



The Viking Voice



Volume no. 2 Issue no. 3

12/21/16

Christmas Cultures

By: Bianca Rojas

There are many different countries that have Christmas cultures, like Mexico, Finland, Norway, Germany, England, France, and Italy. Each country has different practices for Christmas. Mexico celebrates Christmas December 12th to January 6th. Finland celebrates Christmas for 20 days. In Norway, on their first Sunday for Christmas, the first candle is lit. Germany celebrates Christmas on the same day as the United States, which is known to be the last day of the Advent. In England, they celebrate it on December 25th. In France they do it on December 6th. Italy Celebrates Christmas from December 24th to January



6th!

A yule log cake

(French cuisine). Photo credit: Wikipedia

Hanukkah History

By: McKenzie Stacy

What comes to your mind when you hear the name Hanukkah? You might think of a menorah or a dreidel. But unless you're Jewish or just know a lot about the holiday, then you probably don't know the history behind it.

Near 200 B.C, the Jews were being ruled by Egypt; at this time they were able to worship and celebrate what and who they wanted. Unfortunately, in 175 B.C. Antiochus the fourth and his army invaded Egypt and took over the throne. He forbade the Jews to celebrate Hanukkah and they were forced to worship Greek gods such as Zeus, or they were put to death.

In 168 B.C., Antiochus took over the Jewish holy temple and turned it into a dedication to Zeus.

The reason there's a menorah is to represent the 8 nights the menorah burned with only enough oil to last one night. The dreidel is believed to have been started while Antiochus was ruling. Jews secretly came together to study the Torah, the first five books of the Holy Bible. With the dreidel there, they could pretend to be gambling if soldiers came.

While not very big on gifts, sometimes they would give them to one another on one or eight nights of Hanukkah.

Hanukkah is a great holiday and a remembrance of the day the Jews triumphed against Antiochus and his cruelty.



Photo credit: <http://belmontonian.com>

History Events That Happened In December

By: Kade Baca

Dec 23, 1954 The first successful human kidney transplant is performed by Dr. Joseph E. Murray.

Dec 1, 1885 The soft drink Dr. Pepper is served for the first time.

Dec 5, 1955 Martin Luther King, Jr. leads the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Dec 5, 1492 Christopher Columbus becomes the first European to set foot on the island of Hispaniola.

Dec 14, 1542 Princess Mary Stuart becomes Queen Mary I of Scotland at the age of only six days old.

Dec 31, 1991 The Soviet Union is officially dissolved.

Dec 11, 1941 Germany and Italy declare war on the United States.

Word Power!

incredulous [in ˈkredjələs] adjective

unwilling or unable to believe something: *an incredulous gasp.*

The History of Christmas

By: Bianca Rojas

Christmas is a holiday in which the birth of Jesus Christ is recognized. In the Christian religion, Jesus is the savior of the world. Christmas is also a holiday in which people all over the world give each other presents and gifts. Families go on a plane, visit family, and give each other presents and gifts. They do this as a gesture of love and charity for each other.



Photo Credit:www.exposureguide.com(source)

There are carolers to go to your door on Christmas day and sing to you to keep that holiday spirit! Christmas is right around the corner! Everyone is excited for this holiday! I hope that everyone has a Happy, Jolly, and most of all...a fun Holidays!

Feliz Navidad!

[Merry Christmas in Spanish language]

Celebrity Birthdays in December

By: Bianca Rojas

1. James Wilson (Soccer player)
2. Charlie Puth (Pop Singer)
3. Alicia Sacramone (Gymnast)
4. Sofia Pashow (Gymnast)
5. Diego Velazquez (TV Actor)
6. Debbie Rowe (Family Member)
7. Raheem Sterling (Soccer Player)
8. Judi Dench (Movie Actress)
9. Talin Galloway (Cheerleader)
10. Xime Ponch (Youtube Star)
11. Alfred Morris (Football Player)
12. Taylor Swift (Pop Singer)
13. Michael Murphy (TV Actor)
14. Erika Tham (TV Actor)



Photo credit: moviefone.com

Assassin's Creed to Open December 21st

By: Kade Baca

Through a revolutionary technology that unlocks his genetic memories, Callum Lynch (Michael Fassbender) experiences the adventures of his ancestor, Aguilar, in 15th Century Spain. Callum discovers he is descended from a mysterious secret society, the Assassins, and amasses incredible knowledge and skills to take on the oppressive and powerful Templar organization in the present day.

Cast: Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard, Jeremy Irons, Brendan Gleeson, Michael K. Williams, Ariane Labed, Callum Turner.

Director: Justin Kurzel
Genres: Action, Adventure
Distributor: 20th Century Fox

(from moviefone.com.)

What are McKinley Students wishing for/looking forward to for Christmas?

By: Bianca Rojas & Kade Baca

Everybody is excited for Christmas! So we asked 6th grade students what they want or what are they hoping for or looking forward to this Christmas.

1. **Lily Reading**-Time with my family.
2. **Carlos Martier**-No school!
3. **Demetrius Walker**-Eating with my family.
4. **Jay Derouin**-Going to San Diego.
5. **Tionne Williams**-A school christmas party.
6. **Anonymous**-Opening my presents and going to other places.
7. **Alexis Guerrero**-Opening my presents and spending time with my family members.
8. **Ethan Matson**-Christmas break!
9. **Anonymous**-Nothing.
10. **Sir Charles Monroe**-iPhone 6s plus, time with my family, Wii U.
11. **Osiris Flores**-Having a good time with my family, and opening my presents.
12. **Aiden Durham**-Hanging out with my family.
13. **Michael Bonn**-Food.
14. **Dontae Jones**-An iPhone 6s, and my family.
15. **Steve Ivory**-Gas, and a motorcycle.
16. **Mya Lowery**-Some new basketball shoes.
17. **Tazhaya Riddle**-Candy.

18. **Nicolas Segura**-Some new games.
19. **Alexandra Pedretti**-iPhone7, stuffed animals, chocolate, and money.
20. **Kimberlee Davalos**-A black horse with a saddle.
21. **Dustin Wilson**-Some chocolate.
22. **Tatiana Thomas**-A new phone, and a dog.
23. **Kassona Gentry**-A lot of candy, and an Iphone 7.
24. **Kyle Ketterhagen**-A laptop, or an Xbox.
25. **Anonymous**-A puppy.
26. **Majaya Ochoa**-That my brothers and my dad have a good Christmas even though I'm not going to be there.



Photocredit: Lettcraft.org

We also asked some 7th graders what they were looking forward to for Christmas.

1. **Bobby Wienke**-“I'm happy to see my family for Christmas.”
2. **Anthony McGuff**-“I want a good digital camera to join news club with.”
3. **Alex Fraid says**-“I am excited to get away from school.”
4. **Taylor Kaplan**-“I cannot wait to see my nieces.”
5. **David Bruno**-“I think presents are the best thing.”



Photo credit: activityvillage.co.uk

Ways to Wish Someone a Happy Holidays in Different Languages

By: Bianca Rojas & Kade Baca

German, Merry Christmas:

Fröhliche Weihnachten

Pronunciation: fro lickey vine naughten

Russian, Happy hanukkah:

с х а н у к о й

Pronunciation: scrono key

Japanese, Happy St. Stephen's

day: **シュテファン日幸せ**

Pronunciation: shtefaun be shi havas day

French, Happy New Year: **Bonne Année**

Pronunciation: bone onnay

Italian, Happy Holidays: **Buone Vacanze**

Pronunciation: boine ava cansay

Spanish, Jingle Bells: **cascabeles**

Pronunciation: kaskabellays



Photo credit: christmas.cheerclassics.com

Christmas Word Jumble

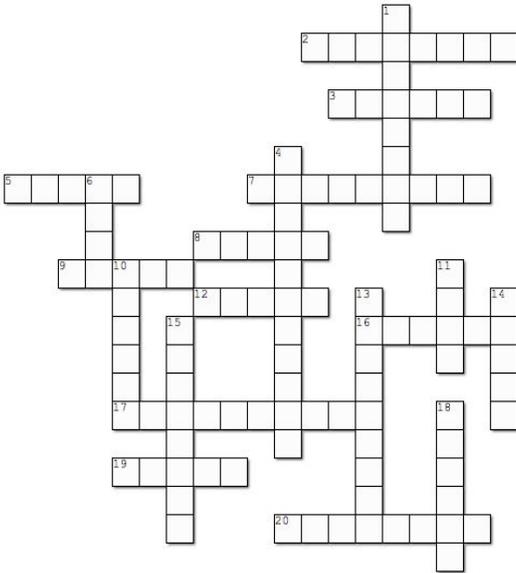
Unscramble the letters to make a holiday word.

1. icsrsmhat _____
2. lyhlo _____
3. lyjol _____
4. yaphp ahilysdo _____
5. crmihssat rete _____
6. Sirk eglindr _____

7. setepsnr _____
8. tasna _____
9. Itsein _____
10. nklewfaso _____
11. mtoanerns _____
12. isktioncgs _____

Holiday Crossword

Complete the crossword below



Across

2. '_____ greetings.'
3. '_____ bells, _____ bells, _____ all the way.'
5. This holiday figure is fat and jolly.
7. You are supposed to give a loved one a kiss if under this plant.
8. You can listen these on the radio for Christmas cheer.
9. '_____ Navidad.'
12. 'We wish you a _____ Christmas'
16. What Santa says often when delivering presents.
17. You try to catch these on your tongue.
19. You feel this when you receive a gift.
20. You open these up on Christmas morning.

Down

1. These flying animals help Santa get around.
4. You make a house of this and then eat it!
6. You get this for putting on lights and for putting presents underneath it.
10. You put these around to make things brighter.
11. White and fluffy, for playing around in outside
13. This holiday is on December 25th.
14. Another word for 'cheerful' or 'happy.'
15. They come at your door and sing for you.
18. You hang this on your door for decoration.

Holiday word Search

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F E A G S T N E M A N R O M Z
A C T I C P P S S E E Z E T C
M A N N S F R T E E E O J H J
I L A G P R F E D S T R R S O
L P S E S I E N S E U I T L L
Y E F R G G I L L E S O L E L
E R E B L E N T O T N I H D Y
V I E R R S S I M R G T D D T
E F R E X I N A K H A O S I I
J L K A M M S O T C O C I N V
Q Q F D G C I S W F O L N G I
S N O W F L A K E M O T L F T
Y Y G N I P P O H S A X S Y A
R U D O L P H X R E T N I W N
F R O S O S L L E B C O C O A
    
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BELLS
COCOA
FAMILY
GIFTS
HOUSES
MISTLETOE
PRESENTS
RUDOLPH
SLEDDING
SNOWMAN
WINTER

CAROLERS
ELF
FIREPLACE
GINGERBREAD
JOLLY
'ACTIVITY'
REEF
SANTA
SNOW
STOCKINGS

CHRISTMAS
EVE
FOOD
HOLLY
LIGHTS
ORNAMENTS
REINDEER
SHOPPING
SNOWFLAKE
TREE

*Happy Holidays from your McKinley Middle School
Viking Voice Newspaper staff!*

