



SuperSTAR News

December 2020



VES Holiday Drive Thru *By Rowan Chavez & Joseph Langan*

Celebrating safely may be tough this year no matter whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or any other holiday but there are many ways you can stay safe while still celebrating! At VES we are having a safe holiday by having a holiday drive through at the school! Here is what Ms. Tonya, our amazing school registrar, had to say: "The Holiday Drive Thru was a lot of fun. It was the first year for this event so I didn't really know what to expect, but I felt it was full of excitement and happy energy! I really enjoyed seeing all the smiles, waving to the students and parents, and drinking some hot chocolate." All the teachers were by their cars and were spread out in groups by grade level. They were dressed up in holiday outfits bringing extra joy to our school families. The event was bright and joyful. There was lots of dancing and it made you feel happy. At the end of it, you received a bag of Swiss Miss cocoa, a tiny candy cane, your own VES ornament, and you got to see Mr.



(our principal) dressed as Santa! Here's what Mr. Jankee had to say about the event, **"The Holiday Drive Thru was exactly what my heart needed. It's difficult to come to school everyday and not see my whole SuperSTAR school family here. I miss seeing my students and families in person and the Holiday Drive Thru gave me and the staff a little piece of that."** Mr. Jankee sure is a great and caring principal! The Holiday Drive Thru was a massive success and was lots of fun!

We hope you have a safe and happy holiday season.





Character Counts: Caring



By: Joseph Langan and Rowan Chavez

Caring is something that is important because it is something that connects us with kindness and love. Healthcare workers are caring a lot for the ill especially during the COVID-19 outbreak. Sometimes you might not even know you are caring and being kind to others. For example, when a friend drops the pencil box on the floor, you might just pick it up without thinking. You can be caring in many ways like being kind, helping a friend study, or even just reminding a friend about a class that they were late for. Overall, caring for others makes everyone's day a better one. Here is what our very own kindergarten teachers have said about their students and how they care for each other.

In **Mrs. Klingbyll's** class, **Alexander, Kirsten,** and **Amerie** are all very caring students. "I have so many caring students in my class, that it is hard to select," said Mrs. Klingbyll. Look at those shining caring students!

For **Mrs. Chavez's** class, **Isabelle** and **Avery** were chosen for their character. "They are both wonderful, caring students and I am lucky to be their teacher," Mrs. Chavez said. Wow! Those students shine with superstar character. Shout-out to those students!

Now for **Mrs. Anders' class**, **Ava** and **Kaiden** show the pillar of caring very well. Their whole class represents the pillar of caring by helping others when needed and supporting others in their learning by cheering and clapping for their peers.

And finally, in **Mrs. Lewis' class**, **Audrey** and **Ava** were chosen for their superstar caring behavior. Their whole class shows the pillar by cheering on to show encouragement. "We always sparkle with our SuperStar Shine!" said Mrs. Lewis.

Spotlight on...

By Sofia Munson & Abigail Root

Mrs. Willingham is a third grade teacher for VES. Her favorite Christmas movie is "*The Grinch who stole Christmas*" because it's funny and it reminds her of the fun memories she had with her sisters. Her favorite place to go is the beach because she loves to look out at the big blue ocean from the shore. Lastly, her favorite teacher's memory was when her students surprised her for her birthday because it made her feel special.



Mrs. Duerbig said that her favorite teacher's memory is when she was reading "*Wonder*" to her class because she said it was exciting because they ended up loving the book. Her favorite Christmas movie is *A Christmas Story*. Her favorite place to go is Telluride, Colorado because she said it is GORGEOUS and you can hike and bike anywhere.

Ms. Tryon has many favorite Christmas movies but her favorite one is "*Elf*" because she says that she has seen it so many times and it still makes her laugh. Her favorite place to go is the beach because of the calming sound and the smell coming from the ocean. Finally, her best teacher memory was having her son in her third grade class.

3rd grade!

Mrs. Martin said that her favorite teacher's memory was playing football with her students since she loves to play games with them. Her favorite Christmas movie is *The Santa Clause* because she remembers seeing it with her grandma every year when growing up. This is her first year at VES and she says that it feels like home. Her favorite place to go is Disneyland because of all the sights, sounds, and food that make her so happy. She also said that her favorite ride was "A Small World".



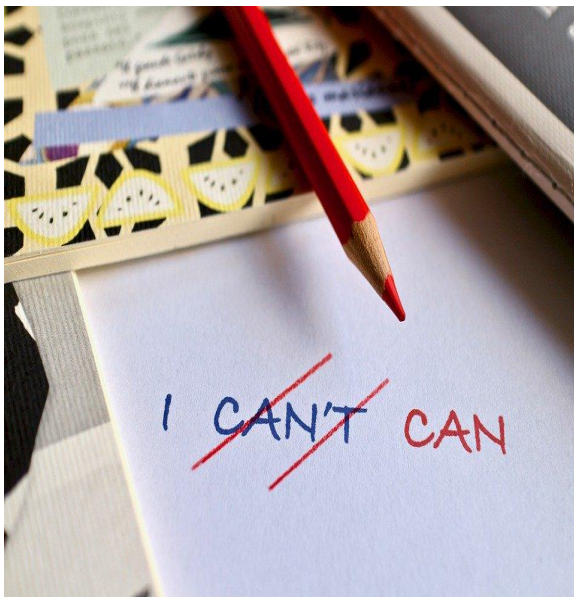
Advice column: Self confidence



Ways to stay confident:

- ★ Use positive self-talk
- ★ Try new things
- ★ Help others

What do you think is important about self confidence? Self confidence is when you are confident in yourself and your choices. Say you have a math test, you need to be confident in your effort and work. Studies have shown that if you think of the best and remain confident, you will get the better result. According to Psychology Today, ***“What we say to ourselves has a direct impact on our success – or failure.”*** Using positive thinking and positive self talk will help you succeed. “Positive self talk usually consists of words or brief phrases which inspire, motivate, or remind us to focus and keep moving.” Don't worry about what other people say because all that matters is what you think.



Another way to build confidence is by challenging yourself to try new things and getting out of your comfort zone. Be brave! Try taking art classes to challenge your brain to be more creative. You can even sign up to do karate, soccer, football, or gymnastics to help challenge your body physically. Helping other people can help you feel better about yourself as well and it helps the people around you. Having positivity and confidence can make you a better person. By trying new things, you build new skills which helps strengthen your self confidence.

Written by Brooklyn Byrd and Piper Bellingrodt

We'd love to hear from you! Do you have any questions for our advice columnists? Email us at kellerj@lesd.k12.az.us



Holiday Movie Reviews!

December Funnies

By Heath Cross

1. What do you get when you cross a snowman and a vampire?



2. Why did the girl put her saxophone in the snow?



3. What can you catch with your eyes closed?



4. What do you call it when a snowman has a temper tantrum?



Answers

1. Frostbite!
2. To play cool jazz.
3. A cold!
4. A meltdown!

Have you ever seen the movie **The Santa Clause**? Well... if you haven't I suggest not reading this because it's a movie review. Okay... don't say I didn't warn you. This movie is about a divorced man named Scott Calvin who suddenly becomes Santa by putting on his suit after he fell down the roof! When he becomes Santa he suddenly has to do all of the things that he would do to prepare for Christmas! Charlie (his son) is very convinced that he is Santa and then his mom and step dad take him away from Scott because they think he's crazy. Scott delivers presents to everyone with Charlie, but he goes to jail and needs to be busted out!!! In the end he delivers all the presents and he is used to being Santa and is prepared to deliver another successful year!

By Heath Cross

I hope you enjoyed this movie review! :)



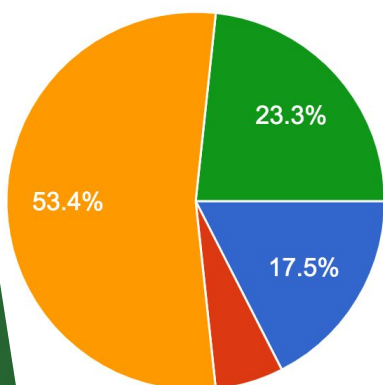
The **Christmas Chronicles** is a great holiday movie! In the movie, a brother and a sister are trying to save Christmas by helping Santa deliver presents all over the world. They found themselves in lots of funny and exciting situations in Santa's company. I believe that this movie brings a lot of Christmas joy and every family should see it.

Written by Lenny Cvijanovic

We polled our students and staff about their favorite holiday movie and here are the results!

Which of the following holiday movies do you like best?

206 responses



- How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- The Santa Clause
- Home Alone
- The Christmas Chronicles

What's your favorite holiday movie?

