

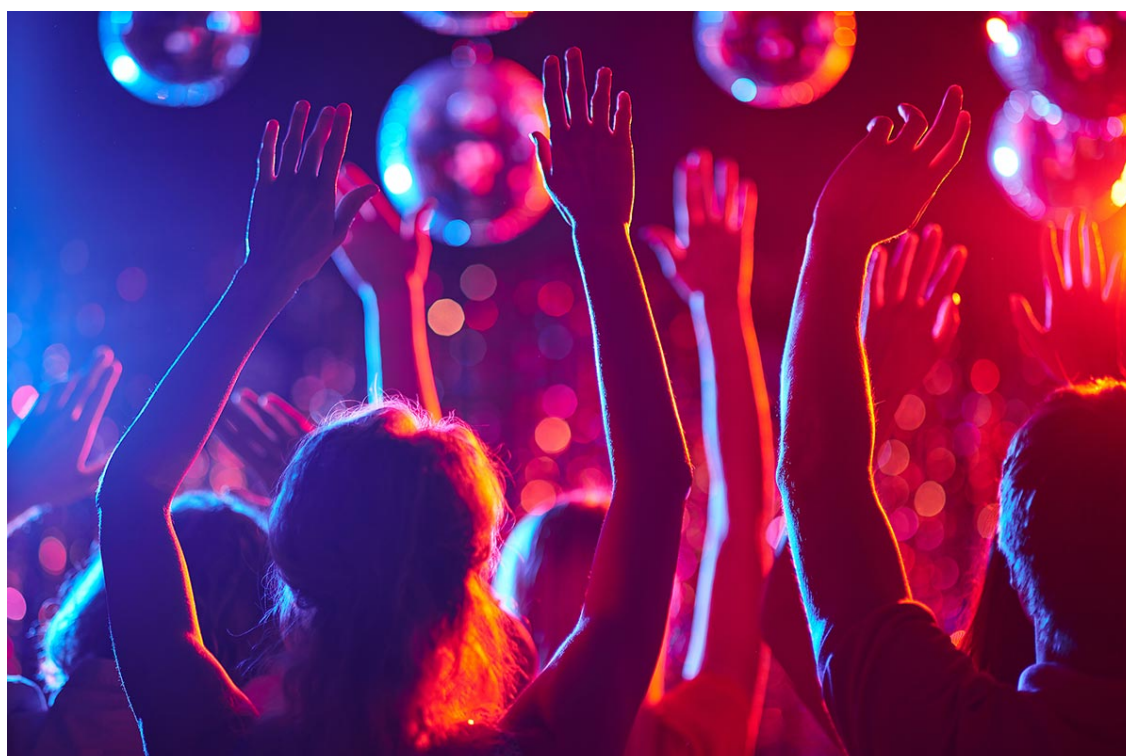


The SMS Post



Santa Claus Is Coming To Town!

The SMS Neon and Glow Dance



Kevin Yang

Recently, our first school dance of the school year has gone by. It was a huge success! Many had lots of fun times and experiences at this dance. In this dance, there were lots of things to offer. First off, there were glow glasses and glow sticks for sale that lit up the entire dance floor. Secondly, there was delicious food for purchase including canned sodas, popcorn, and pizza. DJ Blazing Hot was playing some great songs that everyone was singing and dancing to all afternoon and evening. There were also great decorations all around, on the walls, ceiling, and windows. Overall, this dance was a huge success and everyone enjoyed it immensely.

Hanukkah's **Bright** **History**

Sophia Goldman

Hanukkah has a beautiful and bright history. Hanukkah means dedication, which plays a big part in history. Hanukkah starts on December 7th and ends on December 15th. (can vary through November and December) Which is exactly 8 days just as always. 8 days = 8 Christmases. It was never really thought of to be Christmas for 8 days but some people have thought that.



Well anyway, so let's get into history. Hanukkah started way back in Israel, Jerusalem. To be exact it all started in the main Synagogue (Jewish Church) or the Temple. The Maccabees (a very small Israeli army) fought in the Israeli war against the largest army at the time, Syria. It also celebrates a miracle that happened during this time, where just a day's supply of oil was allowed from the beautiful Menorah. Menorah means "Lamp." which holds the candles. The shamash is used to light the other candles. The shamash is important as well as the menorah and the other candles. One of the Games you can play on Hanukkah is "Dreidel Dreidel." A dreidel is a spinning top toy with four sides that have four symbols. Nun, gimel, hei, and shin are the symbols and are also Yiddish words. Nun is self-explanatory, Gimel is the whole pile of chocolate coins, Hei is half and Shin is to share with. If you don't do your share you're automatically eliminated. The goal is to get all and have it stored in your pile. If you spin nun more than once you're out for the first "period." After the games are finished, it's time to light the menorah, and then dinner.

Dinner for Hanukkah consists of Latkes which are AMAZING and are so good with sour cream and chives and deep-fried jelly donuts. You can add on things to your dinner like kugel, brisket, etc. Latkes are potato pancakes and if you've never tried one, you should. You can make your own or head to The Jewish Deli in Ocean City or Rehoboth. Hanukkah means so much to the culture of the Jews and Israel. Just like for Christmas, Hanukkah has songs too. *Sevivon Sov Sov* (Which is completely in Hebrew). You've heard "I Want A Hippopotamus For Christmas." by Gayla Peevy but have you heard "I Want A Hippopotamus For Hanukkah."? Let's be honest, who doesn't want a hippopotamus for Christmas OR Hanukkah? There's more than just those two songs though. Matisyahu's "Happy Hanukkah.", "Hanukkah oh Hanukkah." This one is funny, "Hanukkah in Santa Monica." Six13, a Jewish parody band, makes popular songs for Hanukkah and other Jewish holidays. Bohemian Hanukkah (Bohemian Rhapsody) has a good bridge, instead of "Oh Mamma Mia Mamma Mia let me go." It is "Abba Ima Abba Ima." which is "Dad and Mom." in Hebrew. But anyway, this is everything you need to know about Hanukkah and its traditions.

Wrestling in a Winter



Wonderland

Hayden Benner, Sofie Dawson, Caroline Williamson

The first week of wrestling started the second week in November. Many new wrestlers came out and surprised Coach Stoeckel and Coach Benner with their talent, ability, and dedication. There are also many returning wrestlers.

Coach Benner told us that practices can be tough, but every practice helps the wrestlers get stronger mentally and physically. Coach Benner also said in an interview with him, “We are just getting started. The team is motivated, and looking forward to a great season. Not everybody can be a wrestler. It is physically demanding and requires the ability to stay cool under pressure, but the SMS wrestlers are up for the task.”

To make learning fun, Coach Stoeckel uses terms for wrestling strategies such as... *Spiderman, Boogeyman, and Peeing on the Fire Hydrant*. This also helps them remember the techniques to use them to win the matches. In an interview with Coach Stoeckel, he said, “Our returning wrestlers are like having additional coaches. They set an example for the new wrestlers. They take time to teach the techniques and work with the new ones. It’s a full team effort from the wrestlers to the coaches.”

Wrestling builds character and strengthens the wrestlers. They need to put in the work. That’s why the back of their sweatshirts say, “Want the work.” On December 6th they had their second match versus Mariner, and they unfortunately lost, but they are just getting started. Their next match is on Monday, December 18 against Georgetown.



SMS Athletic Legacy

“They Were Jolly Happy Souls”

Colton Thompson, Rowan Nangle, Finnegan Nangle, Michael Bunting, Jack Owens

Coach Bare

Coach Bare has been a spectacular coach in SMS history. From decades of coaching to some great players, Coach Bare has a legacy to share. Coaching Football, Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball and Softball he has Coached 900 athletes and has accumulated 100 plus football wins. On top of the 24 years he has coached he will coach 2 more years of Softball and Basketball and football until he retires. He wanted to mention how much the wives helped them out during the time.

Coach Clausen

Coach Clausen was a very impactful and funny coach, his intense attitude and amazing spirit made him just the perfect mentor to all the athletes that he directed. Coach Clausen coached an astonishing number of players, this number was around 2700 athletes. He did this in a span of 27 years. He coached basketball, football and baseball. The legendary coach Clausen says that he will keep coaching until it becomes boring, which hopefully will be a while longer.

The Impact they have made

These coaches have been coaching here at SMS for a very long time now and over the years they have coached many young athletes. “As a student and athlete of these coaches I have learned that these coaches are serious about what they are doing and know how they coach their athletes.” -Jack Owens
*FUN FACT-Coach Sweetman -(pictured above) was on the first undefeated championship team and would go on to coach the undefeated team at SMS.

Girls Basketball

“Dashing Down The Court”

Avery Bare, Freya Bergstrom, Madison Dorman

Have you ever been to a girl’s basketball game? Well if you haven’t you’re missing out! The girl’s basketball team had a scrimmage on 11/29/2023 and it was a close one. Our basketball team is very athletic. The coach (Mr.Bare) always wants us to win the game but most importantly to have fun. Our captains (Talia Moutzalias & Cierra Lewis) are very encouraging and help us whenever we have questions.



The scrimmage went well. We won the first quarter, we lost the second quarter and tied in the third and fourth quarters. First quarter the score was 8-2 the second quarter score was 12-2 third quarter score was 6-6 and the fourth quarter score was 2-2. We had a game on 12-4-2023 and it was against Delmar Middle School and we won against them last year 17-3. It was a good game at our home court. We won again this year. The score was like 34-7. Baskets were made by Cierra Lewis, Ariana Sturgis, Samantha Holladay, Avery Bare, and Talia Moutzalias.

We had another game on 12/13/2023 and we took the win 29-20 against Millsboro. Baskets were made by Cierra Lewis, Avery Bare, Ariana Sturgis, Samantha Holladay, and Talia Mounsalias.

Coach’s Opinion on the Game

We asked our coach, Mr.Bare how he thought we did on our game on 12/13/2023. He said that we had Improved Our passes from last game, we did extremely well on defense, being aggressive, and doing good receiving the rebounds.

Jersey Name Grade

1	Talia Moutzalias C	8
3	Logan Clogg	6
4	Avery Bare	7
10	Kailey Phillips	7
11	Ariana Sturgis	8
12	Erion Rosado Nowlin	8
15	Francine Forjan	6
20	Brooke Harne	7
21	Malia Riccio	6
22	Freya Bergstorm	7
23	Cierra Lewis C	8

<u>25</u>	<u>Samantha</u> <u>Holladay</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>Kaliyah bautista</u>	<u>7</u>

Hark the Herald- Andzhelina Iardova-Duinkina
A Sixth Grader: From Russia with Love to SMS this
Holiday Season

Alise Taylor, Freya Bergstrom, Iza’Mya Hagans

Sixth Grader Andzhelina Iardova-Duinkina came from Russia one year ago to Selbyville, Delaware. Some of her dad’s friends were here and that was enough of a reason to pick Delaware as the place in the United States to settle down. Andzheina likes being here and the number one reason might surprise you. She likes the schools and she likes the teachers. She likes school so much, she does not want to go on Christmas break. In her free time, she reads, and crochets (a skill she taught herself by watching YouTube) and listens to music. She

likes to listen to K-pop music. K-pop stands for Korean Pop which is Korean music. Math is her favorite subject in school, with her goal being to start eighth grade Mathia™. Her favorite book is “Never Never.” (A fictional story about Peter Pan.) She is in the school choir and loves to sing. When asked what gave to newcomers to this school, she said “If you need help, ask the teachers, they always help you.” Anzhelina may have been at SMS for only a year but she is an impact and is a student who will do great things in the future.



Top 10 gifts to receive

Alise Taylor and Kailey Phillips

1. New phone- teens like a new phone because they have old ones and they are outdated.
2. Money- people like money because they can go shopping and get what they want
3. Self care-people need and want skincare to keep their face clean and so they don't break out.
4. Gift cards- list of gift cards to get Target, Amazon, Visa, Starbucks, and many more ideas of gift cards to get for people if you don't know what someone wants get a gift card so they can buy what they want
5. Shoes- a lot of people love to get shoes she they can have options some shoe to get them are Dunks, Air Maxs, Air Forces, Blazers, Jordans, sport shoes, and many more to name
6. Room decor- teen kids like room decor if they just got their room redone and they don't know what they want in it you can get them things to hang up in it
7. Air pods- a lot of people love air pods they can take them on trips on airplanes in the airport at sports, they can just take them anywhere. So air pods is a great gift this Christmas
8. Clothes - some brands that people love to shop at are, White Fox, American Eagle, Hollister, Under Armor, Rue 21, LuluLemon, and Old Navy. Those are just some brand ideas to get for teen girls this Christmas. Now some boy brands, Nike, The North Face, Adidas,
9. Speaker- Everyone loves speakers for this Christmas. Teens love it because they can listen to music in their room or take it with them and their friends.
10. PlayStation/Xbox- when children start to like to get in to Fortnite that means they are going to start asking for Playstations/Xboxes so what better time to get it for them than Christmas.

According to the Mayo Clinic, social media negatively distracts them, disrupting their sleep, and exposing them to bullying, rumor spreading, unrealistic views of other people's lives and peer pressure. We decided to rewrite the song, My Grown Up Christmas Wish to reflect what a teen might wish for this year.

Alise Taylor, Kailey Phillips, Vivienne Oakley

My Childhood Christmas List

Composed by:

David Foster and Natalie Colt

Do you remember me
I sat upon your knee
I wrote to you with childhood fantasies
Well I'm all ready to grow up now

and still need help somehow
i'm not a adult but my heart still can dream
so here's my lifelong wish
My young girl christmas list
Not for myself but for a world in
No more social media
No more lives torn apart
'That the lies will someday STOP
And time would heal all hearts
And everyone would have a friend
And right would always win
And love would never end,
This is my young girl christmas list
And maybe we believe
The grandest sight to see
Was something lovely wrap beneath the tree
But Heaven only knows
That packages and bows
Can never heal a human hurting soul
No more lives torn apart
That lies will someday STOP
And time would heal all hearts
And everyone would have a friend
And right would always win
And love would never end,no
This is my young girl Christmas list
What is this illusion called the innocence of adult
Maybe only in our blind belief can we ever find the truth
That lies would someday stop
No more lives torn apart
And time would heal all hearts
And everyone would have a friend
And right would always win
And love would never end,no
This is my young girl christmas list
This is my only lifelong wish
This is my young girl christmas list

Winter help Programs: *And So This Is Christmas at SMS...*

Harper McDavid

The snow buddies program is a program run by Mrs. Jennings, the school's Special Education Coordinator and Student Council Coordinator. The program is designed to help families in need around the holidays. Here is a description of the program in Mrs. Jennings's words. "The Snow Buddy Program is a response to community needs. The Indian River School District is a district with a diverse population. There are students that come from homes where their basic needs (food, clothing, safe environment) are met. However, there are families that struggle with meeting the basic needs of their children. The Snow Buddy Program began about 18 years ago. The Student Council sponsors this program. Families are identified as possibly needing assistance with Christmas.



Mrs. Jennings (the Student Council Advisor) then contacts the families to confirm whether or not there is a need. Once confirmed, then Mrs. Jennings reaches out to our generous community and seeks companies, churches, or any other places or people that may be willing to help families in need. (fire, student and/or parent medical issues, financial issues, parents that have lost a job recently, etc.)" Everything comes from within the school and local community, just like Miss Pam's food pantry. It is really quite amazing to watch this SMS miracle at work.

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FOOD CRITICS Overall: 9/10

Always a classic. The Thanksgiving Lunch.

By: Michael Bunting , Colton Thompson, Rowan Nangle, Finn Nangle

You can also consider that turkey, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie, gravy, and stuffing was very amazing and full of flavors too. The best thing of all of course was the pumpkin pie. It was rich and creamy with a sweet filling. The crust was flaky, buttery, and salty which added a nice quality. The gravy was flavorful and added a lot to the meal. You can't go wrong with gravy and mashed potatoes. The mashed

the potatoes were fluffy and dynamic. The turkey, while a little dry, was still full of flavor and very tender.

Don't forget about the chocolate milk and utensils. The utensils were the perfect silk with the gravy dash upon the white, amazing spoon. It made the pie that much better. They had incredible strength and durability as it stayed intact even through the rough stabbing and plunging deep into the food. With the sweet creamy flavor of the chocolate milk to sash down the meal, there was nothing to go wrong here.

(HONORABLE MENTION)

Dear cafeteria members, you guys have been doing a great job making lunches and giving us the opportunity to review these lunches and get something good to eat every day. Sitting down with your friends and getting something to eat is the pinnacle of my day!

List ratings

Pumpkin pie: 9.5/10

Turkey: 9/10

Gravy: 10/10

Mashed potatoes: 9.5/10

Stuffing: 7.5/10

Chocolate milk: 9/10

Rolls: 7/10

Utensils: 10/10

OVERALL 9/10

Boys Basketball

Jack Owens

The boy's basketball team is looking great for the season ahead. They had their first scrimmage on Wednesday, November 29th. They looked good while they lost the first half and won the second. The starters for the scrimmage were Cameron Ellingson, Chance Megee, Tre'zon Weston, Christian Handy-Lewis, and Max Williamson. Coach Custus says that this is the deepest team they have had at Selbyville Middle with 20 players on the team. The first game is Monday the 4th of December against Delmar.

In the game against Delmar, we lost 30-44, we had a hard fight. The starters were Max Williamson, Cayden Gibbs-Irving, Chance Meegee, Zachary Hudson, and Holden Elzey. Coach says that we got out-toughed and that's how we got beat. He also said that all of his basketball players should play football next year so they can get tougher. He says that the basketball players need to work together so they won't be all over the place. We have not had that many players that have played a lot and We need more chemistry. We will be ready for Mariner on Wednesday and we will go out with our best game. The basketball team will have a great season this upcoming year.





Sugar Cookies 375° 10-12 min

1/2 C butter

1 Egg

1/2 C Veg. Oil

1/2 C Powdered Sugar

1/2 C Sugar

1/2 tsp cr. tartar + soda
each salt

1/2 tsp vanilla

2C flour - little extra

Chill, ball, roll in sugar
press with glass

Im... Dreaming... of a “Mathy” Christmas (Math League)

Alexander De La Rosa Lopez, Kevin Yang, Liam Ogilvie

Recently, a new Math League competition has gone by which was held at Millsboro Middle School! This time students had to answer objectively more challenging questions than the last meet. This resulted in the scores being low. The results of the meet for the 7th grade teams are as stated, SMS Gold got 1st with a whopping score of 6! SMS Green got 2nd with 5 points which they tied with Greenwood Gold. 3rd place goes to Beacon Blue with 4 points. 4th place goes to Milsboro with 3 points. 5th place goes to Beacon Gold with 2 points. 6th place is tied between Greenwood Green and Mariner with 1 point. 7th place goes to Georgetown which unfortunately had a score of 0 points.

The scores for our 8th-grade teams are as stated
1st place goes to Beacon Blue with 9 points, 2nd place goes to Delmar Bennett and Mariner with a tie at 6 points, 3rd place goes to Georgetown and Greenwood with a tie at 3 points, 4th place goes to Milsboro with 2 points, 5th place goes to Beacon Gold and Selbyville with 1 point, 6th place goes to Delmar Prettyman with unfortunately, 0 points.

While Visions of Sugar cookies Danced in Their Heads....

Finnegan Nangle

There is one cookie that
stands above all.

A cookie that is superior in
every category.

You may ask which cookie
this may be, and
to that I tell you that one
sugar cookie. It seems
to appear in every birthday
party and at every
elementary school
celebration.



The sadness when
you could only have one was
unimaginable.

The delight in the cookie is
amazing from the first
bite to when it already
disappears into your stomach
in what felt like 20 seconds.

The amazing icing and
the fall apart dough. There
are 3 steps that get deadl
y and some of us go through
all of these. Sadly I was
able to escape this sad reality
but my friend Michael
has gone through these
stages as a sad victim.

The first stage being regret
you regret that you ate all
the cookies so fast and are at
a loss for words due to how
good the cookie you just
witnessed was. You are
desperate for another so you
immediately get more and
start gobbling them down
one by one. Needing more
and more and more. At this
point stopping is out of the
picture, you need more
somehow somehow. Stage 2.
You go to the store while
eating more cookies and buy
the whole store's worth of
them, bringing you into
major debt. As the days pass
your kidneys have already
failed and your stomach is
working as hard as it's ever
done before. The years pass
and you are morbidly obese
in the hospital and on your
deathbed. Luckily, I don't
think anyone reading this
has gone through these
stages of my advice from
this. Best of luck and Merry
Christmas

Do You Know What We Know?
Staff Spotlight
Let's Get to Know Mr. Sweetman
Egenia Chilel Lopez



9-Since when did you start teaching?
My First year teaching was in 2011.

1- What do you love about teaching?

Seeing the kids learn about living in the real world and teaching them. If they can gain a skill in my class that could possibly help them in life then we have all succeeded.

2-What is your favorite holiday?

My favorite holiday is 4th of July. I love celebrating my Country.

3-What were you as a student?

He was a good student and would get A's and B's in all his classes, also was in BPA, FFA and played Baseball.

4-What is your favorite color and pasttime?

Blue and Baseball (Go Phillies!)

5-What is your favorite food or snack?

My favorite food is probably steak and my favorite snack is fruit (watermelon).

6-What is your favorite drink?

My favorite drink is Powerade.

7-What is your favorite movie?

My favorite movie is Rocky.

8-Why did you become a teacher?

My high school business teacher influenced me and after I got the chance to have him all 4 years of highschool I knew I wanted to teach the same thing. He seemed to have so much fun teaching and learning along with his students.

10-What is one of your goals this year?

One of my goals this year is to grow the SMS BPA program and have students qualify for the National Leadership Conference in Chicago Illinois.

11-How many years have you been teaching?

I have been teaching for 13 years.



Victoria M.Driver

“ Let it be” The beatles 1970

The Beatles were an English group of four Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, John Lennon, and George Harrison. The Beatles were known for their top hits like “ Let it be”, “Black Bird”, and “Eleanor Rigby”. The Beatles' biggest hit “Let it be” was recorded in 1969 and released in 1970. The song was dreamt by Paul McCartney; he said he visited his mother, Mary McCartney. In the dream she told him to “let it be” the song is a contribution to his mother who died from cancer. Paul stated in an interview “it was nice to visit her again after so long, she told me to let it be” This is how the lyrics were created.

The Beatles also referenced the song lyrics from “ Mother Mary” to “Brother Malcolm” was in reference to the Beatles' assistant Mal Evans. In a later interview with Paul he also stated he felt comfortable with how he formed the song and on how he feels closer with his mom now that he created the song he said it was like she was giving him a message in life. This song is the Beatles' most beloved songs and most popular as well it means a lot to Paul and the Beatles and the story with it is unforgettable.

LINKS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QDYfEBY9NM4>

