Problems

The 3rd Thursday in April (April 16, 2020) is National High Five Day! While giving high fives is not recommended during this health crisis, we can mark the occasion with some math instead and look forward to when we can all celebrate with high fives again!

For National High Five Day, Ronnie’s class decides that everyone in the class should exchange one high five with each other person in the class. If there are 20 people in Ronnie’s class, how many high fives will be exchanged?

At the end of Ronnie’s lacrosse game, every player on his team high-fived every member of the opposing team once and said “good game.” If each team had 15 members, how many high fives were exchanged?

In an effort to spread “high-fiving cheer” Ronnie and Ruth decided they would each high five 2 people and ask each person they high five to high five 2 additional people (and ask each of them to do the same). After 4 cycles like this, how many high fives will be exchanged?

Check the Problem of the Week Archive next week for solutions to these and previous problems.