

Knighly NEWSpaper

Published By The OSM Student Council - December 2024 - Edition #3

Popular Gifts For Christmas! ***By: Kevin Woodard***

This year, many gifts will be bought. What about the most popular ones? Many people are buying Owala water bottles. Cologne is also a very popular product at the moment. That means it will probably be bought for gifts for the holiday season.



Pre-K Pageant! ***By: Grace C.***

As always the Pre - K is doing a Christmas pageant play! And the Pre - K worked very hard on this pageant! So a shout-out to all of our Pre-K rooms! Here are some pictures,



Nurse's Corner: The Good Rest Test

Sleep challenge - as we open our eyes in the morning, every student and teacher wants to have a feeling of being rested. Getting enough sleep is a key component for happy and productive students at OSM. The School Nurses challenge you to a week of sleep!! Every night for one week set your alarms for 7-9 hours of sleep. You will be amazed how fresh and energized you will feel!



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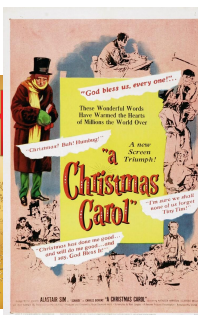
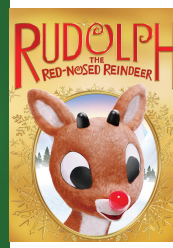
MEDIA REVIEW! By Maya Manglavil

THE POLAR EXPRESS- The Polar Express is an amazing family movie! I have watched it every Christmas and enjoyed! It is about a boy who doesn't believe in Christmas spirit, but gets on The Polar Express on Christmas Eve. He goes on many adventures in and out of the train! This is a great movie to watch! Rated G and very family friendly!

HOME ALONE- Home Alone is always a fan favorite! A boy is left home alone on a family vacation, and meets dangerous people! But he has a special surprise for them! Funny + Christmas + Movie = AMAZING!!! Rated PG and filled with fun!

THE CHRISTMAS CHRONICLES- The Christmas Chronicles is a magnificent choice for Christmas movie night! It is about kids who plan to capture Santa, then go on an unforgettable adventure to save Christmas! I love this movie, complete with laughs and family fun! Rated PG and would for sure recommend!

I give all these movies:



What is Christmas? by: Ella Zobitz

I'm sure we all know what we do on Christmas but what is Christmas? Christmas is the returning/birth date of Jesus Christ God's son. We started celebrating christmas in 336 A.D. That's over 1000 years ago! But why do we give each other gifts? The reason we give gifts to our friends and family is because the Three wise men gave baby Jesus presents when he was born! Now that you know all about Christmas, will you quiz your friends?

Top 5 most popular Christmas movies of all time (according to IMDb) By: Chris Johnigan

1. It's a Wonderful Life
2. Die Hard
3. A Christmas Carol
4. Home Alone
5. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

Where in the World Is Ms. April?!



CLUES!!

1. It is tilted 3.97 degrees
2. It was built on August 9, 1173
3. It is 185.93 feet tall
4. It took 200 years to build

The answer will be in the next newspaper addition!



**Last month,
Ms. April was
on the Eiffel
Tower!**

Christmas Movie Poll

Finley O'Connor

1. Grinch: 36
2. Home Alone: 68
3. Christmas Chronicles: 10
4. A Charlie Brown Christmas special: 10
5. Nightmare Before Christmas: 27

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Popular Sweets Eaten in December

By: Marko Zafirovski

1.



SUGAR COOKIES

A classic, good ole' sugar cookies! Normally, they are combined with flour and sugar to make dough, that will then be cut into certain shapes! From there, it will be put in the oven and then taken out to decorate! Any types of sprinkles can be used; anything from big charms to edible glitter!

2.



FRUITCAKE

Fruitcake is another big christmas sweet! It has a similar consistency to banana bread, except for the fact that it is packed with dried fruits! With the fruit, it is cooked like bread until it is able to be eaten. Fruitcake is a wonderful dish to share with loved ones around the holidays!

3.



PUDDING

Pudding is definitely the most difficult dish to make on this list. Overall, the baking takes 8 HRS! First, you have to cut it all the fruit that goes into it and then make a mixture with those fruits and butter. From there, you have to shape it so it takes the shape of bowl. Lastly, you put it in the oven for a day and wait for the delicious goodness to be done!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

New Year's Eve Traditions



Mexican families swallow twelve grapes at once for New years Eve.

In Italy to ring in the new year you are supposed to wear red underwear!

In Japan they ring a bell 108 times!

On New years eve you can find a lot of round shapes in the philippines!

In Greece you are supposed to hang onions!

In Brazil swimmers are supposed to jump 7 waves!

The Miracle of Christmas

by Fr. Rich Andre, CSP

God created the universe, including the stars, mountains, and rivers, fish, birds, cats, and dogs, and you and me. God knows everything. God loves everyone. God is all powerful. And yet, God chose to be born as a little baby, completely dependent on Mary and Joseph to feed him, protect him, and educate him. That seems impossible to us, but the angel Gabriel told Mary that nothing would be impossible for God!!

God understands what it means to be a person. Jesus was a person... just like you and me! As Jesus, God had parents who asked him to do his chores. He had cousins to play with. He learned math, reading, and religion. So no matter what you're experiencing in your life, you can talk about it with God. God will understand because Jesus had parents, played with friends, went to school, and grew up just like you're doing. That's the miracle of Christmas: **You can talk with God about anything. God will understand!**

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St. Nicholas

By: Veda Calhan

St. Nicholas was born around the time of the 4th century. According to tradition, he was born in the ancient Lycian seaport city of Patara, and, when young, traveled to Palestine and Egypt. He became bishop of Myra soon after returning to Lycia in the 4th century. He was imprisoned during the persecution of Christians by the Roman emperor Diocletian. He was later released under the rule of Constantine the Great. He attended the first Council of Nicaea where he allegedly struck the heretic Arius in the face. He is noted as a kind and generous St. who performed many miracles. His Western feast day is December 6th, and his Eastern feast day is December 19. While we celebrate him as Santa on December 25th, he is celebrated in many countries on St. Nicholas Day, December 6th.



IMPORTANT PERSON

LYLA JACOB

Not many people associate St. Francis of Assisi with Christmas, but he is credited with creating the first nativity scene. St. Francis was born in 1181 and died in 1226. He was raised as a wealthy man, but he ran away from his home to live among the poor to become closer to God. A couple of years later he founded the Franciscan Order that is still around today. Around 1220 he and his followers celebrated Christmas by recreating the scene of Jesus's birth. He used real animals and a manger to represent the his birth.



Fun Game: Gingerbread House Competition!

By: Natalie Sandoval

Gingerbread contests are so fun and all you need is gingerbread, frosting, and decorations. You can make whatever design you want from intercity to easy. All you have to do is set a timer for however long you and your family want and then you craft!



Teacher Interview

By: Kate Pienta



Coach Kaye

This is Coach Kaye's 7th year at OSM! He teaches Physical Education to PK-8th grade! One interesting fact about him is he's from Australia! Coach Kaye's favorite place he has even been to was Hawaii! If he had one wish, he would wish for world peace.

The biggest impact OSM has made on him is the strong sense of community. "Golden Rule: Treat people the way you want to be treated". This is important phrase that Coach Kaye would like everyone at OSM to take to heart! Lastly, Coach Kaye would like everyone at OSM to be curious and don't take things for granted!

This is Mr. Woodlock's 2nd year at OSM! He teaches Math to Middle School! One interesting fact about him is he makes music! Mr. Woodlock's favorite place he has ever been to was Costa Rica! If he had one wish, he would wish to make his dog live as long as him.

The biggest impact OSM has had on him is by giving him a really good environment to teach. "Life is like riding a bicycle, to keep your balance, you must keep moving". This is one quote Mr. Woodlock would like everyone at OSM to remember! Finally, Mr. Woodlock would like everyone at OSM to know that the students are great and the future will be exciting.



Mr. Woodlock



Mrs. Murphy

This is Mrs. Murphy 8th year working at OSM, however, she has been a parishioner at OSM for over 20 years! She does not teach, but she oversees all events for the church and school! One interesting fact about her is she has worked in hospitality since she was 15 years old! Mrs. Murphy's favorite place she has even been to was the Amalfi coast in Italy! If she had one wish, she would wish to live a happy & fantastic life and have the world be cancer free.

The biggest impact OSM has made on her is showing her the strength of the school & the church and seeing the growth of the school over the past 21 years! "Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless" (Mother Teresa). This is one quote from Mother Teresa that Mrs. Murphy would like to share with the OSM community. Lastly, Mrs. Murphy would like everyone at OSM to be kind to each other every day!

In January, it will mark Ms. Hernandez 1st year at OSM! She teaches Student Support to 5th & 6th grade! One interesting fact about her is she has 30 tattoos and is planning to get more! Ms. Hernandez's favorite place she has ever been to was Mexico (visit Mom's hometown) and Disneyland (with her whole family). If she had one wish, she would wish to spend more time in Mexico.

The biggest impact OSM has had on her is with working here, it has reminded her why she wants to teach and continue teaching (especially the teachers, staff, & students). "The brain is a powerful thing, so if you think positive, positive things will happen, however, if you think negative, negative things will happen". This is one quote Mr. Hernandez would like everyone at OSM to know! Lastly, Ms. Hernandez would like everyone to consider others because you never know what someone is going through.



Ms. Hernandez



Ms. Madorsky

This is Ms. Madorsky's 6th year at OSM! She teaches all ELA subjects to 1st grade (Star room)! One interesting fact about her is she loves to dance & choreograph for the spring musical! Ms. Madorsky's favorite place she has even been to was Portugal! If she had one wish, she would wish for every child to get a education.

The biggest impact OSM has made on Ms. Madorsky is showing her how great the community is & the leadership opportunities OSM offers! "It's ok to make mistakes". This is one quote that Ms. Madorsky tells her students! Lastly, Ms. Madorsky would like everyone at the OSM community to never give up & try your best!

Mrs. Lyon was here for 4 years, before she left to take care of her family. Fortunately, she came back this year! She teaches pre-school in the Butterfly room! One interesting fact about her is she used to live in Minnesota & Colorado! Mrs. Lyon's favorite place she has ever been was Hawaii! If she had one wish, she would wish for everybody to be understanding & kind to each other.

The biggest impact OSM has made on Mrs. Lyon is providing her with a lot of good friends here. Also, she loves working with the little ones! "Comparison is the thief of joy". This is one quote that Mrs. Lyon has been following! Lastly, Mrs. Lyon would like everyone at OSM to not take yourself too seriously & to just be yourself!



Mrs. Lyon



Ms. Castaneda

This is Ms. Castaneda's 1st year at OSM! She teaches Math, Social Studies, Science, and Religion to Kindergarten! One interesting fact about her is she likes to crochet! Ms. Castaneda's favorite place she has ever been to was to Taiwan! If she had one wish, she would wish to be able to travel wherever & whenever she wants!

The biggest impact OSM has had on Ms. Castaneda is being able to put her teaching abilities to use & seeing the students grow! "The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today" (H. Jackson Brown Jr.). This is one quote that stands out to Ms. Castaneda. Lastly, Ms. Castaneda would like thank everyone at OSM for being so welcoming & it has been fun here so far!

This is Ms. Montgomery's 1st year at OSM! She teaches all ELA subjects to 1st grade! One interesting fact about her is she raised a service dog in college! Ms. Montgomery's favorite place she has ever been to was Tuscany, Italy! If she had one wish, she would wish to be able to teleport.

The biggest impact OSM has had on Ms. Montgomery is how welcoming & supportive the community is! "Try your best & never give up". This is one quote Ms. Montgomery would like everyone at OSM to remember. Lastly, Ms. Montgomery would live everyone at OSM to know that she is looking forward to building relationships with the faculty & staff, community, and students!



Ms. Montgomery

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Christmas Word Games

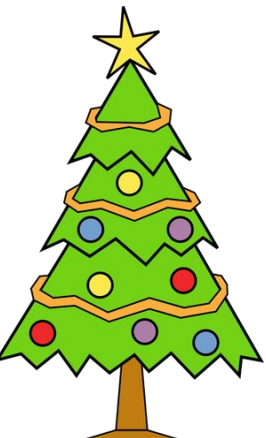
By: Luciana Bertucci

Unscramble the following holiday themed words!

1. Chtr Siasm Tere
2. Stocking Sefurft
3. Metositle

Fill in the missing letter to the Holiday words!

1. W _ _ t _ r Br _ a _
2. S _ nt _
3. J _ n _ le Bel _ s



Answers!
1. Christmas Tree
2. Stocking Stuffer
3. Mistletoe
1. Winter Break
2. Santa
3. Jingle Bells

Christmas Traditions Worldwide

By: Patrick Quinn

Japan: Although Japan is less than 2% Christian, the country has an unusual way to celebrate Christmas! Instead of having a nice homemade dinner with family, Japanese people go to their local KFC for their “Kentucky for Christmas!” campaign. The popular campaign has existed in the country since 1974, and the demand is so high that people order their boxes of food months in advance!

Philippines: The Philippines, one of the world's most Christian countries, goes all out for Christmas. Around the country, it is common to find parols, which are colorful lanterns that symbolize the Star of Bethlehem. These same parols can be found around the nave of the OSM church!

Germany: In Germany, one of the most popular Christmas traditions are Advent calendars. In the 19th century, Protestants would mark 24 lines with chalk on their doors erasing one each day before Christmas. However, in more recent years, regular paper calendars have become more popular. It is also common to find massive Advent calendars hanging on the façades of buildings.



A Japanese family enjoying KFC Christmas dinner.



Filipino Christmas Parols, which can be found in the OSM church.

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Upcoming Events

By: Aiden Rego

In December, we celebrate a multitude of things. Some of those would be advent and christmas. Advent, started on December 1, the first sunday of the month and ends on December 24, Christmas Eve. This is done to prepare for the coming of Jesus. That is why we celebrate Christmas on the 25. After our break, we will come back on January 6. Knights of Columbus takes place on the 12. Then on January 20, it is MLK day, a day to honor a civil right activist. Lastly, Catholic Schools Week focuses on the value catholic schools teach.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dress in holiday gear	Dress in black. (Head to toe)	Dress in house colors	Day at the beach	Dress in extreme spirit Wear

RECIPE: CHRISTMAS COOKIES BY: BEN K AND FOX B

INGREDIENTS:

1 CUP BUTTER

$\frac{2}{3}$ CUP SUGAR

1 EGG

$\frac{1}{4}$ TEASPOON BAKING POWDER

$\frac{1}{8}$ TEASPOON SALT

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ TEASPOONS VANILLA EXTRACT

2 $\frac{1}{3}$ CUPS ALL PURPOSE FLOUR

DIRECTIONS:

BEAT BUTTER AND SUGAR TOGETHER IN A STANDARD MIXER UNTIL LIGHT AND FLUFFY.

ADD EGG, BAKING POWDER, SALT, AND VANILLA. MIX TOGETHER UNTIL SMOOTH

DIVIDE DOUGH IN HALF, SHAPE EACH INTO FLAT DISC, AND REFRIGERATE FOR 30 MIN.

MEANWHILE, PREHEAT OVEN TO 350 F, LINING TWO BAKING SHEETS WITH PARCHMENT PAPER OR SILICONE LINERS.

FLOUR SPACE, THEN ROLL DOUGH TO ABOUT $\frac{1}{4}$ INCH THICK. CUT OUT COOKIES WITH COOKIE CUTTERS BAKE UNTIL COOKIES ARE SLIGHTLY DARKENED AT EDGES, 6-9 MINS LET COOL, THEN DECORATE!



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Student interviews Nicole Brown

TJ in kindergarten

The new playground has improved my reces because it lets me play on a lot more stuff.

I like the playground because it is very fun and the slides are really fast

I play around the playground and with the equipment, it is very fun



Eva in 1st grade

The new playground improves recess because I can play more things with my friends.

I like the the new playground because I like the new equipment but the slide is my favorite.

I play on the slide and I like to play sonic and run around.

Sofia in 5th grade

The new playground has improved my recess because I can play way more games with my friend and more options.

I like the new playground because it makes recess more exciting for me and my friends

I play family with my friends in the house or just chill in the house when it is cold outside



Emily in 8th grade

The new playground improved my recessI have way more options to pick for activities outside

I like the new equipment because it was not just made for little kids but or older kids to

I play tag and hide and go seek with my friend.



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OSM Athletics

By : Griffin Sinkovich and Oliver Thurston

Game of the Month

On December 6th, Old Saint Mary's 7th grade lakefront won an intense game. OSM took on St. Clement at 8:00 P.M. The game seemed like it was over being down 8 points with a minute 30 in regular time. Griffin Sinkovich hit 3 three pointers in a row to bring them within two points. They had the ball with 4 seconds left to tie up the game. On the inbound pass Griffin is guarded but gets the ball. He heaves a prayer down the court to Ray Morris who took his the final shot before getting fouled. He attempted two free throws, sinking both to take the game into overtime. From their, OSM played a close game until Ryan Pinchback sunk a bank 3-point shot. Fans storm the court everywhere, snapping St. Clements four game win streak.

GO KNIGHTS!

Old Saint Mary's basketball has been still going strong. Congratulations to all the teams that have been playing. Each team puts in lots of effort and work to play to their best capability.



The History of Christmas Trees

By Matty Manglavit

Everyone knows what a Christmas Tree is. It is one of the most famous staples of Christmas! However, how did the Christmas Tree come about, and how did it become so famous? First, evergreen trees, what Christmas trees actually are, were used a lot more than you would think back in ancient times. It was thought that since the leaves always stayed green, the trees would ward off evil spirits and illness. However, German's are the ones who are credited for starting the christmas tree tradition. They eventually brought it to America, and it wasn't actually accepted at first. In 1659, Christmas or any holidays on December 25th was actually a criminal offense! However, in 1850, Christmas trees grew popular and in the early 20th century, people started decorating christmas trees. Now, it has grown into a christmas staple.

Worlds Biggest Iceberg is on the move again

By Milosz Bobek

During the month of December, many events happened including: The Notre dame Cathedral was opened and rebuilt as promised by the president 5 years ago, FIFA World cup Announced that Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay will host the next soccer tournament in 2030, an earthquake occurred on December 17 in Vanuatu resulting unfortunately 14 fatalities, Spotify announced their new AI Music composer that makes music easier to make, NASA Launched a mission called "Artemis III" that is intended to land humans on the moon.

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Fun Activities to do during Christmas

By: David Amoh and Nino Capuano

Ice Skating - At Millennium Park, It's magical with all the holiday lights when you're skating!

Decorating a Christmas Tree,- Gather your favorite ornaments and make your tree sparkle!

Holiday Lights Tour - Check out the amazing display around the city, like at Lincoln Park Zoo.

Baking Christmas Cookies - Get creative with decorations and make a custom cookie for you and your family

Watching Christmas Movies - Cozy up with some classic movies like "Home Alone" or "Elf"

Snowboarding/Sledding - Pick up your sleighs and walk down to Soldier Field as they have many hills you can slide down!



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Food Review

By: Emily Pienta

Gingerbread Cookies and Lemon and Chocolate Kiss Cookies

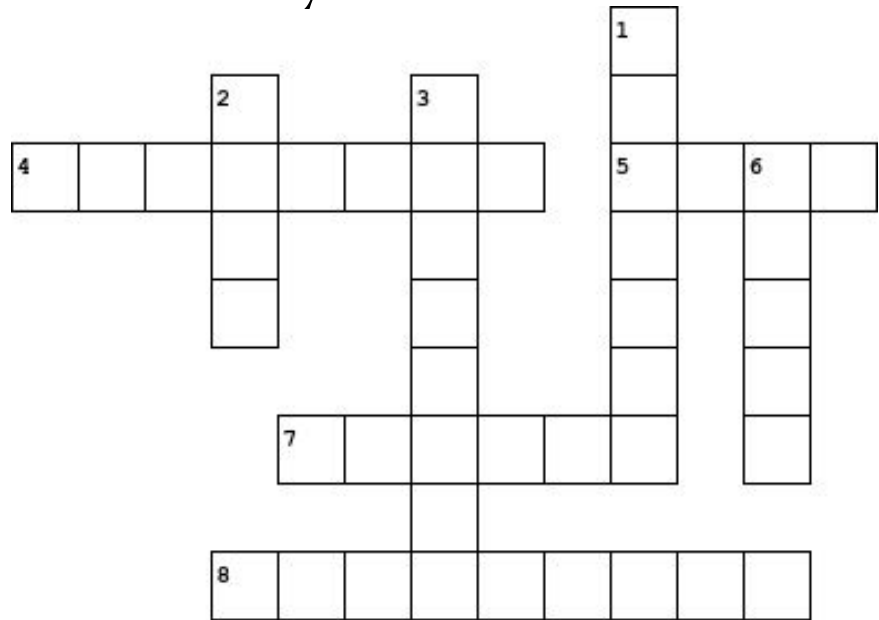
Although Santa's favorite cookies are chocolate Chip Cookies, these two cookies are just as good. First up is the gingerbread cookies. This is a classic Christmas cookie that can be enjoyed by all. They're soft, warmly spiced, and richly flavored with molasses and brown sugar. Gingerbread is a sweet food-product flavored with ginger and typically using honey or molasses rather than just sugar. It is a sweet cookie that has been molded traditionally into a man with frosting and sprinkles on top. The second cookie that is being reviewed is the chocolate kiss cookie. These cookies have a shortbread texture with a surprise chocolate filling. The Hershey kiss in the middle adds a special touch to the cookie. The cookie is sweet and melts in your mouth with a round shaped cookie base. The cookie base is a shortbread and chocolate chip cookie base mixed to make an amazing base to the cookie. Overall, if you want to make cookies then these two are the ones to go with. These cookies will leave you feeling dilated and satisfied.



OSM Holiday Crossword



By: Nora Likavec



Across

- OSM loves to _____ the halls for the holidays.
- The OSM students received a visit from Saint _____ who put a gift in their shoes.
- The last day of school before winter break is _____.
- The whole school participates in a _____ before we leave for break.

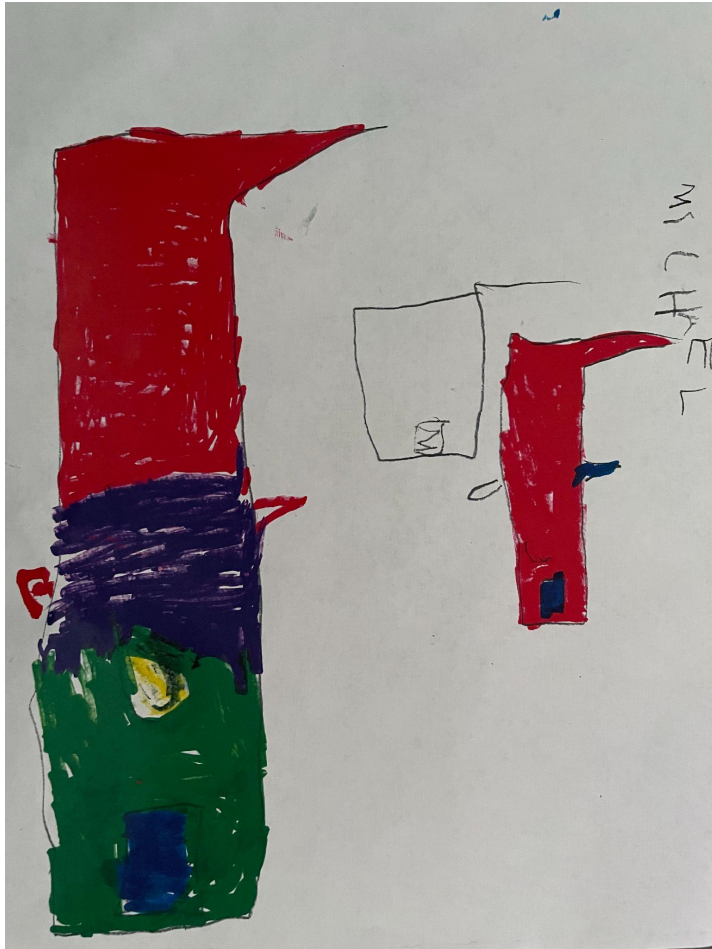
Down

- We come back from break in _____.
- The weather is usually _____ in Chicago during winter.
- This year, each class participated in Secret _____ where they received clues to guess which class had them.
- The student council and yearbook members _____ outside the school on Friday morning before break.

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Student Submissions!



Picture above by :
Michael Levy
In the Chameleon Room!

Comic below by: Mila Ornelas
from Ms. Duncan's 3rd grade
room!



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Holiday craft!

By: Leah McCroskey & Samantha Tokarz



This is what we will be making. All you will need is a paper towel roll and some paper!

Get Santa's Hat!



Santa lost his hat while riding on his Reindeer, you are in charge of getting it back for him!



The Science of the Jet Engine

Brooklyn Bobb

Did you know that the size of the Boeing 777 engine is the size of the fuselage, or body, of the Boeing 737? The engine of an aircraft is one of the most vital parts to flight. It creates one of the four forces of flight, thrust, and combats drag. There is a specific process in which the air molecules go through to deliver the necessary thrust.

- 1. Intake**
 - a. The air molecules, or more simply air, is pulled into the front of the engine.
- 2. Compression**
 - a. The air is then compressed. Many aviators group intake and compression together. To create both intake and compression, the engine utilizes a fan.
- 3. Combustion**
 - a. In this stage, air is mixed with fuel to cause a spark.
- 4. Expansion**
 - a. Due to the spark, the gases expand.
- 5. Exhaust**
 - a. The expanded air leaves through the back of the engine. Using Newton's third law of motion, the force moving backward has an equal effect so that the engine has an equal speed going forward.

