

The Totem Pole

Cultivating the Minds of Students

December , 2021

Vol. 23

Edition 2

Staff

Ms. Sanborn
Class Advisor

Writers

Nathan Espino
Santaiza Lavallee
Jaden Lopez
Diego Taborda
Justina Gilfoy
Olivia Johnson
Isabella Melo
Jinelle Chandler
Bella Rivera
Lillyanna Cannon
Sydeny Fuller
Alianna Phelps



Disclaimer: The Totem Pole serves as the official school newspaper of Bartlett High School. It has been granted the responsibility to serve as the medium of news and information for the student body. The viewpoints expressed by the staff are not meant to discriminate against any students, staff, or other administrators of Bartlett High School. If you wish to submit a written work to The Totem Pole, please see Ms. Sanborn in room B224 with any questions.

Holiday Gift Guide

History of Holidays

Bathroom Conditions

*Student Polls -
Holiday Edition*

Winter Basketball

Christmas Treats

Pep Rally

Thanksgiving Break

Drama Dinner Theatre

Holiday Gift Guide

Lilly Cannon '25

In need of gift ideas for the Holidays? Here are some local businesses where you can find charming gifts for your loved ones. There are several nice places in town to buy your presents all within walking distance! Some options are; The Dollar Store, Booklovers Gourmet, Big Lots, Rite Aid, Family Dollar and CVS. And if you can't find any gifts at any of these local stores you can even look for gifts online!

Family-\$15.00 or less dollar store holiday gift basket! (BE CREATIVE!)



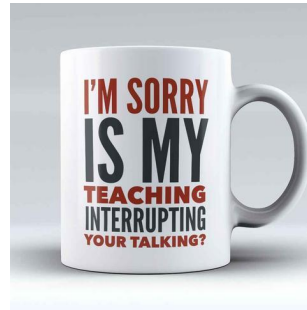
Friends- \$10.99 This scrumptious gift is from Big Lots!



Dating partner- Holiday Gift Guide: \$5 Go-To Gift Ideas this gift idea can really be for anyone, maybe a parent, friend, sibling, teacher, really anyone!



Teachers-\$16.99 This is a comical gift for a teacher, you can find mugs like this on an online website called mugdom.com



Family Dollar- Family Dollar has anything you could possibly need for everyone and at low prices. No matter who the gift is for: Mom, Dad, sibling, grandparents, friends, teachers, pets, and lovers, they got what you're looking for! It's a one stop shop:)

CVS - CVS has a lot of things for everyone but my personal favorite is the custom items you can purchase. For example you could purchase a custom blanket, mug, photo album, magnets, christmas ornaments, calendars or even something that can be hung on the walls. Doing something like this can show the happy memories of your life, and even the memories left to come!



Thanksgiving Pep Rally

Bella Rivera '24

The cheerleaders and football players hosted a Thanksgiving pep rally at 10 am on the 24th of November in the gym. There will be plenty of games and fun so get excited and show your Bartlett pride!!

According to Ms. Morris, the Bartlett High School Cheerleading Coach, “we are making posters to hang. We will perform the traditional Indian chant as well as our routine.” There will be games for people who volunteer and skits with some of the boys, a Football highlights slideshow, and speeches from the captains.

While Covid is getting “better” we still want to show excitement and pride even though we have to wear face masks and listen to the guidelines. We still want to come together and celebrate this Thanksgiving week. During the Homecoming Pep-Rally there weren't as many volunteers and much participation. It wasn't as big as we wished it to be so we want this pep rally to be more about community and communication.



Special Holidays and Their History

Jaden Lopez '22

Bodhi Day (*Rōhatsu*) is a very religious holiday celebrated by the Buddhist. This celebration commemorates the day that Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni) experienced enlightenment. Siddhartha was known for his ascetic practices, in which he sat under a peepal tree (Bodhitree) and meditated until he found the root of suffering. In order to free oneself from suffering. In one of the traditions Siddhartha made a life worthy vow to Nirvana and Earth in which he will find the root of suffering or die trying to. In two of the other traditions it is told that Siddhartha was harrassed and tempted by Mara (a destroyer god). While in the second one it is mentioned that the Buddhist has only entered a deep state sleep.

Three stages told from Siddhartha:

1. Siddhartha had seen all of his past lives, he had seen the cycle of rebirth.
2. Shakyamuni discovered the LAW of KARMA
3. Finally, the Four Noble Truths was discovered and Nirvana was reached.



We can see the Bodhi tree in the back. As well as Shakyamuni meditating under that tree.

Chanukah (Hanukkah), a Hebrew festival or celebration, is another religious holiday. In which celebrates the Festival of Lights by using a menorah candle followed with prayers and special foods. Chanukah means dedication and it is pronounced as (Kha-nu-kah). It is celebrated to rededicate towards the holy temple. During the second century BCE the holy land was ruled by the Syrian Greeks. Now they weren't the best people since they tried to force Greek culture onto the people of Israel. Obviously the Hebrew people did not agree to this and wanted to keep their mitzvah observance. A small number of the Hebrew people with unbreakable will and hope decided to revolt against the Greek and followed a man by the name of Judah. Being led by Judah they were able to win against the mightiest armies and drove them away from the holy land. They retook the holy temple and rededicated it to the service of god. Hence comes the name Chanukah meaning 'Re-Dedication'.



An image of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Kwanzaa is different from other holidays since it isn't a religious holiday. Instead it is a cultural holiday, it is celebrated annually by the African-American culture. Karamu is the main event being celebrated which lands on the sixth day of Kwanzaa. Maulana Karenga, an American who created Kwanzaa, wanted a day for the African-Americans to celebrate themselves and their history. He wanted the African-Americans to have a Holiday that's alternate to that of Christmas. Karenga believed that Jesus was psychotic and that Christmas was a white holiday that the African-Americans should shun. Kwanzaa celebrates the seven principles of Nguzo Saba;

1. Umoja- To strive for and to maintain unity in family, community, nation, and race.
2. Kujichagulia- To define and name ourselves, as well as to speak and create for ourselves.
3. Ujima- To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers and sisters problems our problems and to solve them together.

4. Ujamaa- To build and maintain our own stores, shops, and other businesses and to profit from them together.
5. Nia- To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people and their traditional greatness.
6. Kuumba- To always do as much as we can , in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.
7. Imani- To believe with all of our hearts in our people , our parents, our teachers, our leaders, and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.



Menorah candle in the back to celebrate the seven days and is lit up every day. There are also some fruits in order to show the feast of fruit which is eaten.

Dia de los reyes magos (Three wise men day) is a religious Christian holiday that celebrates feast day and the revelation. Which is the incarnate of Jesus Christ, In the western world it is known as the visit of

Magi to the Christ child. The Magi represents the Non-Jewish people of the world which is why this day is also considered as a “revelation to gentiles.” Dia de los reyes magos takes place on the birthdate of Jesus Christ which was January 6th. Since it is a Spanish Christmas with more details into the dates and celebration. What is mainly known is the three wisemen who ride on a camel around every city giving away gifts until they reach Jesus to give him one gift each. They each wanted to impress Baby Jesus with the best items they could attain.



The three kings look upon baby Jesus as holding their gifts while the camel is in the back. Mary is holding Baby Jesus after she gave birth to.

The Gifts given;

1. Gold
2. Frankincense
3. myrrh

Bathroom Conditions

Sydney Fuller 25'

If you haven't noticed, the conditions of our bathrooms are very poor. Lots of the stalls don't shut, resulting in either lack of privacy or having to wait longer to use the bathroom. There's also lots of writing on the walls along with gross and sticky floors. Even some of the sinks are hard to use.

There are many things that definitely need to be improved. Lots of girls have also voiced their opinions on wanting feminine products to be provided in the bathrooms. I went around and interviewed a few girls about the topic. One student said "The bathrooms are absolutely disgusting!" and another said "They are absolutely revolting! They need to fix the bathroom stalls or just get new ones."

I have also talked to some of the boys in our school and asked how they feel about their bathrooms. I can give a first hand account of the girls bathroom but can't really express my opinions on the boys bathroom, considering I have no experience with them. One boy expressed his opinion by saying "They're terrible. There's not even dividers between the urinals. It's awful! It's better this year with the two people limit but in past years it increased wait times because people were uncomfortable." and another boy said "I honestly think they're disgusting. Most of the time I don't go to the bathroom unless I absolutely have to because of the bathrooms."

Along with interviewing students, why not interview those whose job is to

clean and take care of the bathrooms? I asked our head custodian, Al Young, a few questions about the bathrooms. Here's what he had to say...

Syd: Why are the bathrooms in the current condition they are?

Al: "Every bathroom should be fixed right now. The only one that wasn't supposed to be fixed but is fixed now is the boys bathroom in C2. There aren't supposed to be any broken stalls or anything right now."

S: What can be done to change the bathrooms?

A: "They don't wanna put a lot of money into it because of the renovation. Once the renovations are done on the school the bathrooms are supposed to be new."

S: What can not be done to change the bathrooms?

A: "It is most likely because of budget and money. It's also a lot of work that they don't wanna do because of the future renovations."

S: Have you received any complaints about the bathrooms from students?

A: "I haven't received anything recently. Like I said, everything is supposed to be good."

S: What is your opinion on the bathrooms conditions?

A: "I wish they would be cleaner and students would respect them more. Students are almost adults now and they should be able to pick up after themselves."

Overall, the bathrooms are something that definitely needs to be addressed and something needs to be done. Lots of students think very negatively about

them and want a change to happen. The custodians also have their own opinions as well, which impacts the bathroom conditions since they take care of them.



Winter Basketball

Diego Taborda '22

With Basketball tryouts just about done, the Basketball season will officially be starting up on December 13th. The teams are both looking promising with lots of talent and new players. The opening games will be played against Auburn, a very strong school that should make for a tough first game. Seniors Santaiza Lavallee(C) and Juan Rivera Sanchez(G) were both featured in an interview and asked a couple of questions about the upcoming season.

When asked about her feelings ahead of the upcoming season, Santaiza had this to say "I'm excited to play basketball and I heard we have lots of new players joining which is great. Though I am disappointed we will still have to wear masks." Juan focused more on his individual

game saying he feels good and he put in lots of work over the summer "I think I will surprise a lot of people."

Next the two were asked about expectations for their respective teams. Santaiza spoke about looking forward to bonding with the players and in terms of results, she is "confident that we will have a strong team. We have good height, a good point guard, and good shooters. I'm excited to work with everyone." Juan shared that same optimism when speaking about the boys team. "I think we'll win lots of games. We have lots of young players compared to our neighboring schools. Most of the schools around here relied a lot on their seniors last year and they are gone now." Both players can't wait for the season to start and are hopeful in terms of results.

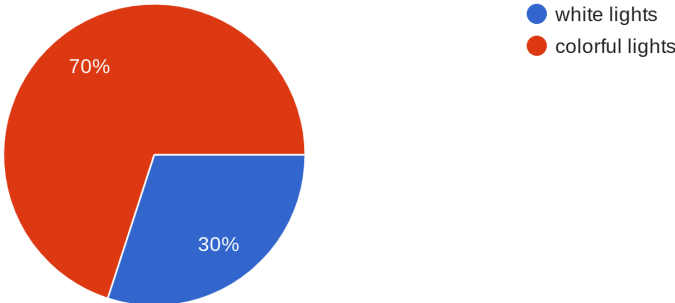


Student Polls - Holiday Edition

Alianna Phelps '25

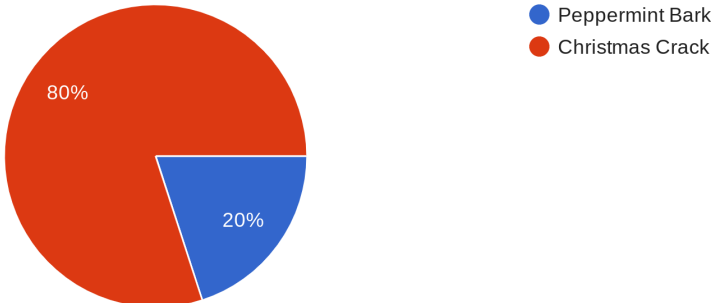
What color lights?

20 responses



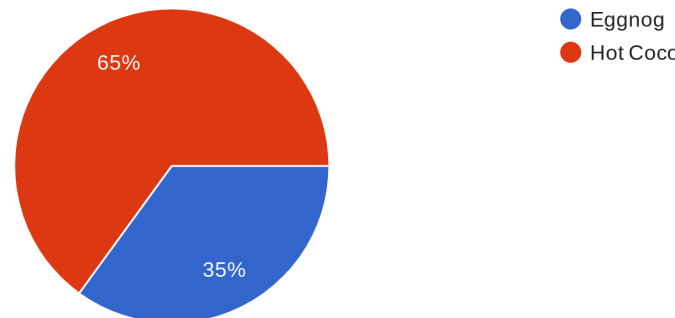
Which Christmas Food

20 responses



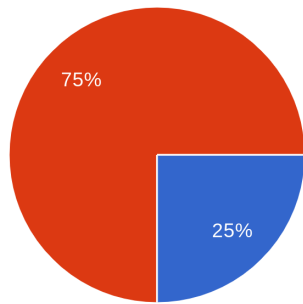
Which Christmas Drink

20 responses



How Would You Rather Spend Your Holiday

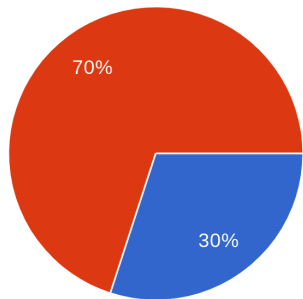
20 responses



- Going Out
- Staying In

Which Christmas Movie

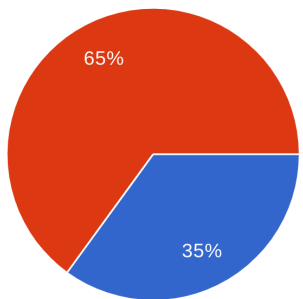
20 responses



- Elf
- The Grinch

Which Christmas tree

20 responses

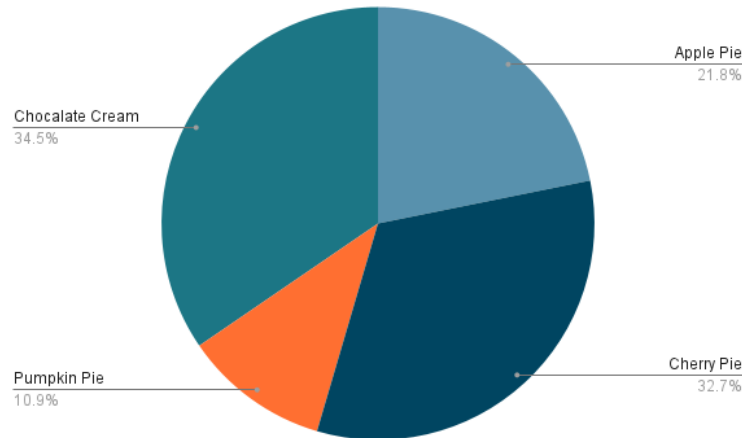


- Real Christmas Tree
- Fake Christmas Tree

Christmas Treats

Santaiza Lavallee '22

Christmas is only a month away and there are so many amazing holiday treats. Our journalism class decided to create a survey for Winter treats for other students in our school. We asked what your favorite pie was and the highest was 38.9 which was Chocolate cream pie.



Thanksgiving Break!

Olivia Johnson '23

December is approaching! And so is Bartlett's Thanksgiving break! The pep rally for Thanksgiving is also around the corner. There will also be fun games played at the pep rally. The games at the pep rally give both students and teachers playing to have fun and maybe get to know each other better. Especially considering the fact that there are some new teachers here at Bartlett as well.

Everyone can also go home having an excellent start to Thanksgiving break. The students and teachers on the bleachers will also have fun talking to friends near them, while cheering or pepping friends up participating in the game.



Drama Dinner Theater

Nathan Espino '22

The Drama Department is planning to put on a Dinner Theater in January. It will take place here at Bartlett High School, Friday, January 21, 2022. The production will be based on a murder mystery called "Murder on the Menu" by Bill Hand. There will be food and a wonderful performance put on by students at our very own high school.

Thanksgiving Word Search

apple cider	apple pie
cranberry sauce	gravy
green beans	mashed potatoes
corn	pumpkin pie
squash	stuffing
sweet potatoes	turkey

```
s w g b j g u z q e e d m n x
n n n n j k r z p v c a a h k
z b a w i r b a b u u p s x k
c i g e w f t p v s a p h x g
u s f o b g f e j y s l e l e
q k l x x n i u s a y e d i r
v t z f a p e q t d r c p b a
i o d m e d u e b s r i o p h
c j f l b a w s r a e d t t g
e o p g s c w u x g b e a o z
a p r h v x w m r n n r t p m
a r x n b n v q i b a j o n s
t u r k e y b d r m r q e a g
p u m p k i n p i e c k s o k
s e o t a t o p t e e w s m d
```