

The Bulldog Bark

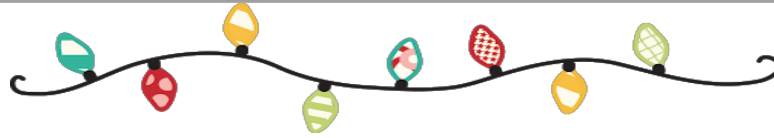


Advisor: Mrs. Dunham

Principal: Mrs. Chamberlain

Your Middle School News Unleashed!

December 2020/January 2021



Christmas Isn't Cancelled:

Tips for Safely Enjoying the Holidays

By **Landon Rosado**
Team 7 Barker

We know one thing: Christmas will be like no other year this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Some precautions and restrictions have been enacted within our government in order to abate the spread of the virus. However, it is disheartening as it seems that the integral parts of holidays, like gathering with friends and family, is almost impossible to replicate with the current conditions. However, with a little ingenuity and creativity, we can still make the holidays memorable. **Note: This article is not intended as medical advice.**

Please review the latest Covid-19 guidance from the CDC, the Department of

Health, and our state guidelines for the latest and most up-to-date health information.



Even though there are restrictions and changes this year, there are still ways to enjoy this special time of year. For example, you could

1. Check state guidelines to see how many guests are permitted to gather at an outdoor gathering. Click [here](#) for more information.
2. Share your plans ahead of time with your guests to keep them informed of

your plans. You can send party invitations to let guests know what steps you are taking, and the guidelines you will follow.

3. Consider having guests wear face masks even if outside.
4. Think about winterizing your backyard to hold your party. You may need to invest in the right equipment to keep guests warm. Consider buying outdoor tents, blankets, fire pits, and outdoor heaters.
5. Have guests bring their own cups, plates, and napkins. You can provide hot chocolate, warm soup, and baked goods.

*We have **THREE** BuzzFeed quizzes this edition!*

Which Christmas Carol or Song Best Represents You?

Which Among Us Skin Is Your Favorite?

Are You More Like Christmas Or Thanksgiving?



See Page 7, Cancelled

Local Holiday Events!

By Emily Mack

Team 7 Barker

Our local area always has fun and amazing holiday events. This year not so many festivities will be taking place as COVID-19 has given this year many restrictions. However, some events will continue to take place with safety precautions. Check out these local events if you haven't already to keep in the spirit!

The Lehigh Valley Zoo: Winter Light Spectacular

will be held with COVID restrictions. Masks must be worn all through the zoo. Social distancing is highly encouraged. They will be having a limited capacity. The lights will be held in the evenings of November 13th through January 2nd. They charge \$15 per adult and \$10 per child. The entire zoo will be covered in over 1 million lights! The lights are breathtaking and in an array of colors! You can take pictures with Elsa or the Grinch. You can also see reindeer! They also have a food stand. I highly recommend going to the Winter Light Spectacular. You will not regret going!

Allentown's Lights in the Parkway is still happening in 2020! You and your family can drive through the Lehigh Parkway to see their lights display! The lights will happen on November 27th to December 27th.

They will be open 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. The display will be closed Christmas day. This display is contact free from other visitors. Instead of charging per person they charge \$15 per car. The lights cover more than a mile of the park! The parkway features



hundreds of thousands of beautiful lights. Some of the lights are set to some of your favorite Christmas tunes! Lights in the Parkway is affordable fun for the whole family.

Philadelphia's Christmas Village is happening but socially distanced. The event will be taking place at Love Park and City Hall. It will be open from November 26th through December 24th. There is free admission but some things require payment. The Christmas Village is modeled after a German style

outdoor market. There are many things to do at the village. They have a variety of international vendors. You can get food and drinks, buy decorations, and watch artisans create fine works of art. Yes the Christmas Village may be far, it is totally worth going!

Christkindlmarkt is still on in Bethlehem. It is already almost over! The season begins on October 8th until December 6th. Go quick to get your Christmas essentials! Many artisans and vendors will be in attendance. Participating vendors will constantly be changing so you never see the

same thing twice. Masks and social distancing is requested upon entry. There is a \$10 admission fee.

Many organizations are holding virtual events. The Transiberian Orchestra is holding a virtual concert. Peep's will be holding PEEP FEST on the 31st of December. It will be

held in person and virtually. You can also see *A Christmas Carol* online at the Civic Theatre in Allentown!

Most importantly remember that you do not have to celebrate at these places to celebrate. Even having a fun night indoors with your family can liven the Christmas spirit. It is important that we appreciate our family and friends during these hard times. Happy Holidays!

Walking In A Winter Wonderland

By Samantha Mack

Team 7 Barker

Koziar's Christmas Village has been spreading Christmas cheer since the year 1948. William M. Kozair was the creator of Koziar's. Koziar had started to decorate his house and property for the reason that his wife, Grace, and his 4 children loved the unusual display. People began to admire and applaud the "Christmas House." Kozair would add unique and unusual things each year. He had started decorating his lake, then the walkways, then the trees, fences,

and buildings. In addition to all of these decorations he had started to decorate the barn and the house as well. By popular demand visitors were then permit-

Village." People came from near and far to look at the breathtaking light display. Today Kaziar's has grown even larger with third and fourth generations of family



members making the magical light display. Koziar's Christmas Village is celebrating its 73rd anniversary in 2020. They have received many awards including The Best Outdoor Christmas Display in the World. In conclusion, walking through Koziar's

ted to have a closer look at the display. The house then became known as "Koziar's Christmas

is just like "Walking in a Winter Wonderland."

How Different Religions Celebrate the Holidays

By Bella Haydt

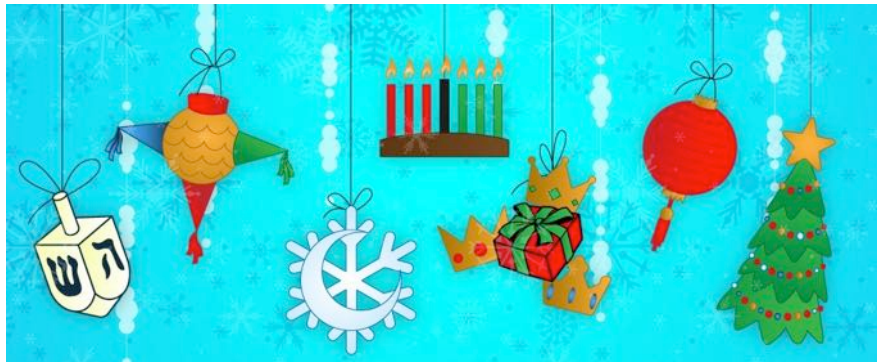
Team 7 Barker

There are a bunch of different religions across the world that celebrate the holiday seasons in similar and different ways to many of us. Different religions can come with different customs and traditions and others. Let's learn about some of them! Those who are Jewish celebrate the holiday

called Hanukkah. Hanukkah lasts 8 days, beginning on the 25th of the Hebrew month Kislev, which is November and December. It celebrates the victory of Judah

the Maccabee over the Syrian tyrant Antiochus over 2,100 years ago. Each night of the festival, the families gather around the menorah, which is a special can-

delabrum that holds eight candles. One the first night, the head of the family uses a helper candle, called a shamos, to light one candle. One the second night, 2 candles are lit, and



See Page 4, Religions

Religions, Continued

so on! Each night, gifts are given to everyone. In some families, children play games with a small four-sided wooden top called a dreidel.

Those who follow the Muslim faith celebrate Ramadan. It marks the month the prophet Mohammed is believed to have had their holy book, the Koran, revealed to them by God. Ramadan is the 9th month of the Islamic lunar calendar. It is 11 to 12 days shorter than the Gregorian calendar. The celebration starts at the first sighting of the moonlight in Ramadan.

This year, it happens to fall over the normal Christmas time period like us. They can surprisingly not eat or drink anything during the daytime during this period. The fast ends with the celebration of *Edi al-Fitr*, the festival of the breaking of the fast. Some Muslim governments grant amnesties to political and other prisoners on this day,

Kwanzaa is a cultural festival in which African Americans celebrate and reflect upon their heritage as the products of 2 worlds. It begins on the 26th of December and lasts for a whole week! It was founded by Dr. Maulana

“Ron” Karenga, a college professor and African American leader. He would study the festivals of many African American groups of people and then he decided that the new holiday should be a harvest or “first fruits.” Kwanzaa is a Kiswahili word meaning “the first fruits of the



harvest.”

Hindus celebrate their holiday on the 25th of December just like many people who celebrate Christmas. It is also considered the birthday of the Hindu God, Krishna, as well as Mithra, the Greek God of Light.

Wiccans hold an annual tree festival, which had long been celebrated in Northern Europe before the Christian era, is still celebrated among nature-based faiths such as Wicca.

Christian people celebrate Christmas in different ways. The families and Churches from all over would set up a Nativity Seal

or a mini replica of the birthplace of Jesus Christ. The scene would be composed of baby Jesus, the virgin mother Mary, the father Joseph, three wise men, and sometimes some animals that would be in the stable. Churches that would usually practice Christianity would per-

form Christmas plays that describe the night that baby Jesus was born in a manger. Catholic Churches would have a midnight mass on the night of Christmas Day to celebrate baby Jesus’ birth. In the month of December, besides the church festivities, people would sing traditional Christmas Carols, buy Christmas trees, and

place wrapped presents under the tree. They also might exchange the presents at a Christmas party or Christmas morning.

Buddhists celebrate Christmas very much like the Christians do. They decorate trees, give and trade presents, sing Christmas Carols and songs, send cards to loved ones, and hold late night vigils!

Christmas, as well as all the holidays celebrated around this time, are very special! A lot of cultures celebrate differently, but that is just what makes them unique.

Live Streaming: Student and Teacher Opinions

By Emily Mack
Team 7 Barker

Students in the year 2020 have been through many learning challenges. Students sometimes have to work independently and self-taught. We have also learned to do work mostly online. Teachers, parents, and students all have been working together to help improve our learning. Now, we all need to learn how to host and attend livestreamed classes. This means that students must show up to online meetings during their class times. I wondered “What do my peers think about our live streaming situation? “What are my teachers' opinions on this?”

1. What are some pros and cons of live streaming?

“One pro of live streaming is that, even when you are virtual, you still get a similar experience to actually being in the classroom. For example, when you have a question, you don't have to wait for the teacher to respond to your email, you can just ask your question on the livestream and have it answered right away. One con of live streaming is that, since you are basically on live streams until the end of the school day, you don't have much time to get your schoolwork or any assignments you didn't finish in class done. I always find myself having a ton of work to still do after the school day is done.” -Andi Szwast

“A pro of live streaming is that if a student is having trouble with something they can go over it on the live stream. A con of live streaming is that some people might get done later than they usually do.” -Landon Rosado



“I feel that live streaming has specific benefits. During live streaming instruction, I have the opportunity to directly interact with students who are off the school campus. Those students are receiving the same instruction as students sitting in class. Live streaming benefits students because they have the opportunity to interact with peers and ask questions during class time. The negative aspect of live streaming is that students are not physically present in the classroom. The physical distance can compromise the educational experience when students have concerns or technology issues.” -Ms. Hannon

2. Would you rather have students learn on their own or with the livestream?

“I would rather do the work on my own because I would get done earlier to do other things.” -Landon Rosado

“While the livestreams do have certain benefits, I think I prefer learning on my own. I know this may not be true for other students, but I have a pretty easy time understanding what I need to do without the livestream, and I'm perfectly fine waiting for my questions to be answered through emails.” -Andi Szwast

“I believe that students can greatly benefit from live streaming.

For instance, in my middle school classes, I give students time to complete independent work while on the Google Meet. This way I am still available virtually to offer assistance. If students are to complete work independently, it eliminates the opportunity to interact.” -Ms. Hannon

3. What time do you feel livestreaming should start?

“I think livestreaming should start around 9 or 9:30. That gives students enough time to get ready for the day.” -Landon Rosado

“I feel like livestreaming should start between 9:00 and 10:00 am. I know the live streams are supposed to follow the schedule of the school day, but for hybrid students on their virtual days, it's nice to get a

See Page 6, Live Streams

Live Streams, Continued

break from waking up at 6:00.” - Andi Szwast

“I feel that live streaming should follow the school schedule. It is beneficial to maintain consistency. I’m sure everyone’s hope is to soon return to a normal school year. Live streaming during the traditional schedule allows students to attend all their classes during the day.” -Ms. Hannon

4. Are there any major complications you have noticed with live streaming?

“This haven’t really been major complications. I feel that the teachers are trying their best to teach students when they are at home.” -Landon Rosado

“Other than the fact that you sometimes can’t hear what the in-person students are saying, I haven’t noticed any major complications.” -Andi Szwast

“I would say that the complica-

tions that come with live streaming classes revolves around the infancy of technology replacing in-person teaching. Live streaming classes in a hybrid model of



education requires teachers to be multifaceted in their approach. I know that the use of cameras, extra monitors, and digital assignments requires additional time and planning.” -Ms. Hannon

5. Do you overall enjoy doing the live streams?

“I don’t really enjoy the live streams, but I guess we just have to deal with it until the pandemic is over.” -Landon Rosado

“Overall, I think that live streams are tolerable. There are certain issues with them, but, for the

most part, they are okay.” -Andi Szwast

“When it comes to live streaming, I would say that I enjoy being able to say I’ve learned to approach education in a different forum. This is a learning experience for everyone involved. As an educator, I realize that I can grow from this experience.” -Ms. Hannon

Overall, the goal of live streaming is to try to help students who are working virtually be more engaged in their education from a distance. While there are technical and logistical challenges to try to maintain this type of setting, it is beneficial for some students in terms of staying on track. An asynchronous approach, when students complete assignments on their own time, works for independent learners, but not all learners. We are hoping to return to normal education soon, but until then, we are doing our very best to succeed.

No More Snow Days: An Opinion on “Flexible Instructional Days”

By Gabby Lonberger
Team 8 Barker

You might remember waking up for school after it snowed and looking at the T.V, excitedly awaiting to see if school had been closed or not. Well, what if I told you that you can't do that anymore? This year, there is a new program where, if you have a

snow day, you still have to do schoolwork, just online. Any day when this happens is called a flexible instruction day. We experienced this for the first time last week when we were off for two days! Our teachers posted assignments for us to complete on our own schedule. We didn't have to attend Live Streams lie we normally do when we are virtual, but

we still have to do schoolwork. You might not like that, but let me tell you something: If we have a snow day and we don't go to school, then we get an extra day added to the end of the school year. With flexible instructional days, we won't. There are two good things about this: (1) you can continue to learn more and (2) we don't get extra days added

See Page 12, Snow Days

Cancelled, from Page 1

Indoor gatherings have changed many times during the pandemic. **It must be noted that there is risk involved with hosting a holiday gathering that includes members from multiple households; however, if you are to host a small indoor gathering, here are some ideas.** Here are some ideas for a Covid Christmas for a **small indoor gathering:**

1. Keep the guest list as small as possible and make it feel special. There is nothing wrong with keeping your celebration to those in your household! It's important to check state guidelines to see how many guests can gather indoors. Click [here](#) for more information.
2. Set the table with disposable plates, cups, napkins, and utensils.
3. Make the Christmas dinner like a fancy meal. Add decorations on the table. Don't forget to space the seating at the table(s).
4. Consider having guests from different households sit at different tables that are spaced out at least 6 feet.



5. Make sure there is hand sanitizer in all locations like the kitchen and bathrooms. Put away regular hand towels and use paper towels.
6. Kindly request that your guests wear face masks, but have extra on hand if anyone forgets. You could provide a Christmas mask to your guests as a practical party favor.
7. Fight the urge to hug friends and family. Go for elbow bumps instead!
8. Limit how many surfaces guests have to touch. Wipe down tables and chairs to keep germs from spreading.
9. Air flow is important! Consider cracking a few windows or purchasing portable air cleaners with HEPA filters.
10. Encourage everyone to wash their hands before and after they eat. Instead of family style, have one per-

son to handle and serve food for the meal.

Still another way to

celebrate the Christmas season with family and friends is by **celebrating virtually**. Here are a few ideas to keep your family traditions going:

1. To host a virtual gathering, you will need to plan ahead. You need to see which of your family and friends are able to participate in a virtual party. You can send out an invitation online to speed things along!
2. During a virtual party, share your screen and play some games, like a Kahoot for trivia! You can even have a watch party and enjoy a movie together.
3. Ask your guests to prepare slideshows before the party and then give them a chance to share. This way family and friends can keep everyone up to date on newborns and how wedding planning is going and other family events. Everyone

can share their stories and see themselves.

4. Part of many Christmas traditions include sharing favorite family treats. Have several family members make and distribute favorite cookies or treats to family and friends. Pick a date to enjoy treats together over video chat with your family.
5. Text your family members with photos of Christmas gatherings from past years. Encourage everyone to respond with their own. It's a great way to remember those who may have passed away to show younger children and new family members some of the family history.

No matter which way you choose to celebrate Christmas, you can make the best of what is going on with the changes in our lives due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Merry Christmas!

Santa Claws is Coming to Town:

5 Reasons Why You Should Adopt a Cat or Dog This Winter

By Andi Szwast

Honorary Team 7 Barker

Cats and dogs are often known for being cute and lovable companions, but it's not just those qualities that make them desirable. In fact, there are many benefits to owning one. For example, they can improve your mental health. Studies have shown that cat and dog owners have lower chances of suffering from depression and anxiety. Cats and dogs can also improve your physical health. Research has revealed that pet owners are more likely to have lower blood pressure during stressful circumstances, lower levels of triglyceride and cholesterol, higher levels of serotonin and dopamine, and higher levels of exercise. In addition, children and teenagers can learn important life lessons from pets. For instance, responsibility, em-



pathy, and kindness can all be taught by an animal. And, while this might not be a benefit to you, by adopting a pet, you are saving two lives: the life of the animal you are adopting and the life of the animal that you just made room for in the shelter. Lastly,

there are many different breeds of cats and dogs, each with different characteristics, making it easy to find one that accommodates how much time, money, and space you have. Adopting a cat or dog comes with great responsibility, but it can also improve your mental and physical health, save the lives of two animals, help you learn important

lessons, and bring you joy while corresponding with your needs.”



This holiday season, adopt a pet! You can form a wonder-

ful bond and help get through the tough times that lie ahead with the current pandemic.

Xbox Series X Vs PS5: Which System Is Best?

By Stephen Berry

Team 8 Barker

The new X-Box Series X and Playstation 5 will both go down in the books as one of the best consoles in history. However, of the two, which is best? In my personal opinion, I think the PS5 is better because they added ray tracing to some of their games. Ray tracing, for those who do not know, allows for dramatically more lifelike shadows and reflections in the graphics, making the



games come to life visually. To determine which system you should look to get, you need to think about which games you like to play, for the PS5 has many different games that X-Box players cannot get, such as Marvel's Spider-Man: Miles Morales. X-Box

players will not be able to play this because it is a PS5 exclusive. In general, both have very fast loading time for their games. Although the PS5 is more expensive, trust me it is worth it. The PS5 has a higher GPU than an X-Box and 4K, which means the PS5 has a better graphics card. Overall, the PS5 is better with graphics and availability of specific games. Click [here](#) for more information to compare the two. Which do you think is better?

What to Get Your Friends and Family This Season

A Holiday Gift Guide

By Andi Szwast

Honorary Team 7 Barker

Having trouble coming up with gifts for the people on your list? Here are some gift ideas organized by interests and hobbies to help you out!

Gift Ideas For Musicians:

1. Music Songwriting Journal
2. Instrument Accessories (Pertains to the Instrument)
3. Instrument-Themed T-shirts, Pillows, Signs, Jewelry, Mugs, Socks, etc.

Gift Ideas For Cooks and/or Bakers:

1. Cookie Cutters
2. Cake Decorating Kit
3. Oven Mitts and/or Apron



Gift Ideas For Avid Readers:

1. Bookmarks
2. Books (Some Books For All Ages Include the Harry Potter Series, the Charlie Bucket Series,



the Time Quintet, and the Chronicles of Narnia)

3. Read-

ing-Themed T-shirts, Pillows, Signs, Jewelry, Mugs, Socks, etc.

Gift Ideas For Artists:

1. Painting Tools (Such as Paints or Paint Palettes)
2. Drawing and/or Coloring Tools (Such as Pencils, Markers, and Colored Pencils)
3. Coloring Book



Gift Ideas For Animal Lovers:

1. Animal-Themed T-shirts, Pillows, Signs, Jewelry, Mugs, Socks, etc. (Could be Customized if the Person Has a Pet)
2. Animals-Themed Pens, Pencils, Erasers, etc.

3. Pet Toys, Paw Print Impression Kit, etc. (If the Person Has a Pet)

Gift Ideas For Device Owners:

1. Earbuds or Headphones
2. Device Case and/or Screen Protector
3. Tech Gloves



Gift Ideas For Athletes:

1. Training Equipment (Such as Weights, Agility Ladders, and Cones)
2. Water Bottle
3. Sports Equipment and Clothes (Pertains to the Sport)

Gift Ideas For Gardeners:

1. Gardening Gloves
2. Kneeling Pad
3. Seed Balls and/or Seed Paper

Gifts, Continued



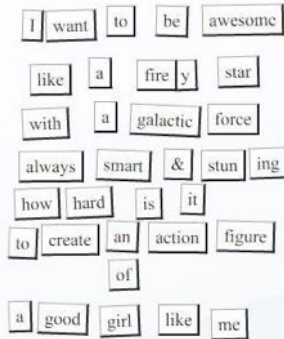
Gift Ideas For Dancers:

1. Dance-Themed T-shirts, Pillows Signs, Jewelry, Mugs, Socks, etc.
2. Stretching Strap
3. Bun Maker



Gift Ideas For Photographers:

1. Lens Cleaning Kit
2. Selfie Stick and/or Tripod
3. Picture Frames



Gift Ideas For Writers:

1. Thesaurus
2. Journal and/or Notebook
3. Magnetic Poetry

Gift Ideas For Gamers:

1. Mouse Pad
2. Blue Light Blocking Glasses
3. Headphone Stand



If none of the suggestions on this list appeal to you, then you can always give gift cards, checks, or money. While it may not seem very thoughtful, some people enjoy picking out their own gifts or saving money to buy something expensive. Happy holidays and good luck finding gifts!



BuzzFeed NEWS

Written By Andi Szwast, Bella Haydt, and Lauren Nichols; Quizzes Developed by Melody Lindenmoyer
Team 7 and 8 Barkers



*We have **THREE** BuzzFeed quizzes this edition! Click on the links below if you haven't done so already. Have fun!*



Which Christmas Carol or Song Best Represents You?

Which Among Us Skin Is Your Favorite?



Are You More Like Christmas Or Thanksgiving?

Snow Days, Continued

to the end of the school year. For example, let's say if we were to total all the snow days this year, and we used up five more than we would be given. If we didn't have flexible instructional days, we would get an extra week added to the end of the school year, or at the very least, some of our breaks throughout the year taken away (like spring break and so on). But if we use this new program, we don't. I rather be able to get out of school in June on time than be out almost in July!

However, some of us probably miss having snow days as they were, a day to truly relax and have fun and not have to worry about school. In the short term, that is great, and snow days are a welcome break for all of us. On traditional snow days, we have more time to ourselves and, if we

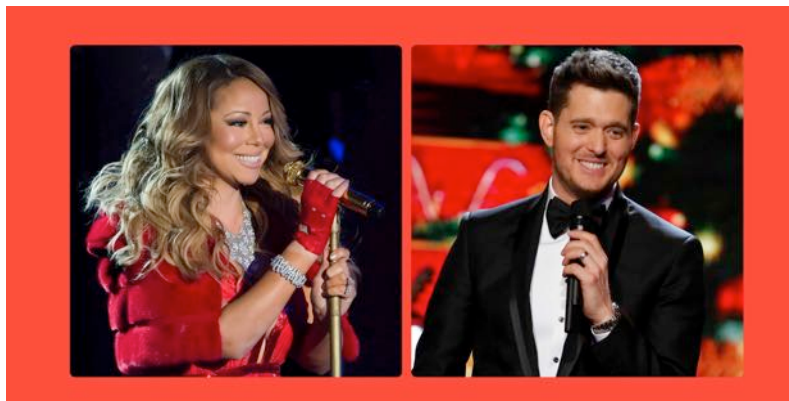


we can sleep ALL DAY! Now that's my type of day! You get to bundle up in your warmest, softest clothes, watch Netflix and YouTube, and play video games all day. If you want to, you can go outside and play in the snow. You can also go sledding down a hill, drink hot chocolate, build snowmen, and throw snowballs at people. The truth is, though, while it may seem strange to have to do work now, we can make up our own schedule. Not only do we not have to add any school days at the end of the year, but we can also still enjoy the snow days! If we get our school work done first thing in the morning, we have all day to enjoy being outside or playing games inside. We could also decide to play first and work later, but as long as we can balance our time, we can make this new flexible instructional day work. We can still enjoy the snow if we manage our time right. Let it snow!

Top 10 Christmas Songs of 2020

By Aubrey Reinhard
Team 7 Barker

I know that many of us have had our families play Christmas music in the car on the way to get the Christmas tree. I wanted to compile a list of the top ten Christmas songs of 2020. 2020 may not have been the best year, but Christmas cheer has brought at least some of our year back to normal. Number 10 is an upbeat Christmas song that I'm sure everyone has heard before. Coming in at number 10 is



“Last Christmas” by Wham! Since 1984 this song has been a hit across the country. Number 9 is an older song written by Bing Crosby; this song is called “White Christmas.” Our

number 8 is a very popular song in 1996. Lots of people enjoy this song while it doesn't have lyrics. The Trans-Siberian Orchestra does an amazing job with the song

See Page 13, Top Songs

Top Songs, Continued

“Christmas Eve/Sarajevo.” Number 7 is the all famous song called “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year.” Andy Williams had created this song in 1963 and it is still a hit today we have to give him some credit! Number 6 is a great classic from the movie “Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer.” Number 6 is none other than “A Holly Jolly Christmas” by Burl Ives. The Spanish single “Feliz Navidad” has become one of the world’s most popular Christmas songs and is number 5 on the list. In 1956 Bobby Helms released the song “Jingle Bell Rock” and it is still a great Christmas song today which clearly shows by its high ranking coming in at number 4 on the list. Number 3 is probably one you haven’t heard of yet but it is called “The Christmas Song” by Nat King Cole. At just age 13 Brenda Lee released a great Christmas classic that I’m sure everyone knows. Coming in at number 2 is “Rockin’ Around The Christmas Tree” by Brenda Lee. Last but certainly not least is “All I Want for Christ-

mas is You” by Mariah Carey. Mariah’s song takes the top spot every December. This song is so popular that it reenters the Billboard Hot 100 every December. Well, there you have it: the top 10 Christmas songs of 2020. Go on then go jam out to Christmas!



Holiday Fun and Games for the Season

By Gabby Lonberger

Team 8 Barker

Here are some fun games to play during the holidays this season with your loved ones! All the rules and equipment and provided with the games described below:

Saran Wrap Ball

How to play:

The rules of the game are simple: basically how you

play is you need a group of people you get saran wrap and multiple gifts like candy, socks, jewelry, etc. The Saran Wrap ball game is a challenge in



which you unwrap prizes from a large ball of plastic wrap. The layers are added in such a way that each treat is more exciting than the one that came before. The best is saved for last, and the center of the ball will hold the most exciting or expensive gift. The first person with the ball starts unwrapping the ball while the person on their right rolls a pair of dice, trying to roll doubles.

Once doubles are rolled, the ball is passed to the next player and the sequence begins again.

The person with the ball does not stop unwrapping until the person to their right rolls doubles. This creates an urgency to the game! You want to roll the dice over and over again as quickly as you can so you get the ball! You get to keep the treasures you unwrap! You decide who starts the game. You can

See Page 14, Games

Games, Continued

choose to roll the dice or go from youngest to oldest. Your choice! Feel free to modify the rules a bit too!

Here are some things you can put inside the saran wrap ball: candy pieces, candy boxes, gift cards (small amounts), Matchbox cars, Tic Tacs, Christmas bell necklace, Christmas earrings, Christmas Socks, small toys, small card games, and money.

SECRET SANTA

How to play: a White Elephant gift exchange, each participant brings a wrapped, unmarked gift and places it in a designated area. Guests are given numbers as they arrive, or their names are randomly drawn, and they select gifts in that order — with a twist.

On the first turn, the person assigned with #1 picks out a gift and opens it so all can see what it is. On the second turn, the person assigned with #2 gets the choice of “stealing” #1’s unwrapped gift or choosing a wrapped one from the pile. If #2 steals #1’s gift, then #1 must choose and open a wrapped gift.

As subsequent players take their turns, they either select a new gift or take any already opened gift from any of the other players. Have any player who has a gift taken away either choose a new gift or take an already-opened gift from another player.

The game continues with the following rules:

If someone steals your gift, you can steal someone else’s gift or choose and open a wrapped one. Continue until everyone has had a turn for a gift. A turn is ended when an unopened gift has been opened. A gift can only be “stolen” once during a turn. If a gift is taken from someone during one round, she cannot take it back during that same round. She can, however, take it back in a later round if she is in a position to select a gift. A gift cannot be immediately stolen back from the player who just stole it. Once a gift has 3 “owners,” the 3rd owner of a gift gets to keep

it — it is retired and can’t be stolen again.

The gift exchange ends when the last wrapped gift is chosen and opened.

STOCKING GUESSING GAME

How to play: First, you need a host to put random items in a stocking. Once it's stuffed, tie a ribbon or string around the top of the stocking so that no one can peek. Sit in a circle and pass it around to let everyone feel what's inside. Give them note cards so that they can write down their guesses. The person who guesses the most correct items wins.

HOLIDAY STORYTELLERS

How to play: Everyone stands in a circle as one person begins a made up holiday story with one sentence. Each person after them must recite what the previous player(s) said and add their own sentence. If someone forgets a detail while recalling the whole story, they’re out. The story keeps building until only one person can recall all of the details and wins the game.

GIFT WRAP-UP

How to play: Have participants pair off. Tie one person’s right hand to their teammate’s left hand. The duos will then attempt to wrap a gift using their free hands. Have an example gift for everyone to attempt to duplicate — the harder it is to create, the funnier. Give a time limit of 1–3 minutes and then have a judge pick the most accurate gift.

Enjoy some fun this season!

Savannah's Comforting Recipes

By Savannah Hall

Team 7 Barker

Simple Comfort Desserts for Winter

Homemade Apple Pie: (5 apples, 5 tsp cinnamon, 3 cups water, 4 tbsps sugar, premade pie crust). Peel and cut the apples into tiny little pieces. In a pot put 3 cups of water, 5 tsp of cinnamon, 4 tbsps of sugar and let that boil. Once to a boil put your apples in and let sit on a lower temperature for 2 hours, check every 30 minutes. Then put in your pie crust and cook that how the box time and temperature says. Take out of the oven and enjoy.



Hot Chocolate Cookies:

(1 cup unsalted sweet cream butter, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup light brown sugar, 2 eggs 1 tsp pure vanilla, 3 cups flour, $\frac{3}{4}$ cups hot cocoa mix, 1 tsp baking powder, 1 tsp baking soda, 2 cups mini marshmallows, 1 cup mini chocolate chips). Put your dry ingredients in a bowl and mix. Put wet ingredients in another bowl and mix. Then put your wet ingredients into the dry bowl and mix. Scoop and put on a baking sheet and bake at 350 for 20-35 minutes.



Hot Chocolate Bombs:

(1 cup of meltable chocolate, 3 tsp cocoa powder, and 7 mini marshmallows, if desired. Melt the chocolate and once melted, put onto a silicone baking ball. Once dried, add your cocoa powder and marshmallows then dissolve in 16 ounces of hot milk or water and enjoy. Click [here](#) for more details.

Hot Chocolate Cupcakes:

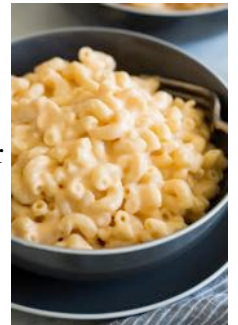
Purchase chocolate box cake and cocoa powder. Put all the ingredients that are in the box chocolate cake and mix in a bowl then add a 6 tsp of cocoa powder and 2 more tbsps of water.



Click [here](#) for more details.

Simple Comfort Dinners for Winter

Macaroni and Cheese: Get a 16 ounce box of elbow noodles, 3 cups shredded cheese, 2 tsp butter. Put noodles in pot with water and wait to boil then drain. Put butter and cheese into the pot with the noodles mix and enjoy!



Chicken Soup: (1 tsp olive oil, 1 medium onion chopped, 4 cloves of minced garlic, 2 carrots peeled and chopped, 1 chopped rib of celery, 6-8 skinless and boneless squared boiled chicken thighs, 2 quarts of chicken stock, 16 ounce of egg noodles, 4 cups water). Put all ingredients into a pot with a lid and put on a temperature 6 for 20 minutes. Put into a bowl and enjoy.



The Art of Making Candy Gifts

By Mrs. Jones

Specials Team, FCS Teacher

This past week, we learned the art of making candy! We have been talking about budgeting and how to make good food cheap!

Peppermint bark was first on the list.



Peppermint Bark Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1 bag of chocolate chips, chocolate wafer OR chocolate bars for melting
- 1 bag of white chocolate chips, white chocolate wafers OR white chocolate bars for melting
- 6 Candy canes

Steps:

1. Line a cookie sheet with wax paper
2. Powder the candy canes in a blender or food chopper or crush with a rolling pin to fine dust.
3. Heat chocolate in microwave

for 2 mins and stir, folding up from the bottom. Microwave in intervals on 15 seconds and stirring each time until creamy.

4. Spread out in a thin layer no more than a 1/4 inch on the cookie sheet.
5. Refrigerate for 15 mins.
6. Do the same with the white chocolate Spread out evenly over the dark chocolate.
7. Sprinkle with peppermint dust.



Chocolate Covered Pretzels

Ingredients:

- 1 bag of chocolate chips, chocolate wafer OR chocolate bars for melting
 Bag of mini pretzels

Steps:

1. Line a cookie sheet with wax paper
2. Heat chocolate in microwave for 2 mins and stir, folding up from the bottom. Microwave in intervals on 15 seconds and stirring each time until creamy.
3. Dip pretzels in the chocolate and gently shake the extra chocolate off, place on wax paper, and decorate with sprinkles! Wait until dry and enjoy!

These are easy, CHEAP gifts!

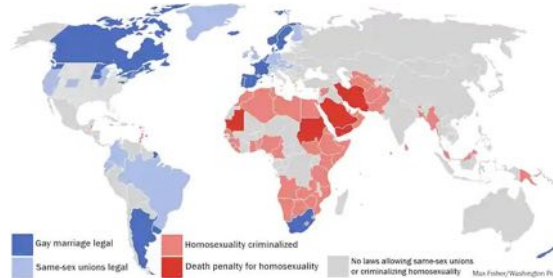


By Kierra Katen
Team 8 Barker

LGBTQ: A Fight Around the World

Globally, the journey for gay rights has been long and arduous. Although progress has been made, there are many countries around the world, such as Middle Eastern and African countries, where same-sex acts bring upon the death penalty and other harsh, unfair punishments. However, public acceptance is increasing globally, but certainly there is a long way to go. According to the most recent research, people in the United States, India, South Africa, Japan, South Korea, and Mexico have the largest gains in public acceptance of gay rights. The LGBTQ community has been around for centuries, yet people didn't classify it as "LGBTQ" rather than something to shrug off or ignore. There is discrimination throughout the world with the LGBTQ community, but certainly, it is not as bad as it used to be. However, I would like to bring awareness to how certain countries are currently treating LGBTQ issues.

In Kenya, there is a law punishing gay sex. This law makes it possible for people to go to jail for up to 14 years. This was soon resolved by The National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. In Brunei, it was a far worse punishment for LGBTQ members.



The small town in Brunei would kill people by stoning. The ruler enforced this rule and killed any same sex couples. Taiwan, on the other hand, was one of the first places to ALLOW same-sex marriage; however, these couples don't have all the same rights as traditional heterosexual couples do. For example, same-sex couples are able to legally adopt. However, they can only adopt the biological child of their same-sex partner (so-called stepchild adoptions) In China, they used to have conversion therapy for LGBTQ members, but over time, they slowly stopped, and now they do not force people to go to conversion camps. Lastly, in Russia, police violence against LGBTQ people happened often through the winter. Over 100 people were reported to be abducted and tortured. A human rights watch investigation found out that victims were usually electrocuted and physically beaten. Although the Russians knew about this, they never investigated it.

As stated previously, there are many strides in the LGBTQ community, but globally, we have a long way to go to improve the rights for all. See the map included in this article for visual representation on our global stances of the community.

Winter Watchlist: Recommendations for Streaming

By Melody Lindenmoyer
Team 7 Barker

Technology has become necessary not only for our learning, but also, for some of our entertainment. With all the restrictions as of late, and now that the weather is getting colder, it is important to consider which series and movies we should binge. I have recommendations listed for each popular streaming service: Netflix, Disney+, and Hulu.

Netflix- Netflix is a great streaming service that allows many different genres of movies and shows to watch. Overall ranking: 4.5 stars. Here are some of my recommendations to watch on Netflix:

Jingle Jangle- Jingle Jangle is a great Christmas movie about a former inventor who had given up on his dreams because his former apprentice had stolen his invention ideas. Well, not until his imaginative granddaughter steps in the picture. The inventor, his new apprentice, his granddaughter, and his old experiment go on a life changing adventure to get back his inventions



from his former apprentice. This movie is rated a 4.6/5 stars!

The Christmas Chronicles 2- The Christmas Chronicles 2 is a sequel to The Christmas Chronicles. Kate Pierce is now a teenager and is unexpectedly reunited with Santa when a trouble maker kid threatens to ruin Christmas forever. The movie has action and humor mixed into it and is a great movie. This movie is rated a 3.9/5 stars.

Over the Moon- Over the Moon is a Chinese folklore movie. It's about a girl named Fei Fei whose mother had died and father had moved on to another woman. Although her father is able to move on, she is not. She remembers the story of a woman on the moon who has found her love forever, and when they got separated she had waited for him on the moon forever. Now, Fei Fei is trying to prove that she is real so he won't move on. So, she builds a Rocketship to go to the moon and prove she's real. The movie was rated 4.5.

Outer Banks: Outer Banks is a series about a group of teens who are in a group called Pogues. They live in a place called The Cut. A boy apart of the group has lost his father and him along with everyone else in the group is determined to find out what had happened to his dad. Later they find out about a treasure that is tied with that dad and will help them find him. This show is rated 4.8.

Disney Plus- Disney Plus is an app filled with all different sorts of Disney movies and shows. You can reach things from Star Wars all the way to the Marvel cinematic movies. It's a great platform to find the movies you love. I give this platform a 4.5 rating. Here are some of my recommendations to watch on Disney+:

The Mandalorian: The Mandalorian is a Star Wars series about a Mandalorian who has a child of an unknown species in his care. He must return the child, but



knows no information about the child. They go on many adventures throughout the series meet many knew people to help out and not help. This show I would rate a 4.8.

Avatar: No, I am not talking about Avatar the last Airbender OR Avatar Legend of Kora, I am talking about the alien species Avatar movie. Avatar is about a man named Jake who's planet, Earth, is so full of pollution they have to evacuate. They then have found a planet filled with giant blue aliens named Na'vi. Jake, along with the rest of the people on the planet have to have Avatars that look like the Na'vi to blend in. So, throughout the movie, we follow Jake and his friends and learn about the Na'vi. This movie is rated a 4.6.

Hulu- Hulu is a app where you can watch various different movies. What is nice about Hulu is you can watch shows that are currently on network television (not just older shows). This platform overall is rated a 4/5.

The Addams Family: The Addams Family is an adaptation of the original Addams Family. You follow the weird and wacky Addams family. They have moved into a new town that isn't what they are used to. It's bright and colorful, the exact opposite of what they are used to. Watch as they adapt to this new town and the town adapts to them. I would rate this a 3.6/5.

Missing Link: Missing Link is an adaptation for human evolution. The missing link really means the half way point between humans and their start. The actual movie is about an investigator who has found a big foot like creature and helps him find his cousins the abominable snow people. Watch as they follow their adventure. This is rated a 4.1.

Abominable: Abominable follows a teenage girl named Yi who has found a you Yeti on her roof. She names the yeti Everest and the go on a quest to find Everest family. It has magical creatures and magic in general. This movie was rated 4.6.

He During this winter break, I hope you find a new series or movie to enjoy!

Thanksgiving Football Facts

By Grady Newhard

Team 7 Barker

As our Thanksgiving break has just wrapped up and our winter break is upon us, you might be wondering about what you're thankful for. I'm thankful for my friends, family, dog, and the great game of football. And as you know, football is a huge deal on thanksgiving. Of course you have the Lions always playing or the Cowboys, but I'd like to tell you some facts that you might not know about Football and it's history on Thanksgiving:



- The Easton vs Phillipsburg game has been played every year since starting in 1905.
- The Jacksonville Jaguars have never played on Thanksgiving.

- Ernie Nevers holds the record for most touchdowns scored with 6
- The Green Bay Packers hold the most losses on Thanksgiving with a whopping 18.

- Troy Aikman holds the record for most passing yards on this day with 455.
- The Minnesota Vikings hold the highest win percentage on Thanksgiving with an all time record of 5-1.
- The Miami Dolphins are the only team to win a turkey day game and a Super Bowl in the same year.
- The Dallas Cowboys started playing on Thanksgiving in 1966 while they were still in the AFL.

I hope you enjoyed these facts and you enjoyed your holidays spending it with the ones you love and the ones you care about.

10 Fun Facts About Penguins

By Kierra Katen

Team 8 Barker

- 1: When swimming penguins can jump out of the water, this is called porpoising.
- 2: The light front and dark back tuxedo-like coloration of classic penguin plumage is called countershading.
- 3: Penguins are carnivores; they eat all their food from the sea. They eat things like shrimp, fish, and crabs.
- 4: Penguins see better underwater than above water, so they can see their prey better.
- 5: The Emperor penguin is the largest spe-



- 6: Penguins are highly social birds; they usually stick in breeding groups called rookiers.
- 7: Emperor and King penguins do not make nests for their eggs; rather, they incubate in their legs for two months.
- 8: Depending on the breed of penguin, they can live from 15 to 20 years.
- 9: Penguins live 75 percent of their life in the sea.
- 10: Penguins live all around the southern hemisphere, not just in Antarctica.

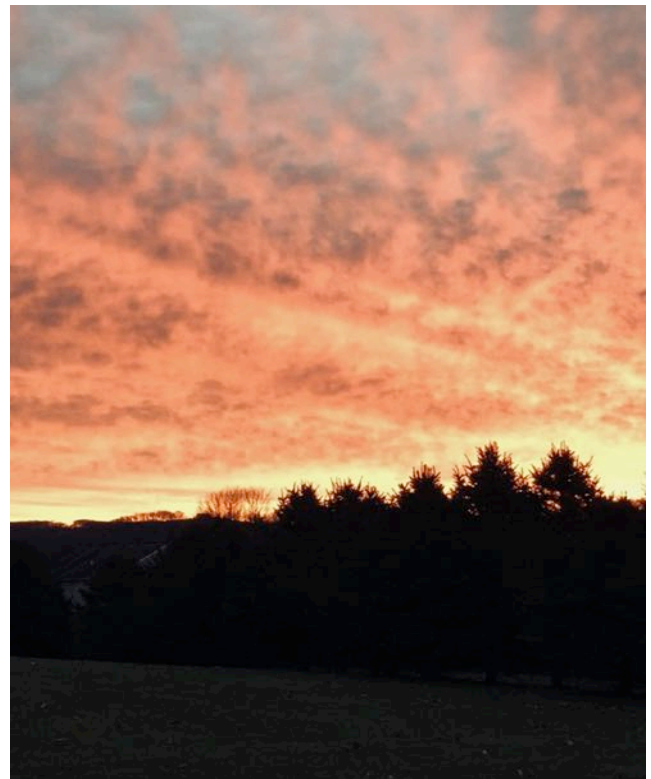
Picture Perfect Moments...



All Photographed by
Samantha Mack
Team 7 Barker



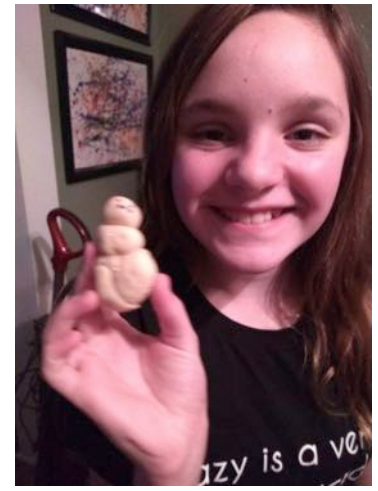
Picture Perfect Moments...



Bulldog Winter Happenings...



Snow Day Art/Photography in Mrs. Frank's Art Class



Just so you know, Leah, Mrs. Dunham relates to wanting to lounge in a beach chair and drink iced coffee in more ways than you realize!



Student Council's Food Drive

Chocolate Covered Pretzels (and other decadent holiday treats) were made in Mrs. Jones' FCS class!



Letter from the Advisor

Are you ready for Winter Break? I think we all deserve and very much need the rest. It certainly goes without saying that hybrid and virtual learning have been quite a challenging endeavor. There have been countless adjustments and learning curves throughout this school year for administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and students. We are all working tirelessly to try to make this new approach to education work, although it has not been an easy feat. We had to learn how to become more self-disciplined, structured, organized, and motivated in order to be as successful as we can be. Despite the obstacles that this virus has imposed on our lives, we have truly achieved greatness. I think many of us often feel we aren't able to be our best selves under the current conditions, but truthfully, we deserve a lot more credit than we give ourselves! I am hoping that as we embark on the new year, that we take the time to honor and celebrate our accomplishments, no matter how big or small.

The Bulldog Bark serves to represent students' voices at Northern Lehigh, so speak up! *The Bulldog Bark* is always looking for more Barkers to add to the pack; even if you would like to contribute to just one issue.

This paper serves to represent all of us. If you have any article ideas or are interested in writing at any point, please see me in Room 30 or send me an e-mail:

bdunham@nlsd.org. Also, if you are a talented artist/photographer, I would love for you to feature your artwork/photography! We have plenty of room to show off your skills!

I would like again acknowledge my awesome 2020-2021 *Bulldog Bark* pack. They're a fantastic group!

Stephen Berry, Savannah Hall, Bella Haydt, Kierra Katen, Melody Lindenmoyer, Emily Mack, Samantha Mack, Anayis Martir, Grady Newhard, Lauren Nichols, Aubrey Reinhard, Landon Rosado, and Andi Szwast

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! Come back from the break recharged!

-Mrs. Dunham

