

BLAZER NEWS

North Lake Early College High School Monthly News

NEWS & FEATURES

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April Fools Day

BY BRIANNA MIRELES

April Fools day is a day where we unleash our hilarious sides and yell "APRIL FOOLS". You might be wondering how this April Fools thing even began? Well jokes on you, nobody knows! Some believe the day is celebrated in honor of the trickery Mother Nature plays on us this time of year with her unpredictable weather. Some historians say that April Fools Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. Another possible connection is the Indian tradition of Holi. The day is celebrated on March 31st and practices the same foolery as April Fools' Day. So does the Roman festival of Hilaria which was celebrated on March 25th. There are many different theories on this particular day but all I have to say is **Happy April Fools Day!!**



Staff Spotlight: Mr. Gio Macias

BY KIMBERLY MENDOZA

We all know Mr. Macias as our fun and loving languages teacher here at North Lake ECHS. But many of us don't know what brought him here. Blazer News sat down with Mr. Macias to learn more. Mr. Macias was born and raised in our neighboring town of Fort Worth. He attended the University of Texas at Arlington and studied Critical Languages International Studies in German with a minor in Spanish. Mr. Macias' love for language made him a great fit for being a teacher, even though that was not his original plan. He began teaching at Woodrow High School in DISD and eventually accepted an offer to teach both Spanish and German here at North Lake. If Mr. Macias was not a teacher, he believes he would be working in the world of technology. He has become our unofficial IT person on campus and is the one that most teachers and students go to when they are having technology issues. Mr. Macias enjoys many activities, including spending time with his friends, teaching yoga, rock climbing, and sometimes working on his car. As a teacher that students love, he enjoys being able to connect with all students since he can learn from their perspectives and what some may be struggling with. What he finds interesting about teaching a language is that you can connect with other individuals from a different culture and he finds it fulfilling when his students can use what they learned to talk with people in Germany. We were wondering if he is planning on moving to Germany after retiring and he said he is planning on going to Germany before retiring and that he already has a few things set over there that would allow him to be there for a while. Lastly, some advice he would give to future North Lake students is to learn self-sufficiency because in this world that we live in we have to figure most things out ourselves. He has this certain mindset since his parents would always tell him to fight for himself and to figure out what he has to do. He said that it is important to think critically and have an idea of why you are here at this school. Thank you Mr. Macias for supporting North Lake students!



Every year on April 22, the world marks a day on which we celebrate our home; Earth. It allows us to reflect on how far the environmental sustainability movement has progressed in an effort to change human behavior and create global, national, and local policy changes. Just a few decades ago people began to recognize that clean air was not just a luxury but a necessity to sustain life. At that time, there was no environmental protection agency to ensure the health and safety of U.S residents. The birth of Earth Day began on April 22, 1970, when a U.S senator, Gaylord Nelson, organized a national demonstration to provide a voice to a silent majority of emerging environmental awareness. This movement sparked rallies that took place across the country to push for legislation on environmental protection. During a Youth Strike for Climate, a child was holding a sign that said, "There is no Planet B!" On this day we must honor the steps of previous generations in their attempt to help shed light on the fundamental right we have to a healthy environment. Protecting our home starts within our own.

Although it may seem there is little we can do, in reality, we all are called to take steps to make our Earth inhabitable for ourselves and the generations to come. Social media and other platforms have allowed communities to be brought together and challenge the greatest obstacle humankind will face.

How Can I Help?

Local

https://dallastrees.org/?page_id=107

State

<https://www.texastrees.org/>

National

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/donations>



Horoscopes

By Kimberly
Mendoza



March 21 - April 19

Aries this month is your month! Make sure to focus on self-love and stand back for a little.



April 20 - May 20

Taurus: You may have the opportunity to grow closer to someone and care about your values.



May 21 - June 20



Gemini: Keep up the good work when it comes to your job or education and take breaks.

June 21 - July 22



Cancer make sure to care about yourself and you may be cautious when it comes to people.

July 23 - August 22



Leo: Put your thoughts into motion and watch as magical things begin to manifest before your eyes.

August 23 - September 22



Virgo look out for the truth around you and you may be rewarded with a great future.

September 23 - October 23



Libra: Things are bright when it comes to love and it's important to be patient.

October 23 - November 21



Scorpio expect a good opportunity when it comes to your workplace/ school or personal things.

November 23 - December 21



Sagittarius: Listen to your intuition so you can have a prosperous lead in life and there may be a potential partner from a distance.

December 22 - January 19



Capricorns: If something is bothering you it would be a good idea to talk about it with anyone you trust such as friends, family, or teachers.

January 20 - February 18



Aquarius: Make sure to talk or spend time with your friends and if you have a potential partner be patient with them.

February 19 - March 20



Pisces: Make sure to know what needs to be done and finish everything one at a time.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

The students below have displayed exemplary behavior and are being recognized by their teachers! Congratulations!



LUIS GUTIERREZ

9th grade student

"Luis is a great example of a student who has figured out what it means to be a Blazer. Over the past few weeks he has prioritized his studies and as a result is shining academically. He is a joy to be around but now that he is focused on his academics, there is nothing that can stop him." - Ms. Lewis

ELAINA HUMPHREY

10th grade student

"Elaina is quiet but consistent. She strives to do her best, taking every opportunity to further better herself and her knowledge of the information. She continually works diligently in class." -Mr. Heiple



DESTANY GARCIA

11th grade student

"Destany embodies all of the best qualities of a scholar. She is thoughtful, caring, and committed to seeing the big picture." -Mr. Stratman



The War in Ukraine

By Claire Spillman

On March 18th, 2022, according to The Guardian.com, Pope Francis condemned the “perverse abuse of power” showcased in Russia’s war in Ukraine and called for aid against the attack that has demolished Ukrainian’s “identity, history, and tradition.”

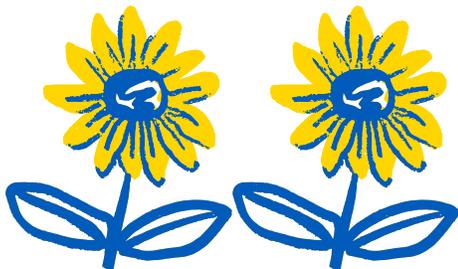
Vladimir Putin's desire to restore the USSR to it’s former glory is on full display in his violent takeover of the sovereign nation of Ukraine. Since Russia has launched this full-scale military attack there have been hundreds of civilian deaths and millions of Ukrainian refugees displaced from their homes. News story after news story highlights the horrors and war crimes committed against the people of Ukraine by the Russians. Bombings of civilian hospitals, orphanages, and apartments indicate Putin's desire to demoralize and crush Ukrainian identity. Ukrainian President, Volodymyr Zelensky is fearlessly leading his resilient nation in defending their home.

Along with the majority of the world, we condemn the atrocities of the war and hold in our hearts and prayers the people of Ukraine with the hopes that the nation survives and ultimately thrives. We have not seen such heinous behavior since World War II. Will it lead to World War III or will we find peace as His Holiness prays? According to President Biden and the NATO leaders of the world, we stand at the ready to defend democracy against tyranny and dictatorship. According to C-Span on February 24th, 2022 President Biden stated, “Putin is the aggressor. Putin chose this war. And now he and his country will bear the consequences.”

With so many Ukrainian refugees fleeing to neighboring countries, supplies are limited and in high need. Some local organizations are collecting donations for essentials to ship to countries taking in and caring for these refugees. If you would like to help or donate, their information can be found below.

Local Locations Collecting Supplies:

- Ukie Style Embroidery
- Ukrainian Cultural Club of Dallas



Items needed:

- Non-perishable food
- Thermal underwear
- Hygiene products (diapers, women's products, etc.)
- Blankets
- New bedding
- Table wear (disposable)
- First aid and first aid kits
- Tents, mattresses, sleeping bags
- Standalone lamps
- Candles
- Containers for liquids

KEEP THE MEMORIES!

ORDER YOUR

★ **2022** ★
YEARBOOK



ORDER HERE!



**NORTH LAKE EARLY
COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL**

Upcoming Events

April 2022

Below you can find dates for upcoming events, testing information, no school days and more.

- April 1: April Fool's Day
- April 2: STAAR Saturday School
- April 2: JWAC Leadership: Starting your own NGO
- April 5th: English I STAAR
- April 5th & 6th: Class Officer Meeting @ 3:50pm
- April 5th: NHS Info Session Meeting @ 6pm
- April 7th: English II STAAR
- April 8th: Algebra I Mock STAAR
- April 9: TSIA2 Testing
- April 12: Class Officer Applications due
- April 14: Meet The Class Officer Candidates
- April 15: NO SCHOOL - Good Friday
- April 16: AP Human Geography Test Prep Session
- April 16: JWAC Social & Service: Audubon
- April 17: Easter
- April 18: NO SCHOOL
- April 19: MAP Testing
- April 20: MAP Testing
- April 21: Mock STAAR Biology
- April 21: Class Officer Voting
- April 22: Yearbook Order Deadline
- April 22: Earth Day
- April 23: JWAC Leadership: Live & Work Abroad
- April 26: Mock STAAR US History
- April 29: NO SCHOOL
- April 30: STAAR Saturday School

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