

Autumn

- Meredith Piela

It's officially fall, which is my favorite season, so obviously I'm excited. Of course, this means that summer is now over. Although it's hard to say goodbye to lazy days, and lots of free time, it's nice to get back into my usual busy routine. As much as I love Halloween and Thanksgiving, to me, autumn is special not because of the holidays, but because of the little things.

When it starts getting colder outside, one of the things I always look forward to is trading my flip flops and tank tops for a stylish pair of boots and a cozy sweater. There's something about finding the right pair of jeans, sweater, boots, and scarf, and putting them together to create a tasteful outfit, that makes me smile. Even though cross country officially begins at the end of the summer, the season doesn't really start until mid-September, when we start racing. Nothing says "team bonding like a group of runners in their sweats, huddled together in a tent at a meet on a chilly October morning. Spending a few hours a day for a few months with amazing teammates makes autumn that much more enjoyable.

On most Friday nights in the fall, I spend my time the way an average student at MHS does: Watching the football game with my friends. However, I don't sit in the student section and cheer loudly throughout the game. Instead, I sit on the opposite end of the bleachers, in my red and black band uniform, playing "pep tunes." Even though I sometimes wish I could take part in the frenzy that is the student section, it is definitely more enjoyable sitting with my fellow musicians, filling the crisp air with the sounds of "The Hey Song" and "Marblehead Forever." This year, our new band teacher, Mr. Winship, is as enthusiastic about the band as we (the band) are, so I'm looking forward to another great year.

So autumn is here, and even though I've had to trade my beach bag for my backpack, I still feel great. Now I can happily spend the next couple of months enjoying my favorite fall things, and smelling the sweet, crisp air that always puts a smile on my face. Happy fall!!