

Ronan
Grade 8

My experience with the Covid-19 virus has been like something I have never experienced in my entire life. It all started off very normal. One day, in mid January I was reading the news and discovered that there was something called the CoronaVirus in China. It started in Wuhan China and was caused by somebody eating a sick bat. I honestly didn't really think much of it at the time. I thought it was horrible that this virus was killing people, but I never thought that it would impact my day to day life. I moved on with my day and didn't think of CoronaVirus again until early february when I watched a video about how China had built a hospital in only nine days to help the fight against CoronaVirus. This time I started to get a little more worried, but still continued on with my day. I had just won a geography bee and would find out if I got into states in about a month. At dinner that night my dad was talking about CoronaVirus. He said how it was going to change our lives. I didn't believe him, I thought it would be like the Zika and Ebola virus from the years before. They were very bad across the world and took over the news. But they never directly impacted my life. My birthday is in late february and I invited about ten friends to go bowling with me. It was one of the best days of my life, but little did I know my entire world was about to change. My sister's birthday is only about a week away from mine and we celebrated her birthday with ease. A couple days later, I learned that I qualified for the state Geography Bee. I was so excited because this was the last year I could compete in the bee. A week later, the teacher who ran the bee told me that it had been moved to an online format because of the COronaVirus. Everyone around me thought that the people were being ridiculous for moving it online. That was the first sign I had that everything would change. The week after that we were planning to go to the Bahamas for spring break. Something we had been planning on doing for almost two years. On Thursday, March 19th my mother told me that the trip was cancelled. To make up for it, my mom bought my sister and I tickets to go see the high school musical. We thanked her and had so much fun at the musical. After the musical, I got an alert on my phone from my school. School would be moving to an online format until spring break. It was only a week long, so I wasn't that worried about it. I packed up most of my stuff from my locker and went home for the weekend. Over the weekend, Coronavirus got worse and worse. Soon the United States became the world leader in Covid-19 cases and a stay at home order was issued. School kept getting pushed back, for when we could come back. At first, it was April 16th, then April 19th, then April 27th, until finally the school told us that we would have to do online school for the rest of the year. I was heartbroken because I would probably not be able to see any of my friends again. I was going to a different high school then the rest of them. One of my best friends was moving to a different state in May and I wouldn't be able to see them. My aunt soon got diagnosed with Covid-19. She means the world to me and I cried and cried when I heard that she got sick. I didn't want to lose her. So I guess that brings us to today. I am on day 56 since I went to physical school. I've tried to keep in contact with my friends but it is hard. Online school is easy enough and I have time to take up new hobbies. I make paintings, I am writing a book that I will self publish, and I have been spending more time connecting with myself. Around the world people are experiencing the same thing that I am.

Maybe a little different, but we are all being affected by this virus in one way or another. I just hope that someday, my life will return to normal. But there's no telling when I can see my friends again or if there will ever even be a normal anymore. I hope that the world has learned from this virus, what we can do better to prevent something like this in the future. I hope that I have learned to be grateful for every moment because you never know when your life will instantly change.