



# The Husky Howler

## Utah Snowpack Higher Than It’s Been In Years



Students Carter Jenkins (7), Max Johnson (8), and Kaitlyn Turley (8) frolic in the snow outside the school.

**Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!** Just in the first two weeks of December 2022, we got more snow than we’ve had in a month in years. In fact, the last time the Salt Lake City area mountains had this much snow was in December 2011, according to Deseret News. The region is at 190% to 200% of normal snow-water equivalent, which is more snow than at least 91% of all other years.

Statewide, the snowpack is 152% of normal levels, which is in the 81st percentile. Even Southern Utah is experiencing an above-average winter, with some counties such as Washington, Kane, and Garfield reporting almost 200% of the median snow-water equivalent.

However, even with the sudden dumping of snow, we’re still not out of the drought the state of Utah has been suffering with for years. According to Utah’s drought monitor, most of the state remains in severe to extreme drought. “We’re in the midst of a multidecade drought here, so it’s going to take a couple of winters with at least well above average snowfall to get us out of this hole,” says Sam Webber, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Salt Lake City.

So, while this winter is seeing above-average levels of snow for Utah, it’s still going to take a few seasons for the snow to pull us out of this drought. According to Jordan Clayton, a snow survey data collection officer with NCRS, it could be possible to get out of the drought in one winter, but it would have to be “one monster of a season”.

And while some people are enjoying the snow, others are suffering from it. As well as making roads slippery and dangerous to drive on, the conditions have also increased avalanche danger, with most of Utah’s backcountry areas in “considerable” avalanche danger according to the Utah Avalanche Center. There have been several cases of skiing accidents due to avalanches. It’s best to be careful and never ski alone when you’re hitting the slopes.

As the snow continues to fall, it’s important to be careful, as well as take some time to appreciate what is supposed to be a “normal” Utah winter for the first time in years. Who knows? Maybe the snow will continue to return year after year and pull us out of the statewide drought. Then we’ll truly be walking in a winter wonderland!

-Kenna LeRoy

## Virginia Teacher Saves Students After Being Shot

**Teachers are heroes.** A teacher in Virginia who police say was intentionally shot by a six-year-old student is being called a hero because she escorted her students out of the classroom while she was wounded.

Abigail Zwerner was shot on Friday, January 6th while she was teaching her class. Police said, “The 6-year-old child displayed a firearm, pointed it at her and fired one round. There was no physical struggle or fight.” The bullet went through Ms. Zwerner’s hand and into her chest but according to Newport News Police Chief Steve Drew, “she was still able to get all of her students out of that classroom. She made...sure that every one of those students was safe.” Ms. Zwerner is still in the hospital but her condition has improved from critical to stable.



## Hamlin Collapses During Football Game

**On January 2nd, 2023, a high stakes football game was taking place in Cincinnati, Ohio.** Both teams could have used a win for playoffs. Both teams had had great seasons and needed to have a win to get the best spot in playoffs.



With nearly six minutes left in the first quarter, Damar Hamlin, a 24-year-old safety for the Buffalo Bills made a tackle. He stood up and collapsed. His heart stopped and he went into cardiac arrest. Reacting fast, Denny Kellington, part of the athletic training staff, administered the CPR that saved Hamlin’s life.

The NFL was left with a hard decision. With one week left in the regular season and both teams had their schedules planned. So, do they resume the game, or cancel it? The NFL finally came to a decision to cancel the game to give the teams time to recover.

Damar Hamlin was discharged from the hospital on January 11th, 2023. That means he was in the hospital for nine days and he is now at his house. Though it is still unknown, one of the biggest questions now is will he retire?

-Carter Jenkins

## Continued Support for Ukraine



**For the past few months, Russia has been trying to take over Ukraine.** While the US tries to stay out of it, we have helped them in different ways without putting ourselves in danger. Lately, the U.S. is considering sending Ukraine growing amounts of assistance and the transfer of “sophisticated” artillery. Jamey Keaten, a KSL press writer says, “US officials said Tuesday that Washington was poised to approve sending a Patriot missile battery to Ukraine, finally agreeing to an urgent request from Ukrainian leaders desperate for more robust weapons to shoot down incoming Russian missiles that have crippled much of the country’s vital infrastructure. An official announcement is expected soon.”

However, if that continues, “[it] would mean even broader, involvement of military personnel in the hostilities and could entail possible consequences,” says Maria Zakharova, a ministry spokesperson. A letter was also sent to the US embassy warning about dangerous consequences following the U.S. if we continue to help Ukraine through military flights and naval ship activity. —Megan Barker



# Feature

## We Three Kings

**Three Kings is a holiday celebrated on January 6th worldwide.** It is a holiday that celebrates the three kings that came to Bethlehem to meet Jesus and give him presents. The three kings' names are Melchior, Gasper, and Balthasar. A lot of countries celebrate three kings like Mexico, Argentina, Peru, Puerto Rico, and Spain. The traditions that these countries follow can vary, but it is still similar.



In Mexico, they celebrate by leaving their shoes out on January 5th. The three kings will leave little presents in their shoes. Also, on January 5th, the people will add the three wise men to their nativity scene. Another tradition is that they have an oval shaped cake. It is called Kings Cake or Rosca de reyes. The cake will have a tiny baby Jesus hidden inside. Whoever gets the slice with the baby Jesus will have to throw a party on February 2nd. They must throw it then because it is Day of the Candelmas.

In Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay, they celebrate Three Kings' Day very similar. Except for they leave grass and water for the camels, like some people leave carrots for the reindeer for Christmas.

In Puerto Rico, they also leave grass for the camels, but their traditions are the same. They also sing carols dedicated to the three kings.

In Spain, things are a little bit different. The night before Three King's Day, they hold a parade to welcome the kings from the Far East. They hold a lottery just for the three kings called the "Lottery of the baby." Just like in Mexico, they eat a King's Cake but if you get the baby Jesus, you pay for next year's Kings Cake.

There is a lot of different traditions that different countries celebrate around the world. Happy Three Kings Day! -Audra Hinckley

## It's Norris



**Have you seen the golden retriever walking around the halls?** That is Norris, the school service dog. He is Mrs. Stoddard's dog and is three years old. He has been here for three years, so he has

been here almost as long as he has been alive.

What does Norris really do? Not a lot of people know. We know he's a service dog, but does he do anything during school hours? Its not like he can be a teacher (even though that would be the best class) or a student because he's a dog. So wouldn't he just lay around? Yes, but he does other stuff too.

He Is in Mrs. Stoddard's room most of the day. But some lucky students get the privilege of walking Norris during the day. If you can hear a jingling of a collar, it is probably Norris because no one else wears collars (we don't think). But he spends most of the day in Mrs. Stoddard's room. -Carter Jenkins

## The Amazing Mrs. Anderson

**If you are in seventh grade, then you probably know Mrs. Anderson, the English teacher.** She teaches 7th grade Honors English and Enriched Reading. She has been teaching for around 30 years. She is an outstanding teacher and a great person overall. If you have her as a teacher, then you know how great she is. When speaking with her, she talked about the funniest moment in class she had. "One time, a student started to sing a song and then other people started to sing along and then I joined in to,"



she said cheerfully. Mrs. Anderson is an exceedingly kind person with a good heart. She loves to teach and help her students. She says her favorite thing about teaching is, "That moment when the lightbulb goes off in the kid's head." Just by this single quote, you can tell that she really loves teaching English. She also has a vast amount of experience since she has been teaching for around 30 years. When you have been teaching for so long, you usually teach more than one class. In Mrs. Anderson's case, she teaches both Honors English and Enriched Reading. When asked which is her favorite, this is what she said. "I love both equally just in different ways." Mrs. Anderson is amazing at teaching and really wants kids to learn to their full potential. She became a teacher because she is passionate about English, and really likes working with kids. She is an awesome teacher and gets you engaged about a subject even if it seems boring. She has multiple fun lessons and units. She is very compassionate and amiable. She loves to make sure every student understands and learns to love English. If anyone is thinking about becoming an English teacher, then you have a significant role model to look up to. So, next time you see Mrs. Anderson in the hallways, wave hello. -Nora Jensen

## A Mind for Quantum Mechanics



**Who is the physicist who is renowned and who created a cosmology?** It is Stephen Hawking! Steven Hawking was an English theoretical physicist, author, and cosmologist. He is best known for his discovery that black holes emit radiation which can be detected. This discovery made the study of black holes possible.

Stephen Hawking was born on January 8, 1942 to Isobel Eileen and Frank Hawking in Oxford. He had 2 younger sisters and an adopted a brother. His family was considered highly intelligent. he was very smart and attended Oxford and Cambridge.

In the early 1960's he contracted ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis). ALS is a degenerative neurological disorder. It causes paralysis around age 40. He continued to work hard. He focused on the physics of black holes. He was elected in 1974 the Royal Society. He continued to do many things and wrote until he passed away March 14, 2018.

-Elizabeth Buckway

**The Husky Howler** is the monthly newspaper of Farmington Junior High School in Farmington, Utah. The staff is made up of writers from all grade levels. Please email your questions, comments, or editorial replies to the Staff Advisor, Mrs. Kalakis at the following address: [mkalakis@dsdmail.net](mailto:mkalakis@dsdmail.net)



# Sports

## Girls Basketball Action



**A new sport has started: Girls' Basketball!** Both JV and varsity did well at the beginning of their seasons. In one of JV's first games, the ending score was 5 to 6, Farmington as the winners. It didn't matter that the team won by only one point. In the end it only mattered who had the most points, and that's what Farmington did!

Many new players have been put on the team this year. Including nine 7th graders, that play on JV. One of them is Brooklyn Romney. She was so excited that she was able to play on the team this year. Brooklyn loves that she got to meet and play with new people. She has only been playing basketball for two years and has already been able to make the team! Brooklyn said, "My favorite part of basketball is getting to play in games and learning new skills."

Not only do we have great players, but we have great captains. The captains of this year's girls' basketball team are Maleah Beddes, and Raegyn Dahlke. Maleah has been playing basketball as long as she can remember. She loves basketball because it is a fun way to stay active and make friends. Maleah said, "This year I got the opportunity of being team captain. I love being team captain because I feel like I personally get to know each player." She loves the team and thinks that they're doing great this season but said that there's always room for improvement. Come to the girls' basketball games and hopefully you'll see these girls on the court.

-Kennedy Toone

## Buffalo Bills Player Recovering in Hospital

**On January 2nd, around 8:00 pm, Damar Hamlin collapsed on the field after standing up from a perfectly normal tackle.** Players and



Staff from the Bengals and Bills slowly started noticing the unconscious Safety lying still on the turf. For 9 minutes, medics were giving Hamlin CPR before transporting him into an ambulance. It was reported that he was still breathing.

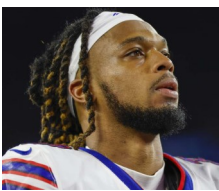
While being driven to the hospital, doctors and people sitting on their couches were trying to figure out what had happened.

They've now come to a conclusion that it was some sort of cardiac arrest, although they don't know what type. It's hard to tell from what seemed like a normal tackle. What made this event so special?

It's not uncommon for players to fall unconscious from a tackle that usually comes from a head injury. The confusing part is that Damar received a chest tackle – got up then fell again after a few steps. It's extremely rare for a player to not respond after a few minutes of being unconscious. Players from either team knelt down in prayer and hoped that their friend – or a complete stranger – would live through this. Tears were running down the bulky, large, tough men's faces. The crowd was oddly quiet and commentators were speechless. This has been one of the only times an NFL game has been cancelled (score 7-3 with Bengals in the lead), especially in the first quarter.

As of January 6th, Hamlin was reported to be awake and most likely capable of talking, if there weren't tubes running down his throat. He was able to write, and the first thing he wrote with a smile was, "Did we win?" The doctors told him yes. This was an unforgettable moment in NFL history and proof that miracles really do happen. -Max Johnson

## Player Collapses During Monday Night Football



**Damar Hamlin suffered a cardiac arrest during his game on January 2nd.** Hamlin is a safety for the Buffalo Bills. During the first quarter of the Bills game against the Bangles, Hamlin collapsed on the field shortly after he tackled Bangles' wide receiver Tee Higgins. During the tackle, Higgin's shoulder hit Hamlin's chest. Hamlin got up quickly after the tackle but then collapsed only a few seconds after. Health care workers gave him CPR. The first attempt resulted in him being put back down, but he was taken to an ambulance after 16 min. Hamlin was transported to the nearby University of Cincinnati Medical Center, where he was listed in critical condition. The Bills players were all visibly distressed and worried about their friend. After Hamlin left the field, the players knelt together before returning to the sideline. It was then decided that the game would be postponed, but later the game was canceled.

It was announced that he was improving slowly the next day, keeping fans hopeful. "We are grateful and thankful for the outpouring of support we have receiver thus far," the team said. Pitt coach Pat Narduzzi spoke highly of Hamlin. "Damar Hamlin is far more than just a football player. He's a loving son, brother and friend. Damar is a hero to thousands of Pittsburgh kids. Damar, we love you. We are praying for you. Pittsburgh's always had your back and now its obvious the entire country has your back, too." -Brooklyn Rudd

## The Weather Outside Is... Not So Frightful



Image Source: [www.slttrib.com](http://www.slttrib.com)

**When winter comes, fun enters with it!** Just because the only heat you get is from your fireplace doesn't mean you can't stay active. There are plenty of things to do that tourists from all over the world come to do.

A common way to have fun is to drive up to your local ski resort in the mountains and ski/snowboard down the rolling hills. You can head up to the Snowbasin Lodge to fetch some hot cocoa. When you're warmed up, then take the ski lift up to the mountains and go on down the hill. In fact, resorts have been filling up because of the amount of snow they're getting.

If you want to have fun with all your family and friends, then you can take out your snow tube from your garage and sled on the snowy slopes. It's one of the most popular activities to do when you need something that uses less muscle and more risk. In the popular comic strip Calvin and Hobbes, the dynamic duo sometimes sled down cliffs in honor of the winter season.

How about you break out the skates? The hockey athletes have come out to play. We've entered the time when you watch Mighty Ducks all the time. Sometimes kids play it at school during Phys Ed without the ice or the skates. It's a great family activity to drive to the Maverick Center and root for the Grizzlies. Wish them luck. Now, put down the newspaper and be active. The weather outside may be frightful, but that doesn't mean that your body has to be. -Henry Smith

## Super Bowl LVII

**The 57th annual final playoff game of the NFL, the Super Bowl is going to be held in the State Farm stadium, home of the Arizona Cardinals, in Glendale Arizona.** One team is going to be the champion



of them all. This will be the fourth time the Super Bowl has been held in Arizona. In the next couple weeks, on Sunday, Feb 12th, the 57th Superbowl is going to be underway.

This year's half time show is a much wanted one. International superstar, Rihanna is going to be preforming. She is the headliner for the Apple Music Halftime show.

Last year, the LA Rams claimed victory in the SoFi Stadium. One of the most legendary Super Bowl games was the New England Patriots against the Seattle Seahawks in 2015. The game had everyone on the edge of their seats. It was close, 28-24 but New England won it all.

Americans all over the states wait for this moment. Millions, and millions of people wait for this game all season. Around 45% of Americans watch the Super Bowl! -Taylor Sutterfield



# Clubs

## Dungeons and Dragons



Here at Farmington Junior High, we have our very own Dungeons and Dragons club. Every Tuesday after school from 3:00 to 4:00 you can come join the world of magic in Mrs. Kovacs classroom, room 172 in the eighth-grade hall.

Dungeons and Dragons is a role-playing, miniature wargame full of magic and wonder. D and D is an open world filled with adventure and stories out of this world. This storytelling game can be played with your friends and lets you decide what happens in your own world.

The only limit in this game is your imagination. As you twist through crazy turns and unexpected outcomes of your story you'll fight and adventure on epic quests while leveling up each of your characters along the way.

Dungeons and Dragons is played with a group of three to five around a table. You play this storytelling game as either a player or the Dungeon Master. The Dungeon Master's role is to run the world you created. You'll challenge the other players abilities as they conquer their quests. Everyone else in the game are players. You choose what your players do, and how they go about, what they do, etc. Once you've decided, you roll a dice and wait for the Dungeon Master to say whether you were successful or not.

This game is so incredible it is even featured on one of the biggest Netflix series out there, *Stranger Things*. The Duffer brothers, the show's creators, said that this game was one of their biggest inspirations. Although, D and D is not just a game in *Stranger Things* but their lives as they discover the Upside Down.

Huskies, come join your fellow students in the Dungeons and Dragons club for extreme adventures, building worlds and characters, fighting for victory all in room 172, Tuesdays after school from 3:00 to 4:00.

—Taylor Sutterfield



# Holidays Every Day



**Do you wish there was a holiday every day?** I've got good news: there are holidays every single day of the year. There's a holiday for everything from New Years Day to National Hot Chocolate day. Here is a holiday, and fun fact with that holiday, for every day of this month.

**January 1: New Year's Day** The first day of the year, also known as New Year's Day. One common tradition for this holiday is to make a list of goals for that year, or New Year's Resolutions.

**January 2: National Science Fiction Day** is in memory of the famous science fiction writer Isaac Asimov's birthday.

**January 3: JRR Tolkien Day** is celebrated on JRR Tolkien's birthday, who wrote the Lord Of The Rings books, which has now been retold in several movies, and a new tv series called "Rings of Power". If you miss this day, don't worry, as there is still Tolkien Reading Day on March 25th and Hobbit Day on September 22nd.

**January 4: National Rachel Day** The name Rachel is Hebrew and means "the one with purity". If you see a Rachel in the halls, make sure to say hi.

**January 5: National Bird Day** is celebrated on this day to match the end of Christmas Bird Count Week.

**January 6: National Bean Day** This day celebrates beans of all kinds, shapes, and sizes. It also marks the famous geneticist Gregor Mendel's death in 1884. Gregor Mendel used bean and pea plants to help him develop the fundamental laws of inheritance.

**January 7: National Bobblehead Day** Bobbleheads are great, so maybe nod an excessive number of times this day, to fully accept the bobblehead.

**January 8: National Bubble Bath Day** Taking bubble baths can be really relaxing. Bring out the rubber duckies, use all the suds, and treat yourself to a bubble bath today.

**January 9: National Clean Your Desk Day** Having a clean desk helps you be more productive and focused. Do yourself a favor and put aside some time today to simply clean your desk.

**January 10: National House Plant Appreciation Day** was started by The Gardner's Network to remind people of all the benefits to having a house plant. Take a moment today to just appreciate some plants in your home.

**January 11: National Human Trafficking Awareness Day** To raise awareness for human trafficking, which you may have guessed this day is for, wear blue and use #WearBlueDay in social media posts today.

**January 12: National Pharmacist Day** Set aside some time to recognize pharmacists today, because it took them 8 years to get to where they are.

**January 13: Korean American Day** Today marks the day that over 100 Korean immigrants arrived and settled in Hawaii in 1903.

**January 14: National Dress Up Your Pet Day** was started in 2009 by Colleen Paige, who also started National Puppy Day, National Mutt Day, National Cat Day, and other animal-related days.

**January 15: National Bagel Day** There's no better day to have a bagel than today. A random fact about bagels is that bagels are the only bread that are boiled before they are baked, so the crust can set before it goes into the oven.

**January 16: Martin Luther King Jr Day** Martin Luther King Jr Day isn't always on the 16th, but on the third Monday of January, which happens to be the 16th this year.

**January 17: Benjamin Franklin Day** is celebrated on this founding father's birthday.

**January 18: Museum Selfie Day** Museum Selfie Day, like Martin Luther King Jr Day, isn't always on January 18th, but on the third Wednesday of January, which happens to be the 18th this year.

**January 19: National Popcorn Day** Established in 2003, this holiday celebrates this 5000+ year old treat.

**January 20: National Cheese Lover's Day** Good day cheese lovers, today is your day. If you are a cheese lover, make sure to have one of over 1,800 types of cheese sometime today.

**January 21: National Hugging Day** Make sure to give someone a hug if they need it today, because hugs can brighten someone's day, and we all need one sometimes.

**January 22: Celebration of Life Day** There are always good things in life, so take today and to celebrate it.

**January 23: National Handwriting Day** Your handwriting is unique to you and only you, so today would be a great day to practice it.

**January 24: National Compliment Day** Everyone likes and needs a compliment sometimes, and you'll never know if someone really needs one. Try to compliment as many people as possible today.

**January 25: Opposite Day** There's nothing interesting about this day. It's not based off of an old children's game.

**January 26: National Peanut Brittle Day** In legend, a woman made these treats on accident. Maybe try this, or another brittle, today.

**January 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day** Today, 78 years ago, the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, from WW2, was liberated.

**January 28: National Daisy Day** Daisies symbolize innocence and purity.

**January 29: National Puzzle Day** Today celebrates these fun memory-improving games. Did you know? Puzzles used to be called "Dissected Maps".

**January 30: National Croissant Day** This day recognizes these delicious pastries that became a French national product in 1920.

**January 31: Hot Chocolate Day** It's the last day of the month, and really cold. Warm yourself up with this thousands year old hot beverage today!

Now you know a little bit more about each day of this month. If you want to know more of the January holidays, you're in luck, because there's more than one every day. To find the holidays celebrated on every day, go to [nationaltoday.com/what-is-today/](https://nationaltoday.com/what-is-today/). Make sure to check back every day this month for your daily holiday and have fun celebrating! -Lauren Forsyth



# Editorial

## Time to Undeck the Halls

**Christmas is over, the New Year has passed and Valentine’s is on its way, but a commonly asked question by many is, “When should I take down my Christmas decorations?”**

About two months ago, people were asking a similar question of when to put up your Christmas decorations. Some people said that the beginning of November is the perfect time and that while Christmas is a season, Thanksgiving is only a day. Others argued that Thanksgiving is important and reminds us to be grateful and that we can wait until at least the day after Thanksgiving to put up our Christmas decorations. Now we have a similar question of when we should take down our Christmas decorations.



Being very similar to what people say about when to put up decorations, they also argue about when they should be taken down. Some will take down their Christmas décor just a couple of days after Christmas or even on the 26th, the day right after Christmas. Others try to keep the Christmas spirit lingering from November till February. But really, all of this is based on preference. If you prefer to take down your Christmas décor as early as possible, then that’s great! But did you know that there is an official day for when to take down your Christmas decorations? According to Good Housekeeping.com, “Although all Christian groups disagree, the traditional date is the twelfth night or the 5th or 6th of January, depending on if you count Christmas day.” It then goes on to say, “Of course, all of this is to say that you should really take down your decorations when it is the most convenient time for you and your family whether that is the day after Christmas, New Year’s Eve, or keep it up all year round! So, to answer the commonly asked question of when should I take down my Christmas décor, it is all about personal preference, what and when works best for you and your family, and what you think is the ideal time to remove Christmas decorations. –Sage Wolfley

## Farmington’s Safety: Let’s Shine Some Light On It



**It’s January, meaning that it’s the start of the year!** With the end of the holiday season, people are beginning to clear away holiday décor, and many are driving back to their homes. However, many people will be driving home in dark, dangerous conditions. Why, you ask? The answer is streetlights, or lack thereof, as the snowy conditions create hazards while people drive and walk through the frosted weather.

Many people take streetlights for granted as the dim light can only glow so much. However, the effect a streetlight has is more than what meets the eye. Dating back to the 15th century, the purpose was--and still is--to “brighten up the dark nights in winter,” as said by exc-streetlight.com. However, many of the streets in Farmington are left in the dark, with some having one or two streetlights, sometimes even none! This makes doing simple tasks, such as walking or driving, treacherous as the possibility for injury increases.

Due to the increased levels of snow, the ice covering the roads and sidewalk can mean that walking could be troublesome. Slippery sidewalks cause harm to those who step wrong, and this increases without streetlights. Because of the dark lights, looking to see ice chunks becomes next to impossible. However, this can be fixed if we just added more streetlights to our roads. According to the CDC, “approximately 1 million Americans are injured annually as the result of falling on ice and snow.” If streetlights lit up the sidewalk, walking would be much safer, and the statistics would be lower, as we could see where we were going without the fear of slipping on unseen ice and snow. Having the streetlights would reduce these complications, and help many people be safe.

Another danger of having no streetlights is driving. Even without the winter season, “An estimated 42,915 people died in car crashes in 2021, a 10.5% increase from 2020,” Bankrate.com says. Because of these numbers, many people are getting hurt just with the constant risk of driving, much less in the snow. These numbers increase as snow falls, for example, “900 people are killed and nearly 76,000 people are injured in vehicle crashes during snowfall or sleet,” as a recent analysis from FHWA Road Weather Management said. Even though cars have their headlights, the falling snow and treacherous domain makes a 5-minute drive hazardous. Having streetlights would reduce the chance of crashes- because in the downpour of snow- as the slick roads would be better lit for the awareness of the drivers. This would help reduce the threat of crashing as the precautions taken to see the road would be more beneficial to both the pedestrian and the driver.

Therefore, help Farmington be a safer place by shining light on the problems that a lack of streetlights can cause. Without the lights shining in our neighborhood, our safety is compromised-a danger to everyone. Because of this, spreading awareness will help yourself and others be safe as we all live our lives in Farmington. -Kaitlyn Turley

## Winter Break Should Be Longer

**As the holidays come up and students get to spend time at home instead of school, you may find yourself asking the question, do breaks from school help you learn at all? If so, why aren’t there more of them?**

One reason a longer winter break would be more effective is that it decreases stress levels. This year at Farmington Junior High winter break was approximately 14 days, when in years past it has been longer. In an article by Preston Banas in “The Crossover”, Banas talks about how the pandemic changed breaks from school and students got a lot more time to spend at home. The article also talks about school before the Pandemic, and while learning is important, so is giving students time to spend with their friends, family, and just a break from the school environment. Banas states, “A longer break would help the mental health of students by limiting their levels of stress, anxiety, and depression.” The article also quotes another article, The Importance of Taking Vacation Time to De-stress and Recharge, which states that “School is stressful and managing friendships and relationships throughout school is stressful. Having that vacation and personal time away from stressful situations lets people recharge and de-stress from everyday routine and life.”



Another reason why longer winter break would be effective is that taking breaks from school surprisingly has learning benefits and can help students understand what they are being taught. In a study from the article *The science of taking a break*, students were broken up into groups and were told to study for a vocabulary test. One group studied more with less breaks, while the other group still studied, but had more “breaks”. This study is subjective to a student’s personal learning style and worth ethic, however, at the end of the experiment, the second group with more breaks scored higher. This can show how when you have time away from school, rather than go every day for a full year, you decrease the chances of “overlearning”, and students can focus on other things, which will ultimately help them in their studies and schoolwork.

Finally, having a longer break from school can give students and teachers more opportunities to spend time on other things like developing hobbies, spending time with family or friends, or even going on a vacation. And while you can still do all these things while attending school, there is always work to make up and other things that get in the way. –Alyssa Romano



# Arts & Entertainment

## Under the Sea at Hale Center Theater



Image Source: Hale Center Theater YouTube

Audiences around the world have enjoyed the Little Mermaid production, both above and underwater. The Hale Centre Theatre in Sandy featured an amazing production of the classic film. From the mechanics to the wardrobe to the music, every part of the show was fine-tuned, enthralling viewers.

Upon first walking into the auditorium, there are such amazing decorations. Every doorway was draped with brightly colored tissue-paper seaweed. On the ceiling and floor there were round mirrors, imitating bubbles. In the very center of the room was a sheer blue curtain that circled the main part of the stage.

As the production began, so did the mechanics. Inside of the blue curtain, the actress portraying Ariel, the little mermaid, was

lifted into the air with thin cords, creating the illusion that she was swimming. Throughout the entire show, there were many amazing details, helping the production to feel more realistic and understandable to viewers young and old. “My favorite mechanical element,” commented a viewer, “was when Prince Eric fell off of the boat, and it looked like he was falling in slow motion.” This was another time when the staff used thin cords to support an actor. This technique was used time and time again, imitating movement in water.

Another amazing thing about the production was the wardrobe. The costume designers did an amazing job. One costume that really stood out was Ursula, the half-octopus sea-witch. Some great touches to her outfit included the black gloves, the black sequined dress, and her beautiful headdress. Most, if not all, of the costumes were dazzling and all featured small details that made characters unique, and overall contributing to the theme of the show.

Overall, the Little Mermaid play was very amazing. Scan the QR code to learn more and buy tickets. –Hanne Davis



## Benefit Concert is a Success

On Tuesday, December 13th, the Farmington High School auditorium was full of many parents, family and students who were preparing for the Benefit Concert. The Benefit Concert is held every year to raise money for FJH’s performing art’s program. Those who performed that night include the Concert Choir, Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, and the Orchestra.



Jazz Band was the first to perform that night with the first two songs, “Sleigh Bells” and “Hot Chili Pepper Christmas,” which were performed while the audience were being seated. “All I Want for Christmas” was the opening song to the Benefit Concert which was sang by Hazel Tufuga (9). Symphonic Band’s separate piece was titled “A Crazy Mixed Up Christmas.” Concert Choir performed “Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas,” which has multiple solos sang by Drew Gardiner (8), Alli Stewart (9), and Ashlee Burningham (9) (in order of appearance). And Max Johnson (8) played the piano during this piece. The Orchestra performed “Charlie Brown Christmas.” Between these pieces, the choir, band, and orchestra played multiple pieces together including, “A Festive Christmas Celebration,” “White Christmas,” and “Our Winter Wonderland.” Each piece was practiced extensively beforehand and ended up sounding amazing.

Earlier that same day, at around 3:30, all the students came to the high school and practiced the pieces together making sure it sounded great for that night. The Benefit Concert ended up raising a lot of money and the students got many sponsors. “I thought we did pretty good overall,” Hallie Neuenswander (9), one of the many talented Alto’s in Concert Choir, said.

–Samantha Garrick

## Future Films of 2023



**Movies are a good way to spend time with friends, family, or even by yourself.**

With the year 2022 over, it’s time to look ahead to the films of 2023. Movies aren’t the only things that are anticipated, but TV series as well. Ever since Disney bought Marvel, Star Wars, and Pixar, many TV series have been created—big or small—that can have just as much action as the movies. Many popular hits from last year are: Top Gun: Maverick, Lightyear, Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness, Black Adam, Wakanda Forever, Thor: Love and Thunder, Hocus Pocus 2, Pinnocchio, Rise, Strange World, Chip ‘n’ Dale Rescue Rangers, Moon Knight, and much more. Those aside, what should we be expecting this year?

One big sneak peek we got of 2023 is the Disney Expo that took place in the summer last year. You can see all the announcements on Disney+! Some of these include The Marvels, Ironheart, Secret Invasion, Armor Wars, Loki Season 2, Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3, Ahsoka, Indiana Jones 5, live action Little Mermaid, Elemental,

Haunted Mansion, and Percy Jackson and the Olympians TV series.

It’s not just Disney that has big announcements, there are other movies that are highly expected too, such as the Super Mario Movie coming this April. Other movies include Meg3n, Spider-Man: Across the Spider-verse, Shazam! Fury of the Gods, and some classic remakes/sequels such as Wonka, The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny, and Fast X.

So, if any of those movies don’t interest you, then don’t worry. There’s still more to be announced and released! Now that you know about the future films of 2023, pop your popcorn and pour your soda because this year is going to be full of fun-filled films! -Max Johnson



## Study The Arts



**Studying the arts can have a positive impact on academic performance.** Engaging in creative activities

such as music, art, and theater can help students develop critical thinking skills, improve problem-solving abilities, and increase their ability to communicate effectively. Additionally, exposure to the arts can also help students become more confident, disciplined and motivated learners. Furthermore, research has shown that students who participate in the arts tend to have better grades, higher graduation rates, and score higher on standardized tests. In summary, studying the arts can help improve academics by developing cognitive and non-cognitive skills that are essential for success in school and beyond.



# Academics

## Who is Responsible for Bob's Murder?



As the trial begins for the murder of Bob, more details have just come in about the events that happened that night. Tension between the two rival gangs, the Greasers and the Socs, escalated with a fight at the fountain when Bob (a Soc) was stabbed by Johnny Cade (a Greaser). The Socs had captured Pony Boy (a Greaser) and were about to drown him. When the greasers heard this, they ran to the rescue of Pony Boy.

The Jury will need to determine if the stabbing was in self defense and justified or if Bob was murdered in cold blood.

Other trials for other gang members are coming soon in the 7th grade English classes. If you want to learn more about this, ask the 7th graders. The trial is to teach the kids what it's really like to be in a trail and how to write an argumentative essay. The Honors classes have already held their trial and learned a lot from it. Make sure to stay on top of the trail by talking to your 7th grade friends or if you're a 7th grader, just do your homework. -Lauren Hunter

## The Importance of Junior High

Learning is an essential part of growing up and developing as a person. Junior high is a crucial period in a person's life, as it marks the transition from childhood to adolescence and lays the foundation for the future. During this time, students are exposed to a wide range of new subjects, ideas, and experiences, which can help them develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in life.

One of the most important reasons for learning in junior high is to develop critical thinking skills. Junior high students are at an age where they are beginning to form their own opinions and ideas about the world. Through learning and critical thinking, students can develop the ability to analyze and evaluate information, which is a valuable skill in today's fast-paced, ever-changing world.

Another important reason for learning in junior high is to prepare for high school and beyond. Junior high is a time when students begin to think about their future careers and educational paths. By taking challenging classes and learning as much as possible, students can better prepare themselves for the rigors of high school and higher education.

In addition, learning in junior high can also help students to become well-rounded individuals. By taking a variety of classes, including math, science, history, and English, students can develop a broad range of knowledge and interests. This can help them to become more interesting and well-informed people, which can be beneficial in many areas of life.



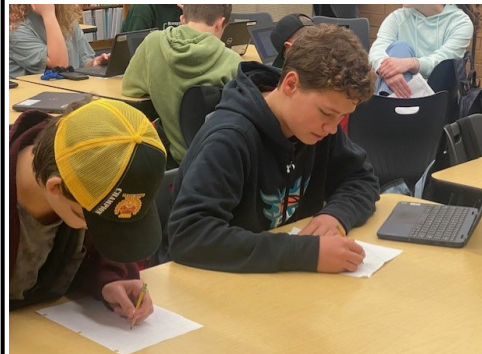
Finally, learning in junior high can help students to develop the confidence and self-esteem they need to succeed in life. By learning new things and achieving academic success, students can gain a sense of self-worth and

pride in their accomplishments. This can help them to be more confident in themselves and their abilities, which can be essential for achieving their goals in the future.

In conclusion, learning is essential for junior high students. It helps them to develop critical thinking skills, prepare for high school and beyond, become well-rounded individuals, and gain the confidence and self-esteem they need to succeed in life. Parents and educators should support and encourage their children and students to make the most of their learning opportunities during this important period in their lives.

## New Semester New Opportunities

The new semester brings worlds of new opportunities, classes and friends to be made. We made it halfway through the year and it is time for schedules to change and to restart. This clean slate is amazing for some students who disliked their classes, but for some it is stressful. It is the time of year for all new classes and a whole new start.



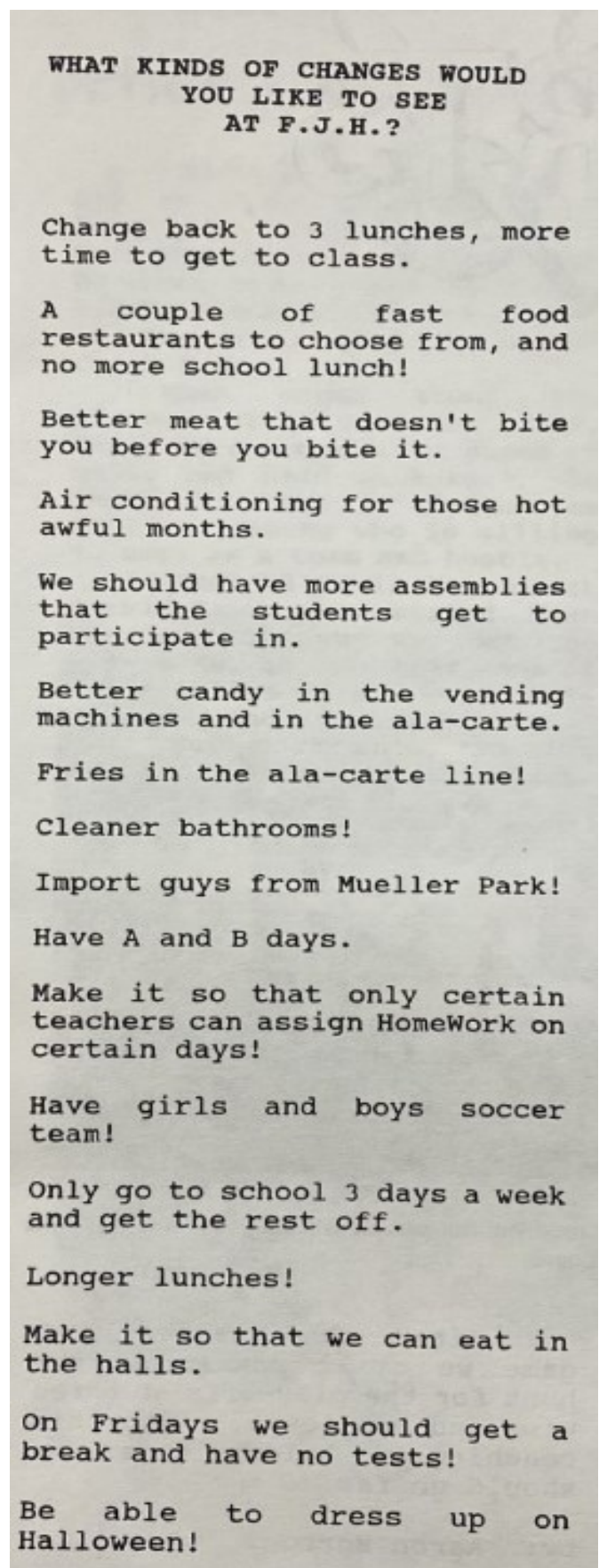
Getting through this change in classes can be hard and setting goals can be helpful. Taking things one thing at a time, one class at a time, and one assignment at a time makes life at school much better. The new start can be great for students. It gives us new chances to learn new things. If you

don't like that classes that you have you can go to the Counseling Office and get your classes changed on January 12-13th.

Our school is amazing and filled with opportunities. The new semester gives us all a chance to spread our wings and learn. Our school and administration is great and gives us all great opportunities so get out there in this new start and try your best. I hope you have a great new semester. -Braeden Randall

## Howls from the Past

These are the wishes of the FJH student body in January 1995. How many of their wishes have been granted?





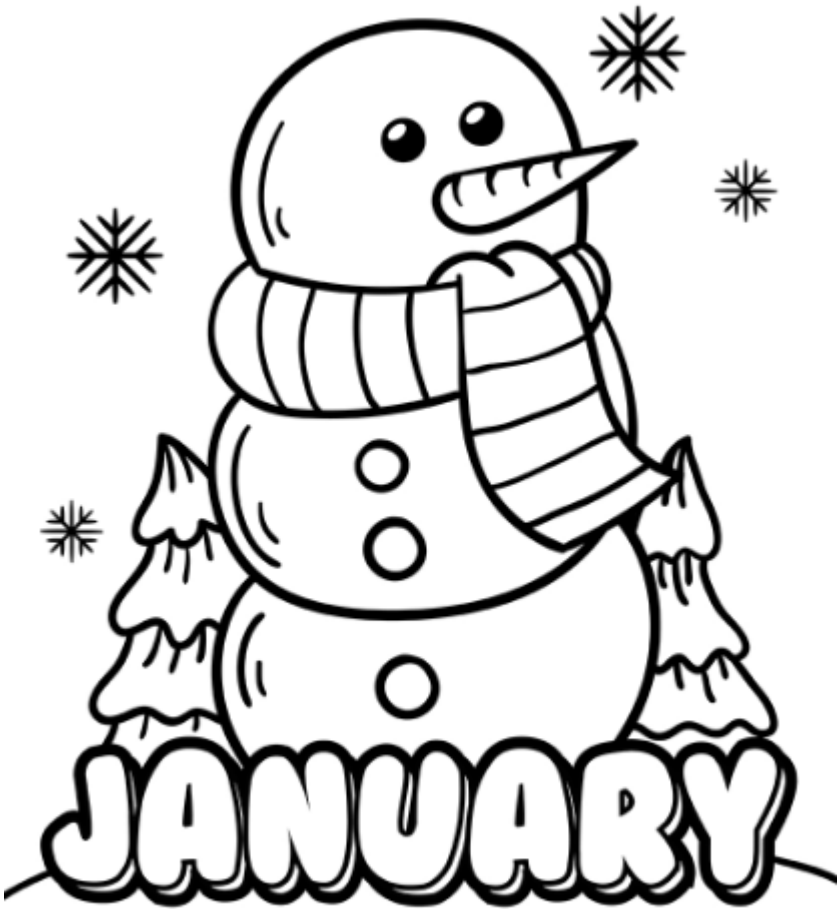
# Comics and Games

Color the Snowman!

## January Word Search

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

- Snowboarding  
Hot Cocoa  
Gloves  
Scarf  
Shovel
- Resolution  
Cozy Fire  
Skiing  
Snow  
Boots
- Snowflake  
January  
Goals  
New Year
- Coat  
Hat



8		9			3			7
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		2	5		4		6	8

