

Editorial

By: Claudia Alvarado

I have friends whose grades have been going down lately, and I've noticed that they all have one thing in common. They all participate in extracurricular activities. I'm guessing the reason for their low grades is that they are all focused more on the activity and not enough on their school work. Another reason that I've noticed that student's grades go down is because they care a little more about their social life and find that more important than maybe studying for a test or just studying in general. They find talking to their friends on the phone and sharing gossip more necessary than doing homework and studying. Also, it maybe that after any activity you may come back home tired, frustrated, and simply do not care for studying and doing you homework and that my friends can bring your grades down pretty low. I'm just pointing out that your school work is more important and that will get you to college. Sports are fun to participate in but will not always get you scholarships and not always get you to where you want. You should always remember that an education is more important.

Xmas Pranks By: Jeremy Muniz

1. Replace all Christmas gifts with a piece of coal

2. (if it's cold enough) water down the pavement to freeze by the next morning

3. Remove the Christmas tree from it's original spot and place a small twig in its place

4. Remove the names on every Christmas present and place a woman's name on the men's gifts.

5. Tell a younger family member that your grandmother got run over by a reindeer

For entertainment uses only.
DO NOT try at home.

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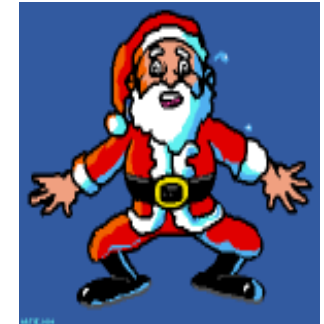
LAYOUT DESIGN

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The History of Santa Clause

Santa has not always appeared the way we think of him today. The first well-known gift-giver was a true person—St. Nicholas. He lived in Myra (today we know it as Turkey) in about 300A.D. Born an only child of a wealthy family, he was orphaned at an early age when both parents died of the plague. He grew up in a monastery and at the age of 17 became one of the youngest priests ever. Many stories are told of his generosity as he gave his wealth away in the form of gifts to those in need, especially children. Legends tell of him either dropping bags of gold down chimneys or throwing the bags through the windows where they landed in the stockings hung from the fireplace to dry. Some years later Nicholas became a bishop—hence the bishop's hat or miter, long flowing gown, white beard and red cape. After his death he was elevated to sainthood. Eventually the Catholic Church started celebrating Christmas and St. Nicholas was incorporated into the season.



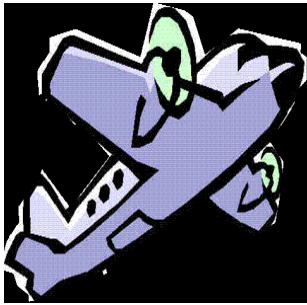
If you would like to join UIL, you should talk to any of the teachers for more information. The dates for the meetings will be announced during school.

Calculators- Mr. Smith 101
Math- Mr. Garza 104
Science- Mr. Garza 104
Ready Writing- Ms. Ramos 303
Editorial Writing- Ms. Ramos 303
History- Ms. Ramos 303
Impromptu Speaking- Mr. Barnes 206
Listening Skills- Mr. Cardenas 305
Map, Charts, Graphs- Mrs. Palacios 106
Number Sense- Mrs. Palacios 106

Modern Oratory- Mr. Smith 101
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Spelling- Mrs. Flacon 406
Spanish Poetry- Mr. Cardenas 305
Solo Acting- Ms. Palacios 312
Duet Acting- Ms. Palacios 312
Prose- Mrs. Valdez 108
Poetry- Mrs. Valdez 108

Weird Facts

By: Cris Nevares



Riding in a plane is safer than riding a car or mule.



It is illegal to cut your front lawn while you are dressed as Elvis.

It takes about 142.18 licks to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop. The world now knows.

On Christmas Eve in Belgium, it is legal for children to throw bananas at police cars, and on



Christmas Day, it is legal for police officers to throw bananas at children.

The average person eats about 6 roaches in their sleep during their entire lifetime!



Coca-Cola was originally green.

Appreciation

By: Laura Ybarra

Yes, the holiday is already here, and many people can not wait to receive their Christmas gifts. Some of us as we know are very picky and selfish. I would personally not like to receive an awful gift as part of a Christmas present, yet I do not want to hurt the other persons feelings. If you do not like it and would not wear it, don't be rude. What I would do when I didn't really like the gift was to say thank you and put it away. There was never a time when I gave the present to someone else. My point is, to appreciate what you've got. Others may not be as fortunate as you.



MOST WANTED AND UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Wanted

- 1.) Play station 3
- 2.) Wii
- 3.) Ipod
- 4.) Cell phone
- 5.) Laptop

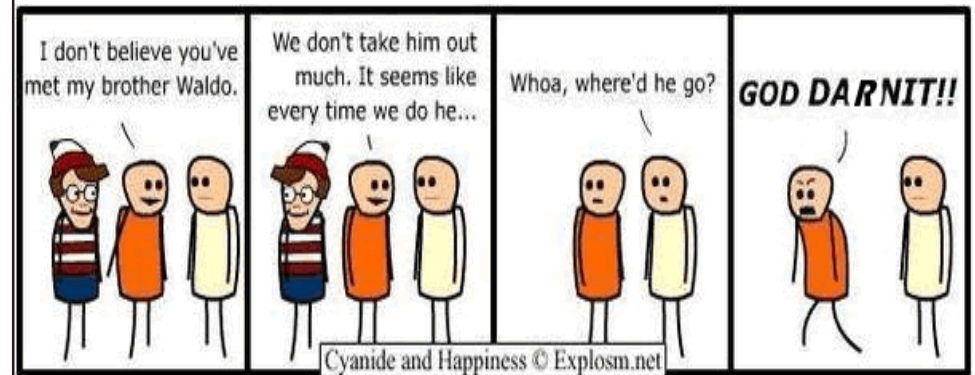


Unwanted

- 1.) underwear
- 2.) socks
- 3.) sweater vest
- 4.) school supplies
- 5.) one pieced pajama



Waldo Comic



Top Ten X-mas Songs By: Drucilla and Robert

1. Jingle Bell Rock
2. Grandma Got run Over By A Reindeer
3. Deck The Halls
4. Frosty The Snowman
5. Oh Christmas Tree
6. Holy Night
7. Rocking Around The Christmas Tree
8. Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer
9. Santa Clause Is Coming To Town
10. The Little Drummer Boy

Soccer Team

This season has not gone the way we would had hoped, but we have high hopes as a team for next season. That will be the year that we win our first district championship!

Thanks Coach Cardenas!

Team 8-3 Soccer players!!!

1. Josue Enriquez
2. Lazaro Garcia
3. Michael Pena
4. Cecilio Sierra
5. Gabriel Leal



Christmas Recipes

Regular Cheesecake

Ingredients

- *3 eggs
- *1 teaspoon of vanilla
- *1 regular pack of cream cheese
- *1 can of sweet milk
- *1 graham cracker crust

Instructions

1. Pre-heat oven to 325 degrees
 2. Blend all your ingredients and pour into pie crust
 3. Put into your oven and let it bake for 30 minutes or until golden brown
- Let it cool then ENJOY!

HOT TAMALES

5 lbs. masa or masa harina 2 tbsp. salt 2 tbsp. chili powder 4 c. shortening 1 c. fatty broth

Wash 1 lb. corn shucks in hot water to clean. Let soak in water to keep moist. Place masa in mixing bowl; add remaining ingredients and mix well. Spread

masa 1/8 inch thick on lower half of shuck, leaving two inches at the top of shuck clean. Drop 1 tbsp. of filling near the center of the mush. fold over the clean end of the shuck. Place in pot with cover, keeping open end up. When pot is filled heat four cups water and pour over the tamales. Cover and simmer for 45 minutes. NOTE: Fresh masa is available in Mexican

specialty food stores. Masa harina mix is available in grocery stores.



TAMALE FILLING: 2 1/2 lbs. meat 2 tbsp. chili powder 2 tsp. pepper 1 tsp. cumin 2 cloves garlic 2 tbsp. salt 1 1/2 lbs. bacon 2 c. broth

Cook meat in water until tender. Save meat broth. Grind or cut into small pieces or put in blender to grind for a minute. Fry bacon. Add cooked meat and remaining ingredients. Simmer for 20 minutes. NOTE: Use beef, beef and pork, equal amounts of venison and pork,

chicken or turkey for meat. Add jalapeno pepper to make hotter tamales. For bean tamales, use seasoned refried beans for filling.



Christmas Miracles!

By: Erica Torres and Jennifer Martinez

In December 23, 1997 a woman was praying for her husband who was very sick in the hospital. So the woman tries to keep herself busy by making Christmas cards, but after 8 hours she was starting to get worried. A few minutes later, out of nowhere a priest comes towards her. She is shocked but happy because she knew he was the answer to her prayers. He told her "Everything is ok I'm here to pray with you." So they talked and prayed for almost half an hour. By the end of the hour the priest left without talking to anyone else in the waiting room. The minute he left the doctor came in and told her, "Your husband is doing well and will be out tomorrow." The woman was so happy that he would be there for Christmas with their two sons. Ever since then her husband never had problems with his health again. Also she was very grateful that God sent an angel to answer her calls. it was a Christmas miracle.



Christmas Jokes

By: Josceline Carrejo and Ricky Rangel

Why does Santa use reindeer to pull his sleigh?

Because moose can't fly!

Why is Santa big and jolly?

Because if he were small and mean, he'd be Scrooge.

Why is Santa Claus angry?

Because the Grinch stole Christmas!

If Frosty the Snowman married a vampire, what would they name their child?

Frostbite!

What's red and shakes like a bowl full of jelly?

Strawberry jell-o, silly!

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Noah.

Noah who?

Noah more holiday jokes, please!



Brainteasers

Answers

5.) Stay in school

4.) Eight periods in a school day

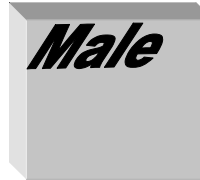
3.) One foot in the grave

2.) One step forward, two steps back

1.) Mailbox

ANSWERS:

Brainteasers



**STEP
PETS
PETS**

GR1ftAVE
S.C.H.O.O.L DAY

C H O
S TAY O
L O

See Brainteaser answers in page 4

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

M E R Y R Y G Y E C H R I C R
S T M A U O S L L A N D A E A
T O Y S N L O L H L A R E G T
R P P G Y P E N E W O D Y I N
E E G A H O R T M L N H Q F A
H E B T N C B I I I S V W T S
E G R M K C S N E D K T W S X
M O I G E T G R R M E S L M T
N J C E L C Y A D I L O H N E
G M P E L K E R U D O L P H F
J M T L T S C D Y E N M I H C
L O F R O S T Y N H L E V C S
E S T O C K I N G B E V K M B
N X B T M D Y U X Z V D E R U
C H R I S T M A S K G J W S A

CAROLING CHIMNEY
CHRISTMAS DECEMBER
EGGNOG ELVES FROSTY
GIFTS HOLIDAY HOLLY
MISTLETOE NOEL
NORTHPOLE REINDEER
RUDOLPH SANTA SLEIGH
STOCKING TOYS YULETIDE