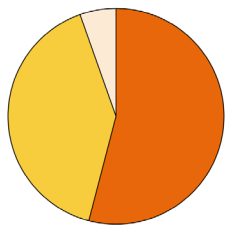


## What's Your Opinion?

Have you already voted or plan to vote before Nov. 5?

Out of 37 responses:  
 Already voted -- 20  
 Plan to vote -- 15  
 Not voting -- 2



● Already voted ● Plan to vote  
 ○ Not voting

## Next Poll:

### ELECTION AFTERMATH

Are you optimistic about the direction the country is heading after this election?

Students can answer the poll on The Herald's Instagram page, [@astateherald](https://www.instagram.com/astateherald). Instagram polls are posted on Mondays. Previous poll results can be found on [astatetheherald.com](https://www.astatetheherald.com). Have an idea for a poll? Send your ideas to [heraldopinion1921@gmail.com](mailto:heraldopinion1921@gmail.com).

These and future articles can be found on the Opinion section of The Herald's website.

## Candy Corn is a Halloween Staple

ALLIE CARSON  
 STAFF WRITER



Allie Carson is a first-year creative media production major from Jonesboro.

Love it or hate it, there's no denying the fact candy corn is the poster child for Halloween candy.

There are many reasons why candy corn should forever be considered the staple candy for Halloween — one of the many reasons I enjoy candy corn so much is the unique texture and taste of the kernels.

Even though there are different brands of candy corn, the taste stays roughly the same throughout each — and what a unique and nostalgic taste that is.

The main flavors of candy corn are buttercream, vanilla, marshmallow and honey. Buttercream is always an underrated flavor in food and drinks, so adding that buttery and creamy taste with other distinct taste profiles

just creates this wonderful flavor that reminds me of fall.

Candy corn's texture plays a crucial role in the enjoyment and uniqueness of the candy. It has a waxy texture but one that makes for a smooth consistency as it goes from firm to chewy as you eat it. The texture combines many of the beloved candies into one: the chewiness of a Snickers and the softness of a 3 Musketeers.

Even though there isn't any nutritional value in candy corn, it's still a special candy for a specific time of the year. As long as it's ingested in moderation, it's fine. It doesn't matter how healthy candy corn is. It's Halloween! Nobody is eating candy for its health value.

Every holiday has a staple food item, so why shouldn't Halloween?

Christmas has candy canes, Thanksgiving has turkey, New Year's Eve has champagne, collard greens and black-eyed peas for lunch the next day (at least in the South) — even the Fourth of July has hot dogs as a staple! Candy corn is the staple item for Halloween, point blank.

Candy corn has been around since the 1880s and became a well-known Halloween sweet treat in the 1950s. Although it was originally coined as a Christmas treat, it later became popularized with children once individually wrapped packages of candy

started being given out to trick-or-treaters. The connection to Halloween came about because of their yellow, orange and white pyramidal structure, best suited for the autumnal holiday rather than the winterish green-and-red-jolly-Christmas one.

Not only is it one of, if not the, easiest candy to eat, candy corn can also be used as decoration. The Halloween candy can easily be displayed in a bowl on the coffee table or the centerpiece of the dining room table surrounded by fall and Halloween decorations when people are over.

A snacking staple in my family, and many others, has been to mix peanuts

with candy corn in a bowl and eat them together which creates a sweet and salty taste. It's quick and easy for tailgating or a house party happy hour.

On top of being a great decorative and yummy addition to social gatherings, candy corn is also extremely cheap to buy, sitting on average roughly \$2 a bag at Kroger or Walmart, making it a budget-friendly purchase.

While many people may not like it for whatever reason, saying there's no reason to like candy corn or that it's not the Halloween poster child is insane. There should be no argument as to why candy corn is and should always be considered a Halloween staple.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LAST CALL TRIVIA

Candy corn spilled out of a Halloween pumpkin bucket.

## Candy corn's real trick? Convincing us it's a treat

BENJAMIN MCDOWELL  
 STAFF WRITER



Benjamin McDowell is a sophomore multimedia journalism major from Wynne, Arkansas.

Although considered the Halloween poster-child, candy corn is a waxy and tasteless disgrace to the holiday.

Candy corn is pyramid-shaped with three different sections of colors: white, orange and yellow. The yellow end resembles that of a kernel, which, in all honesty, is off-putting. A candy corn is just naturally unappealing and unattractive compared to other candy.

The Halloween treat was invented in the 1880's by George Renninger, an employee of the Wunderle Candy Company in Philadelphia. The candy, originally called "Chicken Feed," was inspired by chicken food — which is the only thing I'd feed this candy to.

Candy corn is made from sugar, corn syrup, confectioner's glaze, salt, dextrose, gelatin, sesame oil and honey resulting in a waxy, yet crumbly texture which transitions from firm to a sticky and chewy texture.

Candy corn's odd, waxy consistency makes it tough for saliva to break down, sticking to your teeth and causing decay. Loaded with sugar but lacking essential macronutrients like protein, fat or fiber, it adds nothing but health risks like poor dental health and diabetes.

Halloween treats should be diverse and not reliant on one simple traditional option.

Candies like Skittles, Sour Patch Kids, Kit-Kat and Hershey's are better choices than candy corn and are more deserving of the spotlight. Why? Well, candy corn is not as versatile as others.

Take, for example, any chocolate candy. You can use them in other sweet treats like cookies and brownies. Delicious! With candy corn, you just mix it into a bowl with peanuts and somehow it's better than a Hershey's chocolate chip brownie? Insane!

Growing up I often avoided candy corn due to my nut allergy because people would often combine candy corn with nuts, an issue others may

face too. But, there were also just better alternatives to get from the snack table.

Candy corn should not be the primary candy feature for Halloween. Other candies allow kids to engage with different flavors, textures and even colors.

There are just so many options other than choosing some waxy candy corn. The price of candy corn usually ranges from \$2 to \$12. So why buy candy corn when you can get better candy for less than a dollar?

With candy corn prices rising faster than other Halloween treats, it's tough to justify its place in the treat lineup for this holiday. The price of candy corn increased last year 11% compared to other candies like Hershey's Kisses at 6.75% and Gummy Bears at 5.58%.

Candy corn should not even be considered a contender for the Halloween staple candy. So, for this Halloween, leave the candy corn on the shelf and pick a treat that really delivers on its taste, texture and quality.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DELISH

Variety of Halloween candy including candy corn, ghost marshmallows, sour gummy worms and spherical monster wrapped themed chocolates.

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