

KMS PURPLE PAGES

*Kenai Middle School
Kenai, Alaska
December 2017*



Christmas Choir Concert

By Ashlynn Baughn

For any of you that didn't go to the choir concert, sadly, you missed out on a lot! On December 7, 2017 Kenai Middle School held our annual Christmas concert involving the 7th and 8th grade choir students. We spent over two months preparing for it. The choir students loved how they sounded at the concert and the audience completely loved having the chance to sing along with the choir for "Night of Silence" by Josephus Franciscus Mohr and "Sing Joy."

Most of the choir was shocked at the end of "Night of Silence," because of how many people in the audience sang and were in the right key (Amazing!!!). We were also surprised at the amount of the audience that sang. Jayna Boonstra (one of the soprano singers) said that she was surprised at how well the audience sang. Aicha Kisená (one of the alto singers) and I were both shocked at the beautiful sound the choir and the

audience made together.

The choir would like to give a special thanks to Rosemary Bird. Mrs. Bird was the previous KMS choir teacher, and before retiring she taught for 28 years! Can you believe that? We are incredibly lucky that she took time out of her schedule to take the girls to the band room to practice "Festive Fa La La" and "I Saw Three Ships." She also took the boys to the band room to practice "African Noel" and "Good King Wenceslas." Mrs. Bird is an amazing person and she was an amazing choir teacher. She definitely helped us with the songs and our sections hit the right notes.

We would also like to give thanks to the piano player, the drummer, and the guitarist. Many of the soloists had never sung with a guitar or drums. It was difficult for me to figure out whether to listen to the

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Christmas Choir Concert

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guitar, the drum, or the piano, although having the drums and guitar made all the songs sound amazingly better. I would like to highlight all of the soloists for their fantastic performances; they were incredible and they definitely brightened everyone's evening.

The choir concert was definitely enjoyed by all of the guests. The choir students enjoyed it and had a lot of fun on and off stage. There are a lot of jokers in the class but they make it even more enjoyable. None of it would have been possible without our fantastic choir teacher, Mrs. Downes-Borko. She had big shoes to fill but in the end she accepted the challenge and exceeded all expectations!

Band Concert

By Jenna Tureman

The KMS Concert Band had another concert on Tuesday, December 12, along with the Intermediate Band that plays here at KMS. The other bands who performed were the KCHS Concert Band and the Jazz Band. The KMS Concert Band played "Celtic Carol," "Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella," and "Rudolph in Wonderland." The Intermediate Band played "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies," "Hanukkah Begins Tonight," "North Pole Sleigh Ride," and "Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer." Also, the Concert Band played the songs "A Christmas Festival" and "Old Scottish Melody" with the KCHS Concert Band.

There were many great solos, duets, and trios throughout the concert. First, a lot of people had solos on their instruments, including Julianna Hamilton playing a solo in "Celtic Carol" on her flute. Next, the Jazz Band had a bunch of great soloists, who stood up when they played, throughout their performance. Finally, several high school students played different solos, duets, and trios off-stage in between the different bands who performed, and they all did fantastic! Awesome job, everyone!



Ban the Bug!

By Jayna Boonstra



You all know our amazing school nurse here at KMS. Well, Nurse Dixie has some tips for you. First of all, it is flu season, so the flu bug is floating around town, but there is some good news. You can keep this nasty bug away from you.

Here's how! Number 1: make sure you get lots and lots of rest so your body can be awake and ready to fight off any bad germs. Number 2: make sure you are washing your hands a lot so that the germs that you have on your hands don't spread. Number 3: drink lots and lots of water. Your body can't fight off germs if it's not hydrated, so drink up. Number 4: eat lots of healthy food such as protein, fruit, and lots of veggies. Your body needs these vitamins to stay healthy and feel good. Well, we hope you have a fun and healthy winter break.

Winter Wrecks

By Nicole Toepel

Opinion-8-ed

By Zoticus Active

Since October there have been many vehicle wrecks. I experienced one last month, in November, on the Nikiski Escape Route. It was really dark so we couldn't see anything and a moose jumped in front of our vehicle, and all I remember is the moose sliding off the car. A lot of glass shattered onto me and my family. We had to wait for the fire department and tow truck to get our car. In the end my aunt picked us up and drove us home.



Mr. Tilly is the KMS head custodian, but he used to work at the Kenai Fire Department. He says there are usually 1,000-1,200 calls each year for help from crashes. More wrecks happen in the dark because people sometimes don't clean their headlights, causing them not to see that well on the road. Most crashes happen on the Kenai Spur Highway because it is two lanes and a 55-mph road. Also, people get into crashes the first week of snowfall because they don't put on their winter tires. We also have more crashes because of terrible road conditions like black ice, wet snow, temperature drops, etc.

Most car crashes aren't fatal because car technology has evolved so much that a crash damages the car more than the people. Cars have air bags, 4-wheel drive, and better car seats, plus stricter law enforcement to prevent dangerous driving.

Here are some stories about crashes in the past. Mrs. Nabholz has almost been in about 12 crashes with moose, within a few feet. She accidentally drove right under a moose's head with her car, but the moose and her car were okay. One time she was driving in mid-winter when the road was covered in black ice and spun a 540 (1½ times around) into a light pole. The light pole was very badly damaged and had to be replaced, and the back end of her truck was smashed.

Here is some advice from Mr. Tilly to be a safer driver. You need to be patient when it comes to driving and should not be in a hurry unless it's an emergency. Make sure your headlights and windows are clean and nice. Also, be aware of the conditions of the weather and roads. Last, try not to drive in the dark.

This month's question is "How do you feel about getting your learner's permit?" This is what 8th graders said.

Gavin Dirks said it would be cool and he would have more responsibility.

Sophie Karl said it would be cool and scary and she would be nervous.

Nyssa Tallekpalek said that she hates driving and she would be scared.

Tommy Mathis said he would feel great and not so scared.

Mrs. Miranda said she is terrified about kids getting their learner's permit. She said our brains are still developing and that we are not mature enough to be in charge of a moving vehicle.

Hermione Lanfear said, "I'm terrified and worried I'm going to do something wrong."

Hadessah Parkki said she really wants to get her learner's permit but her mom doesn't want her to get it because she "wants to live."

Summer Foster said, "I'm ready to get my learner's permit, but the day I get mine is far from here. I believe that if I practice I could accomplish anything."

Zoe Mason said she is scared and that it is icy right now, but at the same time she is excited because people said it's fun but to be careful.



Bullying

By Brooklynn Reed

Bullying: repeated abuse and mistreatment of someone vulnerable by someone stronger or more powerful.



So...Bullying. I know it's not the lightest of subjects, but it does need to be addressed. Bullying is a very large problem among schools worldwide. Did you know that 29.4% of middle school students have been bullied? Or that 160,000 kids stay home every day because of it? Clearly it's very common, but it can also escalate. About 4,500 deaths a year are the result of bullying, 20% of cyber-bullied kids think about suicide, one tenth of those kids attempt it, and 7% of all high school students have attempted suicide, which is horrible to think about.

According to Mr. Dosko, bullying is a problem in our school, and all other schools worldwide; however, it is often mistaken with one-time offenses. Mr. Dosko rarely suspends students for bullying, because in his opinion, being suspended for a few days doesn't change much, and he'd rather inform the student on what he or she did wrong and how they can change. Mr. Dosko, however, does suspend students occasionally for fighting, which is VERY different from bullying. According to Mr. Dosko, bullying is multiple offenses from the same person and to the same person, not just random fights. He also believes that it's very important to understand that bullies will never go away, and you need to build skills on how to deal with them.

Nurse Dixie is another staff member at our school who helps students with bullying. From her experience as a school nurse, she has found that most of the time when students come to her about bullying, there are problems on both ends. A lot of the time all the bully needs to do is to talk it out and think about how they'd feel if it happened to them. According to Nurse Dixie, an equal number of boys and girls come to her about arguments and bullying, however most of them are 6th and 7th graders. Nurse Dixie believes that this is because by 8th grade, most students understand how to communicate and deal with others in a middle school environment.

According to the students I've asked, most of the bullying in our school is due to race, sexuality, disadvantages, and looks, all of which people can't really change. I believe that it's important to realize that people are different, and you won't always agree with everyone. Just because someone thinks differently than you, it doesn't mean they're wrong, and even if they were, who cares? It's not your business, and it's *their* opinion, and it's not your place to judge them.

When it comes to bullying, the most important thing to understand is that you don't know what others are going through. You might think you do sometimes, but you will never truly know what's going on in their head, the stresses in their life, the struggles they're dealing with, or how exactly they're feeling. Sometimes that one snide remark could be the thing to push them over the edge, especially in middle school. Long story short, just be nice to people! Be kind, caring, and uplifting; no one likes people who bring others down. In other words, stray away from rude behavior, and try to put a smile on somebody's face today!

Statistics found at
National Bullying Prevention Center
<http://www.pacer.org/bullying/resources/stats.asp>

“One kind word can change someone's life.”

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

“There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it.”

November SOM's

By Jenna Tureman

Here's a brief overview on how students become students of the month: Teachers send names of students particularly deserving for the month. Different teacher groups nominate the students of the month, including the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teams (depending on the grade of the students), exploratory teachers, and the P.E. teachers. They send the office the student names and why they're selected, and then they send letters home to the students' parents. At the beginning of the next month, the office staff announce the names of the students, give them a pizza for lunch, add them to the Purple Pages, post the names outside of the office, and add them to the newsletter.

And now, we would like to congratulate the Students of the Month for November!

Sixth graders Izzie McClure, Abby Johnson, Chloe Grimm, and Ruth Nash.



Leadership

By Sydney Johnson

This semester in leadership there have been some very interesting predicaments such as the fire alarm going off. You know how at the beginning of November the fire alarm went off unexpectedly? That was leadership. Sorry about that. We were testing a fog machine, and it didn't go as planned. That is why there was no fog machine at the dance. There was a miscommunication. Originally we were supposed to have the fire department come and turn off our alarms but they couldn't come so we didn't use it at the dance.

Eighth graders Janel Olson, Denali Bernard, Tyler Hippchen, and Matthew Parazoo.



Seventh graders Alea Faulkner, Ayla Tallent, and Daniel Shelden.



“The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.”

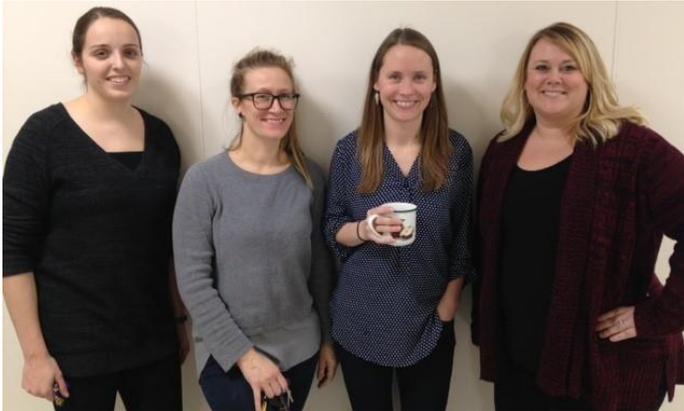
The school dance on December 1st was a lot of fun. There was a bubble machine, amazing music, and food.

The canned food drive had a very slow start but recently it started to speed up. The 7th grade girls were the largest contributors to the canned food drive. The boys honestly are failing miserably. The girls have more than double the amount of cans the boys have. Total we have 1,297 cans. Compared to past canned food drives this is very little.

Leadership has been very fun this semester. If you are considering taking leadership, I very much encourage it.

Teacher Feature

By Jenna Tureman

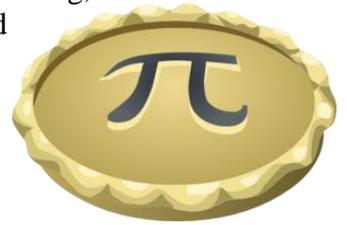


The math teachers here at KMS are Ms. Lucas, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Newton, and Mrs. Rolph. But did you know they also like to do many other activities besides just teaching math? Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Newton, and Ms. Lucas enjoy hockey, while Mrs. Rolph helps out with the swim team at the high school. They all seem to really enjoy being here at KMS, as well as the fact that they have an opportunity to teach students.

Mrs. Rolph is one of our 6th grade math teachers here at KMS. She had the inspiration to teach math because she became fascinated with math and how kids learn, and she likes to help students with any problems or struggles they might have. Her son swims on the swim team, and she likes to help out at the high school, mostly during the meets. She said her favorite thing about KMS is how it feels like a “second home” to her.

Ms. Lucas is another one of our 6th grade math teachers and she’s also our algebra teacher. She decided to become a 6th grade math teacher and algebra teacher because she likes both science and math, and she’s also a 6th grade science teacher. She likes to read, and she also likes to crochet and play hockey. Her favorite part of KMS are all of the people that come here because they are fun to be around.

Next, Mrs. Newton is our 7th grade math teacher here at KMS. She decided to become a middle school math teacher because she likes teaching middle school math more than elementary school math. She likes hockey, salmon fishing, hiking, attending math parties, and eating pie. Her favorite thing about KMS is that she gets to teach small-sized classes instead of larger ones.



Finally, Mrs. Rininger is our 8th grade math teacher here at KMS. She once taught remedial math labs until she decided to become a classroom math teacher. She said it makes her more comfortable than teaching science, but she likes science too, and she likes that math is very organized. She likes to play hockey and do art projects and home décor. Lastly, her favorite part of KMS are all of the students and how everyone gets along with each other, an idea which is very pleasant.

To conclude, all of our KMS math teachers have very interesting personalities, and they seem to enjoy being math teachers and interacting with students, which is very nice to know!

Geography Bee Finalists

Congratulations to the following students for being grade-level finalists or alternates for the Geography Bee:

8th graders: Jenna Tureman, Johann Carranza, Andi Galloway, Joseph Gottschalk, and Ty Hippchen

7th graders: finalists TJ Anderson, Eva Sorensen, and Colton Dunham & alternates Ben Boersma and Andrew Gaethle

6th graders: finalists Robert Carson, William Roberts, and Leia Parkki & alternates Emilee Wilson, Landon Dubber, and Charles Trickel

These students will compete in the school-wide Geo Bee in late January, when the group will be narrowed down to one winner and one alternate for the statewide bee, which will be held in April.



Girls' B-Team Ballers

By Eva Sorensen



This year the Girls B-team consisted of 11 determined basketball players and our amazing coach, Mrs. Beck. Some memorable recaps of the season are when we won against Skyview by one point, and when Malerie Nunn intercepted an out-of-bounds play and made an awesome layup! Really funny handshakes, and brutal practices, to Sierra Moffis throwing M&M's at me, and tons and tons of injuries, like when Taylor Huett got elbowed in the face and bit her tongue open, and when Cali Holmes got clothes-lined in the throat, or when Frenlee Dagos cut her lip open... and that all happened in practice!

This season in practice we worked on the 3-man shell drills; 1,11,12, and 13 plays; and a drill that practices screening on the ball and boxing out when a shot is taken. KCHS basketball player Jaycie Calvert came to a couple of our practices and helped us improve on our ball handling skills and layups, and helped the point guards improve on their passing and dribbling skills. Although most practices were fun and exhilarating, some days' practices were pretty rough, like when Katie Stockton elbowed me in the rib cage, or when Hermoine Lanfear and Aicha Kisena slammed into each other, but whatever may have happened at practice, we always

worked as hard as we could at our games.

Throughout the season we played five games and one jamboree. Although one of our games against Nikiski was rocky at first, we pulled through and took the win. Along with Frenlee and Kimberly Chanley, my favorite game that we played was against either Skyview or Homer. The team was especially excited yet nervous to play against Skyview because we wanted to keep our winning streak alive, but once we got on the court, all of the nerves went away. During the game, we played tighter defense and were more thoughtful about the plays we were making. Post Izzie Katzenberger was a huge help getting the rebounds and getting the ball down the court. The score went back and forth until the end of the 3rd quarter when Malerie made two layups and put us ahead by 4 points.

Homer was also a great game, although we were all sad because it was our last, it was fun traveling there, and it was especially funny when Cali Holmes freaked out because her Pink Drink from Starbucks wasn't pink... in fact, it was brown. When we got to the school, we were all a little nervous because it was our final game, and we had to win it, but we all worked our hardest and beat Homer 48-12.

Overall, I would highly recommend trying out for the basketball team next year, it is such an amazing experience and I gained many friends and grew closer to others. It is an amazing opportunity to stay active and improve your skills. This amazing season wouldn't have been possible without Mrs. Beck. Thank you for putting up with our crazy practices, weird jokes, injuries, long bus rides, and making posters with us after school. You will always be an inspiration to us, thank you! Also a huge thank you to Jaycie Calvert and Mr. Stockton, Katie's dad, for investing so much time and effort into the team, and always being there to cheer us on! I will never forget the memories I have made with my teammates and coach. So next year, no matter how good or bad you are at basketball, give it a shot! You won't regret it!

Just Some Jokes



Q: Why was Cinderella thrown off the basketball team?

A: She ran away from the ball.

Q: What does a basketball player do when he loses his eyesight?

A: Become a referee.

Q: Why can't you play basketball in the jungle?

A: Because there are too many cheetahs.

Boys' B-Team Ballers

By Ransom Hayes

This year 12 players played on the B-team. We had three wins and one loss. Our coach was Mr. Rudy Villegas, and Coach Rudy played basketball for KMS too. In 7th grade he played on B-team and his coach was Mr. Felchle, and in 8th grade he was on A-team and his coach was Mr. Roser. When he was in 8th grade Mr. Rudy got voted most likely to play in the NBA!

Griffin Gray said his season has been good because we have won all the games except for the game against Skyview. Griffin said the coach is nice, and after a game day we have a fun day if we win by 15 points. Coach Rudy teaches us the correct way to handle the ball and shoot it. He taught us about “beef” which stands for balance, elbow, eyes, follow-through. He said what he will remember the most is playing with the team and how to correctly handle the ball.

Gavin Dirks said his season has been good because we have really good people on our team, we have won more games than last year, and there were less games. Gavin said the coach has been fun because he teaches us to work together. He will remember the most that we won most of our games, but last year they did not.



Hayes Howard said his season has been good because he likes going to the practices, but he has not gone to any games. His coach has been chill and he has taught about ball movement, but otherwise Hayes said he knew the rest. He will remember the most all the line sprints we had to do.

Our players were Kai Clark, Daniel Shelden, Johann Carranza, Hayes Howard, Gavin Dirks, Griffin Gray, Samuel Baisden, Owen Whicker, Dylan Duniphin, Levi Good, Joe Hamilton, and Ransom Hayes. We all had a great season with three wins and one loss.



A-Team Boys' Basketball

By Zoticus Active

I think this season was fun. The first team we played was Skyview 7 and we won. When we were playing that game the Skyview coach got mad at Tyler because he thought Tyler punched a kid on purpose so we got a technical foul. The second game we played was Skyview 8 and we lost. We played Nikiski and beat them with a close game, and then we played Homer down in Homer and lost but we played pretty well.

We beat Skyview 7 to get into the borough tournament. In the first game we played Nikiski and beat them. On Saturday morning we played Skyview 7 and beat them. In the last game we played Skyview 8 for the win, but we lost and got second place. During the borough games we played good defense, and Tyler and Kaleb both did well on shooting. Thanks to Coach Songer for a great season of basketball!

“It is in your moments of decision
that your destiny is shaped.”

A-Team Girls' Basketball

By Nevaeh Olson

This basketball season has been great. We won the Nikiski game, Seward game, and Homer game, but lost the Skyview games.

Quite a few players were injured this season: Jenna fractured her heel during a game, Amber hurt her foot during practice, and Valerie hurt her foot in gym class.

After all those games we were in 2nd place, so the team earned a bye for the first round of boroughs. To determine our final placing we went against Nikiski on Saturday for our first game in boroughs. We won that game 22-18, so we went against Skyview 8th later that day but lost 36-40. We won 2nd place in boroughs!



Chili Cook-Off

KMS teachers and staff recently held their annual chili cook-off competition. Seven pots of chili were entered, and everyone voted for their favorite one. In addition to the chili choices, Mr. Felchle provided Fritos, cheese, and sour cream for toppings. Dessert was also available, including chocolate chip cookies, brownie bites, and gluten-free chocolate layer cake!

The chili entries included the following recipes:

- Mr. Beck – Homemade Chili
- Mrs. Vest – Chicken Fajita Chili
- Mrs. Diorec – Prime Chili
- Ms. Johnson – Spicy Vegan Chili
- Mrs. Navarre – Foot Stompin' Roadhouse Chili
- Ms. Johnson & Mrs. Holmes – Mediterranean Chili
- Mr. Schoessler – Warm Cow & Pig Beans



After the votes were counted, the Mediterranean Chili and Warm Cow & Pig Beans were tied with five votes each. After a run-off between these two, Mr. Schoessler was announced as the winner and received the coveted Golden Ladle award for his tasty chili!

Door Décor

When Mr. Dosko was growing up, his school always held a door decorating competition during December. He proposed that KMS give it a try this year, to add to the festivities of the holiday season. Teachers and students have been busy decorating not only their doors but the nearby walls as well, and some areas definitely look very festive!

Some of the ideas include Santa Claus coming down the chimney, flying reindeer, 3-D snowmen, Elf on the Shelf, and Gingly's Jokes. Others are the movie *Elf*, mystical unicorns, and *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*, as well as a gingerbread house and Rudolph's red nose glowing in the dark, plus others.

The official winners will be announced on Wednesday, December 20th! Which is your favorite?



"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."

Secret Questions

By Miss Advice

Q: Why do teachers single students out?

-Single Student

A: Dear Single Student,

Well, I talked to a couple teachers and here is what they said. Sometimes students single themselves out already with bad behavior and the teachers are just trying to get the students to pay attention by calling on them. Other teachers said that sometimes the students are zoning out and the teachers need them to focus completely.

Q: Do dogs go to heaven?

-DogLover101

A: Dear DogLover101,

I believe they do, and I'm not the only one. Pope Francis stated in a speech that "One day, we will see our animals again in the eternity of Christ. Paradise is open to all of God's creatures." It is up to you to believe this or not, but I do believe and I look forward to seeing my pets in paradise.



Q: Why is Subway called Subway?

-Sandwich Lover

A: Dear Sandwich Lover,

Well, the name subway actually has a long history. Here's how it all started. A guy named Pete started a business called "Pete's Super Submarines," named after the popular submarine sandwiches at the time. Next he switched the name to just "Pete's Submarines." Then he switched it to "Pete's Subs." Finally, he changed it to "Subway." Well, that's how it all started.

Q: Are all napkins made from trees?

-Napkin Questioner

A: Dear Napkin Questioner,

I did some research and it said that not all napkins come from trees. Some are made from bamboo, cotton and other material. Well, that's your fun fact for the day!

Q: Why can't 6th graders go to the school dances?

-Jane Doe

A: Dear Jane Doe,

I'm not actually sure but I have a story to tell you. When I was a 6th grader I snuck into the dance because I was so curious. Well, curiosity killed the cat because I got caught. There is no need for further details. That is all you need to know.

Q: Why do they have school dances?

-Dancer5342

A: Dear Dancer5342,

We have school dances because they are fun and people enjoy the music and dancing. People also like the break from school. The school dances reward students for the hard work that they put in over the quarter.



Q: Why can't I think of a question to ask you?

-Thinker

A: Dear Thinker,

I did some super high tech research and this is what it said. It wasn't much! Questions hijack the brain and make your mind focus on one thing.

All I wanted for Christmas . . . back in middle school . . .

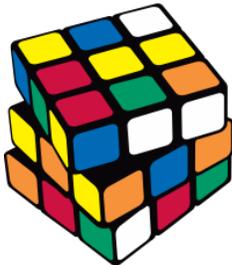
Have you ever wondered what all the teachers and staff at Kenai Middle School couldn't wait to find under the tree on Christmas morning? Well, here's your chance to travel back a few decades to find out!

Mrs. Adair – Pogs collectible bottle caps. I was all about Pogs in middle school. It was probably the lamest fad in history but I had a huge collection.



Mrs. Bressler – Ice skates, lime-green shoes, and frosted white lipstick!

Mrs. Diorec - Rubik's Cube or Slinky and probably a vinyl record or two



Mr. Dosko – Meccano building set

Mrs. Downes-Borko – bell-bottom jeans and a horse

Mr. Felchle – My most desired Christmas gift when I was in middle school was a 20-gauge pump action shot gun. I was 12 years old and had just finished hunter ed. It may have been the best Christmas gift I ever got simply because of how much it meant at the time.

Mrs. Holmes – Michael Jackson's "Beat It" album

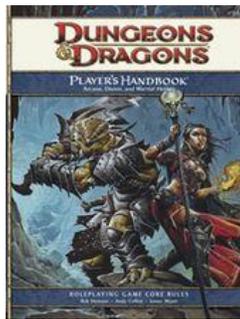
Mr. Verkuilen – .22 rifle to hunt gray squirrels and cottontails

Ms. Johnson – A Tamagotchi! Ironically...they just re-released them and it's on my Christmas list again....PLEASE SANTA BRING ME ONE!



Mr. LeClair – Polaris snowmachine

Mr. Lyke – Dungeons and Dragons 3rd edition Player's Handbook



Mrs. Miranda – I had a dying need for a clear phone that lit up when it rang and showed all of its colorful parts. I finally got it for my 14th birthday!

Mrs. Nabholz – Walkman cassette player and Levi's jeans

Mr. Tilly – tennis-shoe roller skates



Mrs. Neill – I wanted a phone for my room. It was in the days before cell phones. My sister and I talked on the phone to our friends, and we thought we wanted phones for our rooms. I think I didn't actually get the phone until I was in high school, and it looked like this:



Mr. Pepper – a red Michael Jackson jacket from the music video "Beat It" and the sparkly glove to go with it



Ms. Stotz – Walkman CD player & the latest Alanis Morissette CD

Mrs. Vann - digital alarm clock with radio, jelly shoes, Rubik's Cube

Mrs. Newton – Gap jeans with the sweet side pockets

Ms. True – Guess jeans!

Mrs. Vest – a diary and Calvin Klein jeans



The Christmas Adventure

By Kimberly Noriega



“Logan, what did I tell you about bothering me when I’m preparing for the Christmas party?” shouted Mom.

“Hahaha, you can’t make me!” I yelled as I ran around like a screeching monkey. My mom instantly death-stared me afterwards and I knew I should run. Before I ran out the front door, I told her, “Fiiine, I’ll just go hang out with Emma!” Then I went to Emma’s (or Em as I call her) house. Em and I always loved going on adventures to “faraway lands,” like Candy Land, Hogwarts, Narnia, Neverland, Pixie Hollow, and OZ, I could go on and on but I don’t want to. Plus, Em and I have been preparing for this trip since last Christmas! We’re going to the North Pole! You know, where Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the elves live.

I ran up to Em’s door and rang the doorbell and like always they had changed the sound to play “Jingle Bells.” I stood there starting to freeze, so I yelled, “COME ON EM! IT’S TIME! And you’re taking forever!”

Finally, I heard footsteps approach the door. Em opened the door and screamed, “I’M SO EXCITED! I WONDER WHAT WE’LL SEE AND IF I’LL GET TO HUG SANTA?!” Em then took a deep breath and said, “My mom packed us some lunches and warm clothes. Oh yeah, by the way, your mom came by with blankets and pillows.” My mom was always protective about me catching a cold. Sometimes she would over-exaggerate but that’s a typical mom

thing. Em grabbed her jacket, pulled on her boots, and we were on our way. We ran as fast as we could to the “Magical Traveling Bus,” and Mr. Porter asked, “Where to this time?”

Em stated, “To the North Pole!”

We settled into our seats and after what seemed to be hours I asked, “How long until we get there?”

“Well, it hasn’t even been an hour silly, but we’re almost there! Maybe 40 minutes or so,” said Mr. Porter.

Em and I got excited but we didn’t want to just stare out the window until we arrived, so we took a nap. When we woke up we saw it: “THE NORTH POLE!” Em and I shouted together. It was magical, snow everywhere seeming to glisten and sparkle. We saw it in the distance, “Wow that’s Santa’s workshop!” We both spotted red and white candy canes for the gate and fences, and chocolate door. How did I know it was chocolate? I licked it. Then there was the cookie-shaped door mat! The workshop looked kind of like Candy Land, but less you know?

We waved goodbye to Mr. Porter and walked inside. Immediately Mrs. Claus greeted us with a freshly baked chocolate chip cookie plater, and some Christmas-themed mugs full of hot chocolate with tiny marshmallows. We chatted for a bit before I asked her, “Where’s Mr. Claus?”

“He’s away, doing some last minute preparing with the elves,” Mrs. Claus replied.

After our chat with Mrs. Claus we went looking for Santa. We

found him in the toy making area with the elves, trying to work out a toy malfunction. Em and I walked over and asked, “What’s wrong? Anything we can help with?”

“The toy machine randomly stopped working!” said Ellie the Elf anxiously.

Em and I examined the machine. “There’s no more stuffing and thread!” I exclaimed.

“Ellie, grab more stuffing and thread.” Relieved, Santa then said, “Thank you so much, um-”

“Logan and Emma,” Mrs. Claus said as she walked in.

Then Santa smiled, and slowly walked toward her. “Logan, Emma, Follow me. There’s a problem in your town.”

Worried and hesitant, Em and I followed. We walked into some kind of surveillance room that had the whole globe! Some areas were lit, but others had a blinking red light! He explained to us that the ones with a blinking red light were losing their Christmas spirit. Right away we knew what he was going to say. He pointed to our town, Nashville. He told us not to worry because, “It can be easily fixed. All you have to do is show everyone why they should spread Christmas cheer and celebrate!”

An hour later we made final touches, preparations, and precautions. “Now Dasher, Dancer, Prancer and Vixen...Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen! To the top of the porch...to the top of the wall! Now dash away, dash away, dash away all! HOHOHO!!! And away we went. We saw beautiful places people only dream of visiting! But

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The Christmas Adventure

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the fun came to an end when we started heading home.

When we arrived in Nashville, Santa dropped off all the presents and we headed to my house. We hopped off the sleigh and said our goodbyes to the reindeer and Santa. "Remember to spread holiday cheer! Or else no more magic, and no more magic means no more presents!" Santa reminded us as he flew away back to the North Pole.

As we walked inside my house, I glanced at the Christmas presents and noticed my mom sitting at the dinner table. "Did you guys have fun?" Mom asked, smiling.

"Very much so, Mom," I replied. Our families laughed, talked, and opened presents. Together we watched the snow fall and the fire crackle in the fireplace.



Just Some Jolly Jokes

Q: What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in the chimney?

A: Claustrophobia



Q: What do the elves call it when Father Christmas claps his hands at the end of a play?

A: Santapplause!

Q: What do you say to Santa when he's taking attendance at school?

A: Present.



Q: What do you get if you cross Father Christmas with a detective?

A: Santa Clues!

Q: Did you hear who landed his sleigh on the beach?

A: Sandy Claus!

Christmas Cheer

By Ashlyne Baughn

F C F B V G G R P D R O L J E
 A L H V L P R R V S U R P B G
 M E E R W U E I E A T N A S O
 I O M M I S E I N I Q A T Z O
 L N U K E S K S G C D M T H R
 Y W E N F O T M V A H E V U C
 E U T G O A U M E M B N D N S
 G S P C R Y Y R A S M T K O A
 Z N Q S N X B E E S F S V X A
 E H I I J R I L I G H T S X D
 E E A D E S N O W F L A K E S
 U R R G D D A H C O L D N W Z
 Z Z N T B E G C B I X U J V G
 A I N E R D L I H C D K T T M
 G F M P C B U S J E D D G X O

GINGERBREAD
 CHILDREN
 CHRISTMAS
 SNOWFLAKES
 COOKIES
 PRESENTS
 ORNAMENTS
 SLEDDING
 GRINCH
 SCROOGE

BLUE
 ICE
 FAMILY
 COLD
 SANTA
 LIGHTS
 NOEL
 TREE
 RAIN
 STARS



Snowman Chocolate Bark

By Jayna Boonstra



This recipe is an amazing treat for you to try with your family this Christmas holiday. Hope you enjoy making this adorable treat for your tummy!

Materials Needed

- 1 package (1 lb.) chocolate almond bark
- 10 ounces white vanilla round candy wafers (meltable)
- 1 tablespoon white sprinkles or small white candy (snowflakes)
- 10 pretzel sticks
- Mini chocolate chips (buttons)
- 10 small pieces of orange candy, tic-tacs, or sunflower seeds dipped in orange frosting (nose)
- 10 paper CD sleeves with cellophane windows (optional, can be found at office supply stores or purchased online)
- White frosting
- Parchment paper
- Spatula

Now let's get started!!!!

Create Chocolate Sheet



Cover a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Melt the chocolate bark in the microwave at 30 second intervals until completely melted and smooth, about 1 minute 30 seconds. Spread the candy onto the prepared baking sheet in a rectangular shape to 1/4-inch thickness using a spatula.

Assemble Snowmen

Quickly press white candy wafers into the chocolate, well-spaced in groups of three to represent the body of a snowman. Break pretzel sticks to desired size for the snowman's arms and press them into the chocolate. Sprinkle white sprinkles over the entire sheet of chocolate for a snowy appearance.



Complete Snowmen

Use the frosting to squeeze a dot of candy onto the center of the head wafer and add an orange tic-tac or sunflower seed for the nose. Attach two dots of frosting above the nose and attach mini chocolate chips for eyes. Add two dots of candy on the middle wafer and add more mini chocolate chips for the buttons. Repeat process with remaining snowmen. Let the candy stand until set, about 30 minutes. You may transfer the sheet of bark to the refrigerator to speed setting time.



Creatively Package



Score the bark around each snowman using a knife and break into appropriately-sized pieces to fit inside each CD sleeve. Seal each sleeve with cellophane tape or a self-adhesive sticker, then add a festive gift tag or bow.

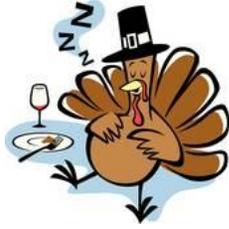
I tried this treat at my house this December and have a

couple of hints to make your snowman creation amazing. First, make sure you have all of the ingredients laid out beforehand. Second, I suggest cutting the tic-tacs in half so they are not too big on the vanilla wafers. I hope you try this cute and yummy looking treat! Merry Christmas!



Just Some Jolly Jokes

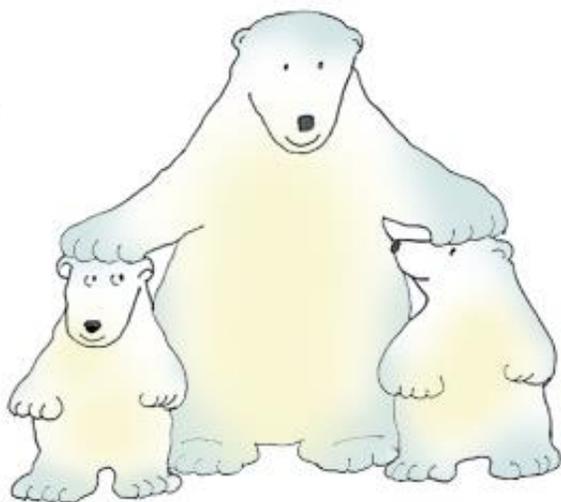
Q: Who doesn't eat on Christmas?
A: A turkey because it is always stuffed.



Q: What do you get if Santa goes down the chimney when a fire is lit?
A: Crisp Kringle.



Q: What did Mrs. Claus say to Santa when she looked up in the sky?
A: Looks like rain, dear!



“If ‘Plan A’ didn’t work the alphabet has 25 more letters!”

January Birthdays

By TJ Anderson

Vanessa Curry- 2nd
Tyler Hippchen- 3rd
Janel Olsen- 6th
Patrick Kramer- 10th
Ky Calvert- 10th
Jacobee Longan-Chapman- 13th
Erin Koziczowski- 15th
Lillian Miller- 17th
Gavin Langham- 18th
Mr. LeClair- 18th
Cadance Bitterich- 19th
Angel Mathes- 20th
Eli Morris- 21st
Mystery Garner- 21st
Jenna Streiff- 21st
Logan Satathite- 23rd
Gavin Solomon- 24th
Wyatt Cole- 25th
Kristofer Mertz- 26th
Nekoda Cooper- 27th
Matthew Caughran- 27th
Greg Fallon- 31st
Jaycie Castillo- 31st



Anonymous Confessions

(continued from page 16)

The Seahawks are a terrible football team.
–PatriotsrAwesome!
PatriotsrAwesome!,
I agree, I heard the Seahawks cheat...



Slime is so satisfying.
–SSatisfyingSlimeSS
SSatisfyingSlimeSS,
Yea it is, but it’s such a mess! So about a year ago I made a BUNCH of slime and I brought some home and the next day it was all over the carpet and we had to replace it. Here’s some advice: Don’t make slime!

Why do polar bears love to read the *Purple Pages*?
For all the awesome **arcticles**!

The KMS *Purple Pages* is brought to you by reporters Zoticus Active, TJ Anderson, Ashlynn Baughn, Jayna Boonstra, Ransom Hayes, Kimberly Noriega, Nevaeh Olson, Matthew Parazoo, Brooklyn Reed, Eva Sorensen, Nicole Toepel, and Jenna Tureman, with support from journalism advisor, Mrs. Nabholz. Thanks also to our leadership guest reporter for this issue, Sydney Johnson, and to all the parents, teachers, and staff members who provided photos and input.

Overheard

By TJ Anderson

“There’s a brand of gum that’s called chicken?”
“I am as straight as a rainbow.”
“Were you trying to eat my ear?”
“You want some lice?”
“I am aimlessly stabbing a potato.”
“I have Mexican candy but I can’t get it out.”
“Why are these oranges so brutal?”
“50 dates in my ear?!”
“You can’t delete walls!”
“I’m drawing a self-portrait of you!”
Person 1: “Overheards?!”
Person 2: “Oh, I thought you said Angry Birds.”
“Why is this so floppy?”
“I think freckles are good – I mean pretzels.”
“Ha, I just thought of something that’s really funny and disturbing, your farts smell like cheese.”
Person 1: “We’re eating triggered raisins!”
Person 2: “My triggered raisin has a nut with it.”
“Pee pennies?”
“I made a black hole!”
“I sound like a chewy bazooka.”
Person 1: “You can only wrap thin people.”
Person 2: “Why would you want to wrap a person?”
Person 1: “Because they would be naked if you don’t.”
“His barrette is ruined.”
“The stars are falling!!! Oh wait... that’s snow...”
“Why is there only creepy old women?”
Person 1: “Potatoes are bae.”
Person 2: “But you are a potato.”
Person 1: “Exactly.”
“Tomatoes and Hallmark?”
“How do you make a sky message?”
“Pajama Day is my spirit day.”
“I’m about to lay down and stay down.”
“I’m going to go take a long suspicious drink of water.”
Person 1: “I’ll call you ginger and punch you.”
Person 2: “You’re not my mom.”
“Don’t ask where the body went. I will not tell you.”

Anonymous Confessions

By Nicole Toepel

I draw on my blood veins with pen. –Unicorn
Unicorn,
Me too! I think it’s cool.

One time I ate a waffle that my brother named Chicken.
–Anonymous
Anonymous,
One time I burnt a waffle and gave it to my brother and he said it was “good.”



Neon is a gas not a color. –Periodic Table of Elements
Periodic Table of Elements,
Well, gas can be stinky stuff so I guess neon is stinky stuff.

Orcas are not whales. –The Puffin
The Puffin,
Well, then water isn’t wet.

Don’t ask where the body went. –Ask not
Ask not,
I’ll just have someone else ask. :)

I have a pet named Satan. –Satan Spawn
Satan Spawn,
Uh, please change his name to Cheeto Puff.



Chickawns are spies.
–The Government
The Government,
I eat chickawns, so they can’t spy on me.

I like romances.
–Ronald McDonald
Ronald McDonald,
Me too! I like eating Cheeto Puffs while watching romances.

I used to eat purple crayons cuz they tasted like grapes.
–Anonymous
Anonymous,
You have one wild imagination. Actually, no you’re just weird.

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