

Abigail Soria
Naughty or Nice?
What list are you on...?

This past Wednesday was our school's annual Christmas concert, and it was stressful, to say the least. Starting strong, we didnt know the pieces as well as we should have. With only about 2 weeks to practice, we were scrambling to put the pieces together and sound good, which usually takes time. Besides the fact that we had 2 weeks to practice, we also had to switch a piece out because we didnt learn it in time. For one of the pieces too, we also didnt have the beginning well learned so it sounded off. But the show went on. It started with the choir and the fruitcake song, coming back from the dead. We then moved on to Dodici, which did a good job, and then Nathan and Julia with their solos, which were phenomenal. Jazz band came next, with solos from Obed and (enter name). And then lastly came band. Everything was going as expected, maybe not the best but not the worst were played either, that is until Ms. Stark stopped us to restart the song. Yes, we didnt play the beginning of the song right so she stopped us. Not the first time it's happened, but first time in a while. But all in all the concert went as well as hoped.

“I’m just freestyling it” a student on having to do a solo

On another topic, our students have been busy this week and last with our deck the halls contest. Each class gets a theme and a section of the halls and they have to decorate their section to their theme. Then the staff judges those halls and whoever wins gets a prize. Seniors got A Charlie Brown Christmas, juniors got The Grinch, sophomores The Polar Express, and freshmen home alone? But it seems while everyone else was hard at work breaking their back, the sophomores got into a little bit of a dilemma. It seems that someone wasn’t satisfied with what his classmates pulled up together and put up a McDonalds sign and decided their new theme was going to be McDonald’s. Looks like someone was hungry, or maybe just inconsiderable about other people’s work. On the other hand, freshmen didn’t get anything done, or maybe they just took the theme too seriously and left the hallway completely alone, the lonely hallway. Upstairs the juniors and seniors were hard at work, breaking their backs, and taking the competition seriously. It seemed like every time one class put something up the other also put it up, maybe not necessarily coying but maybe something along the lines. Or maybe they were just inspired by each other. We don’t know who won yet, but if it comes down to the juniors winning, let’s take into consideration that they changed their theme to their own preferences. But we all know who will win. Lastly with the basketball season starting we see some common numbers among players. Purposely or not, we don’t know but excited to see what will come of it. On the subject of basketball, the season has officially started and even though we’ve had some recent losses in both the girls and boys, we are excited to see where the season takes. Chipolte most likely though.

“My only expectation for this season is to be a benchwarmer” one of our basketball players



The seniors deck the hall theme was A Charlie Brown Christmas.

Obed Dominguez
New Year, New Me
What does it really take to change?

The time is coming around when holiday shoppers spend most most of their time speed-walking around the mall, looking for last-minute gifts and people find themselves crammed into a familiar home to share Christmas with. Along with the Christmas craze, the new year is never late to the party, seemingly creeping up faster than ever each passing year. Each year, in hopeful aspirations, people set “New Year Resolutions” in desire of a better version of themselves for the future. I know I have set expectations before a new year and just like millions of people out there, failed to meet them just weeks, or even days after the year starts. However, with every passing year we have the chance to turn the tides, so this coming year I will give two things to try to help you guys who are desiring a change for the better in the future. A big reason why people abandon their plans is because they set unrealistic goals. In excitement of the new year ambitious humans envision themselves living the dream and they look for the fastest and probably most impractical ways to get there causing you to make something called "false hope syndrome". It is vital to set goals that you know are plausible and realistic, that you know can stick to. Another reason why people aren’t getting things done is due to lack of planning. I am a freak when it comes to planning and my friends know that I plan weeks, if not months ahead. From my own experience when I want to achieve something, usually I’ll have to break down very specifically how it is I will reach that goal. Break down your goals so that every time you are going to take another step, you know exactly what you need to do to take it. Hopefully this was useful and you can use it to achieve a better you in the New Year.

Izabelle DaSilva Maia
Holiday Gift Ideas
For the last-minute shoppers

As holidays get closer, our schedule gets fuller and fuller, and with so much in our heads we might forget to buy gifts for everyone in our lists, so here are ideas that will satisfy everyone’s taste even if they are the pickiest person you know.

- Girls ideas:
- Candles (You can never go wrong with good smells around the girlies)
 - Lotion & Perfume (A combo that always put a smile on any girl face)
 - Lip gloss/ChapStick (No matter how many we have we will always take another one)
 - Stuffed animals (It's just cute, and that’s enough to make us happy)
 - Cute socks (We need cute socks to match with our fits and especially during this cold session)
- Boys ideas:
- Lego (I’ve never met a guy who doesnt like legos so its a safe go to)
 - Socks (I feel like guys never have enough socks, since my brother its always taking my socks, so its also a safe go to)
 - Cologne (Just like the girls you can never go wrong with a good smell around the guys)
 - Something related to the sport they like (Every guy have the sport which they are obsessed with so anything that remember him of that sport will make him happy)
 - Vinyl (A vinyl is always nice even if you don’t have a vinyl record, its asthetic enough to be part of their room dec)
 - Gift card (Everyone enjoys getting a gift card)

- For your special person:
- Flowers (Every girl loves to get flowers, and me personally think that guys should receive flowers more often)
 - Something handmade (Something that you know someone spend their time to do it especially for you, is more valuable than many expensive gifts, trust me)
 - Jewelry (Getting new jewelry always warms anyone’s heart)
 - A letter (Words can be more valuable than gifts, and letters are something personal and special, you can never go wrong with letters)

I hoped this list helped you figured things out, and don’t wait until the last minute to get those you love something special!

Song of the Issue:
YOU'RE A MEAN ONE, MR. GRINCH
BY: TYLER, THE CREATOR

Spotify Play Count: 69,948,116

Halle Bammert
Santa’s favorite ...

Ingredients:	Directions:
• ½ cup <u>unsalted butter</u>, at room temperature • ¾ cup packed dark brown sugar • ½ cup unsulphured blackstrap molasses, we like the <u>Wholesome</u> brand • 1 large egg yolk • 1 teaspoon <u>vanilla extract</u> • 2¼ cups <u>all-purpose flour</u>, spooned and leveled • 2 teaspoons <u>cinnamon</u> • 2 teaspoons ground ginger • 1 teaspoon <u>baking soda</u> • ½ teaspoon fine sea salt • ¼ teaspoon ground cloves • 1 tablespoon <u>almond milk</u>, or any milk	Cream butter and brown sugar in a stand mixer. Add molasses, egg yolk, and vanilla, mixing until combined. Whisk flour, cinnamon, ginger, baking soda, salt, and cloves in a separate bowl. Gradually add to wet ingredients, mixing after each addition. Stir in almond milk. Form dough into a ball, divide, and flatten into 1-inch disks. Wrap in plastic and chill for 2 hours. Preheat oven to 350°F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper. Roll out dough on a floured surface to ¼-inch thickness. Cut shapes with cookie cutters and place on baking sheets. Bake for 7-9 minutes, until edges are set but centers are soft. Let cool on sheets for 5 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack. Decorate as desired. Enjoy your gingerbread cookies!

Jonathon Bower
PSAA's Wishlist

So... after hours of interviews, okay maybe an hour of interviews, I have determined some things that people are doing for Christmas. Ok, maybe not. But I still made a list of Christmas things that people liked or are doing or something else. Starting out, the best foods, are Mrs. Aguilar's tamales, according to Isaac and Abril, a Russian sandwich with caviar according to Leon, Chocotone according to Heitor, and cookies which Jackson likes, for some reason. Also, 'Last Christmas' someone gave Caleb a 3D printer, which is Kaia and Julia's favorite song, and Mistletoe by Bieber, is Stella and Ary's favorite. Isaac's favorite is Merry Christmas Happy Holidays NSYNC, and Santa Tell Me was voted 3rd most liked in this arbitrary poll. Anyways, mine is Holiday Rock by Neon Trees, thanks for asking. Speaking of asking, Stefan wants creatine, and Josh wants money, I guess, and Mia, as stated previously, wants a big, fluffy, comfortable and most importantly, warm, sweater. And most importantly of all, our school's most famous canine, Ivory, wants a stuffed animal. Finally, I'm going to pull an Obed and leak some people's plans for the break. So, our school's celebrity couple... Kaia is visiting her grandparents, and Grayson has, "family plans." He declined to comment further. Because I forgot to ask other people's plans, my plans are to chill, practice, and lock in on AP Psychology.

"I forgot... - Me when I realize I don't have enough blackma- I mean interviewees for content."



Photos and Picture Captions: Danil Fotin

Jacob Santiago
Taking You Through Christmas Break
Things To Do to Cure Boredom

Outdoor activities: Go ice skating with your friends or even by yourself. Build a snowman or have a snowball fight—if there isn't snow, it's too bad. Go sledding. Go on a hike—Franklin Falls is an easy one. Visit Snowflake Lane in downtown Bellevue, Go to the slopes. Go for a 10-mile run.

Indoor activities: Bake cookies for Santa, just bake in general. Watch Christmas movies, Ex.: Elf, Home Alone, The Grinch, Revenge of the Sith... Decorate your house with Christmas stuff. Decorate a gingerbread house. Make Tamales. Get a fire going in your chimney and drink hot chocolate near it while reading a book, Preferably the Bible. Buy presents for everyone and write heartfelt cards.

Winter ark?
Mediate, Journal, practice gratitude, Go to the gym, Eat well, Get in the Lab—bag work—just put up some shots over break. GET YOUR SLEEP RIGHT.