STORM REPORT



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Best Season

By-Lewis

There are four seasons in a year: spring, summer, fall, and winter. Each season has things people enjoy, but they also have downsides. In my opinion, fall is the best season because of the cool weather, colorful leaves, and fun activities.

Spring is nice because flowers bloom, trees turn green, and the weather gets warmer. However, spring can be rainy and muddy, making it harder to enjoy the outdoors.

Summer is popular because school is out, the weather is warm, and people can go swimming, camping, and go on vacations. However, it can get extremely hot, and bugs can be annoying.

Fall is my favorite season because the weather is cooler, the leaves change colors, and there are fun activities. I enjoy wearing hoodies and celebrating Halloween by dressing up, trick-or-treating, and carving pumpkins. One downside is that the days get shorter as winter approaches.

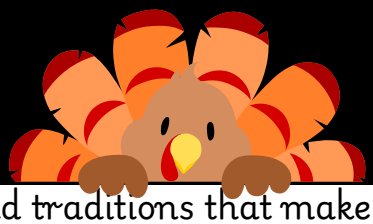
Winter is fun because people can go sledding and ice skating and build snowmen. The holidays and snow make winter special. However, the cold weather and icy roads can be dangerous, and spending time outside becomes harder.

In conclusion, every season has good and bad things. Spring has flowers, summer has vacations, and winter has snow and holidays. However, I think fall is the best because of its comfortable weather, beautiful leaves, and fun activities. Even though no season is perfect, fall is the one I enjoy the most.



Thanksgiving Traditions

By: Tristin Hill



Thanksgiving traditions: Everyone has their own favorite foods and traditions that make the holiday special. When asking people about their favorite Thanksgiving foods, family activities, and traditions, there were some fun answers! Mr. Awender said his favorite Thanksgiving food is mashed potatoes and gravy because, in his opinion, they are easily the best food on the buffet. Mrs. Gramlow said she looks forward to pumpkin pie with Cool Whip or sweet potatoes with marshmallows. Families also have different ways of making Thanksgiving fun.

Mr. Awender shared that his family always has a Farkle tournament, and one year he even won an ancient Roman coin from 200 A.D. as a prize! Mrs. Gramlow said her family likes to play games together, bringing new games each year and mixing them in with their old favorites. When it comes to favorite traditions, both agreed that spending time with family is the best part. Mr. Awender enjoys going to his grandpa and Grandma Awender's house because having a big family makes everything more fun and lively. Mrs. Gramlow's favorite tradition is simply getting together with her family and spending quality time with everyone. Even though everyone celebrates Thanksgiving a little differently, it is clear that the best part of the holiday is being with family, eating good food, having fun, and making memories together!

Thanksgiving Hot Takes



By: Jase Peters

With Thanksgiving around the corner, I thought it would be the perfect time to ask for Thanksgiving hot takes. Some people, for example, Mrs. Haafke doesn't even make any food for Thanksgiving! Instead of making a traditional food she "cooked a frozen pizza instead." She says that's because she is picky, and so are her children. But the biggest hot take about Thanksgiving is really, Turkey or Ham. I asked Officer Sitzler this question; without hesitation, he chose Turkey. When I asked why, he said, "I've never liked the texture of Ham."

Mr. Sell had a big take himself; he thinks the best day is after Thanksgiving. When I got his explanation, he had a great take. He said it's because his mom makes a vegetable dip spread and makes a sandwich with the leftovers. From experience, this is a super good take; this is one of the best things to do during Thanksgiving. Mr. Awender says he might not have a take, but he usually reaches for the pumpkin pie first. If there's none left, he is usually disappointed. This makes me curious; all my teachers and staff have their takes. Now I would like to hear some of yours, what are your Thanksgiving hot takes?

Black Friday

By: Lewis Nava



Black Friday is one of the biggest and most popular shopping days of the year. It happens every year on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Many people look forward to this day because stores offer huge sales, exclusive deals, and discounts on many assorted products. People shop for things like clothes, shoes, TVs, phones, computers, video games, toys, and many other items. Some people even wake up incredibly early in the morning or wait in long lines outside stores to get the best deals before everything sells out. Black Friday is known as a day when shoppers can find some of the lowest prices of the year.

One reason Black Friday is so popular is because people have the chance to save money. Many stores lower their prices by a lot, making expensive items more affordable. For example, someone who has been wanting a new TV or phone might wait until Black Friday to buy it for a lower price. Many families also use This day to start their Christmas shopping. Since Christmas can be an expensive holiday, Black Friday helps people buy gifts for their friends and family. without spending as much money. It can also help people find presents for everyone on their list while staying within their budget.

Even though Black Friday can be exciting and fun, it can also be stressful. Stores can become extremely crowded, and people sometimes must wait in long lines just to Pay for their items. Popular products may sell out quickly, which can disappoint shoppers who were hoping to buy them. Sometimes people even argue. over products because so many shoppers want the same thing. Another problem with

Black Friday is when people may spend more money than they planned. When Shoppers see so many discounts and advertisements, they might feel like they need to buy everything, even if they do not really need it. This is why it is It's important to make a shopping list and set a budget before going shopping. Over the years, Black Friday has changed quite a bit. In the past, most people went to physical stores to shop for deals. They would wake up early, drive to shopping malls, and wait outside stores until they opened. Today, many people prefer shopping online using their phones, tablets, or computers. Online shopping makes it easier to compare prices and find deals without having to leave home. People can also avoid crowded stores and long lines. Some stores even begin their Black Friday sales several days before Thanksgiving, and others continue their deals throughout the weekend. Cyber Monday has also become popular, giving people another opportunity to find discounts online.

From Decorations to Christmas Day

By: Dani Lee

The Christmas season is approaching, and for some, the holiday excitement has already begun. While some might argue it is too early to bring out the decorations or turn on the Christmas music, others know that the holiday spirit does not follow a calendar. I asked Emma Rodine how she gets into the holiday spirit and how she preps for the most wonderful time of year.

For many, decorating is one of the first signs that Christmas is on its way. Some families start decorating the day after Halloween; others wait until late November. Emma is one of the ones who waits. Whether people prefer a real or artificial tree, putting up decorations is a favorite part of the holiday season. For Emma, it's putting ornaments on the tree with Mom.

When it comes to the Christmas favorites, Emma has a few that stand out. Her favorite Christmas movies are The First Home Alone, and her favorite Christmas songs include "Rocking Around the Christmas Tree" and "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!" When it comes to holiday food, ham makes the top of her list. She also enjoys making snowmen, opening presents, and playing cards or board games with family.

Although she does not have any specific Christmas traditions, she still has plenty of memories and activities that make the season special. Her favorite part of the holiday is Christmas Eve. One gift she will never forget is her first phone she received. Emma states that she enjoys having her whole family come over to watch a movie together. If she could spend Christmas anywhere, it would be New York City or Paris.

No matter how many people celebrate or when they start decorating, the holiday season is about enjoying the little things and making memories with the people who matter most. When asked to describe her Christmas spirit in three words, Emma chose "family," "laughter," and "cozy." After all, there is no such thing as too much Christmas Spirit.

Looking Ahead: Boys and Girls Basketball

Author: Aliyah Friedt



Football and volleyball have come to an end, but that brings a new season: basketball. Last season, the boys won the district championship against Hankinson and ultimately ended their season in the first round of regionals. The girls' team, however, lost after double elimination in districts. This year, both teams are looking for a different end.

The girl's team had 3 girls graduate from last year's roster but still have an experienced team returning. Head coach Shaun Kourajian says the team has a good foundation and is looking forward to seeing returning players develop and take on new roles. The team's biggest strengths will be its chemistry, effort, and ability to compete. With smaller numbers, more players will have opportunities to help at both JV and varsity level. Senior Mallory Harris is looking forward to another season. "My favorite part is team bonding and when we win games." She is also excited for the home games.

On the boys' side, they have 11 returning seniors, bringing leadership and experience to the team. Head coach Jeremy Sitzler says defense and team depth will be important strengths this season. The team has to compete at a championship level while focusing on culture, toughness, defense, execution, and leadership. Senior Dylan Quandt is excited to see the team improve. "I'm excited to see us get better every day and see how good we can really be." His favorite part of being on the team is the road trips and food.

Both teams are looking forward to the season, with good goals, competitiveness, and team chemistry throughout the season.



The Favorite Christmas Movie

By: Matvei



Every year when Christmas rolls around, one of the biggest debates is which Christmas movie is best. Everyone has their favorites, whether it's a funny movie, an old classic, or something you watch yearly with your family. I decided to find out what our school thinks by putting together a poll and sharing the results.

Taking first place was Home Alone, with 24% of the votes! I would say Kevin McCallister won because of his silly but creative traps, capturing an all-time favorite. Coming in second was Elf, with 16% of the votes. Buddy's funny personality and love for Christmas must have won over quite a few people.

The Grinch movies came third with 13% of the votes. The rest included The Polar Express and The Christmas Chronicles, which both received 9%. The Nightmare Before Christmas got 8%, while National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation received 7%. The Santa Clause earned 6%, and Klaus and the other movies each received 3%. Lastly, A Boy Called Christmas and Arthur Christmas each received 1%.

From these results, it's interesting to see how different the choices are in Christmas movies that people enjoy. Some enjoy comedy like in Elf and Home Alone, while others may want to watch something chill and heartwarming like The Polar Express.

To top it off, Home Alone is our school's favorite Christmas movie. Even if your favorite didn't make first place, there's nothing wrong with sticking with your own holiday classic. After all, Christmas is the perfect holiday to grab some snacks, get comfortable, and watch your favorite festive movie!

Make-A-Wish

By: Danna

On October 30th, the Oakes community came together to make a little boy's dreams come true. Kelli Just works for the North Dakota Make-A-Wish, and she was this little boy's grantor. While he spent time at the Mayo Clinic, he always watched PAW Patrol. Kelli thought that since he liked it so much, he should watch it at the movie theater. Kelli knew how important his colony was, so she made sure they were able to go. Kelli started asking people if they had any more ideas, and she asked the right person! Vickie Kelly knew that the Oakes community would rally around this little boy, and she was able to help set up a day of fun. By the end of the planning, this little boy's day was going to be more than just a movie.

The day of, the little boy and his colony got on a bus that brought them to Oakes Public School. The Honor Society and Student Council had made a huge Halloween-themed carnival. I asked Student Council advisor Mrs. Meirotto about the activities that took place there, and she responded, "Our members worked in groups of 3-4 to find ideas for Halloween games/activities." They worked together to make Hot Wheels Racing, Plinko, Spider Racing, Dinosaur-Themed Beanbag Toss, Tetris Tumble XL, and Halloween bowling. They also brought Marshall from PAW Patrol and Bluey.

After all those exciting activities, they got to relax a little in the PAW Patrol movie. Choice Financial and LaMoure Hardware were generous enough to donate to the movie theater to give the kids popcorn and candy. Just to show how much this meant to them, the little girl had said she never thought she would be at the movie theater with all her friends watching PAW Patrol. After the movie ended, the staff gave the little boy a PAW Patrol poster.

But they still weren't done. The Oakes business decided to make the boy's day better. They all handed out candy to the kids. Next stop was to visit the elementary school and participate in Halloween Parties. The Elementary students welcomed the group with their costumes to allow them to experience the excitement of Halloween.

MAKE-A-WISH CONTINUED...

After that, they went to the hospital, where they had decorated it to look like PAW Patrol. Then, when they were leaving, the fire department escorted them throughout town with the lights and sirens on. Then, when they thought it was over, Dakota Improvement made sure he was able to see all his favorite things. He was filled with joy when seeing these big excavators.

To finish out the amazing day, Tate Jacobson gave the little boy and his family a ride in a limo. That day, the Oakes Community came together and gave that little boy the best day of his life.

This did not just make an impact on his life, Kayla Meierotto said, "I think this experience gave our students an incredible opportunity. Experiences like this put things into perspective and remind us just how fortunate and blessed we are." Swaye Jackson also said, "It's so easy to change someone's life. Being a kind and compassionate person is so easy, and I hope I can keep doing meaningful things like this."

October 30th is when that little boy's wish came true. It all came together with the help of the Oakes Community, some LaMoure businesses, Kelii Just, and Tate Jacobson. They all came together to give that little boy a day to remember.








Senior Spotlight

By: Mrs. Haafke



If you've watched this senior throughout her high school years, you've probably seen her doing one of three things: playing a sport, traveling to a competition, or making memories with her friends. She has certainly made the most of her time in high school, and there has never been a shortage of things keeping her busy!

Sports have been a huge part of her life. since elementary school. With older sisters and cousins who played, she grew up going to volleyball games and playing sports outside, so it was only natural that volleyball and basketball became a big part of her own high school experience.

But her high school résumé goes far beyond the gym. She joined DECA as a freshman and eventually made it to nationals, traveling to Florida and Atlanta along the way. She joined HOSA as a sophomore and qualified for nationals both in her sophomore and junior years. Her recommendation to future students is simple: join DECA and HOSA. You learn a lot, make great memories, and get a free trip with your friends out of it. Honestly, that is a pretty convincing sales pitch.

Some of her favorite high school memories come from her sophomore year, which is the year she would choose to freeze in time if she could. A big part of making those years memorable has been her cousin and best friend, Lexi, who she says made high school better simply by being there.

Senior. Spotlight. Continued...

While she'll miss plenty of things about high school, she has a very realistic idea of what she is actually going to miss most. It's not the homework, tests, or early mornings. It's not having to buy her own groceries or pay her own rent. She'll also miss coming home to a delicious meal made by her mom or dad. Apparently, adulthood is just high school without the homework, but with bills and grocery shopping. Seems like a questionable upgrade.

Her school opinions are also worth remembering. Her controversial take is that students shouldn't have to come to class on workdays when they aren't actually learning anything from the teacher. And if the teacher is gone? In her opinion, you should probably be allowed to be gone, too. She may have missed her calling as a school policymaker.

If her high school experience had a soundtrack, her walk-up song would be the Pitch Perfect 2 riff-off. If she could have dinner with anyone, living or dead, she would choose Jesus. And if she could freeze one moment from high school, she'd go right back to sophomore year.

As she gets ready for what comes next, her advice to underclassmen is short and sweet: "Live in the present." It's advice that fits her high school experience well. Between sports, competitions, trips, friendships, and everything in between, she has made the most of her time at OHS.
As for the Class of 2027, she hopes they will be remembered as a class that was hardworking, always down for a challenge, but still knew how to have a good time.

And as she heads into her next chapter, she'll take plenty of memories with her. She'll just have to remember that from now on, the free DECA and HOSA trips might be replaced by something a little less exciting.

Job Shadowing
By: Bode Andersen



Job shadowing at Oakes School is a way for students to learn what job they want to do after school and see what a real job is like.

Mallory Harris is job shadowing at Cooter Dental on Tuesdays and Thursdays. From their experience, they have learned they do not want to be a dental hygienist. Mallory also does job shadowing at a daycare on Mondays and Wednesdays, and a plus from job shadowing at the daycare is that Mallory gets paid to do it. "I like job shadowing because I would rather work or learn what I want to do or don't want to do than do a random class that won't benefit me." Mallory also enjoys job shadowing because she meets new people; meeting new people also helps her decide what career she wants to go into.

Addie Umbreit's job shadows for Mrs. Gebhardt's first-grade class. Addie helps the students with reading, math, and other learning activities. Addie does enjoy working with the kids and seeing them learn. She chose this job because she wanted to see if she would like to be a teacher in the future. Addie has also learned that every student thinks differently. And that it is very interesting to see how each student has their own ways of doing things. Also, Addie has not had any bad experiences while job shadowing and would not rather take another class.

Another student, Swaye Jackson, has been job shadowing Mr. Schneider's algebra class. She has been helping print papers and work with other students and teaching some lessons to the class; so far, the lessons have gone very well. Swaye enjoys job shadowing; she plans to go to school for a secondary math education. "This is the career I'm pursuing." Swaye also needs the hours from job shadowing for her introduction to education class. Swaye has learned. "Classroom management strategies, what to look for in the students when teaching new content, and how to help students get to the answer without doing the problem for them."

Job shadowing is a good way for students to meet people and learn at different jobs. They may also find a career. I think job shadowing is better than another class that will do nothing for me in the future. This allows students to make better career choices; that way, they can decide what they want to do if they don't like their first option of a career.

Student Advisory Council

By: Jase Peters



A new council at OHS has been created, and I would love to tell you all about it! The person who kicked this off is a former teacher of OPS, Kathryn Warren. She got this idea from a "Visible Learning" workshop. But it was not just Mrs. Warren who put this together; her friend Lori Phillips, a "Personalized Learning Guru," was also instrumental to the council. The main goal of this council, in Mrs. Warren's words, is to have a voice by collaborating, sharing ideas, and shaping learning experiences together.

All the students on the council are from different grades, one from each grade from 4th to 11th. At each meeting, they work together to try to produce ways to help teachers and help the students. This is also a way for teachers to get a closer look at a student's perspective to try and shape learning for them. Kathryn also said that "my hope is that the group is able to stick to their commitments and collaborate to create an even better educational experience for all OPS learners and instructors." This is the first year of the Student Advisory Council, so they are just planting seeds right now. With, hopefully, more years of this council to come, who knows how big a difference it can make? Only time can tell for sure, so let's see it, Student Advisory Council!



