

December 2011

The *Flying* Eagle



East School Christmas Program

By Ryan Howard and Amanda Chui

East School had a Christmas program presented by 4th graders on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2011 at Memorial Hall. The purpose of the program was for kids and parents to enjoy, and *maybe* even learn a lesson.

There are 2 different groups that sang at different times. One group started at 6:00pm and the other sang at 7:30pm. The classes in the 6:00 group were: Baker, Duncan, Fischer, Jendrusik, and Walling. The classes in the 7:30 program were: Heitkamp, Holmes, Koontz, and Lee.

There were 8 songs sung (in order): *An All American Christmas, Roots, Over the River, We Gather Together, Sing the Christmas Story, Children Go Where I Send Thee, Yankee Doodle Santa, and We Wish You a Merry Christmas.* In the program there were tap dancers, instrumentalists, and of course, a "Yankee Doodle Santa".

The director of the Christmas program was Mrs. Douds, the music teacher at East School. She likes to direct this yearly program because she says she does it to help teach kids some of what Christmas was like in the old days.

This play only happens at Memorial Hall once a year, so be sure to come see it every December!

Homework Help

Homework help is offered at East Monday through Friday right after school until 5:00. Children need written permission from parents to attend.

Transportation Changes

Please send a note or call school if your child's method of transportation changes.

Character Carnival

by Sophie Gettinger and Lucy Stieffel

The Character Carnival is a fun party for East

School students. The Carnival rocks out on Dec. 19, right here at East School. It is hosted by your very own friends in Student Council.

Student Council members get to think of the games, activities, prizes, and where everything will be. They also get to decide what game / activity they run and who they run it with. They will have their meeting on Dec. 14.

You can only attend the super fun Character Carnival if you don't get Saturday School, detention, or a suspension.

The party is loads of fun. You can play as many fun games as you can, and if you win, you get to keep your prize. You get to eat pizza and play on the jumpies in the gym. Everyone's favorite part is this rule: **no parents allowed!**



Face Painting at the 2011 Character Carnival at East School

Horse Parade

By Taylor Denniston and Abby Swensen

Amber Schmerge has been in charge of Greenville's horse parade for 8 years. But she didn't come up with the idea. In 2004, a volunteer named Jenny Clark came up with the idea of a parade from Martin St. to S. Broadway. But this parade wouldn't have floats. It would have HORSES!

Draft horses,

miniature horses, riding horses...all are in this parade. There are also many different people who come to enjoy the parade. Eight thousand people come, and they are from at least 3 different counties. Ms. Schmerge calls it a "mush" of Greenville citizens. Altogether 50 wonderful volunteers put together this unique parade.

The parade takes place on the Thursday before Thanksgiving every year at about 3:00.

Come be a part of this "mush" next year!!



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by Madison Hollopeter

Zalig Kerstfeest! That is Dutch for Merry Christmas. In Holland, people give and get gifts to each other, but they also get more presents from St. Nicolas and his helper, Black Peter, who arrive in a boat in November. Then on December fifth, Dutch people get MORE gifts from Sinterklaas. Our Santa Claus lives in the North Pole. Sinterklaas lives in Spain. Farmers in Holland will blow long horns when the sun sets each evening during the Christmas season. They blow the horns over water wells, and it is extremely loud! The children leave clogs (wooden shoes) for Sinterklaas to fill with sweets. But kids who are bad will be chased by Black Peter...with a stick!

The Christmas Season

By Rachel Wright



Wrapping paper flies

Like birds in the sky.

But there's a good reason:

We're in the Christmas season.

Presents nestled beneath the tree.

Children scrambling happily.

And there's a good reason:

We're in the Christmas season!



Christmas Customs Around the World

Christmas in Germany

By Wesley Shaffer



In Germany Christmas is a major holiday, but they don't call it Christmas. They call it Weihnachten. Germans begin celebrating on December sixth. On this day German children put a boot or shoe on the mantle - a lot like our stockings. If the child has been good, that child gets delicious candy in their shoe

or boot. But if they have been bad they get twigs.

There is a legend that on Weihnachten, rivers turn into wine, the church bells can be heard from the depth of the ocean, animals talk to each other, tree blossoms have tons of food, and the mountains open up and reveal rubies and diamonds. The only people who can experience this magic are people with a pure heart.

The most popular tradition is the Christmas tree. The Christmas tree is also known as the tree of life. The Germans have a pastry that is white dough that they mold

into shapes then put on the tree. If you have cookie dough ornaments on your tree, maybe your family borrowed this German tradition.

There are special Weihnachten figures like Christkind the angel who brings a basket of toys to children. Another Weihnachten figure is the Christmas man called Weihnachtsmann who looks like Santa.

Some of the Weihnachten presents are cookies, little dolls made of fruits, and sweets. Some carols they sing are Silent Night and Little Drummer Boy, just like we carol in America.

Christmas in Norway

By Abby Swensen

Norway has many interesting traditions around Christmas time. One of the best traditions is "Nisse". Nisse is like Norway's Santa Claus.

The tradition is to set a bowl of porridge in your barn. Then in the morning it will be gone! This is like our Santa with cookies and milk. The reason you set porridge in your barn is that Nisse

takes good care of farm animals.

Nisse is mostly happy and jolly but sometimes he can be stern. If you don't leave him any porridge, he is known to play naughty tricks on you!

Another popular tradition is to eat types of cakes or biscuits at lunch on Christmas Eve. A popular food is called "dulekake", which sounds like "cake." But the main part of the meal is pork.

Another tradition in Norway is Christmas caroling. Children go around their neighborhood and sing at each home. Children also like to dress up as characters from "The Christmas Story".

"God Jul!" or "Merry Christmas!" to you all, and have a day full of happiness.



Christmas in Britain

by Katie Jay

In Great Britain, families often celebrate Christmas together so they help each other open their presents.

Most families have a Christmas tree in their house for Christmas. The decorating of the tree is usually a family occasion,

with everyone helping.

Holly, ivy, and mistletoe are also sometimes used to decorate homes or other buildings.

Children believe that Father Christmas leaves presents in stockings or pillow cases! These are normally hung up by the fire or by the children beds on Christmas Eve.

Children sometimes leave out mince pies and brandy for father Christmas to eat and drink when he visits them.





By Sophie Gettinger

Little cotton balls flying through the air,

They're here, they're there, they're everywhere!

Each one has such a unique design,

Oh, how I wish they could all be mine.

They all fall on Christmas night

Shining in the bright moonlight.

They fall into a cute snowman

Right on top of the bunny-colored land.

The Spelling Bee

By Andrew Knick and Rae Benedict

There's sweating, there's tension, you're embarrassed, and you're nervous.

The 4th-12th graders have a chance to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee that is held every year. The contest begins at schools. Students have to qualify to be in the school spelling bee. They qualify by scoring high on a spell-

ing test that is the same for all 4th graders.

During the East school bee, Mrs. Holm is the person who pronounces the words that the students have to spell. Mrs. Holm gets the words from the Scripps Spelling Bee Organization. The judges tell if students spell the words right or wrong. The judges are Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Lee, and Mrs. Jen-

drusik.

The prizes for the East bee are: books if you win and certificates if you participate. If you win first or second place in the school Spelling Bee, you go on to the district spelling bee. Then if you win that, you go on to the Regional Spelling Bee. Next is the state bee. Finally you go on to the National Spelling Bee and you'll be on tv!



Echoes Perform

By Rachel Wright and Amanda Chui

Recently the East Echoes (pictured left) performed at *Breakfast with Santa* at the high school and had their own performance at Memorial Hall.

Breakfast with Santa began at 9:00, but all Echoes had to be there by 8:45. Breakfast ended at 10:00.

Along with the East Echoes, the Jazz Scene, an instrumental musical group from the high school, entertained everyone with Christmas music.

At Memorial Hall and *Breakfast with Santa* the East Echoes sang: "It's Christmas, Christmas, Christmas", "Over the Freeway", "Jingle Bell Dash", "On the Roof", "O Christmas Tree", and "Somewhere in My Memory".

On Thursday, Dec. 15, the group went to Wal-Mart in Greenville to perform. Shoppers and employees enjoyed the songs. The group's leader, Mrs. Shumaker, said she took the Echoes there to entertain the shoppers. Also, some businesses donated money, to be used for buying t-shirts for the East Echoes to wear during spring performances.

During school hours Mrs. Shumaker arranges for bus transportation for the East Echoes, but when the Echoes perform after school hours, it's up to parents to get performers where they need to be. Riley Hunt's grandmother, who is a bus driver, has offered to drive the bus free of charge.

Smith, Howard and Pressnall Prevail!

East 4th graders were on the edge of their seats as Riley Smith correctly spelled the word, *altogether*, to win the East School spelling bee on Friday, December 9th. Onlookers commented that Riley was very poised and didn't seem nervous at all.

Riley was congratulated by the second place winner, Ryan Howard, who showed great sportsmanship

as he cheered and clapped for Riley.

Zoe Pressnall placed 3rd, making her the alternate for the upcoming district spelling bee to be held on January 24th at 9:30 A.M. at St. Clair Memorial Hall.

Congratulations and good luck on January 24th!

(Pictured left to right: Smith, Howard, Pressnall)





HINES' HEALTH HANDBOOK

The most common illness this time of year is the flu. The flu is a virus that affects the respiratory tract – the part of your body that helps you breathe.

The flu goes around about late November to early March. It spreads by people coughing in their hands and then touching someone or something. To prevent from getting the flu you should wash your hands with soap, throw away your tissues, and cough into your elbow.

We need flu shots to stay healthy. To get flu shots you need to call your doctor. The symptoms of the flu are fever, aches and pains, being tired, headaches, chest discomfort, dry cough, and most of all, chills.

To call the school's office if your child is sick dial 548-2815. Stay healthy everyone!

Taylor Hines

Taekwondo by Kole Maples

Taekwondo comes from Korea. Taekwondo was started as means of self-defense. Definitions: *tae-* to kick or smash with the feet, *kwon-* to punch or destroy with hand or fist, *do-* way or method. Taekwondo also means *way of the foot or fist*. The man who started Taekwondo was named Wonkaing Bopsa. Taekwondo is a Olympic event. It usually takes 3 to 4 months to move up a belt in Taekwondo. To become a sabumnim (Taekwondo teacher in Korean) you must pass all belts and test in front of the black belt board.



Jesus' Birth

By Caleb Coppess and Hope Schaaf

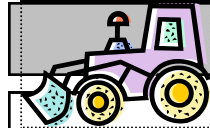
People believed God would send a Messiah to earth. Christians believed the Messiah would forgive their wrong doings. God decided to send Jesus, a baby, as the Messiah. Then God asked Mary to be Jesus' mother. God asked Joseph to be Jesus' stepdad. Right before Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph took a journey to Bethlehem in Israel. The government wanted people to go home to where they were born to be counted as citizens. Mary and Joseph had to stay over night in a stable because all the inns in Bethlehem were full. That night, Jesus was born. Shepherds found out that Jesus was born when an angel told them. Three wise men called Magi also heard about Jesus' birth. They went to visit him. They followed a big glowing star in the sky to find the stable. They took him gold and expensive spices used in perfume. The king of Israel, named Herod, didn't like the Jewish citizens calling Jesus their king and savior, so he wanted Jesus dead. An angel told Joseph to run away to Egypt to keep Jesus safe from Herod. Today we celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas time. Christmas is to remind us of Jesus and how he was God's gift to the world.

Teacher Feature

by Blaine Smith

Mr. Aaron Winner is a third grade teacher at East. He became a teacher after graduating from Wright State University Lake Campus. Mr. Winner became a teacher because he likes helping out kids and he wants to do something he enjoys. He teaches 3rd grade language arts, but he used to teach 3rd grade science and social studies. He taught other grades and subjects, too.

Mr. Winner is married to his wife, Julie. They have a dog named Oliver. Mr. and Mrs. Winner are good cookie bakers. They bake Christmas cookies for teachers at East school during the holidays. Mr. Winner says Oliver refuses to help.



The Weather Corner

by Victor Livesay

BLIZZARDS & SNOWSTORMS

It's cold here in the Weather Corner today . I'll be giving you some useful tips about blizzards and snowstorms. I'll also be telling you how to prepare for winter weather .Have fun reading, and have a safe winter!

Who do you call if you get caught in a snowstorm?

If you get caught in a snowstorm, you call 911.

What are level 1, 2, and 3 snow emergencies?

Level one: Roads are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads also have ice. Drive *cautiously!*

Level two : Roads are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads are *very icy*. Drive *cautiously!*

Level three : All roadways are closed except for emergency vehicles. Others driving may be *arrested*.

What kinds of supplies should you always have in your car in winter?

You need a winter survival kit:

- Blankets/sleeping bags
- First-aid kit
- Knife
- High-calorie non-perishable food
- Extra clothing to keep dry
- Shovel
- Windshield scraper brush
- Toolkit
- Container of water
- Compass and road maps

What conditions are necessary to cause meteorologists to declare that the weather qualifies as a blizzard?

- Winds above 35 miles per hour
- Temperature under minus 7 degrees celcius
- Your ability to see beyond 400 meters ahead of yourself is impossible for at least 3 hours.