

Enjoy Winter Break!



Falcon Flyer

Winter Break 2024

Published by the students of Stetson Middle School

Before heading into **Winter Break**, enjoy the **Falcon Flyer Mini Holiday Issue**. More winter stories to come in our full January publication.

Cocoa Cooking Class 101



Lily Hoang-Kluth | 7th

We're getting near the Winter Holiday time, and you know what that means? Hot cocoa, to warm us up from the cold weather outside! Let's get more into the Holiday spirit, with a hot cocoa recipe, and some



recommendations of what to put in it from the Cocoa Cooking Class!! •°. *☒



Homemade Cocoa - No **packets** needed!

Ingredients:

- 4 cups milk
 - ◆ ¼ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
 - ◆ ½ cup bittersweet or semisweet chocolate chips or chopped chocolate bar
- ¼ teaspoon pure vanilla extract



Recipe:

- Put any milk of your choice in a saucepan over medium-low heat. Using milk rather than water makes it creamier.
 - ◆ Whisk in cocoa powder and sugar, and heat until warm.
- Once the milk is warm, add chocolate chips, whisking until they melt into the milk.
 - ◆ Add a splash of vanilla extract.
- Serve immediately, with some various toppings on top, or add ons to make it extra flavourful.

Extras to put in your **hot Cocoa!**

Now that you've made some hot cocoa, you're going to want to put some extra garnishes in it to make it taste good, right? Or maybe just add some treats around the rim of the cup for aesthetic purposes! Here are some of my personal recommendations of what to do/put in your hot cocoa.



→ *Put some Nutella around the rim of the cup, and then put something hard on that! For example...*

- ◆ *Peanuts*
- ◆ *Crushed up candy canes*

→ *As the obvious, put some whipped cream on the top, with (optional) crushed up treats on top! Like...*

- ◆ *Chocolate*
- ◆ *Candy canes*

→ *Marshmallows*

- ◆ *If you don't have the small ones, just cut up a big one! Or you can just use the big ones*

→ *Various spices/extracts for extra flavor. (only add the extra extract if you didn't before while making it!) For example...*

- ◆ *Pumpkin spice*
- ◆ *Vanilla extract*
- ◆ *Cinnamon*
- ◆ *Nutmeg*
- ◆ *Almond extract*



Go Shopping for Your Friends and Family: A Holiday Gift Guide

By Vivian Archer and Grace Hierdahl, 7th grade

Have you ever had trouble finding gifts for people that they will love and use? Well you're in luck because this holiday gift guide is sure to give you some ideas.

1. Dae Social Butterfly Hairstyling Trio Value Set \$48



[Social Butterfly Hairstyling Trio Value Set - dae | Sephora](#)

2. Uggs: Tasmans \$110, Tazz \$130, Cozy Slippers \$120, Scuffette 2 Slippers \$95, or Classic Ultra Minis \$150



<https://www.ugg.com/>

3. [Summer Fridays Holiday Lip Butter Balm Set \\$49](#)



4. [Owala FreeSip® Water Bottle \\$27.99- 37.99](#)



[FreeSip® Water Bottle - Owala](#)

5. [Apple AirPods Max \\$549](#)



[Buy AirPods Max - Apple](#)

6. Candy



7. [Sony PS5 PlayStation®5 console \\$499.9](#)



8. **Of courseGIFT CARDS!!**

❄️ DIY Winter Decor Ideas ❄️

Written by Violet Galati and Maddy Crawford, 7th grade

Winter Wonderland Watercolor

A painting worthy of gifting for the holidays using minimal effort, time, and supplies!

You Need:

- White Paper (Preferably one that can be painted on\can get wet)
- Watercolor paint (Winter cool tones optional)
- Cup of water
- Paint brushes
- Salt
- White crayon
- Paper towel



To Begin: Start by setting up your station. Put some paper towels under your paper. Fill your cup with water, collect your brushes, get a small bowl of salt, and finally grab all your other tools: crayons, etc. **Next:** Use your crayon to draw as many snowflakes as you want on the paper. You will not be able to see it very well, try your best! Once the snowflake\’s are drawn, use your paints to make any color scheme you want! If the snowflake\’s were drawn correctly the paint will not cover them, don’t worry this is the point! **Last but not least:** wait at a Max of five minutes before grabbing your salt and sprinkle onto your painting. Once dry, the salt should have created crystal-like designs onto the paper. **ENJOY!**

Pine Cone Garland

A cute and simple decoration to hang anywhere!

You Need:

- Pinecones
- ribbon/string
- String or glue



To Begin: Get your ribbon or string and stretch it out on a flat surface. You may need to put heavy objects on both ends if it's curling up. **Next:** Grab your pinecones and glue or tie each one with string to the long ribbon/string, going down the line. **Last but not least:** After all of your pinecones are securely on and you're happy with how they look, tie bows at the ends and voila! You can hang it anywhere for a fall or winter decoration!

A little bit extra: If you really want to sell the winter feel, try painting the edges of the pinecones with white paint to look like snow! You can also pull apart cotton balls and glue them to the edges!

Simple Wreath Painting Or Card!



A 10 minute Card that is great for a simplest but thoughtful gift!

You Need:

- Paper (Cardstock preferred.)
 - Cotton Swabs RubberBand
 - Green paint
 - Fine point Paintbrush
- Paper Plate

To Begin: Set up your area. Use a rubber band to secure all of your cotton swabs together. Put your green paint on a separate plate from the red. **Next:** Dip the cotton swabs into the green paint, and then dab them in a circle in the center of the paper. **Last but not least:** Once the paint is dry, use the red paint to paint a fake bow, or just add red dots of "holly". **ENJOY!!**

Falcon Flyer Staff 2024-25

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Falcon Flyer meets on Wednesdays in Room B106, 3-4 p.m. New members are welcome. See Mrs. Claffey for more information.

Stetson's music program performed three concerts - Band, Chorus, and Orchestra - and filled the halls with music throughout December. Congratulations to all Falcon performers!

