear,
Scary Halloween is here!

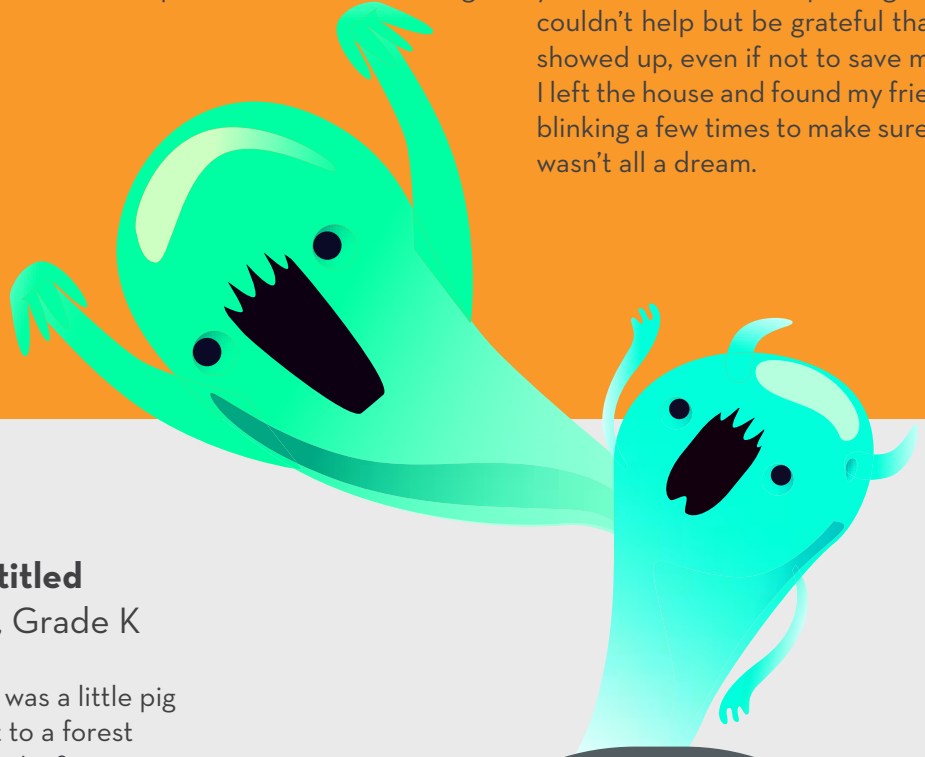
Abandoned Mansion

Arielle, Grade 7

Laughter struck the crisp air while my friends and I joyfully hopped from house to house. The dim street lights illuminated the way as I slowly drifted away as I felt a presence pulling me. Before I knew it, I was standing in front of an abandoned mansion that had not been used for many years. I looked around to find my friends, but they were nowhere. I ran around the whole neighborhood, but it was like I was going in a circle. I ended up back at the mansion every time. The street light flickered off and on before going out, and as if almost in sync with the lights, I heard cries of despair coming from within a wave of chills swept over me, raising goosebumps across my skin. I turned around to leave, but the gates closed and locked themselves as I tried to open the gates, but the iron and

steel would not budge. I pulled out my phone, but there was no service. "How?" I thought; the cell tower was a few blocks down. Realizing that the only way out was to face whatever darkness was waiting for me inside, I prayed for my life before heading in. I could only hope it was just some dusty old floorboards and not what I dreaded might wait for me inside as I opened the door, and a light

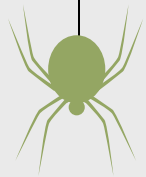
gust of wind flowed past me, sending chills across my skin. I summoned up the courage to call for help, but my words of despair just echoed around the room then suddenly, I heard the pounding of footsteps coming up the porch steps. I went to hide, but it was too late. "THE building inspector!" I said in confusion and relief, The man yelled at me for trespassing, but I couldn't help but be grateful that he showed up, even if not to save me as I left the house and found my friends, blinking a few times to make sure this wasn't all a dream.



Untitled

Geena, Grade K

Once there was a little pig
He went to a forest
He picked a flower
he saw the flower open and had sharp teeth
the flower bit the little pig
And turned him into a mummy
A baby mummy came and was looking for his mommy
The mummy saw the mummy and said Mommy!
They both cried and smiled.





Untitled

Christian, Grade 5

On Halloween night when the library closes at 9pm after everybody goes home, the library comes to life.

The stuffed animals read the books, so they are smart like us.

They have food fights and cooking competitions.

The books fly everywhere like colorful butterflies.

The trains go everywhere and anywhere they want to go.

The ghosts read and make arts and crafts in the Makery.

The computers play party music.

All the movements make the sensors go off.

The books, stuffed animals, food, trains just fall where they are when the Police arrive.

OMG what a mess.

They need a better cleaning team.

The police investigated to see who or what did this mess.

The security cameras recorded everything.

The Police saw the chaos and the best party ever.

So now, every 31st of October the police come party at the library too.



Untitled

Cayden, Grade 2

A vampire bit me

I screamed loud and ran outside

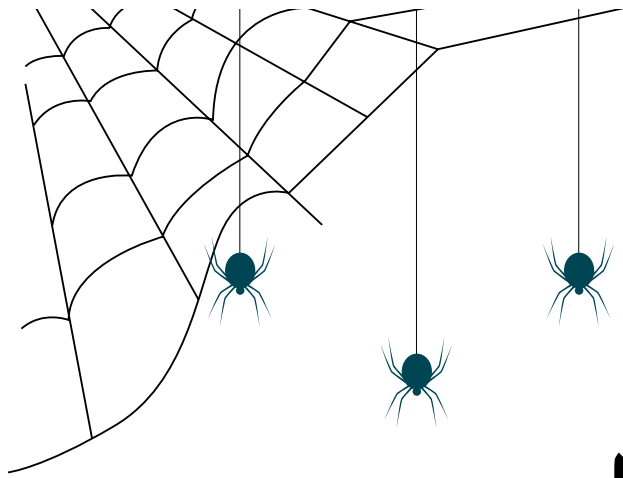
I was so afraid



Room 202

Olivia, Grade 3

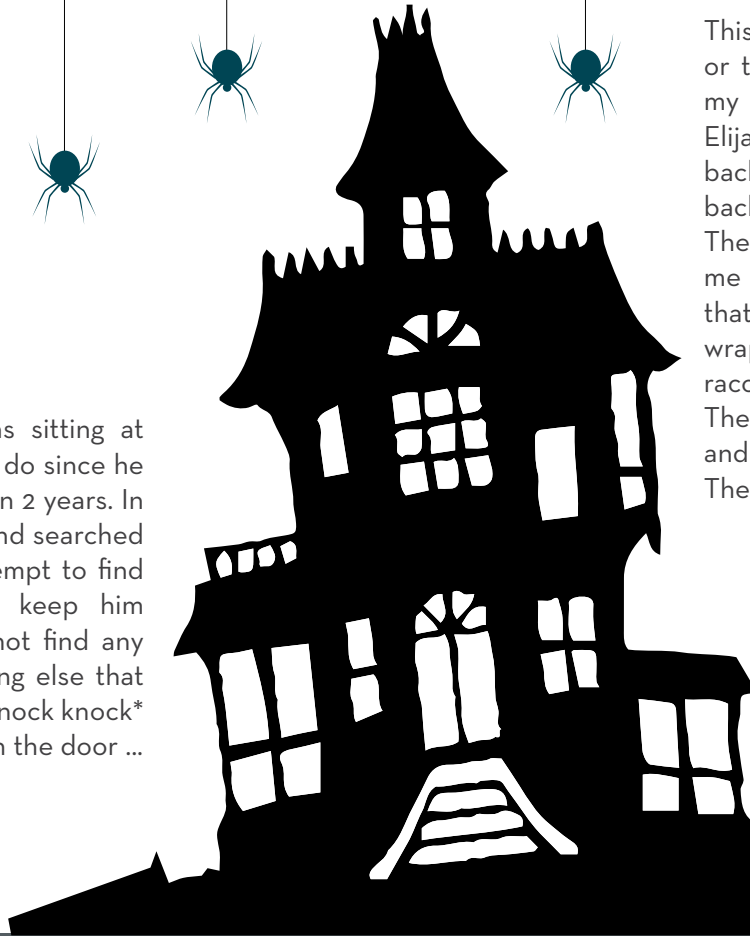
Once upon a time there was a girl named Rachel. She lived in an apartment with her mom, dad, and her sister Lily. Today was her sister's birthday, so she went to the lobby for a birthday cake. She bought her sister's favorite, mint chocolate chip ice cream cake. When she went back to her apartment it was gone! She thought she was lost but she couldn't have been. She was so confused. She sprinted down the hall and spotted a man she had never seen before. She told him she was lost and her apartment number was 202. He said room 202 got tore down due to the incident. She panicked! She did not know what else to do. So, she quickly put a candle in the cake, lit it, and wished for her apartment back. When she opened her eyes, she was standing right in front of apartment 202. She opened the door and saw her sister. Her sister saw the cake and asked who blew out my candle?



Untitled

Jazmine, Grade 8

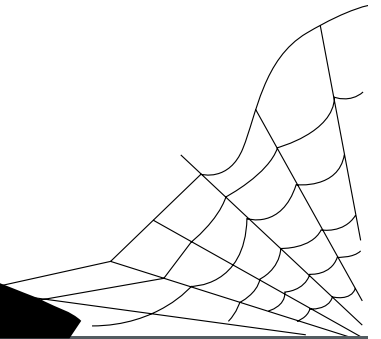
The last man on earth was sitting at home bored with nothing to do since he has been alone for more than 2 years. In those 2 years he searched and searched all over the earth in an attempt to find someone else who could keep him company, however he did not find any sign of civilization or anything else that showed life, but suddenly, *knock knock* there was sudden a knock on the door ...



Untitled

Asher, Grade 1

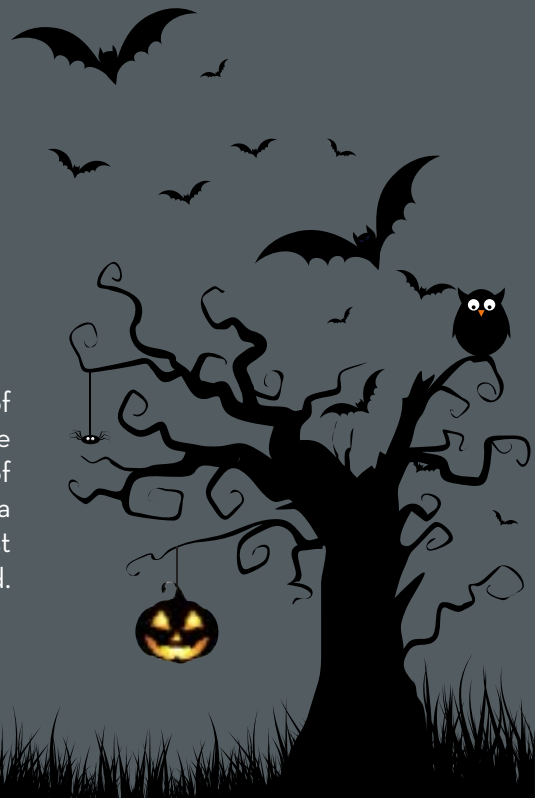
This is a Halloween mystery. I went trick or treating for Halloween with my dad, my mom, and brothers Gabriel and Elijah. Something tapped me behind my back! I looked behind me then looked back and my candy bag was empty! Then my brothers said they would help me find it. Suddenly I saw something that was on the ground. It was all of the wrappers! And then I followed them to a raccoon & squirrel having a candy party! The raccoon and squirrel shared with me and Gabriel & Elijah!
The end.



The Tale of Gordon the Vampire

Levi, Grade 1

Once upon a time a boy named Gordon was sleepwalking in a dark room. One of the doors in the room was open and he walked towards it and when he entered he discovered a slide which he fell down because he was still sleeping. At the bottom of the slide was a long hallway with two guards. At the end of the hallway there was a vampire. He tried to bite Gordon but missed! Then he tried to bite him on the arm. Just then he woke up and screamed aaaaaah! It was just a dream and he was back in bed.



Untitled

Corazon, Grade 5

We all hopped out of the cars with a pep in our step. We were so excited for the volleyball game .There is one problem...how do we get up the hill ? I saw a footpath and said we should go that way. There was another, shorter way but it gave me bad vibes. The team said "yeah sure" but Penelope said "but there is a faster,prettier, shorter way up" the rest of the team looked worried,they must get the same feeling as me.But Penelope bolted off, we all thought nothing of it and went up the long way. When we got to the cabin we all started calling dibs on bunks then it started to rain. We heard a knock at the door but not the friendly kind of knock, we all looked at each other nervously. I looked through the blinds to see Penelope standing at the door. As I started to open the door to take her out of the cold rain , I saw a horrific sight. My friend's feet and legs were growing fur and soon she was a full blown monster. That's all I remember before I blacked out into a sea of terrified girls.

Untitled

Hennessy, Grade 4

Boots are crunching in the snow,
My mermaid tail doesn't show.
We cry "brr" over and over.
Confused because it's only October!
The snow was piling up fast,
we didn't have time to gasp before I
slipped and fell on my face!
I yelled we need to get to home base!
We race home and ponder everything
we've seen. This has been a snowy
Halloween!!!

Untitled

Anna, Grade 2

Once I opened my closet and I saw a monster.
It said " Hello I am a very scary very hairy monster named Larry!"
And then I opened my dresser drawer and out popped a ghost!
And she said 'My name is Mary'
And Mary said she liked berries.
And she also said she really liked Larry!
And I asked them "do you have any other friends?"
And they said "No"
and I said "why"
and they said "because everyone is afraid of us."



Untitled

Alessandra M., Grade 6

For the short seconds that people walked by the century-old abandoned house for, the ephemeral feeling of abhor and fear slowly crept up and right back down their spine. What was the most horrifying part of the house was the well kept yard. No one was ever spotted providing for or even planting the beautiful and scary Black Velvet Petunia flower. According to locals, there is a legend that the spirit of the woman who lived there takes care of her garden every day. And one day, a little girl dared to enter the garden on a dark and dreary day. As the little girl entered the garden, she stepped on what felt like soft and freshly laid soil. She decided to observe the flowers as they looked majestic as they blew in the wind. The girl observed for at least ten minutes as locals stopped to watch the brave girl. After a while they decided to walk away as nothing had happened to the crouched-down little girl who was observing the flower. Suddenly, the wind started to howl even louder. And slowly, the flower started wither and began to blow away. The little girl, confused, chased after the remains of the flower faster and faster across the yard, dodging the obstacles in front of her like dead trees and rusty wheel barrels. She reached at the highest extent she could to reach it, but her results were futile. She felt a pull on the lower part of her leg, assuming it was just pains from running. The little girl then tried to walk away, but realized that she was stuck and that she was sinking into the ground with no escape.



Untitled

Caitlin, Grade 7

Lizia was just a girl and she just wanted to find her so-called “dead” mother. So Lizia had snuck out of the house at 7am, just like her mom had done, she’d taken the same exact bus route her mom had, and she’d walked to the same field in the middle of nowhere her mom had. She’d stared at the same spot into the woods that her mom had when she noticed something shiny and golden, that looked like it had been attached to her mom’s jacket. It was most definitely her mom’s button, and Lizia picked it up excitedly, not thinking about what could happen. Suddenly there was a BOOM and the ground started to shake, knocking Lizia to the ground and causing her to cower. A croaking voice began to echo around Lizia saying, “You dare come to these woods, my woods, just like your scrappy mother! Well you will pay! Muwahahaha!” The voice began to cackle while Lizia screamed and cowered even more. “Please, no, I only wanted my mom, she was my life before you took her!” But it was too late. The tree branches from the forest shook as they reached down and grabbed a screaming Lizia. And then she was gone, and her dad had no one left, before he went through the same process and found himself in their same terrible position.



monsters
 are red
 eyes are green
 What's The Scariest
 Thing?



Boo!

Untitled
 Lily Rose, Grade K



Untitled
 Betsy, Grade 4

its a scary halloween night.
 a full moon in sight.
 a smell of candy fills the air.
 spooky decorations are every where.
 chocolate, chewy, sour, sweet
 witch one do you like to eat?

Untitled
 Axel, Grade K

The skeleton was high on the shelf.
 It was scary and spooky, but I had to
 have it. It would look great on our front
 yard. Mom asked the cashier what the
 price was and—good news! It was on
 sale! \$200. Horrifying.

Untitled

Harvey, Grade 4

One day Fred Krinnle junior was at school. he previously had heard a rumor about if you cross your fingers it will give you good luck, so Fred decided to tape his fingers crossed. Later that day, Fred's best friend, Jackson, saw that Fred's fingers were crossed, so he dared Fred to go to the old cemetery at midnight, and Fred accepted the dare.

At 11:50 pm. Fred walked over to the cemetery. "I really wish that I didn't accept the dare," Fred thought as he walked. Just then, he saw the first grave of the cemetery, it was Fred's great-grandfather's grave. Suddenly, it started to rain, and before Fred could find shelter, an old-timey car pulled over, and the door opened.

"Great-grandpa?" Fred said, confused. "Hop in, things can get a bit spooky at this time," said Fred's great-grandfather, and Fred went into the old car. Fred's fingers (which were taped crossed) were feeling uncomfortable, so he took the tape off.

After a while, Fred's great-grandpa said, "I heard you say 'great-grandpa' back there when I picked you up, I don't know if that's some sort of mistake—or something?"

"That's because you are my great-grandfather," replied Fred.

"I never wanted kids!" Shouted Fred's great-grandpa, and he ripped off his face revealing a skull.

"Why did I take that tape off of my fingers?" Thought Fred, and that was the last thing he ever thought in his life.



Untitled

Marnie, Grade 5

The wind blows, the wolves howl, babies cry, parents stare.

Crows fly high, in the dark open sky.

Wandering strangers roam the streets.

Black cats jumping as I watch them screech. I blink and everything is gone.

Now I see smiling babies, happy parents.

A blue open sky.

But the black cats are still here.

They're all looking at me, with their red eyes and black ears.

All facing me.





Untitled

Jacob B., Grade 6

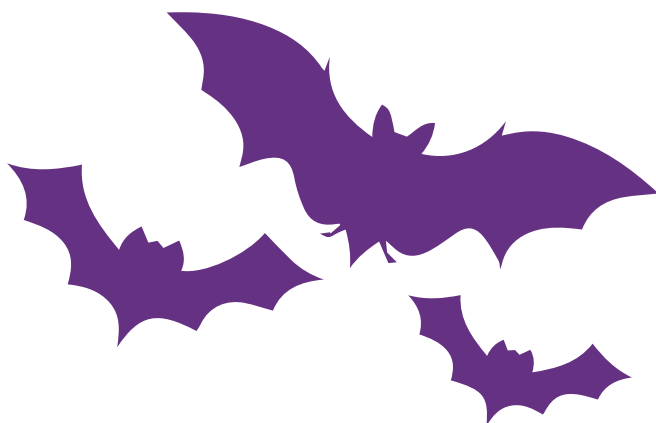
As I looked out into the vast cornfields of our farmhouse backyard, I heard the front door open and my father clomped into the house. I clambered downstairs and saw he was carrying a scarecrow. "This should do the trick," he said. "No more crows will be messing with the crops now." I carefully examined the scarecrow's head and realized it was wearing a hat woven of straw with a scarlet stain on the brim. Its clothes were torn and its limbs were scrawny and weak. When I looked into its empty eyes, I was unnerved to see something life-like flash. That night as I passed the window to crawl into bed, I saw the ghastly scarecrow posted in the fields. Out of nowhere, the scarecrow's eyes were blazing and it stalked the fields with malicious intent. "Mom," I cried. "Look out the window!"

"Go back to sleep," she said wearily but I was already at the back door when I heard a scream come from outside. I burst out the door, and to my horror, I saw my dad strung up on the wooden cross that positioned the scarecrow, his arms bent and completely limp, his clothes and body filled with straw, his face contorted with pain and shock. The last thing I saw before I blacked out was the blood-stained hat on my father's head that had topped the scarecrow my father brought home just the day before.

Untitled

Charlotte, Grade 6

I woke up in the middle of the night because something did not feel right. Even though I was in so much fright I decided to go to sleep for the rest of the night, but I after that night I never saw daylight.

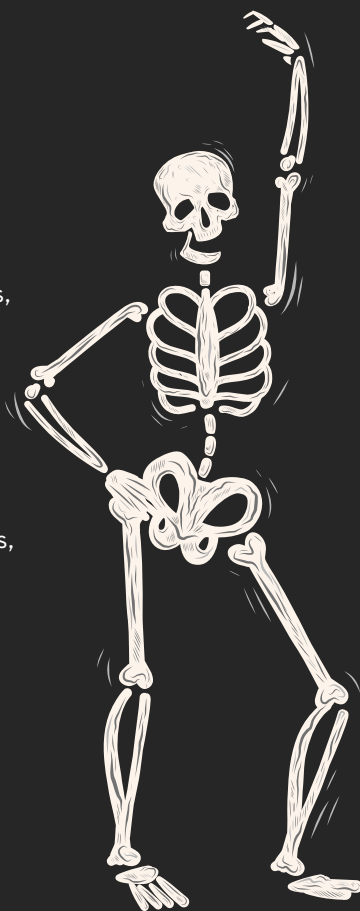




All on Hallows Eve

Ben A., Grade 6

The Skeletons come out from their graves,
The Bats come out from their caves,
All on Hallows eve.
The Zombies they groan,
The Ghosts they moan,
All on Hallows eve.
The Witches fly on their brooms,
The Wizards they stir potions with spoons,
All on Hallows eve.
The Boogeymen boo,
And I think their true,
All on hallows eve.
The goblins they'll make you say eek!



Untitled

Dominic, Grade 2

One time a guy named jake moved into a new house and he heard something in the attic. he thought it was a ghost. his friend zak came over and he wanted to play in the attic. jake told him not to, but zak did anyway. jake ran up into the attic, but when he looked in the attic his friend was gone. jake saw a ghost and then jake disappeared. They were never seen again.



SPECIAL EVENT!

**SHORT AND SCARY WINNING WRITERS
READ THEIR STORIES**

**Saturday Oct. 26 • 2-3 p.m.
Large Meeting Room • Families**

Be prepared to get scared!
Student winners of the Short and Scary
Writing Contest share their spooky tales.

**Thank you
to everyone who
submitted a
scary story!**

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