

The Bulldog Times






January 2024 – The Voice of our School Community

Issue 4

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The BORING History of BORING Objects

Ishaan Parthasarathy

Doors, those things you open daily, those seemingly useless objects that “nobody” likes, the thing that everybody takes for granted. In truth, doors are very boring. Yet, those seemingly innocent objects go back all the way to 3000BCE. Read on to learn about the legendary, awesome, doooooooooor!!!!!!

Just like many inventions and discoveries, signs show us that the door was first made in ancient Egypt. Several paintings have false doors as wall decoration, but with further scrutinization, this was meant to symbolize entrance to the afterlife.

We can also suspect that doors, or similar creations were used in Europe around a similar period. Archeologists in Switzerland, have discovered a door made of oak that had been crafted in the 3063 B.C.

While many Europeans carved oak into doors, stone doors were being employed in Asia, particularly in China and in present-day Iraq. We can even see the contrast between doors used by civilians and more lavish designs adopted by the wealthy. In 10 A.D., Heron of Alexandria engineered the first automatic door, with technology that used heat and pressure. Fire would heat water in a vessel, which would activate pulleys attached to a door. While it may seem like a lot of work when just a push would open a regular door, it made for great theatrics, this enabled those present to gasp in awe.

Fast-Forward to the Renaissance

Making symbols on your door was now common. Wooden and even iron doors were now made with elaborate artwork and heavy door knockers. Meanwhile, Britain began manufacturing glass as we know it in the 17th century. Until then, glass for construction purposes was opaque, and it was around this time that we were able to make glass transparent. This became valuable in the fabled glass door. Eventually, Samuel Bagnoli (Fun Fact: Bagnoli means bath in Italian) invented the motion detector, this allowed for creation of the automatic door, even if the first true automatic door had been made in 10A.D. Motion sensors were adopted into civilian use, first starting their career in home burglar alarm systems and eventually making their way to sliding automatic doors.

That is the end of the doors... for now.....

International Tradition Coverage

By Kimaya

Hey guys, I'm back, with another issue of INTERNATIONAL TRADITION COVERAGE! Here's a little disclaimer: Some of these holidays I didn't even know about until I saw them somewhere. I did lots of research, but I still probably have HUGE gaps in my article, especially since this issue had a time crunch. So, keep in mind that I do not intend this to have everything there is to know about the holiday I've chosen. If you celebrate a holiday I feature and see something missing, then contact me! I'd love to know how you celebrate it! If you have an idea for one, submit the suggestions form at the end of the article. Thank you, my wonderful readers!

Interview with Valerie Yong, a fellow sixth grader.

Kimaya: How do you celebrate (what do you do)?

Valerie: "When I'm in America, I eat a lot of food with my family because eating is good."

Kimaya: Why do you celebrate?

Valerie: "Mainly because of tradition."

Kimaya: Does this holiday mean something more than tradition to you?

Valerie: "Not really... yeah, no." (at this point, Valerie started to laugh extremely hard, it was a second before I could continue)

Kimaya: Do you have any stories about Lunar New Year?

Valerie: "I don't really know the myths, but when I was 3, I stepped on my 3-year-old cousin's toe, and she screamed so loudly our neighbors got mad at us."

Kimaya: Did you enjoy this obviously well thought out interview?

Valerie: "...sure?"



People light lanterns to symbolize driving away evil and to bring hope for the new year

LUNAR NEW YEAR

Lunar New Year is a popular holiday, so you've most likely heard of it. But do YOU know the myths and traditions...? GET READY TO KNOW!!!!

First, the mythology. One legend is: A thousand years ago a monster named Nian would attack villages at the beginning of each new year. Loud noises, bright lights, and red scared the monster, so people began to decorate and celebrate. Fireworks, red clothes, and red decorations are used.

Now, the traditions. One tradition of Lunar New Year is to give kids red envelopes with money in them. Lunar New Year is also a time to feast and visit family members. Another tradition is to clean your home to rid the house of any bad luck. A couple traditional foods of Lunar New Year are dumplings (*jiaozi* because they look like money pouches and are said to stand for fortune for the coming year), and Longevity Noodles (*Changzhou Mian*, meant to symbolize having a long life). You could also put-up lanterns.

So that's it! I really hope you enjoyed my article, and the little interview I put in. See you next time!



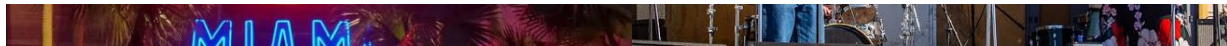
The vibrant and colorful dragon dancing and lion dancing are popular at Lunar New Year festivities because they symbolize good luck and strength.

HOLIDAY SUGGESTIONS FORM; PLEASE NOTHING FOR THE PAST, JANUARY, OR FEBRUARY: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8nAYNexOdUyAWk20-BGuobcKb_A2DXdHi5a7c6wBLihUNTBDQ09NOU1JSTVPukMwMIRSWTFZWFEzMC4u



1. The most common resolution people make is to get healthier.
2. The average number of births per year on New Year's Eve is 10,394, making it one of the rarest birthdays in the United States.
3. Over 50 tons of trash are left in Times Square after New Year's Eve celebrations.
4. The confetti dropped in Times Square is holding secret messages.
5. Many Brazilians welcome the New Year at the beach.
6. if you hear plates breaking in Denmark on New Year's Eve, it's considered good luck.
7. For the ball drop, Waterford comes up with a new ball pattern every year.

8. Instead of a ball, Miami, Florida rings in the new year with a giant orange (his name is Mr. Neon).
9. The island nation Kiribati rings in the new year first.
10. American Samoa is one of the last places to ring in the new year.
11. For new year's, round or ring-shaped foods hold special meaning.
12. A song that takes 1,000 years to play launched on January 1, 2000.
13. Antarctica hosts an Annual New Year's Music Festival called Ice Stock.
14. Hershey, PA drops a giant Hershey's Kiss to ring in the new year.
15. There wasn't a ball drop until 1907.



Mr. Neon (Fact 8)

Ice Stock (Fact 13)

LOST IN THE WOODS – CHAPTERS 3&4

Due to the chapter in the previous issue being cancelled, I am including two chapters in this issue.

RECAP: Meg is stranded in the woods, and a black bear has taken her to an unknown spot in the woods. The bear is screaming at her to be quiet, (yes, the bear can talk.) and is ranting about wolves.

Note from Shruti, the creator of Captain Stevenson:

Hi everyone, before I show you the latest issue of Captain Stevenson, I wanted to quickly explain something. As you've noticed, in the December issue Captain Stevenson's story was cut off. I was really busy, and I couldn't finish the issue. So, I am scrapping that story and starting with a new one. So sorry again!

Captain Stevenson and the Time Turmoil

By: Shruti Sridharan

Mr. Stephenson was at home early one morning, checking his email. It was Saturday at 9:00 am., and he was excited to kick back and relax the entire day. He was about to put his phone down when he heard a buzz. He picked up his phone and stared at the email, sent from the district, saying "DISTRICT BOARD MEETING" in shouty caps.

Mr. Stephenson groaned. He was hoping to take one day off from his work, but the email said otherwise. The meeting was in an hour, so he put on a crisp white shirt and some black slacks, fiddling with his tie and slipping on a black jacket. He trudged out the door and drove to BLMS, where the meeting was held. He went into the Commons, where rows of chairs were laid out, and he sat in one of them, patiently waiting for the others as they filed into the Commons.

About 10 minutes later, the head of the board, Jeff Fitzgerald, started the meeting.

"Alright everyone, happy Saturday! As you know, I'm Jeff Fitzgerald, head of the board. Let's start this meeting with a few items..." He shuffled his papers. "First, Issaquah Middle School's request of a better school mascot costume. For what reason, Ms. Hanson*?"

"Well," Ms. Hanson began, "mascots help raise school spirit. And from what I can tell... ours is not like that."

Jeff Fitzgerald blinked a couple of times. "Okaaaay... all in favor say 'aye'."

“Aye!” half the room cheered.

“Alright, Issaquah Middle School, you’re getting a new mascot!”

He exclaimed. “Now onto our next subject....”

Mr. Stephenson sat in silence throughout the meeting. And when it was over, he raced to his car and drove home, eager to relax.

But when he opened the door, his wife stopped him in his tracks.

“Can you please go to the grocery store to get eggs?” she pleaded.

“Sure,” Mr. Stephenson sighed. He got back in the car and drove to QFC, searching for eggs. He found a carton and headed for the checkout lane. After he bought the eggs, he drove home once again.

Luckily, once he got home, there was no one to bother him. So, he flopped on the couch, propped a pillow, and began scrolling through his phone. But after some time, he began to nod off, and he drifted off to sleep.

Later, he woke up, looking around drowsily. He checked the time. 9:00 in the morning???

That’s impossible. He couldn’t have slept the whole rest of the day! Just to check, he looked at the date. SATURDAY???!!!

“This doesn’t make any sense!” Mr. Stephenson exclaimed. “It was noon on Saturday when I dozed off! What’s happening???”

He stopped and took a few deep breaths. “Okay, maybe if I wake up tomorrow, it will be Sunday!”

Suddenly, he heard a buzz from his phone. He picked it up and saw that same board meeting email. He frowned. “Another board meeting....”

PARROTS (Parodies)



Creative Writing

By Ember and Kimaya

Chapter FOUR: Ruby

I happily ate an entire frosted mini cake with sunflower seeds as a side dish.

"Ruby! How are you not full yet?!" yelped Angel, who was fluttering around birds' heads. She fluttered over to the top of my head.

"Cause... its... good!" I managed to say through a mouthful of delicious cake.

"Ruby! It's bad manners to talk when eating, ya know!" the budgie chirped, fluttering in another loop around my head.

"Mmmf" I mumbled.

Suddenly, a bald eagle flew in. "ACP alert! I repeat, ACP alert!"

Everybody flew into a panic, trying to get the food and fly out in time.

Angel flapped by, sucking food, plates, tableware, and other stuff into her holographic foot band (A band you wear around your foot that can store food and other stuff. Angel made it. Only Angel, Cody, Ruby, and Sam have one since Angel says they are extremely hard to make.) I immediately fluttered up.

"SOMEBODY GET ME A BIG SQUIRT GUN!!!" I shrieked. "I'LL MAKE TODAY THEIR WORST DAY EVER!!!"

This gave everyone courage and as they finished packing, everyone took out water balloons, squirt-guns, gooey stuff in buckets and containers, as well as other stuff. I summoned a giant squirt-gun - fully filled with mud - and glided out. I immediately saw some dogs barking at the bottom of the cliff that led up to our dining hall.

"GET OUTTA HERE, YOUR MANGE-PELT!" I screeched and aimed my trusty gun at the dog. I targeted... and fired! Mud splattered over its fur as the dog scrambled back in alarm. I shrieked in defiance as I aimed at its face. Some of the mud got in its eyes, and the dog had had enough. It turned and raced away. A human - probably its owner - yelled at it to come back. Of course, the dog didn't listen. The human turned back just in time to get splatted in the face with a balloon full of water from Cody, who was back.

"War!!! Woohoo!" yelled Angel as she streaked in, spiraling in circles around the human with string. He yelped as he was tied together. Another human, this time female, raced in to help, but was stopped as two crows swooped in on each side of a long piece of string and deliberately tripped her. A bucket of ketchup from three robins followed. The crows cackled in delight as the woman slowly got onto her knees and shook a fist at them, yelling something. I felt satisfied as I glanced over to see birds harassing the remaining dogs and other APC creatures in unimaginable ways. French fries were pelted at the birds, along with ball of flour and wet dough. Water balloons splattered against vans and people, soaking them. Buckets of mud, ketchup, paint, dirty water, juice, and other stuff also become a threat. Pebbles and sticks flew. Marshmallows and chocolate became everyone's most hated treat. Or at least for the humans.

"Yes! Take that, APC!" chirped a flock of finches as they dropped balls of sticky glue wrapped in leaves.

I fluttered to a nearby tree, nipping off some pinecones. I then threw them at a golden retriever; which was dancing around on its hindlegs trying to beat the birds fluttering around it. The birds parted to let my pinecones bonk off its head and the retriever dropped to all its paws. It barked loudly and swatted at the pinecones, which had dropped to the ground. Another barrage of the pinecones sent it running. Everyone cheered.

The next morning...

I yawned. Fluttering my wings, I poked Angel in the side. "Wakey wakey!" I chirped cheerfully.

Angel blinked sleepily. "Huh? What's... happening?"

"Nothing! But I wanted to set more buildings on fire!"

Angel stared at me. "Why?"

"I think I know where the APC 'base' is! I scouted a bit after everyone was asleep." Ruby grinned excitedly and fluttered her wings.

"Woah. Let's go tell Sam and the others!" Angel hopped up.

I bobbed my head. "Sure! I'll announce it in the announcing station!"

I flared my wings and soared to the station. "AHM! RUBY, ME, HAS FOUND AN APC BASE! IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN DESTROYING IT, FEEL FREE TO COME! THANK YOU!" I turned the mic off. Already, SparkFeather was out and about; when she heard what I'd said, she flapped up to me.

"You have?" demanded Nightowl, who was a female screech owl.

"That's wonderful! When is the attack going to start?" cawed a crow.

"Probably in about an hour or so." I responded. I was preening a wing when Sam flew up to me.

"What's this about an ambush on the APC base?" asked the sun conure.

"Isn't it a good idea?" I chirped hopefully. Sam considered this. "Depends how many birds are willing to join in this..."

I put a wing out to the flock of birds already gathered. "Is this enough?"

Sam surveyed the flock. "And more will join too. I suppose. It's starting in an hour, isn't it?"

"Yeah, it is!" cawed the crow who'd asked when it was going to start.

Sam sighed. "Very well. We'll make sure APC regrets ever coming here!"

"YEAH!" yelled the flock.

"Now, everyone gets ready and spread the news!"

Monthly Holidays - January edition



Jan. 20, National Cheese Lover's Day

By: Ember Lin, Emily Smith + Evelyn Chan

As usual, we are back with more holidays, this time for January! We love winter, as it is cozy, there is a big winter break (and midwinter break!), and there just might be snow (WOO! WOO! YAY! YAY! YAY! Sorry, we got a bit carried away there). From “Kiss A Ginger Day” (look, we think it’s gross too, we’re just the messengers), to “National Croissant Day” (woohoo!!!), there’s plenty to see. So, why not learn about a couple of cool and maybe confuzzling holidays for January while you go sledding? (Actually, now that we think of it, that combination might not exactly work.)

WARNING AND DISCLAIMER: DON'T TAKE YOUR COMPUTERS IN THE SNOW KIDS OR YOU'LL PAY THE PRICE. LITERALLY (YOUR COMPUTER WILL GET WET AND THEN WILL NOT WORK ANYMORE AND THEN YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY A FINE). WE TAKE NO RESPONSIBILITY IF THAT HAPPENS.

1. Solemnity of Mary day	2. Swiss Cheese Day	3. Women Rock Day	4.Perihelion Day	5. National Bird Day	6. Apple Tree Day	7. I'm not Going to Take it Anymore Day
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8. National Fourth Graders Day	9. National Word Nerd Day	10. National Save the Eagles Day	11. Heritage Treasures Day	12. Kiss a ginger day	13. Korean American day	14. World logic day
15. Martin Luther King Day	16. National Fig Newton Day	17. National Classy day	18. National Michigan day	19. World Quark Day	20. National Cheese lovers' day	21. National hugging day.
22. National grandpa day	23. National handwriting day	24. National compliments day	25. National fish taco day	26. National spouse day	27. National chocolate cake day	28. Lego Day
29. National puzzle day	30. National croissant day	31. National hot Chocolate day				

We hope you enjoyed reading! Again, reminder to **please please (please)** not take your computer in the snow (Read disclaimer above if you haven't yet)!

BYE NOW! HAVE A GOOD WEEK! GO BULLDOGS! WOOF WOOF!



The Man that Changed the View of Men

By Weiran Chan

Intro

Martin Luther King Junior was an influential figure in history. He was the main cause of the civil rights movement and was the ultimate cause to the end of the harsh segregation of 1960s.

About MLK Jr.

Martin Luther King Junior was born in 1929, January 15, which is Martin Luther King Day. He was an American activist, Baptist, minister, and political philosopher. He was the prominent leader of the civil rights movement until his death by assassination. He was the son of Martin Luther King Senior, one of the first civil rights activists. For his efforts, he won a Noble Prize, a Presidential Medal of Freedom, and a Congressional Gold Medal.

MLK Jr.'s Childhood

Martin Luther King's childhood was rough. He was instructed to read the Bible aloud with his two siblings daily, as instructed by his father. Their father, Martin Luther King Sr., would also whip them with whips, seemingly to try to put them into discipline. King attended a school for black children, which was the Yonge Street Elementary School. His dad, Martin Luther King Sr was an assistant pastor of Ebenezer Church, and went to multiple trips to places around the world, such as Berlin for the BWA (Baptist World Alliance). This is how they got their names.

The Problem

King had experienced segregation multiple times in his lifetime. He used to play with a white boy, who he became friends with. When they were both around six years of age, they attended school. Later, the parents of the white boy said that they couldn't play with him, stating that "we are white, you are colored." Kings' parents explained that racism and slavery were long lasting problems in America.

Leading to Change

During his years in high school, King became known for his talent in public speaking. He joined a debate team, and studied multiple subjects related to speaking and English. On April 13, 1944, in his junior year, King gave his first public speech during an oratorical contest. He spoke about how people of color are not treated correctly and how they are put under a certain bar of success. He was the winner of this contest. On the way back on a bus back to Atlanta, the bus driver ordered that he and his teacher stand in the back to make space for the white people to sit down. King initially refused to do so, but after his teacher said it would break the law to comply, he stood for the rest of the ride back to Atlanta. Later that night he wrote about the situation. He said "That night will never leave my memory. It was the angriest I have ever been in my life."

Taking Initiative

After his education, King became a minister at the Dexter Baptist Church. In March of 1955, Claudette Colvin-a 15-year-old black schoolgirl from Montgomery, refused to give up her seat to a white man. This was of violation of the Jim Crow laws, laws that enforced people of color to not have multiple simple amenities. Nine months later, the same incident happened with Rosa Parks when she refused to give up her seat. These are the events that led to the Montgomery Bus Boycott. This boycott lasted 385 days. He then created multiple movements and campaigns leading up to his famous speech, "I have a dream"

Dreams of all of Us

King delivered his famous speech titled "I have a dream". The speech is as following:

I say to you today, my friends, so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of interposition and nullification; one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

His speech is regarded as the greatest speech in American oratory. After the speech, he still fought for civil rights such as the Selma voting rights movement, and the Scripto strike in Atlanta. He was a valiant hero for the civil rights movement, until his assassination on April 4, 1968.

Conclusion

King was one of the most important factors in civil rights. After his death, riots broke out, but after, his colleagues continued the fight for equality in America. He was given the holiday to have a day dedicated to him, which is January 15th, Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Marcedonius: Rome's Forsaken Month

CHRONICLES OF OBSCURITY

By Kirill M & Reece W

[Note: you may have noticed, by the article I wrote for last month's issue was removed as it was about too controversial of a subject matter]

Welcome back to Chronicles of Obscurity, where we will tell/write to you about history's obscure secrets that they don't tell you in social studies. A quick note: Due to having a shortened amount of time to complete this month's issue, this article will be shorter than usual. Mercedonius. I'm sure when you

read that you realized it was something Roman. But you'll be surprised to learn that it was in fact an intercalary (an insertion of a leap day, week, or month) Roman month, meaning "Work Month". This odd would be inserted every two to three years in order to align the Roman year (355 days) with the solar year. In this article, you will learn a lot more about this forgotten month of the Roman calendar.

To start off, we must go on a brief tangent about the Roman Republican Calendar, which was the calendar used by the Romans at the time. This calendar initially consisted of 10 months totaling 304 days, completely ignoring the other 61 ¼ days, except when it came to Mercedonius (but we'll get to that a bit later). The original 10 months were, in order, Martius, Aprilis, Maius, Junius, Quintilis, Sextilis, September, October, November, and December. The names all had varying etymologies, with several (Martius, Junius, Maius) being named after Roman deities (Mars, Juno, and Maia, respectively), Aprilis likely named after the Latin word aperire (to open), which could refer to the blossoming of trees and flowers, which would "open" from their buds, during this season. An alternate etymology is from the name of Aphrodite/Venus, with the theory being that the word Aprilis came from Aphrilis or the Etruscan name for Aphrodite, Apru. However, it is unclear whether either one is correct. Several changes ended up being made to the calendar, attributed to the second king of Rome, Numa Pompilius. January was added at the beginning of the year, Febrarius became a month, and Mercedonius was introduced.



Every few years, the decision to include this month was made by the pontifex maximus, the chief high priest of the college of Pontiffs. They would "observe" and insert Mercedonius after the month of Febrarius, in a way that would apparently make the best possible correspondence with the seasons. The pontifex maximi would not actually choose the best possible correspondence, but the most beneficial one for them, using the month to keep them and their friends in office for longer or lessen the terms of rivals. This unpredictable placement led to widespread confusion to the dates after Febrarius, and often led to many people outside Rome not knowing the date after Febrarius.

Unfortunately, or fortunately, Julius Ceasar's reformed Julian calendar ditched the month. However, mercedonius still lives on, as we will never forget this forsaken month.

Summary: FTC Spencer League Meet 1 (Robotics) School News Kirill M

Note: I'm sorry, but I have to postpone this article once again. It's not what it looks like, I promise. As I had less time this month and I had to focus on Chronicles of Obscurity, I was unable to complete the article this month. Don't worry, I promise that for the next issue I will write an extra-long article about this and include all the robotics competitions that will have happened by then. See you then! (I promise this time)

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. BANSAL

BY: AADYA SINGHAL

Aadya: Hi Ms. Bansal!

Mrs. Bansal: Hi Aadya!

Aadya: What is the best part of being a teacher?

Mrs. Bansal: Teaching math and interacting with kids. I love watching kids grow and learn.

Aadya: Why did you want to be a teacher here at BLMS?

Mrs. Bansal: I like teaching Middle Schools and Beaver Lake had good reviews. I also liked the teachers that were there.

Aadya: What do you think is the best part of math?

Mrs. Bansal: I like math because every problem has a definite answer, and it is a very logical subject. I also like how it can be used to solve real-life problems.

Aadya: If you could teach any other subject, what would it be?

Mrs. Bansal: If I could teach any other subject, I would teach science because it is interesting. It is also the building "block" of how things work.

Aadya: How would you describe your style of teaching?

Mrs. Bansal: My teaching style is very explanatory and collaborative.

Aadya: What is lifelike outside of teaching?

Mrs. Bansal: Aside from teaching I love spending time with my family and friends. I also love playing board games, traveling, and watching TV.

Aadya: What is your favorite book and what is your favorite author?

Mrs. Bansal: My favorite book is Panchatantra by Vishnu Sharma.

Note: Foodly History is at the END of this issue. I really wanted to do a cool ending, and it only works if it's at the end.

Interview with Ms. Sundt

By: Shruti, Amna, and Yara

Q: What is the best part of being a teacher?

My different classes and the community we can build.... and reading, of course!

Q: Why did you want to be a teacher at BLMS?

I didn't think I wanted to teach middle school at first, but then I got a job here and I like teaching middle school now!

Q: What do you think is the best part of LA?

Talking about books, and seeing students get excited about the stories

Q: If you could teach any other subject, what would it be?

Maybe social studies.... or art.

Q: How would you describe your style of teaching?

I think I can be goofy, and I get really excited about the subject, and at the end of the day, I want students to learn.

Q: What is life like outside of teaching?

I have two cats that I love going home to. I have lots of hobbies such as reading, art, crochet, walking, kickboxing, etc.

Q: What's your favorite movie and book?

My favorite book is Scythe by Neal Shusterman, and my favorite movie is Into the Spider Verse.

Trending Stories: News From Around the World

By Arihan Sonawane

Hello and welcome to the trending stories from various places around the world. These stories will come from Argentina all the way to droughts all the way in Brazil. I'll be talking about when it started, a current update on it, and how to fix it.

First up, we have the drought in Brazil. Specifically, in the Amazon Rainforest. It doesn't make any sense how there could be a drought in a RAINforest, because it's a RAINforest which means it rains there daily. Plus, in the Amazon Rainforest, a fifth of the world's freshwater flows, and this drought shows no intentions of leaving. This drought started sometime between July and September. The drought has fueled large wildfires that have made the air hazardous for millions

of, including Indigenous communities. One river reached its lowest level ever recorded on Monday, October 21st, suffocating the endangered pink dolphins, shutting down a crucial hydropower plant and secluding tens of thousands of people living in remote communities who can only travel by boat. Across the Amazon, wells and streams have dried up, leaving communities without drinking water. People are trying to fix this drought by modifying water demand. Any efforts to reduce water usage by utilities will increase the available water supply.

And for the final topic, we have: Can Argentina really move from the peso to the dollar? Javier Milei won Argentina's presidential election Sunday on a ticket to overhaul South America's No. 2 economy and ditch its peso currency in favor of the US dollar. Financial markets broadly welcomed Milei's victory, which is likely to usher in a sea change in economic policymaking. Milei must tackle inflation above 140%, a shortfall in foreign currency reserves and the prospect of another painful recession. Argentina's dollar bonds rose Monday, while the New York-listed shares of several Argentine companies surged. State-owned energy company YPF (YPF) jumped 40%, and banks Banco Macro (BMA) and Grupo Financiero Galicia (GGAL) gained 20%. Milei has pledged to remove currency controls and import restrictions, which analysts say would result in even more pressure on the peso, taking the value of the currency closer to the levels at which it trades on various informal markets. Milei will need all the help he can get. The World Bank expects the Argentine economy to contract by 2.5% in 2023, owing in part to a devastating drought that is estimated to have cost it \$20 billion in lost agricultural exports.

Buddy and the Missing Bone

In memory of Buddy the bulldog (Buddy and Buddy 2.0)

By Lakshika Sudhan

One fine day, Buddy was in Mr. Ford's woodshop class, chewing on a banana. It was first period, but Buddy wanted it to be sixth period. Right

before school had started, Mr. Ford had given Buddy a bone, and Buddy had buried it. Just thinking about that bone made Buddy want to jump on the tables and run around. Oh, how much she wanted that bone! Anyway, Mr. Ford was Buddy's owner, and Buddy loved Mr. Ford with all her heart. But for now, Buddy really, really, really wanted that bone!

Later, at the end of the day, once school let out, Buddy was really excited. All day she had restrained being loud and noisy, but now, she went nuts. She jumped up and down in the car, yelling, "I want my bone! I want my bone! I WANT MY BONE!"

"Looks like someone's excited," Mr. Ford said, grinning. Mr. Ford couldn't understand Buddy, but since he had spent so much time with Buddy over the past few years, he knew what Buddy was thinking almost all the time.

Drive FASTER!!!!!" Buddy yelled, trying to scramble into the driver seat. She successfully got into Mr. Ford's lap, only to be put in the passenger seat next to Mr. Ford.

Be still and quiet or I'll make you do my work," Mr. Ford ordered. "It's grading quizzes." Buddy was pretty sure she was capable of doing Mr. Ford's work; after all, Mr. Ford could do it, so why couldn't she? But she wanted to chew on her bone as soon as she got home, so she stood still and remained silent, although she was quivering the rest of the way home.

Once they got to Mr. Ford's house, Buddy didn't waste a second in the car. As soon as Mr. Ford opened the door to the car, Buddy scrambled out, dashed into the backyard, and went to the spot where she had buried her bone, then she started digging.

"You better not be digging up my yard!" Mr. Ford called from inside the house. Buddy didn't want to be caught with her paw in the cookie jar, so she started digging more quickly. Then, tragedy struck.

"Where's my bone?!" Buddy screamed. She started digging frantically, but it was no use. Her bone was nowhere to be found.

TO BE CONTINUED...



This is Buddy The bulldog (I am not sure if this is Buddy or Buddy 2.0)

World of Music - Jazz (Finally!) Part 1

World of Music 🎵

By Victoria Hiegel

ANNOUNCEMENT: You can now suggest article topics!

Link to article suggestion form: <https://forms.office.com/r/pE6CnnzYi1>

Please note that I may not do your article topic, so don't get mad when you submit a response and don't see it in the next article. I don't have the time or resources to get to every single suggestion as we have a limit on how many articles we're going to publish.

You can also contact me on Canvas or at hiegvic29@issaquah.wednet.edu if you don't want to do the form or if there is something you don't like in the article. Whatever you do, DO NOT SPAM MY INBOX!

Hello wonderful people of planet Earth, and welcome back to World of Music, your insight into our wonderful music scene! Now, before we start, I would like to apologize for putting off this article until this issue. I'm sorry for putting the article in here 2 articles AFTER I said I would put it in: this was partially my fault and partially due to setbacks in Journalism Club (*cough cough* The November Article Incident of '23 *cough cough cough*). Also, I'm going to have to split this article into two separate ones. BUT, nonetheless, it has finally arrived! So let's not dilly-dally and get right into our topic of the day, Jazz!

For starters, what is Jazz anyways? If you don't know, Jazz is a music genre that is pretty hard to define, as one of its main elements is improvisation, or, according to the Wikipedia article about Jazz improvisation, "the spontaneous invention of melodic solo lines or accompaniment parts in a performance of jazz music." To put it in a way so that everybody can understand it and not just the extremely educated in the musical scene, you just chuck a bunch of stuff against the wall and see what sticks, then rinse and repeat. However, depending on what style you're talking about, different elements may be added or subtracted.

The history of jazz, however, is a bit easier to define. For starters, jazz music has its roots in the genres and styles of blues, which we covered on Issue One of the series, and ragtime, which I might do an issue on, depending on what I want to cover in the next issue. The word jazz itself might be related to the word *jasm*, meaning "pep, energy." (Thanks Wikipedia!) The earliest documented use of the word was in 1912 in an article in the Los Angeles Times, where a minor league pitcher described a pitch as a "jazz ball" because "it wobbles and you simply can't do anything with it." The first use of the word in a musical context, however, dates as far back as 1915 in the Chicago Daily Tribune.

Some of the notable instruments in the genre of jazz are mainly brass, like trumpets and trombones, and saxophones. If you've been to a band concert and have seen our jazz club, then you will see what I mean. Arguably, the saxophone is the most recognizable when it comes to jazz. But I say we need more appreciation for the other instruments! They don't get to hog all the spotlight! But I don't think I can change this, so we're still in the age of saxes getting all the attention.

Now that our little lesson (along with a small rant) is out of the way, it's time to start talking about the history of jazz itself. The music, not the word. We just covered that.

Our story starts with the Atlantic Slave Trade, which was the transportation of enslaved people from Africa to, mainly, the Americas. By 1866, this trade had brought 400,00 Africans to North America, and along with them came strong musical traditions. These traditions primarily use a single-line melody and a call-and-response pattern. According to an account from 1885, it said that they were making "strange music (Creole music, specifically)," with an equally strange selection of instruments (Washboards, washtubs, jugs, boxes and a drum made from stretching skin over a flour-barrel.)

Another one of the inspirations for jazz came from church hymns, which slaves had incorporated into their music as spirituals, which I may or may not cover in the future. The blues are often seen as spirituals' secular counterpart, but Gerhard Kubik from Austria points out that spirituals were homophonic, while early jazz and blues were heterophonic.

Early on in the 19th century, the number of black musicians learning to play European instruments (in particular, the violin) was increasing. They used these instruments to parody European dance music in their cakewalk dances. Thanks to this, European American blackface performers (which I would not like to talk about here) popularized this style of music around the world. While that's happening, why don't we go check up on New Orleans? During the mid-1800s, the composer Louis Moreau Gottschalk (that's actually how his name is spelled) adapted these rhythms, along with melodies from Cuba and other islands found in the Caribbean into piano salon music.

To be continued in the January article (I'm sorry for leaving you on a cliffhanger but I would like to leave people some space in the article) ...

SURVEYS!!!!

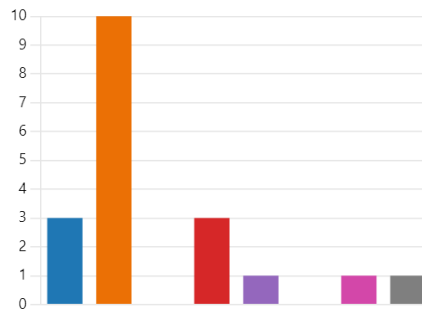
Results:

Christmas gifts form:

2. What type of gift giver are you? (look at the options and choose the one that sounds most like you)

[More Details](#)

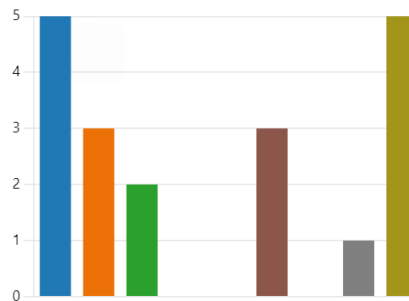
The Re-Gifter: You give other pe...	3
The Genuine Gift Giver: You enjo...	10
The Status Hound Giver: You lov...	0
The Safe Players: You like to gift ...	3
Last-Minute Gift Giver: You alwa...	1
The Complainer: You get a good...	0
The Easy Way Out Gifter: You do...	1
Other	1



3. What gift do you usually give?

[More Details](#)

Gift card	5
Toy / stuffed animal	3
Books	2
Skin care items	0
Something homemade	0
A kit	3
Nothing	0
Food / candy	1
Other	5



4. What is something that you would like to receive this year? *

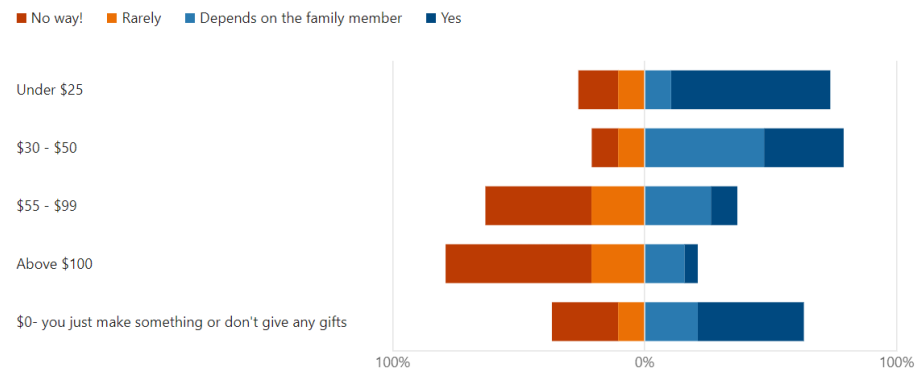
A watch

A tablet with a stylus that I can use procreate on.

cat

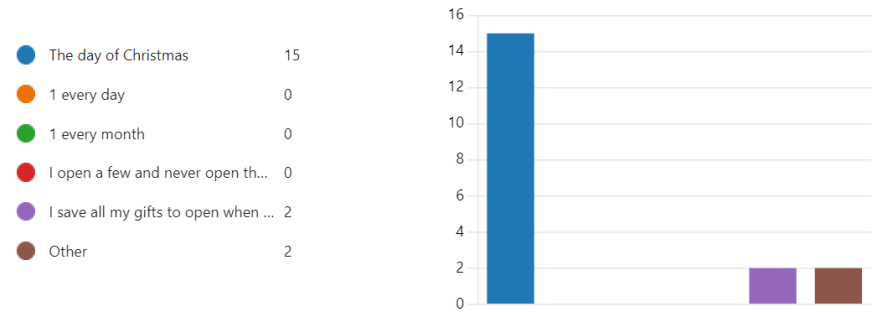
5. How much money would you spend on a gift for a family member?

[More Details](#)



6. When do you open your Christmas presents?

[More Details](#)



7. What's the most HORRIBLY HORRIBLE gift you've ever gotten? *

A cheese platter with Brie. I hate brie.

Coal

air

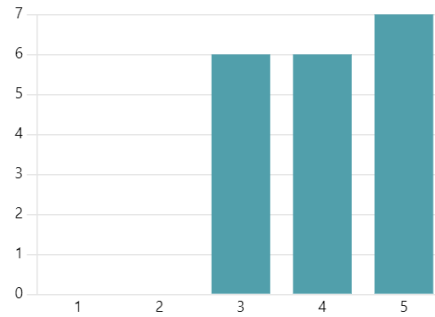
a parsnip

8. On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being "no thanks" and 5 being BADLY BAD), how bad do you want a gift?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

4.05
Average Rating



Unlimited money form:

Survey #1: Favorite Flavor?

[Favorite Flavor Form](#)

Survey #2: Winter Opinions

[Winter Opinions](#)

Survey #3: New Year's Traditions

[New Year's Traditions Form](#)

FLAME & FROST



BY EMBER (CREDITS TO WARRIORS)

Hello! This is the author speaking! First, I want to give credit to Yara and Kimaya, as they helped with the story. The protagonist of the story is Flamepaw. Flamekit as a she-cat with flame-colored fur and a set of brilliant white wings. She also has fire powers. Some of the cats in this story will have elemental powers, wings, pets, or the ability to transform. Also, you can ask me if you want to see the full story of Flame & Frost or Falkor. (P.S, don't have high expectations for anything, I'm not the best at writing) Send me an email; my email is emberdragonwing@gmail.com or linyan30@issaquah.wednet.edu. Right now, this is just a side chapter, but it will have a relationship to later in the story; where FrostClan comes in and helps FlameClan fight the chimera off. This also relates to Falkor; another story I'm working on. You can also send me a request to add a new character through [here\(click\)](#). 99% of the time, I do. For example, Kimaya's cat (Dreampaw) now has her own side chapter. And Storm will come in later through the story. Ok. That's all for now ~ bye!

Please do this Form: [Falkor: Title Suggestions](#)

CHAPTER FOUR: THE GATHERING

"Who wants to tell me what is going on here." Snowdust's icy gaze swept over us. I felt a shiver run down my spine. Snowdust was very, very, very scary when she got mad. Icicles dripped from her voice as she spoke.

"Flamepaw? Shinepaw? Anyone? Leafpaw?" Snowdust waited for a few seconds. "If nobody will explain in the next ten seconds, everyone can have a moon of tick duty, caring for the elders, and helping rebuild the camp if you are done. Oh, and nobody goes outside."

Snowdust started the countdown in an eerily calm voice. "Ten. Nine. Eight. Seven. Six. Five. Four. Three... Two..."

"Alright, alright!" I smoothed down my bristling fur as I cut Snowdust off.

"Yes?" Snowdust's eyes surveyed me.

"It's, it's just a bird we decided to... erm, adopt. It hasn't done any harm though! Right, birdy?"

The Bird of Prey, to its credit, decided to look as harmless and cute as possible. "Quark?" it asked.

Snowdust was not swayed by the performance. "And how have you been feeding it?"

Eaglepaw shifted a bit before speaking. "We share a bit of our prey with it. We don't get extra, promise!"

"Yeah." mewed Leafpaw.

"We also really enjoy... just having it here. It makes us happy," said Sparrowpaw.

"Please don't take it away!" begged Finchpaw.

"We like it, and it can benefit to the Clan!" offered Shinepaw.

"Perhaps we could teach it how to hunt and bring it back to us?" suggested Lightningpaw.

Snowdust narrowed her eyes. Everyone waited in an awkward silence. Finally, the leader gave a long sigh. "Well, I suppose that Scaletail and Dustfeather are here too, so I'll see how you do. Does it have a name?"

Another awkward silence as everyone looked at each other. Eaglepaw shrugged.

Snowdust snorted. "Well, then how about you give it one."

Everyone looked at me, now. I was a bit bewildered. "Hey! Why me?"

"Quark!" said the bird cheerily.

"If I could, I would've named you Quark..." I muttered darkly.

"Cark, quark!" said the bird even more happily.

I stared at it. A few seconds stretched into minutes. I observed the white bands on the wings that contrasted with the rest of the black on the bird's body. I observed the fluffy white feathers around the bird's neck. I looked at its talons and beak. I looked at its short black tail. Then I finally decided.

"Nighttalon." I announced.

"Quark!" squawked the bird.

I craned my neck, looking over the rest of FlameClan as Nighttalon perched on my back.

"Look! There's FrostClan!" mewed Eaglepaw, pointing ahead of us.

"This is so exciting!" yelped Leafpaw in excitement.

"I know!" I agreed. "Remember how FrostClan helped us fight off the chimera?"

"And you fought it off with that amazing move? How'd you do *that*?" Storm slipped into the conversation.

"My secret," I replied, grinning.

"But why didn't Snowdust use her move at the start of the battle?" Storm's voice had gone low now. "You all saw how strong she was, with the ice spikes."

I paused, thinking. *She's right. Why didn't Snowdust use her move at the beginning? Maybe she could have even prevented Nightpelt's death...* Eaglepaw must've had the same thought, because horror flashed across her face.

"You mean... she let Nightpelt die on purpose?" Eaglepaw's voice trembled. "...But, why?"

"I'm sure she didn't mean to..." soothed Leafpaw.

"Look, let's not think about it too hard. Maybe she just forgot." mewed Storm.

"Yeah," I agreed. "I mean, we're going to be announced as apprentices soon!"

Eaglepaw nodded vigorously. "Yeah!"

We picked a place to sit and waited while all the Clans settled down. I blinked, realizing the black apprentice from before was sitting a few feet from us all alone. He didn't seem bothered, though. He brushed a paw over his ear. He paused, perhaps sensing he was being stared at, and looked in my direction. I immediately averted my gaze, hoping he hadn't seen me. *Please don't notice!* When I risked a glance back, he wasn't looking anymore at me.

"CATS OF ALL CLANS!" yowled Snowdust, jerking me to attention. I supposed we should address her as Snowstar now.

"The meeting has now begun." The leader of FernClan; Songstar, leaped gracefully up to a branch on the large boulder in the center of the clearing.

"If you don't mind, I shall go first." Snowstar flicked her tail, signaling for silence. "Prey in FlameClan is running well. We had three new apprentices a few moons ago. Flamepaw, Eaglepaw, and Leafpaw. Flamepaw has also taken on a pet; a species of Bird of Prey that she has named Nighttalon."

Recognizing its name, my bird raised its head and flapped its wings. "Cark!" he announced happily.

No! Shush!" I pulled the bird back down again, and it happily squatted on the ground.

"...as you can see." Snowstar finished.

Laughter erupted around the Clans, and I groaned, covering my face with my paws. I was sure I was blushing. Eaglepaw patted my back.

"It's fine, Flamepaw." mewed Leafpaw.

"Easy for you to say..." I groaned.

"Why didn't Snow – Snowstar mention the chimera?" asked Storm.

"Don't know," I replied.

"Ahem." Talonstar, leader of MountainClan, stepped forward. "Prey is running well in our territory as well as the fish in the rivers. We had two new apprentices a moon ago; Streampaw and Flitterpaw. We also have a new warrior; Thunderflash. The humans are swarming around the mountain bottoms, but they had not yet bothered us."

Then, Featherstar went. Then Sandstar and Streamstar. Finally, Snowstar opened her jaws to speak again.

"We also have a particularly important matter to discuss. We have seen a living chimera in our territory."

Yowls of shock and fear rose from the Clans.

"WHAT?! Where is it now? My kits will not be safe!" fretted a she-cat.

"Did you kill it?" snarled another.

"Do you think there's more?" asked another curiously.

"SILENCE!" Snowstar silenced the Clans. "Yes, we have killed the chimera. But these chimeras are like vermin. They breed and spread quickly, not to mention they are extremely hard to kill. We lost Night pelt to the one we encountered. But to answer some of your questions, we brought it down and killed it."

"With the help of Frost Clan," added Featherstar.

"Yes. With your help." sighed Snowstar. "But the reason I mentioned this is so all of you will be alert, in case they have already mated and formed a hive."

"May I add in something, Snowstar?" asked Talonstar.

Snowstar paused, glancing at the MountainClan leader. "Yes, you may, Talonstar."

Talonstar nodded. "For those of you who are young, you might not know what a hive is, or even a chimera. A chimera is a viscous snake-like creature with large, feathered wings and a Bird of Prey's head. Some of the stronger ones have a scorpion's stinger on the end of their whip-like tail. They, like Snowstar said, mate very quickly and lay at least six eggs at a time. If numbers are enough, they will usually band together to form a hive. They are like bees; they will build a home by burrowing into the ground."

Talonstar nodded at Sandstar, who wanted to speak. "Chimeras are a serious matter." the leader mewed. "If we are to destroy them and send them out of our territories again, like our ancient ancestors did, then we must band together. For now, though, I ask that our medicine cats' approach StarClan with this matter at the next meeting. I, for one, certainly will. But it is your choice." The sand-colored she-cat bowed her head and stepped back.

Featherstar nodded. "Good thinking, Sandstar. I will ask my medicine cats to ask StarClan."

"As will I," mewed Talonstar.

"Agreed," said Snowstar.

"I suppose I will..." mewed Streamstar.

"Very well," said Snowstar.

"I will," said Songstar.

"Then the meeting is over." With that, Snowstar leaped off the boulder, followed by the other leaders.

"FlameClan! Come!" Snowstar flicked her tail and I got to my paws to follow my leader.

The issue of Unrealistic new year's resolutions



By: Saanvi K

Often new year's resolutions are very vague and unrealistic, and many people give up by February unable to complete their goals for the year. Goals should be realistic and have a specific idea rather than "I will be happier in life". How will you be happier in life? Many do not plan properly and are not prepared to continue the goal for the year. Goals should be more like "I will improve my skills in badminton, by playing 30 minutes every day. Resolutions should be something attainable, and not something like I will become a professional chess player by this year. It is better to set "intentions" rather than "goals," intentions allow you to be more flexible in what you envision. An intention could be like "I will be more mindful of my actions and what I speak." This allows you to have a better understanding of what you need to achieve. Intentions allow you to visualize the changes you want in your life, and how you want to better yourself. Goals should be clear and descriptive, and not vague. So, when listing your goals for the new year, really ask yourself if this is too unrealistic and do I know what to

achieve? When you give yourself unrealistic goals or resolutions it will be difficult to actually achieve them.

Information from: ([Remove the Pressure of Resolutions and Set Realistic Goals \(verywellmind.com\)](https://www.verywellmind.com/remove-the-pressure-of-resolutions-and-set-realistic-goals-2786187))

Facts About January!

1. People born between December 22 to January 19 are Capricorn's while people born between Jan 20 and Feb 18 are Aquarius.
2. Two flowers that thrive during winter are Snowdrops and pink Dianthus.
3. January birthstone is called a garnet, garnets come in sets of minerals that form a group, can come in gemstones in almost every single color.
4. Oprah Winfrey, Martin Luther King Jr., and Elvis Presley are among the many famous people born in January.
5. January is supposedly the coldest month in the Northern Hemisphere and the warmest in the Southern Hemisphere.
6. The plum blossom is the Chinese floral emblem of January.
7. January is named after Janus, the Roman god that has two heads. He used one to look backward and one to look forward towards the New Year.
8. In leap years, January always starts on the same day as April and July.

		
Snowdrops	Pink Dianthus	Plum blossoms

The BEST DEALS of JANUARY

Black Friday is now in the past but you're still looking something for the lowest price possible, so which is the best day for sales in January well since January is the month right after December retail stores are trying to get rid of all the Christmas merchandise and the best way to do that is to put lots of things on sale like winter hats scarves gloves as well as fitness and wellness gear this has to do with the fact the people want to meet their new year's workout resolutions and retailers know this. Oddly back in the 1800s in the good Ol' US of A January was

called the month of white sales because back then linens would only be in one color white and since all linens were discounted in January the even today linens are heavily discounted in all colors and

Trapped in a dream

By Amna Ahmed

Chapter 4: The alluring dreamscape



Sara froze, staring at the sight of this strange place. It was a kaleidoscope of vibrant colors, shapes, and sounds. It was a landscape full of fantasies where the rules of reality were set aside. Around her were all sorts of fairytale creatures and structures.

"Welcome home!" a pixie avowed, dancing in the galaxy above.

Around her surrounded

Backpacking

Backpacking is a combination of hiking and camping. You usually hike to campsites and then spend the night at the campsite. Then when it is daytime again you hike to the next campsite. There are many reasons why people go backpacking. Some people do it to get in shape or challenge themselves and some people do it to get away from all the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

No matter what your reason for backpacking, there are a few things you need to do to prepare. First, you need to choose the right backpack. Your backpack should be comfortable to wear and large enough to carry all of your gear. You will also need to pack appropriate clothing, food, and water.

Once you have your gear, you need to decide where you want to go. There are many different backpacking trails to choose from, so you can find one that is right for your fitness level and interests. When you are planning your trip, be sure to research the trail conditions and pack accordingly.

Here are some tips for backpacking in the wilderness:

1. Start slow. You need to conserve your energy to hike for a long time
2. Be prepared for the weather. The last thing you want to do is hike in the rain with no extra layers except a hoodie.
3. Pack light. A huge part of conserving energy is packing light so you then you can put more of your energy in into walking rather than carrying your backpack
4. Be aware of your surroundings. Make sure to always know when wildlife is around and pay attention to signs on the trail that say that this is a bear's habitat or something. Make sure you know what to do if you encounter any big form of wildlife.

Upcoming Sports Events

By Anzelia Yu

Hello Bulldogs! I hope your winter break is filled with fun and joy. January is a weird transition time between Season 2 and Season 3 sports, so let's dive on in.

Season 2 sports is hitting the ground running. Girls Basketball is hosting Issaquah Middle on the 4th and Pacific Cascade on the 9th. The last Girls Basketball game of '23-'24 will be on January 11th at Maywood.

Wrestling has an away game on January 4th at Issaquah Middle and another at Cougar Mountain on the 9th. On the 11th, they'll be hosting Maywood and Finals is being held at Maywood on the 13th.

The official starting date for Season 3 sports is on January 22nd. If you want to try out for Girls Soccer or Boys Basketball, that's the date to save!

Happy Holidays and have a great winter break!

Carnival (Creative Writing-Scary Novel) By: Reva Nair and Sarah Sharma

Chapter 7- Nightmare Land

Ariya Patel-

We looked around the place. It wasn't anything like the entry. It was different. Like it wasn't renovated like the rest of the carnival.

"It's giving me the creeps..." Markus shuddered behind Hailey. He slowly tightened his hoodie.

"Scaredy cat", Hailey pushed a strand of hair back. Markus scowled at her.

We walked for what we thought was hours.

"I'm bored..." Molly ended the silence. "Let's play a game."

"What game?", Leah asked chattering her teeth. A cool windy breeze pushed through our way. We all shivered.

"Hmmm... I see with my little eye?", Molly responded. We all nodded our heads in agreement. It, for me, was a way to relax from all the terror that would hit us.

"I'll start. I spy with my little eye... something red." Mira said.

"OOH! That?" Leah pointed at Hailey's hoodie. There was a red donut in the middle of it.

"Yep."

"I spy with my little eye...something red." Leah said.

"That's the same thing I said!" Mira responded.

"No, it's different."

"There's nothing else red." John looked around the vicinity.

"Look carefully."

"We give up." Mira spoke for all of us.

Leah pointed up ahead. There was a huge red sign on a black structure that read, "HAUNTED HOUSE-ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK!!!".

Mira ran towards the haunted house and started jumping up and down.

"Can we go? Please!"

"Heck yeah!" Leah replied all pumped up. She clapped Molly's hand and they both rushed towards the haunted house.

"There's no need to worry." Markus mumbled to himself.

Chapter 8- Back Home

Meena Patel-

I am finally leaving California and going to fly back home tomorrow morning! The trip was so hard on me, and probably for the kids too. I felt so homesick and worried for them, that I could barely concentrate on my meetings. I regret leaving them alone in the first place. I should have dropped them at their dad's place, or at Lisa's. Anyways, I am excited to finally see my kids again, but I know they are going to be the cause of damage in the house. I just hope nothing bad happens while I am away. But I swear, If the girls make a mess while I'm away, or they're going to be grounded for not listening to me.

The History of Pizza!



Foodly History 🍕

Oh, pizza. That delicious, mouth-watering mix of toppings on cheese on sauce on dough... yum. But while this seemingly American food is awesome and delicious, it makes me wonder: What's the story behind this delicious food? Let's find out!

The pizza wasn't really invented; instead, it evolved from flatbread with toppings, which came from ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome and Persia. However, the first mention of pizza came from (you guessed it!) Italy, in a text in which a feudal lord's son promises a local bishop 12 annual pizzas as a homage.

The earliest modern pizzas appeared in Naples in the 1700s, in which a surge of countryside peasants was causing a food shortage in the city. They needed something cheap to eat, and the answer was pizza street vendors, who sold slices sized and priced to the customer's budget. They were topped to the customer's choice, usually a mix of garlic and salt, but sometimes, basil leaves, meat, and even tomatoes made an appearance. In fact, tomatoes on pizzas came from this age: Europeans of the time were suspicious of tomatoes, and the lack of customers

made the red plant very cheap, which was exactly what peasants needed: good-tasting, cheap, and nutritious food.

Now, as with most foods in history, we need someone important to come over and boost its status. And wouldn't you know it, King Umberto I and Queen Margherita visited Naples. Tired of the usual French haute cuisine (AKA Grande cuisine, a type of cuisine served in high-up establishments), the couple asked to try some of the local cuisine. They were shown to the Pizzeria Brandi, where the chef cooked three pizzas. The couple loved them so much that one of the pizzas was named after Queen Margherita, the Pizza Margherita, which is still being made and served. The queen also left a thank-you note, which is still on display today!

The queen's love of pizza elevated it a bit, making it more famous. However, what *really* made pizza famous was the Second World War. Allied forces stationed in Italy decided to try out some of the local cuisine, buying pizza from local street vendors. The soldiers learned recipes for the dish, and upon returning home spread said recipes.

Another way that the Second World War influenced the popularity of pizza was through Italian immigrants fleeing from the police state in Italy and into America, looking for a better life. Upon arriving, they started looking for jobs, with some opening pizza stalls on the street to feed the lower-class New Yorkers.

As more and more Italians immigrated into the US, the demand for pizza grew higher and higher, and soon enough the pizza spread out of NYC and to other US cities, which created their own specialties like Chicago's deep-dish pizza!

As more and more Americans fell in love with pizza, it moved from being a low-wage worker's dinner to being an average American's lunch. Multiple pizza chains popped up, both because of the ease of accessibility and the profits they make.

Very quickly, almost every town in America had at least one pizza shop, and the pizza soon settled into the "Famously American Foods" club, claiming its rightful seat next to the hamburger and French fry! The price of pizza stayed relatively cheap, hovering around the \$10-20 mark, meaning that almost every American can indulge in the wonderful food.

And now we arrive at today! The pizza is a famed, loved dish by all, both because of its cheap price and extreme customizability, and it's still growing! Now, enough reading. Go eat a pizza!

Bon Appetite!

CONGRATS! YOU MADE IT TO THE END OF ANOTHER HUGE ISSUE! WE'LL SEE YOU
NEXT TIME!

Sincerely, all your lovely writers.