

# The Loomis Chaffee Log

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## Letter from the Editors

Dear Readers,

As Fall Term 2 draws to a close, the Log is proud to present its first print issue of the year.

It has always been the Log's goal to be a platform through which our community both voices itself and stays informed and connected. In hopes of making these goals possible and more accessible with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we have shifted our publication online since last spring.

However, in light of recent major events and changes nationwide and schoolwide, we decided that it was important for us to publish a print issue, both to honor our cherished traditions and ensure that voices from our community are heard in a time of uncertainty and change.

This issue is presented in a different format: instead of having the traditional five different sections, this issue is split into two main topics – COVID-19 pandemic related changes and influences in our community, and reflections on the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election.

We hope these sections will give a voice to students who feel passionate about what they believe in and want to be heard, and for the rest of us, hopefully, this will be a chance to see and try to understand what our peers



Graphic by Julie Chung '21

The 2020-2021 Log editorial board is led by Editors in Chief Stephanie Zhang '21 and Victoria Che '21, Managing Editors Kelly Xue '21 and Eric Song '21, and Director of Design Julie Chung '21.

think.

In the face of the pandemic, Loomis Chaffee has had to make difficult decisions that changed school structure and campus experience. As unforeseen circumstances arise, the school continues to adapt in order to keep our students, faculty, and staff safe. In moments like these, The Log strives to inform our community members of these decisions and also communicate the reasoning and decision-making process.

Starting our 2020-2021 year, The Log has witnessed about a 30% increase in the number of our writers in general, and more than a 50% increase in our Opinion writers. The Editorial Board is happy to see so many students devoting themselves to connecting and informing the LC community in a difficult time like this. We hope that The Log will continue to be a place where all of you who want to be heard will feel comfortable expressing yourselves.

Here at the Log, we will continue to inform the Loomis Chaffee community on relevant and interesting topics and to provide a platform where a diverse array of student voices can be heard.

As always, thank you for your readership, stay safe, and we hope that you continue to follow us at thelclog.org.

## Alumni Return to LC as Residential Interns

By LANA SHENG '22  
Staff Writer



Courtesy of Will Thramann '18

Will Thramann '18 currently helps to coach the boys' field hockey team.

Perhaps you've noticed the young-looking faculty who patrol the campus. You see them in the dining hall, the student center, the fitness center, the library and at your practices. They are seemingly everywhere! Perhaps the question, "Who are these people?" has crossed your mind, as they remind you to leave through the proper exit.

These young adults are recent graduates hired by Loomis Chaffee as part of an internship program spearheaded by Mr. James O'Donnell, director of auxiliary and summer programs.

The decision to hire these interns came after Fall Term 1, when the administration noticed that the faculty was bearing a heavy load in order to provide the same high-quality experience for LC students. These interns help to alleviate the faculty's duties such as supervision, dorm duty, or coaching.

The school reached out to recent alumni through word of mouth, and fortunately, many were willing to help out. Now, ten interns have joined the LC community.

On top of supervision duties around campus, these versatile interns also act as dorm affiliates or coaches for teams. Some faculty coach multiple sports, and since sports from all seasons are running this term, teams are understaffed.

Michelle "Shelley" Fickett '19, a varsity soccer player when she attended LC, now helps coach the girls' varsity soccer team. Aidan Murphy '18, helps coach the boys soccer team. The hockey and lacrosse teams have John Fiallo '18, and for field hockey, Will Thramann '18 is there to help.

"It's pretty good. People listen to you and they know what they should be doing. You just have to remind people of the protocols," Michelle said. Speaking of the challenges she's encountered, Michelle shared that "it's hard saying the same things over and over again. You have to figure out how to remind people, while understanding they want to hang out."



Courtesy of Michelle Fickett '19

Michelle "Shelley" Fickett '19 helps to coach the girls' varsity soccer team.

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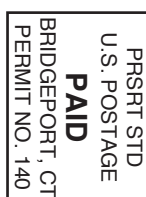
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PRESIDENTIAL



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# Shultz Fellows Reflect on the U.S. Election

*Editors' Note: The Shultz Fellowship is a bi-partisan, student-led club named after George P. Shultz, who graduated from Loomis Chaffee in 1938 and dedicated decades to civil service. The group meets regularly to discuss politics and current events. Six Shultz Fellows offered their reflections on the recent 2020 U.S. presidential election.*



Photo Courtesy of Lily Potter '21

By **LILY POTTER '21**  
*Opinions Editor*

Although the election results provide me with relief about the future of the U.S., particularly in regard to climate action, foreign policy, and race relations, the 2020 election has reinvigorated my hatred for American idealism of democracy. The general population is wholly unqualified to make decisions about governance, and the public's readiness to accept democracy as a sacred institution disturbs me.

Constant story posts about why every American has a duty to vote, some even saying, "No matter who you vote for, just

vote!" exemplifies the unquestionably high regard Americans have for democracy. However, democracy should not be unequivocally hailed as our savior when one vote has minimal power and votes are cast by individuals who are largely ignorant to the processes of government.

People have praised the record-setting turnout in 2020 as an indication of interest and participation in the voting process through which people participate in democracy. Yes, it does prove more people participate in governance, but how many people should be involved in governance? Are 150 million people all qualified to have a hand in choosing who will handle issues

like climate change and nuclear proliferation?

I would much rather be subject to the fate of a philosopher king than the general public at the moment.

I do not mean to state that democracy should be abolished completely, but perhaps to take a more skeptical approach. Consider Churchill's statement, "Democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried."

We should still be aware of the flaws of democracy and question how much power citizens should have even in times when an election goes our way.

By **AIDAN GILLIES '21**  
*Contributor*

The 2020 election was indeed a battle for the soul of our nation. It was a battle over polarization, and that battle is still raging. In my opinion, what is more indicative of any democracy, rather than who are in power, is the system's ability to work with those in power after they have been chosen.

This means that no matter who is elected at each four-year mark, everyone does everything they can to allow the government to function and provide for its people, despite their personal feelings about one individual or another.

Does this mean bowing down and let-

ting your ideas and beliefs stay quiet? Not at all. Rather, it means having your voice heard and engaging in the process as opposed to detracting from it due to some disgruntlement.

After the 2016 election, this did not happen. Rather, politicians on both sides dug their trenches deeper and created such a venomous relationship that in the last week before the election, the Republican majority did not even see a need to include the democratic members of the Senate who boycotted Amy Coney Barret's Supreme Court nomination hearing.

That is not how good government works. So in the days after the results of the 2020 election were released, I tried not to fall back on my preexisting beliefs that

Joe Biden would be a good president and rather tried to look back on how the nation responded.

I wanted to see whether people would question the election as they did in 2016, whether people would reject a leader who did not represent the policies they believed in, whether winning or losing an election would galvanize an already active base on either side.

As of this moment, I am unsure. Tension still seems to be settling in the air around us; reports of news all across the country, though not to the same extent as 2016, are still highly unsettling. I think we have made progress with the 2020 election, but the story of this election is not over and we still have a long way to go.



Photo Courtesy of Aidan Gillies '21

By **RYAN FORTANI '22**  
*News Editor*

The talking heads got it wrong again—or at least partly so. What was expected to be a sweeping Democratic victory turned into a tumultuous and seemingly indecisive presidential race, House race, and Senate race.

As the dust settles, a Democratic president and House in conflict with a Republican Senate has become the new reality. I would argue that this election was a loss for President Trump, but it was not a loss for Republicans.

The Democratic coalition that elected Joe Biden was united not on social issues, economic goals, or political ideology, but rather on its fervent hatred for Trump. Biden relied heavily on citizens who voted

Republican down ballot but made an exception for the chief executive.

Simultaneously, he cautiously pandered to the progressive wing of the Democratic Party to turn out and support him even if they disagreed viciously with his policies.

But now that Trump's political future is fleeting, will this newly birthed coalition sustain? I think not. Biden's base is so politically diverse that it lacks any true consensus on policies the future administration should carry out.

Thus, I genuinely believe any Biden policy will be viewed as a Biden failure by a great portion of those who helped him attain the presidency. The Republican Party, on the other hand, may have lost her most recent darling child, but what I think this election showed us is that her ideals are not on the way out.

The Republican vote was markedly more diverse and regionally expansive than in 2016. With a particular focus on the increased Latino and Black male turnout, we can see how the Republican Party has started tearing a whole in the Democratic narrative.

Furthermore, what Florida's Latino vote so perfectly pointed out is that even some minorities refuse to accept this progressive, democratic socialism that is seeping its way into the Democratic Party's platform.

Ultimately, this stark disunion in both the Democrat's coalition and the party's ideals bolster the Republicans as they position themselves for a comeback.



Photo Courtesy of Ryan Fortani '22

By **AIDAN FRAZIER '22**  
*Contributor*

I believe that this election is far from over. While I doubt that President Trump's legal challenges will pan out or have a significant enough impact to affect the current results, I also do not think that he should concede.

Regardless if you believe the merit and validity of Trump's claims or if you think he is merely stalling the result, he has the legal right to challenge the results of the election. This is a fundamental part of our democracy and without a clear winner yet determined, I believe it is too soon for ei-

ther candidate to claim victory (certainly not on election night as done by Donald Trump).

I personally think that while President Trump has the right to challenge the results through our court system, and a few of his claims might have a bit of validity to them, declaring victory and ordering that votes stop being counted is unacceptable for me.

This year, more than any other prior, election security was a heavily debated issue. I believe that there were most likely instances of fraud or some type of election tampering involved in the process; however, these instances were likely small scale

efforts. Even if those instances occurred, I doubt they had a significant impact on the results, if at all.

It is also important to consider the possibility that it was more widespread than that, however unlikely that might be. This presidential election, like any other presidential election, will not be over until the investigations are complete, the courts make their rulings, the states finish their recounts, the electors cast their votes, and the president for the next four years is sworn in.



Photo Courtesy of Aidan Frazier '22

By **JORDAN KORN '22**  
Features Editor

I, like many others, fully expected this election to welcome a “blue wave.” Supposedly there would be a quick and painless death to the Trump era. A close race, dwindling Democratic seats in the House and a Republican-controlled Senate, did not feel like tangible possibilities—and yet that was our new reality.

However, no one, despite who they are surrounded by, should feel entitled to certain election results. Those who also identified with a hypothetical blue wave must

grapple with the fact that the results of the election, in its closeness and thin margins in battleground states, are simply a reflection of the current state of our country.

At Loomis Chaffee, the liberal ideology belongs to a vocal majority. The left often claims the moral high ground and strength in numbers, yet after this election, Joe Biden’s contentious win is not widely accepted, and with a 50.8% majority is barely a consensus.

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we can see how the Republican Party has started tearing a whole in the Democratic narrative.

Furthermore, what Florida’s Latino vote so perfectly pointed out is that even some minorities refuse to accept this progressive, democratic socialism that is seeping its way into the Democratic Party’s platform.

Ultimately, this stark disunion in both the Democrat’s coalition and the party’s ideals bolster the Republicans as they position themselves for a comeback.



Photo Courtesy of Jordan Korn '22

By **PEDRO ARELLANO '21**  
Contributor

The entire election process has stressed me out since I arrived home last spring and started listening to podcasts trying to inform myself on how this election could shape future years in politics. I am glad the results were called and that citizens worked so hard to uphold the democratic process. The best part of this election was the voter turnout and the fact that people were excited to vote.

Yet, regardless of my political beliefs, I have not celebrated the culmination of the election or its results, because the entire campaign leading into election day and the aftermath reactions clouded my mind. I will repeat an idea that I heard on a podcast a few weeks before the election: the parties have focused most of their energy trying to raise money and launch attacks to defeat the opposing party, but they have ignored their duties as politicians to serve the American public.

Of course, this tendency always becomes extremely evident during campaign years, but the truth is that the division and discontent in America will not disappear with a change in the presidency. Democrats and Republicans will continue to use divisive language and our job as citizens will be to ensure that we remain united.

Yes, our political responsibilities continue beyond election years. We should keep informing ourselves, advocating for policies we support and making our voices heard. Most importantly, we need to heal, listen to what the other side has to say, because there is always something new to learn.

For example, before my time at Loomis and this election, I had never really thought about the effect that race has had on my life. Obviously, although I am Mexican, my skin is still white and there are a lot of privileges that come with that.

Yet, although this might be an unpopular opinion, I believe that the majority of my privileges come from my family’s fi-

nancial situation. To what extent can you attribute my financial situation to race? I have no idea.

Having been raised in Mexico, I never encountered talk about racial injustices until I came to Loomis, but looking back on things, I can tell you that everyone at my school, and other private schools of similar caliber, were white with very few exceptions.

Having realized this, I know that there is a relationship between race and privileges in Mexico, but I am not informed enough to quantify this impact. Having come to the U.S., though, I find that it is very easy for people to introduce me to their circles and feel comfortable with me, and I have realized that in some instances it has not been the same for African-American students at Loomis or even other people as I encounter them in a whole different setting.



Photo Courtesy of Pedro Arellano '21

## International Perspectives on the Election

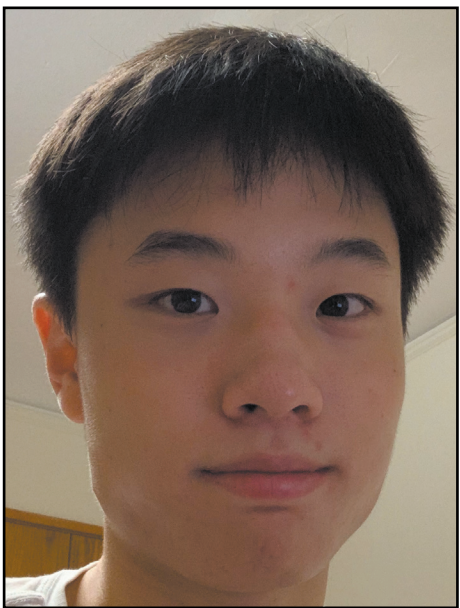


Photo Courtesy of Edward Park '23

**EDWARD PARK '23**  
Staff Writer

During the two weeks leading up to November 3, Loomis Chaffee actively educated students on election-related topics and hosted several events including a Debate Watch Party, general political discussions, and election gatherings. Yet, for international students who make up 16% of the student body at LC, what did the presidential election mean?

International students were put in a unique position during the leadup to the presidential election. Seeing a divisive political culture on social media, hearing enthusiastic political discussion amongst friends, and reading the biased news, without understanding much of what is going on, international students could easily be confused by the world around them.

Empathizing with international students, I am able to recall a similar experience with the 2016 presidential election.

It was November 8, 2016. Donald Trump had just claimed victory over his Democratic counterpart, Hillary Clinton. I recollect being woken up at 6 a.m. by my roommate, who invited me to join the dormitory frenzy. At the moment, I nonchalantly shrugged off the offer and went back to bed, believing my roommate was crazy.

Now, looking back, I realized why I had reacted in that fashion. For many international students, politics isn’t a topic broached at the dinner table, or as a matter of fact, anywhere else. Therefore, some of the international LC students have regarded this year’s presidential election as insignificant.

“I have always been distant from U.S politics. It has never impacted my family or myself, so I haven’t found a genuine reason to engage, including the election,” Seth Sukboontip '23 said.

However, due to general interest, other international students educated themselves on U.S politics and the presidential election via several sources.

“I do try to constantly keep myself updated using AP news or CNN news. If I miss anything, I would inquire about the news to my friends on campus,” Andrew Park '22 said.

Regardless of whether international students deemed the election important, the election would have major consequences on most countries across the globe.

“The winner of the presidential election will do the decision making for one of the major superpowers of the world. Even though I may not care about the election, my country will be greatly affected by it for years to come,” Seth Sukboontip '23 said.

**KATE SHYMKIV '22**  
Social Media Manager

Every vote counts. Every vote matters. I cannot find more accurate words to describe this election and its outcomes.

This past week only strengthened these statements. I can see that despite the difference in rules and regulations in each state and the existence of complex and somewhat controversial founding principles of this system like the electoral college, in the end, the election produces successful outcomes where people vote and have an opportunity to influence the change in the country.

It is unfortunate, however, that, in the days leading up to the election, many individuals showed distrust in the system and a lack of appreciation for an ability to voice their opinion and be heard.

I want to remind people how lucky they are to live in a country that values and emphasizes the importance of establishing the



Photo Courtesy of Kate Shymkiv '22

government of the people, by the people, for the people. I want to remind people of countries whose elections are highly corrupted and who have to conduct multiple revolutions in order to produce a democratic system, one of them being my home country Ukraine.

There are countries where people’s votes don’t matter and are being thrown away, but what I have seen in this country from the beginning of the vote count is nothing less than a democratic process with few to no flaws. I want to remind Americans that they live in a democratic country where the word ‘democratic’ actually holds true which cannot be said about many other “democratic” countries.

Please cherish this system and continue to adapt it to be even more effective and realize that you actually have the power to influence the changes in this country.

Also, I just want to point out how many people on campus are fully involved in the election process and possess great knowledge. I have never seen more people at such a young age be so involved in politics of their own country, and I think that is so exemplary.

**MATTHEW WENG '21**  
Staff Writer

For someone like me, who does not hold any U.S. residency or citizenship, the stakes of the U.S. presidential election are both high

and low. It is low since the president-elect is quite literally not my president and the laws with regard to taxes and healthcare policy have no impact on me in the immediate future. However, many beliefs and policies of the future president do still have an impact on us visa holders.

In the case of the 2020 presidential election, there are two main areas of concern for me, the first being the policies regarding COVID-19 within the U.S., as I am planning on returning to campus within 2021 and into the next presidency, and the second being immigration policies and reforms.

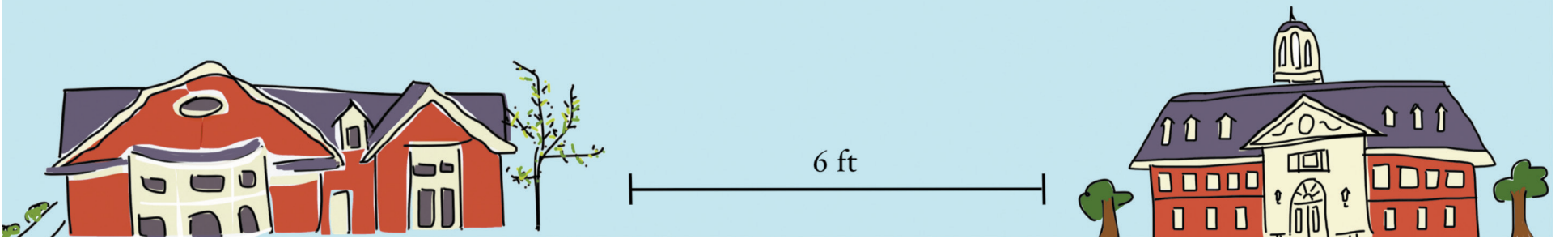
In the first case, the presidential candidates differ in their respective policies regarding the virus. Former vice president and still-too-early-to-call-president-elect Joe Biden promised a stricter policy to attempt to prevent the spread of the virus, while the sitting president believes in opening the country and ensuring that America won’t be shut down forever.

While President Trump has demonstrated an unwillingness to trust scientists and doctors about the coronavirus, his plan actually sounds more appealing especially with the news of a high-effectiveness vaccine in the final stages of becoming available to the public. As I would like to come back to the U.S. and learn in-person, I would prefer the incumbent’s policy.

In the second case, while there were no clear policy proposals on the topic of immigration, President Trump has made his position clear on the topic of illegal immigration. As a visa holder and friend to many legal immigrants who went through the painstaking process of becoming a U.S. citizen or resident, I am in favor of the current president’s hard-nosed attitude toward illegal immigrants. The Democratic party’s general inclination to accept illegal immigrants is appalling from my point of view, rendering the horrifically time-consuming and expensive process of legal immigration a mere afterthought and a waste of resources for those who actually followed the law.

Thus, preferring the position of the incumbent president on my two biggest concerns in this election, I am in support of President Trump, who, as of November 12, has not yet officially lost the 2020 election.

# COVID-19 & CAMPUS LIFE



Graphic by Stephanie Zhang '21 and Kelly Xue '21

## The Disappearance of Day Students

By **ANDREW PARK '22**  
*Melange Editor*

Walking through Grubbs Quad on a Sunday, I felt a breeze sweep across the campus grounds, highlighting the utter lack of other bodies that would have usually kept me warm. Just half an hour later, back in my own room, I finally realized why: the myriad day students who would normally walk around school on the weekends had utterly disappeared.

On November 3, 2020, Head of School Dr. Sheila Culbert sent out a mass email to all students, parents, faculty, and staff, detailing a major change to Loomis Chaffee's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont's announcement that the state of Connecticut will be rolling back its reopening protocols from Phase 3 to Phase 2 due

to the recent increase in the number of local COVID-19 cases, the school has decided to not only comply with the stricter regulations but also prohibit all day students from coming onto campus on weekends.

Some day students were not excited that they had only been allowed on campus on weekends for just two weeks, with some being frustrated with such rapid revisions in the rules.

"I understand where Loomis is coming from with the new rules, but it's rather frustrating to be constantly given conflicting messages," said day student Alexa Becker '22. "I get that numbers are rising, but we haven't really had a problem yet in the area where I live, so at the moment, it feels unnecessary."

However, some of the students who were affected by the change mostly agreed with the decision of the school, as they thought it was justified by the fact that the day students

are one of the more dangerous factors from a public health perspective.

"As a day student I find it completely reasonable to ban us from coming onto campus," day student Will Natcharian '22 said. "We are the people who have the highest chance of bringing COVID-19 to all of our classrooms over the course of a day."

Of course, there were others who felt they had not been affected as strongly by the decision.

Nick Guenther '22, a day student, said he "didn't notice a difference when they changed the 'day students on campus for weekends' rules because [he] hadn't been there on the weekends at all so far this year."

"Other than any people who liked to attend all the weekend events, I think that most day students wouldn't be affected," Isabella Wang '22 said.

Later in the letter, Dr. Culbert mentioned a possibility of getting all day students to study online, which, while seemingly gratuitous now, may become a reality if the pandemic continues to move in a bad direction. Such an action may have negative consequences on the education of day students, placing possibly unfair restrictions and expectations on the students' shoulders.

As evidenced by the school's prior measures to level the playing field for all students taking Advanced Physics by moving all such classes online, learning online cannot rival learning in-person inside an actual classroom. While it is true that some classes, such as those that revolve around the physical experience inside a classroom or lab, would be affected more than others, even classes that do not revolve around such lab work lose something if taken online, such as the experience of discussing with peers in an actual physical space.

"I both understand why they're considering it and very much do not like the idea. It kind of feels like kicking day students off campus while [still] having teachers' kids go to daycare and school is a bit [contradictory]," Alexa said, reflecting on the school's consideration of such an extreme possibility.

"I would not agree with the school if they chose to move all day students online," Nick said. "Why impact our learning when we have the ability to come to campus every day, an opportunity that many students around the world unfortunately don't have right now?"

Additionally, some students commented on the fact that the change had happened so late in the term. Because most after-school sports ended their seasons the week that the email was sent out, the change would only affect a single weekend — not counting the first weekend, for which the governor had given the school some leeway in hosting pre-planned events.

"Considering sports technically ended last weekend... I don't think the changes are even necessary as the term comes to a close... which accomplishes almost nothing," Isabella Jiang '22 said.

Moreover, since Winter Term 1 will be fully online this year, some day students remarked on their feelings about missing a last opportunity to spend time with friends on the weekend.

"Not going to lie, the thing I miss the most is being able to procrastinate doing homework on campus [during the weekends] by playing party games on the third floor of Scanlan," Alexa said.

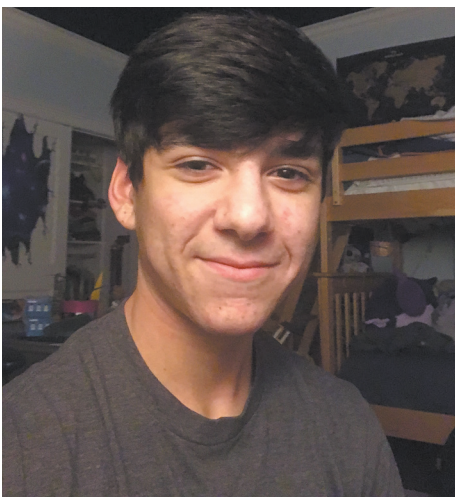


Photo by Will Natcharian '22



Courtesy of Isabella Jiang '22

Day students Will Natcharian '22 and Isabella Jiang '22

## Housekeeping and Security Staff Adapt to Pandemic

By **Hazel Le '22 and Mercy Olagunju '22**  
*Features Editor and Opinions Editor*

With the rise of COVID-19 cases in the U.S, Loomis Chaffee has taken steps toward ensuring a safer campus for the community. Working behind the scenes to guarantee campus safety, non-teaching staff, specifically cleaning staff and safety officers, take on additional responsibilities and make significant adjustments to their schedule.

To enhance dorm cleanliness, Loomis has almost doubled the number of housekeeping staff (from 12 to 20) and increased their daily cleaning requirements. While before the pandemic, the housekeeping staff cleaned the bathrooms daily and all the dorms about three times a week, they now clean the entire dorm (including stairwells and doorknobs) daily. The housekeeping staff also vacuum the hallways and take out the trash, tasks previously assigned to students as dorm work jobs.

Similarly, while campus security has maintained initial staffing numbers and routines, the officers have an added responsibility.

"[We have to] be more alert, more vigilant, and approach more people. [We] really have to be out there and be observant," said Mr. Luis Natal, campus security officer.

To that end, one entrance to town was closed and a new visitor center was built across from the health center for the officers to regulate the numbers of people coming into campus and ensure that visitors follow the health guidelines such as wearing masks and social distancing.

"We have a visitor app here on an iPad that people will sign in on. It'll ask them six types of questions, like do you have any sort of flu-like symptoms or have you travelled outside of Connecticut, and [Officer Natal] is able to screen them coming onto campus," said Mr. Christopher Lamy, director of campus safety.

Working routines have also been adjusted to accommodate and uphold COVID-19 safety protocols, which has greatly affected collaboration amongst cleaning staff.

"Even something simple like riding in a golf cart from one end to the other is something that is no longer done," said Mr. Lance Hall, director of the physical plant.

"You're now not able to do some day to day things that you took for granted. It's difficult," Mr. Lamy added, remarking on the increasing stress level in his department.

Although the changes have been stressful, the housekeeping staff have handled it well. "We have an energetic team; some people have been here for a long time and they really

love the place, so they do what needs to be done [to keep campus safe]," Mr. Hall said.

As part of their training, the housekeeping staff are encouraged to also stay alert and watchful of people's safety on campus, including themselves. For example, disposable masks are available for all staff through the Physical Plant.

However, considering the diversity and number of interactions Mr. Lamy has daily, he is conscious of his higher probability

to be exposed to COVID-19; therefore, he hasn't seen his in-laws in months.

"We also need to take care of ourselves when we're at home, so we won't bring it back onto campus. And we also got to look after ourselves on campus but we don't want to bring it home to our family," Officer Natal said.

"We have everything you will need to feel safe here," said Mr. Hall.



Photo courtesy of Chris Lamy

Officer Luis Natal greets contractors, visitors, and community members at the new Visitor Center.

# Winter 1 Online: Goodbye Snow Days, Hello Zoom Bombers

By SAMANTHA TISHLER '23  
Staff Writer

Well, fall was a good run. This winter, the snowflakes will begin to fall, the temperature will start to drop, and hopefully, our grades do not follow that same trend. It is time for our reunion. It is time for our community to return to our Zoomis Chaffee ways. Who thought we would still be using that play on words going in 2021? Not me.

This round of online learning will be different, to say the least. Our once cherished snow days are now eliminated from existence. There is no turning back now. It seems as though we must attend school like our parents claim they did: in the cold, in the snow, in the—oh wait, we only have to roll out of our bed and log onto Zoom. However, we now have no excuse. We have no reason to go to snowdaycalculator.com and determine whether it is too risky to push our homework off to the next day.

On the bright side though, we can make a cup of delicious hot cocoa before facing the computer screen and staring through the window at the unique snowflakes falling out of the sky.

Oh, if it weren't for computer screens and Tik Tok, how productive our screenager generation could be. Just as we got settled into our habits for in-person learning at LC, we now must readjust and create new habits (good or bad).

How will we ever replace our daily speed walk from Chaffee to Founders? If you are feeling ambitious, search up "Loomis Chaffee campus" on Google and walk in circles in your home. WARNING: this act could result in serious dizziness. Walk with caution.

In this round of online learning, we have the dress code down. Business on top, party

on the bottom. Whether you are in a grout-fit or your boxers, no one will know. Oh, the perks of Zoom!

For Zoom learning part II, our lovely Zoom bombers must become even more creative to assert their dominance. The new high-tech security work Zoom has installed has aggravated Zoom bombers to a new level.

However, whether you realize it or not, we all have the occasional Zoom that does not use a password to join. The likelihood of having Zoom bombers here is high. Even though these Zoom attacks are an extreme distraction, the occasional event where a teacher or a dean must politely ask our surprise guest to leave never fails to make the students laugh or smile.

Besides seeing our friends on campus, there is one major aspect of campus life the student body will miss most...the breakfast sandwiches. What are we possibly going to do without our bacon, egg, and cheese sandwiches? Quick, LC Instagram! We need a DIY tutorial on how to make our favorite breakfast sandwiches.

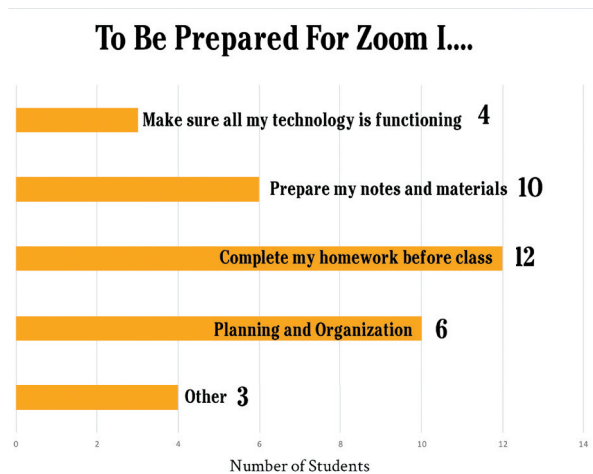
Going online for all of Winter Term 1 will result in more time for thinking and pondering the meaning of life. Is the school testing us? Are they trying to see how creative we can get with the word virtual? Do they want to know how many meetings it will take us to not have an awkward silence on a call? No matter how fascinating our thoughts get, I think we can all agree that nothing compares to the in-person experience at LC. Think about it like this, the more time we spend away from campus, the sweeter our return to our second-home will be.



Graphic by Julie Chung '21

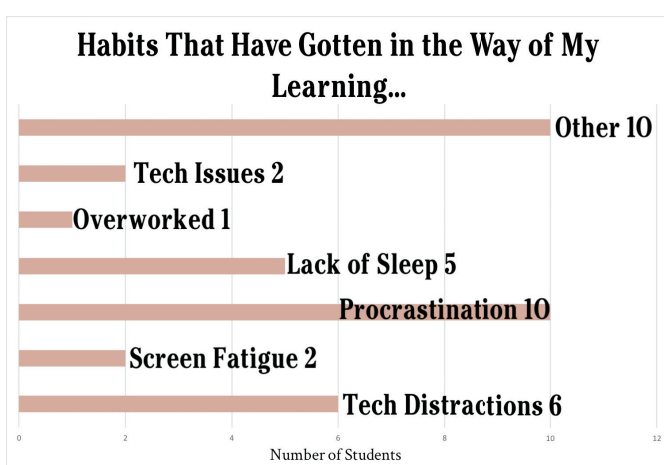
## Advice from Online Learners

37 Loomis Chaffee students who are currently learning online offered the following advice in a survey conducted by Director of Online Learning Support Mrs. Molly Pond. Go to thelclog.org for more details!



### Top Tips for Getting through Online Classes:

1. Use a planner
2. Go to office hours
3. Get ahead
4. Reward yourself



## The Loomis Chaffee Log

Issue CV, No. 1

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The Loomis Chaffee Log is the official student newspaper of the Loomis Chaffee School in Windsor, CT. We can be found online at [www.thelclog.org](http://www.thelclog.org), and we can be contacted via email at [log@loomis.org](mailto:log@loomis.org). Letters to the editor and op-ed submissions are welcome via email. The Log reserves the right to edit all letters and pieces for brevity and content. The views expressed in the Log do not necessarily reflect those of The Loomis Chaffee School. Unsigned editorials represent the collective views of the Editorial Board.

### ADVERTISING

To advertise in the Log, please contact the editors-in-chief listed above.

# A Peek Inside Batchelder Hall



Photo by Stephanie Zhang '21

The exterior of the new extension of Batchelder Hall.

*“The Batch renovations have made us the best dorm on campus, Cutler has been dethroned!”*  
- Aidan Gillies '21, RA in Batch



Photo by Minjune Song '21

The newly renovated kitchen in Batch.



Photo by Minjune Song '21

The renovated side entrance of Batch, which leads into the common room.

*“I’m really loving dorm life even with COVID. Batch is the best dorm on campus!”*  
- Caled Schuler '22, Batch resident



Photo by Minjune Song '21

The classic Batch welcome whiteboard greets students in the new common room.

*“The kids in the dorm and everyone on my floor are super welcoming and super nice to a new kid like me. I love everyone here.”*  
- Nick Turcotte '22, Batch resident



Photo by Minjune Song '21

Two Batch residents playing video games on a Saturday afternoon.

# A Peek Inside Howe Hall



Photo by Stephanie Zhang '21

Howe's common room gets some sunlight during the day.

*"We have pod meetings where we eat dorm snack together. The community is amazing and makes me feel at home."*

*- Carys Baker '22, Howe resident*



Photo by Stephanie Zhang '21

Howe Hall's single person bathroom on the first floor.

*"The bathroom curtains are especially festive and the pelican magnets help with social distancing."*

*- Emily Collins '22, Howe resident*



Photo by Stephanie Zhang '21

Cameron Kwok '22, a Howe resident, peers out her window to enjoy some fresh air.

*"People have been so respectful and adaptable with the COVID-19 restrictions that it makes the environment feel normal."*

*-Cameron Kwok '22, Howe resident*



Photo by Stephanie Zhang '21

Howe residents Simone Moales '21, Loren Jones '21, and Leah Paige '21 (from left to right) chat in the kitchen.



Photo by Stephanie Zhang '21

A currently empty double room in Howe.

*"Best room I've had in my four years at Loomis."*

*- Clara Chen '21, Howe Resident*



Photo by Stephanie Zhang '21

Eva Evans '21, a Howe resident, reading a book in her room.

*"I enjoy the copious amounts of snacks at check-in."*

*- Margot Korites '21, Howe resident*

# Fac Brat Updates: Life during COVID-19



Photo courtesy of David Rion

## Kalen Rion, 9

Son of Mr. David Rion, Director of the College Office

One of the things I like about school this year, still, is that I get to go to school some days, and in a few months I'll get to back to school full time. I don't like online learning, though, because it stresses me out, and you're on your computer all day and it can rot your brain and get you all nervous with all the computer problems. I don't like distance learning because it's tough and it can be hard to remember when class is, so that's why it's hard. And one reason I like distance learning is because I'm at home and I'm free to do whatever I want on my breaks, and I get to eat stuff that isn't in my lunch box.

Since COVID started, I think the thing that changed in me most is the ability to have more patience. Because this pandemic is taking a while and the road we're on is gonna be harsh, so I hope we can make it through this.

What I miss the most about life before COVID is that we could go to other places and visit relatives all across the country. And there are many places we can't go. We can't leave our home state and it is very rough.

To Loomis students... Make sure you have a safe drive home. Make sure you always stay safe.

And P.S., make sure to always wear a mask.

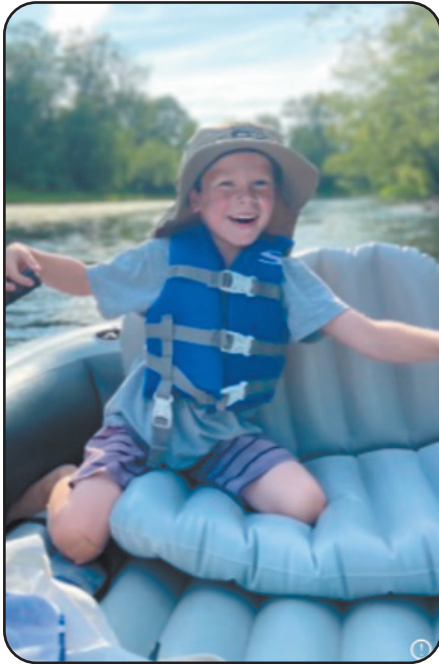


Photo courtesy of David Rion

## Ashler Rion, 7

Son of Mr. David Rion, Director of the College Office

To Loomis students... keep up the good work. Don't let Covid 19 virus stop you.

We miss seeing you. Don't give up, we'll get through this together.

*"Don't give up.  
We'll get through this  
together."*

## Phoenix Ahipeaud, 13

Daughter of English teacher Ms. Petagay Rowe '95

When Corona started nothing was really any different. People at school were joking around, laughing about it. Of course none of us knew that we were soon going to realize that this was no laughing matter. When corona-cation started, that's when a lot of things changed. I, like lots of others, thought it would be two weeks free from school with no work. And that definitely was not what it was.

*"Three quarters of the people  
I called friends and spoke  
to on almost a daily basis  
at school were just 'school friends.'"*

I started to realize as we got deeper into corona-cation that three-quarters of the people I called friends and spoke to on almost a daily basis at school were really just "school friends". I drifted apart from a lot of people and I finally realized we weren't going back when corona-cation officially turned into "quarantine."

I don't know about Windsor, but in Broward County Florida there was a curfew put out for everyone. We had to be inside from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., and I think that's what woke a lot of us up, letting us know that the pandemic wasn't going away. I started to get stressed about my school work and grades while having to work from home: even some of the teachers were a mess.

I pulled through the year, though, and things are going a lot more smoothly now. It isn't affecting me personally or anyone I know so I forget sometimes that corona is a thing. I would ask my mom and say "oh could we go to so and so?" and she would say sure then we would just remember that there's literally a whole pandemic.

# A Conversation with the Cardwells

**Question: What has changed about your life since COVID-19 began?**



**Lena:** We pretend the couch is the Bat Cave a lot.

**Adam:** Good job doing your math!



**Question: What do you like most about learning online? What do you like least?**



**Lena:** I go to mommy school. [She stays home with Mrs. Jaci Cardwell instead of going to daycare.]

**Adam:** There are different rules at school but I still can play with my friends. I have to play with a mask on.

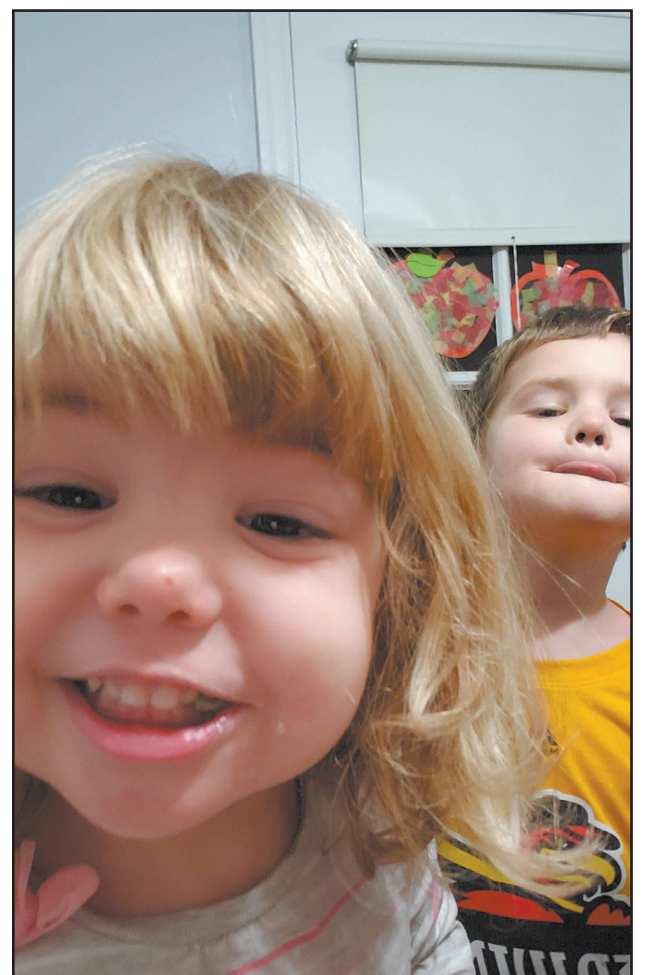


**Question: What do you miss most about life before COVID-19?**



**Lena:** I miss painting at my school [daycare]. I like playing with Trace and Phoebe [McKillop] a lot.

**Adam:** I want to play in my school without a mask on. I don't like wearing a mask.



Photos courtesy of Jaci Cardwell

Lena, 2, and Adam, 4, live with their little sister, Sofia, and their parents, Spanish teacher Mr. Marc Cardwell and Ammidon dorm head Mrs. Jaci Cardwell.