COVID-19 EXPLAINED
COVID-19 is short for "CO" for corona, 'VI" for virus, "D" for disease, and "19" for 2019, referencing the first appearance of the disease in late 2019. The novel coronavirus was an infectious disease that caused cold and flu-like symptoms and in severe cases significant respiratory complications, including difficulty breathing. The World Health Organization declared that July 31 at least 693,000 deaths worldwide and 31.4 million cases of COVID-19 had been reported. It originated in Wuhan, China, spread throughout the world and became a global pandemic on March 11. The United States joined efforts with nations around the world to reduce the spread of the infection by using effective prevention strategies, such as, washing hands, quarantining the infected, and social distancing.

We're not sure when it happened. It was slow at first and then all at once. What started out as a disruption turned into a world-shattering event. COVID-19, the novel coronavirus was here. Not in China, not in Italy, but here — our nation, our state, our neighborhoods. A global pandemic. We didn't even know what that meant. We didn't know a lot of things. We learned phrases like social distancing and flattening the curve. We learned to check if our hand sanitizer was 60% alcohol. We learned to be grateful that our parents stocked up on toilet paper.

We left for spring break planning to come back in a week, and then a week turned to two, and then it just kept going. We were annoyed. What about the spring musical, what about prom, what about graduation? And then we were scared. What happens if my mom loses her job? What happens if my grandpa gets sick? What happens if I’m one of the ones who gets it? Oh and don’t forget boredom. We were seriously bored. There’s only so much Netflix we could watch. So we video chatted with friends and took our dogs for long walks and even played a few board games with our siblings. We kept moving forward, we persevered. What other choice did we have? We focused on what mattered most, on who mattered most. We were still the same and also forever changed.

Coronavirus CHAOS

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During the winter pep rally, the class of 2020 announces their prom theme intended to be held in May. Due to the coronavirus, end of the year events including prom, Grad Bash, greyhound scholars, fine arts performances, and graduation all became unclear. “It’s very disappointing to see all the work we’ve been doing come to pause due to something completely out of our control,” senior Morgan Sachs said. “We have all been looking forward to these events since we got to Lyman.”

Social distancing

Shannon McGuire, 9th, practicing driving
Benjamin Stephens, 11th, camping in Ocala
Jacob Terwiller, 11th, camping in Ocala
Eagle Scout David Young, 9th, backpacking
Hope Simonon, 12th, working on AP art portfolio
Kate Schieffelin, 10th, painting vinyl records
Megan Robichaud, 11th, Ethan Poliner, 11th, surfing at New Smyrna Beach
Paul Wyche, 11th, hiking in Juniper Springs
Jacob Terwiller, 11th, camping in Ocala
Eagle Scout David Young, 9th, backpacking
Hope Simonon, 12th, working on AP art portfolio
Kate Schieffelin, 10th, painting vinyl records
Megan Robichaud, 11th, Ethan Poliner, 11th, surfing at New Smyrna Beach
Paul Wyche, 11th, hiking in Juniper Springs

Coronavirus Chaos

All the fun feels

Seniors last quarter was filled with cancellations and unpredictability. During the winter pep rally, the class of 2020 announced their prom theme intended to be held in May. Due to the coronavirus, end of the year events including prom, Grad Bash, greyhound scholars, fine arts performances, and graduation all became unclear. “It’s very disappointing to see all the work we’ve been doing come to pause due to something completely out of our control," senior Morgan Sachs said. “We have all been looking forward to these events since we got to Lyman.”