

Paw Prints

December 2018



Harrington
Middle School



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Mrs. Poulton-advisor



NJHS Food Drive

The Food Bank of South Jersey provides food to people in need throughout Southern New Jersey. This year, Harrington's National Junior Honor Society organized a food drive to help fill the shelves of the food bank.

Social Studies teachers collected canned and non-perishable food items for their house. Phoenix collected 70 items. Oasis collected 136 items. Zephyr collected 140 items and CSI collected 70 items. 267 items were collected by Everest house.

Since Everest collected the most items, members of the Everest house were treated to a special guest. A turkey (Ms. Martin) traipsed through the halls gobbling holiday wishes. Thank you to all who participated!

FUN WINTER TRADITIONS

BY Ilana S.

Winter break is a time that many of us look forward to. Whether it be an activity or tradition, we all have things that we like to do during our break. I asked a few people their favorite winter activities, and here are some of their responses:

Brandon L: My favorite winter tradition is going on a cruise almost every year around my birthday in December. This is fun and great to see other cultures other than my own.

Alyson G: I live in a place where when it snows they push all the snow into a huge pile in the island part. I enjoy the annual snow fort contest. I have never won but I am hoping to win this year.

Samantha D: My favorite winter traditions for break would have to be the day with no rules. While on break my family decided to do a day where the kids in our household can do whatever they want for a day without any consequences. I think that the funniest thing to happen is my brother getting stuck with his head between two poles and with whipped cream all over him.

Madison S: When it does snow, I find it fun to shovel the driveways and clean the snow off my parent's car. Also, traveling down to North Carolina to see my relatives.

Abigail O: My favorite winter tradition is to make all different kinds of christmas cookies with my cousins.

Emily M: Over Winter Break, I go to my dad's house in Illinois. I always fly to Illinois by myself the day after Christmas and fly back on New Years Day or the day after. I really like going to visit my dad because I don't see him very often and I like flying by myself. I've met a lot of nice adults and kids over the years which makes it nice to fly alone.

Joie J: My family and I don't really have any winter traditions. I guess one of my own traditions is that I have my dad pull out the christmas tree from our basement, and then I put it up all by myself. Another one of my own traditions is waking up early and scoping out the scene to see how many presents there are, before sneaking back upstairs, to "fall asleep." I guess you could say that our family wakes up kind of early to open presents, and then drive down to Virginia or somewhere to visit family.

Have a great winter break everyone!

Teacher Twist W/Nadia B.

Welcome to Teacher Twist with me, Nadia B! I am going back to interviewing more teachers, and there is one brand new one I am very excited to question, Mrs. Gillen!

Q: First of all, where did you go to college?

A: I went to Kean University which is located in Union, NJ. I graduated in the year 2013.

Q: What is a holiday tradition you do with your family/friends every year?

A: We usually get up nice and early for Christmas and I am in charge of basically being the elf at Christmas, so I hand out all of the presents. I also fill the stockings and make a giant christmas breakfast as we watch the Disney parade.

Q: What is your favorite thing about Harrington?

A: My favorite thing about Harrington is my roommate, Mrs. Carosiello and my team Phoenix. Both my team and Mrs. Carosiello have helped made my transition to Harrington wonderful. Any questions I have, they always help to answer them.

Q: What is a hobby that you have?

A: Cooking is one of my hobbies and I also enjoy scrapbooking and reading. I also enjoy taking my 2 dogs hiking.

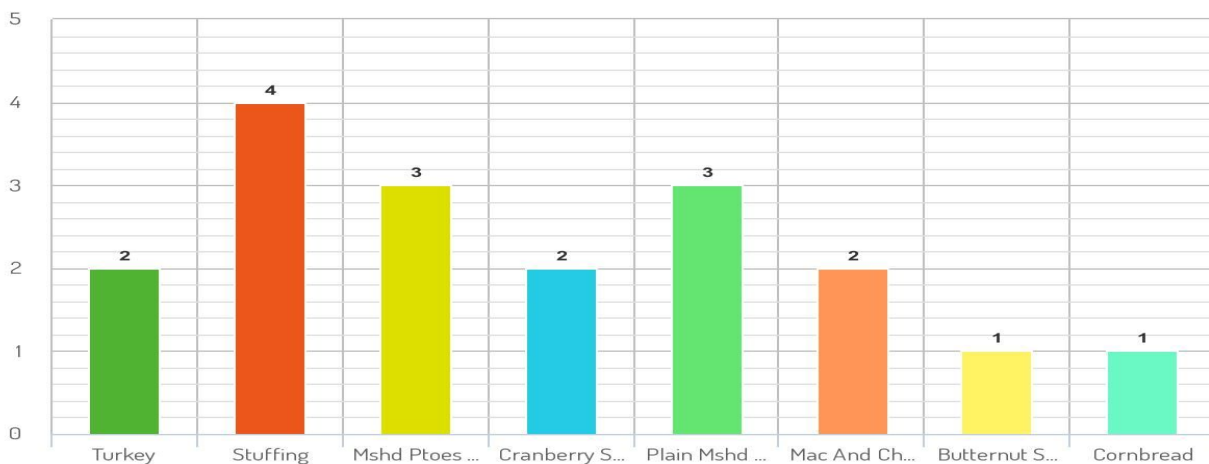
Q: What is your favorite food?

A: My favorite food is chicken parm.

Q: Finally, what do you like best about your overall classes and what you teach?

A: I love the subject I teach, that's number one. I also love being able to share literature and stories with my students and helping them succeed and grow. Finally, I enjoy helping students learn to love reading as well as improve their writing.

Holiday Food Favs
By Lucas





How to Get the Gifts you Want

By Emily F.

December means one thing in the mind of many children, gifts! When you get a chance like this to get gifts you need to use it to your full advantage. Here are some tips on getting the most out of this gift season:

1. Give your list out before Black Friday so relatives will be more likely to get more things since they have to spend less money on each item. However, since you are reading this now you probably did not follow this tip. Maybe next year?
2. Don't make your list too large. When you make your list large you are basically telling people you're okay with anything. Don't be a gift hog!
3. Mention the item you want in casual conversation. Example: "They have a sale on bikes."
4. Be nice to your family; they will remember this when they look at your list.
5. Ask for cash if you aren't sure your family will give you what you want.
6. Leave hints around the house. You can leave an ad for the item you want somewhere in the house.
7. Improve your grades. This one is like number 4 because it's about how parents will get you more gifts when you are good.
8. Get your parent a gift.
9. Think about which gifts you really want.

Hope all your holiday dreams come true. And if you don't get what you want remember you always have your birthday. Have a Happy Hanukkah, a captivating Christmas, a cool Kwanzaa, a blissful Boxing Day, an optimistic Ōmisoka, a stupendous St. Nicholas Day, a fun Festivus, and a Nice New Year. (Plus any other December celebrations)

Memorable Gifts for the Holidays

Sera S. & Kyla L.

- An at home spa day- Face masks, body lotion, body/facial scrub, nail polish and more could be the perfect gift for any female relative or friend
- Picture book- print out any nice pictures of you and the person you're giving the gift too, and you can put them in a photo album. This gift would be perfect for anyone who means a lot to you.
- Little holiday treats- Gingerbread, candy canes, cookies, a box of hot chocolate packets or any other treat would make anyone very happy. It's an easy thing to get, and you could put all the snacks in a cute, decorated basket
- Jewelry- you could get someone a piece of jewelry such as a ring, necklace or bracelet that you think would mean a lot to them. Even a jewelry holder would be very helpful and a nice gift.
- PJs- Fuzzy PJs, blankets or socks are a very festive and comfortable gift that most everyone would want.
- Candles- There are many kinds of candles you can get that fit with any mood. There are candles for Hanukkah, Christmas, Winter, Fall and so many more. It's a nice decoration to a room and makes people happy
- Hats, Scarfs and gloves- these will be the perfect thing to give somebody, especially with the cold snow days coming up. They are very inexpensive and a simple gift.
- Succulents- These are a cute and decorative gift, and they look like plants while you don't even have to take care of them.

Overall, all of these gifts would be perfect ideas for any gift. Happy Holidays!

Holiday Movies You Don't Want to Miss

By Emily F.

Winter is filled with excitement. Here are some movies to watch this winter.

A Christmas Story

A story of a young boy who really wants a BB gun for Christmas. This movie is so popular it play 24 hours straight every Christmas. This movie is one of the ones people think of when they think about Christmas.

A Charlie Brown Christmas

This movie is a definite classic. It's about finding the true meaning of Christmas and how Christmas isn't about the presents, decorations or the tree.

The Polar Express

In this story our protagonist is a boy who doesn't believe in Christmas. He gets on the Polar Express to get to the North Pole. This movie also has an amazing song about hot chocolate.

It's A Wonderful Life 91 percent of Google Users who voted said they like this movie. It's a timeless classic (of course, if it wasn't a classic it wouldn't be on the list). George Bailey dreams to do amazing things but he is stuck in his small town with the responsibility of a family. When George's uncle misplaces money George is panicked that he will lose his home. (duh duh duhhhhhh!)

Home Alone

Even though this story could take place at any time of year it takes place during Christmas, making it a classic for many. Kevin's family forgets him on vacation. Kevin McCallister is pleased and decides to have fun by himself. However, burglars attempt to break in to the McCallister home so Kevin must outsmart the criminals.

Home Alone 2: Lost In New York

This movie's plot is similar to the first. However, in this story Kevin makes it to the airport with his family. He gets on the wrong flight and ends up in New York. The bandits who tried to outsmart him have escaped and they want revenge. Kevin needs to outsmart bandits, hotel workers, and more in this sequel.

Christmas Vacation

When family comes over for the holidays there is instant chaos. This story features the most hectic, crazy and frantic holiday season.

How The Grinch Stole Christmas

A short and sweet 26 minute video about how The Grinch stole Christmas.

The Santa Clause

A man accidentally kills Santa Claus and must avoid the authorities and other obstacles once he becomes Santa Claus.

Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer

A stop motion film about Rudolph, who doesn't fit in with the other reindeer, and Herbie, an elf who doesn't want to make toys. Rudolph and Herbie want to leave because they don't fit in and they want to find somewhere they belong.

Frosty The Snowman

With the help of a magic hat Frosty comes to life but must get to the North Pole before he melts.

It's a Joke, Folks!

Gifts for those hard to please Kids

By Anthony D.

If you're still holidayshopping and looking for the perfect gift for that kid who has everything, here are some clever ideas.

- ❖ A science kit that is so cool it should be banned in more than just 27 states
- ❖ A doll so realistic it may really be alive
- ❖ [Me_e_t.../you_r_C_h...j...d's/f...i-r...s...tE...ld:...er_Go...d](#)
- ❖ Your child's first ouija will introduce them to all of the diverse ghosts you can find
- ❖ The laser tag that now comes with a 2 petawatt energy capacitor
- ❖ The little pyromaniac's kit... great for all aspiring arson convicts

*Just joking, peeps! Have a Happy Holiday!

Holiday Fun

By Sophie S.

People ban together
To celebrate the holidays
That they all love.

They discover new friends
And old ones alike
During this time of year.

Fun is plentiful
With presents for everyone
And happiness as well.

The food is delicious
There is enough
For everyone.

Seconds are taken
People are full
Everyone is peaceful.

Then a year is waited
For this time to come
Once again.



Kylie's Kooking Korner

By Kylie T.

Hello and welcome back to Kylie's Kooking Korner! Today I have some delicious holiday gift ideas for you. These ideas are cheap easy and the perfect holiday gift.

Homemade Hot Chocolate Mix in a Mason Jar

Ingredients

6 tbsp powdered creamer
6 tbsppowdered milk
6 tbsp powdered sugar
3 tbsp cocoa powder
2 tbsp milk chocolate chips
2 tbsp candy canes, chopped into small pieces
½ cup mini marshmallows

Instructions

Layer the powdered creamer, powdered milk, powdered sugar and cocoa powder in the bottom of a pint wide-mouth mason jar. Then add the chocolate chips and candy canes and place the mini marshmallows on top to fill the rest of the jar. Add a lid and attach a nice little note.

When ready to use, remove the marshmallows from the top of the jar and mix the remaining ingredients together. Add ½ cup of the mix to 1 cup of boiling water in a mug and stir until completely combined. Top with marshmallows and enjoy

Coffeehouse Chocolate Spoons

¾ cups semi-sweet chocolate chip
20 -24 plastic spoons
¾ cups white chocolate

Instructions

In a saucepan heat semisweet chocolate chips over low heat, stirring constantly until the chocolate begins to melt. Immediately remove from heat and stir until smooth. Dip half of the spoons into the chocolate, tapping handle of each spoon against side of pan to remove excess chocolate.

Place spoons on waxed paper; refrigerate for 30 minutes In the same saucepan heat white chocolate over low heat, stirring constantly until baking bar begins to melt. Immediately remove from heat; stir until smooth. Dip remaining spoons. Refrigerate for 30 minutes

Place the remaining melted white chocolate in a small,plastic bag. Using scissors, make a small opening at one corner of the bag; drizzle one side of each of the semi-sweet chocolate spoons. Drizzle remaining melted semi-sweet chocolate on white chocolate spoons.

Refrigerate spoons for 30 minutes.

To Present This As a Gift: You will need matching teacup and saucer, cellophane bags, and ribbon. Wrap bags around spoons and secure with ribbon. Present in coffee cup

An Epic Minecraft Christmas Story

By Bow Gang

Epic Minecrafter George-Steve is my name, and I am going to complete my mission of destroying the joy of Christmas. You can call me George for short, and I hate Christmas. Christmas is what I despise with all my heart. The night before Christmas all through the town was a family filled with happiness all around. I could not stand the families celebrating with joy. Needing a plan with little time left, I thought and thought. Coming to the conclusion, *why not just grief their house*. I had to come up with a plan which was the problem. Luckily, I knew just what to do, at 11:30 pm I will go to Stampy's lovely house to destroy it!

Poof! A magic creeper has appeared!

"Hello George, I'm Jake the magic creeper!" he said in creepy voice. "Let me show you a time when you enjoyed christmas."

"Ok." I said in disbelief.

I walked outside. A portal showed up with a green tint to the center. I walk towards it. *Whoosh!* Getting sked into a portal is not what you would think it's like. I ended up in a moment of my 7th Christmas. I used to love Christmas. I remesawmbered everything, I got a name tag which was the best gift, *ever*. I was finally going to name my dog. I chose him Samuel, I called him Sam. Sam was a normal minecraft dog. With the exception of his peacefullness. I was so happy back then, now I am just a Christmas badboy. Santa would never bring me presents now! I have to change... starting NOW!

"Take me back Jake the magic creeper! Please!"

"Fine with me George, " Jake the magic creeper said.

SHAZAM!

"I'm back and all in one piece. Thanks Jake"

"No problem now go save christmas."

"You can count on me Jake!"

I am going to give everyone diamonds now. I ran from my house all the way to Stampy's lovely house and tossed him some diamonds. I am going to give everyone diamonds I have plenty of them to give to everyone. I went to everyones door and I put ten diamonds in each mailbox. That morning eveyone woke up and was so excited to see that they had ten diamonds in their mailbox.

"Have a blocky Christmas everyone!" I screamed.

SECRET SANTA: HOW TO!

By: Kennedy D and Caitlyn S

Step 1:

You need to find a group of four or more.

Step 2:

Talk to them, and arrange a date to pick names for the santas.

Step 3:

On the date chosen, write all names including yourself, on separate small pieces of paper. Have each person pick a name. On a rare occurrence, you will pick yourself. If that happens, pick again.

Step 4:

Get a gift for the person, depending on their interest, and personality.

Step 5:

Figure out an exchange day. On that day, you exchange the gifts to the person of the name you chose. It is recommended to place just a label with their name anonymously on the table, and then have everyone look to see where their gift is.

Step 6:

After everyone has opened their gifts, have everyone reveal who they were santa to.

I HOPE YOU ALL HAVE GOOD HOLIDAYS!!

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An original short story
By Ivy M.

One rainy day my mom carried me in her hands and looked at me below her chest. She had beautiful eyes like the calmly pale waves that settle in the sea traveling a long distance upon the blue sky. Her skin was the soft touch of decent fur covering you up like warm comfort. Her arms were wrapped around me tightly making sure she wouldn't let go,

"There, there." she said softly "I'll take good care of you". The rain started to pour rapidly making the drizzle go hard. Her footsteps were leading towards the porch as she evacuated from the car. The car appeared to be the only vehicle in the parking lot, and she headed towards the entrance and began to open the door with the third key unlocking the door.

The house was dry and bland making it look like a mansion, but smaller; especially the curtains that had seemed to be floating from the wind having the breeze swish. Her footsteps had crawled throughout the hallway leading upstairs to her bedroom. She gently placed my body onto the crib like she was giving me comfort covering me with a blanket made out of silk. After she had given me resurrance, she slowly assembled from the room to make sure that I wasn't looking. Her frame was unstable and weak like the daze winter, (Swish, Swoosh), her body went.

Day after day she was tired from all the work she had done, so instead she rested upon the couch with her one arm covering her front face and the other draping onto the ground. The house was empty and quiet with no sudden noises. The night came by within hours and minutes still quiet and bland with no sudden noises. When suddenly, Bang Bang. The sound came from the door and my mom woke up from her sleep with a look of l slight of confusion on her face. She slowly lifterd her body from the couch and began to head out to the front door.

"Hello?" She asked reassuringly with her eyes looking despondent. No one had answered and appeared to be around the corner of the house. No one had responded. Her body hesitated and she proceeded outside into the darkness with her head turning both left and right. It was too dark and nerve-racking for her. Crunch, crunch came the sound of footsteps.

"Hello?" she asked again simply making her head had turn for any signal. Suddenly a mysterious frame appeared with a covered up suit. My mother looked closely trying to figure out who the person was and suddenlyl she came to the realization.

"Robert, I know that's you." she called out. "Come inside, it's too cold for this." The unknown figure came close and closer.

"Stop playing, now come on inside!" she demanded. Fiercely the figure approached my mother and his hands flew forward and grabbed at her face. The large hands covered up most of her face so that she could barely see anything. The figure held tightly to her nose so that she had no way to breathe.

"Stop it, stop it Robert. I can't breathe!" mother gasped as she tried to free herself from his grasp. Slowly mother collapsed onto the concrete floor. "You'll pay for this Monica," the figure now known as Robert murmured quietly.

As the figure turned to flee, my father had appeared in his rusty, old car. His headlights flashed onto my mother's body and his eyes followed an unusual figure running away. He stopped his car right in the middle of the street and jumped out to check on his wife being careful not to disturb the surroundings and any evidence. As he leaned down to check her vitals, he said, "Why on earth would someone do such a thing like this?" he cried. My father's body leaned towards the ground with his knees curved. He cried out desperately for help. This was the day a stranger named Robert took my mother from me and changed the course of my life forever!

...To Be Continued

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Who sings "Love Me Tender" and makes toys?

Santa's little Elvis

Which of Santa's reindeer needs to mind his manners the most?

Rude-off (Rudolf)

What did the Gingerbread Man put on his bed?

A cookie sheet

W I N T E R

N N V Q V

There are many new video games being released this holiday season as the top companies are trying to make as much as possible. Here are the top 3.

1. Super Smash Bros. Ultimate

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate is the 5th entry in the Smash Bros. series, expecting to top all of the other games in the franchise. It is exclusive to the Nintendo Switch. Every single character from the previous games is in this one, leaving a roster of 74 characters with one DLC character finalized (Piranha Plant) and 5 more on the way. Fight against your friends locally, strangers online (granted you have the Nintendo Switch Online service), or play solo in the brand new World of Light game mode. This game came out on December 7th, so make sure to get a copy before it's sold out!

2. Red Dead Redemption 2

Red Dead Redemption 2 is a western themed action game by Rockstar Games, the company that brought you Grand Theft Auto. It is an open world game which is in the first or third person perspective and the game heavily relies on player choices during the solo missions and story mode. The player controls Arthur Morgan, a western outlaw and a member of the Van der Linde gang. The game shows off its unique way of interacting with NPCs (Non-Player Characters), while it uses "dialogue trees" in which the player can start up a conversation, or threaten them and loot them for money. The game also features a weapon degrading system where certain weapons can break or have to be oiled. If you are a fan of open world realistic games, be sure to get a copy!

3. Fallout 76

Fallout 76 is the 6th entry in the Fallout series, though it is the first one with online multiplayer. You can play individually on one of the many servers, or in a squad of up to three other players. The story takes place in a world called Appalachia which is a fictional version of West Virginia. There are no non-player characters (NPCs) and everyone you will encounter is a real human being. The story progresses through robots, recordings, and just exploring the world of Appalachia. The game also features a SPECIAL progression system, SPECIAL being an acronym for strength, perception, endurance, charisma, intelligence, agility and luck. Players can put points into these perks in order to power up the character. The plot of the game is that it takes place in 2102, 25 years after a nuclear war. The game follows the player, a resident of vault 76, one of the many vaults in place to save the brightest and smartest minds there are. The character exits the vault on "Reclamation Day", which marks the day that everyone will try to re-colonize the wasteland that is now the earth. They then travel the world of Appalachia, completing quests and exploring the wastelands. If you are into games that have massive multiplayer, then this game is for you.

Now that you know the top 3 games, maybe you'll think about getting some this holiday season. Happy Holidays!

WINTER WORD SEARCH



WORDS TO FIND:

BLIZZARD	BOOTS	CHILLY
COLD	FIREPLACE	FROSTY
FROZEN	GIVING	GLOVES
HAT	HOLIDAYS	HOTCHOCOLATE
ICE	ICESKATE	ICICLE
MITTENS	PINETREE	SCARF
SNOW	SNOWBALL	SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN	SNOWSUIT	WIND
WINTER		