



# The Husky Howler

## Tim Burton’s Nightmare Before Christmas: See it in Concert!

December is a time for laughter, fun, joy, and spending time with friends and family. Many people get together with their families and have dinner and enjoy the company of relatives or close friends. Some do this by watching movies, one of which may be The Nightmare Before Christmas. This film was created by Tim Burton, directed by Henry Selick, and has been a popular movie since October 13, 1993. Now, 29 years later, we can see the show as a concert in the Abravanel Hall, located in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Performed by Utah symphony, the concert is a “delightfully quirky score from Danny Elfman drives Tim Burton’s fantastical tale of Jack Skellington’s plot for Halloween Town to take over Christmas—and the hilariously haunting results,” UtahSymphony.org says. Not only will the concert be representing the original show, but they also have other details that you can do before and after the show, such as,

“Arrive early to make a spooky ornament and take photos in our special Halloween town. Visit our giving tree in the lobby and make a special donation to the Utah Symphony this holiday season,” as said by the Utah Symphony Event Music Director, Thierry Fischer. Show times include 7:00 pm on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of December. Children over the age of 5 are permitted, along with teens, adults, and elders.

The venue for the show is Abravanel Hall, Salt Lake City Utah. The theater was originally named Symphony Hall because of its dedication to the musical industry of Utah’s many Symphonies. The hall “was renamed in 1993 to honor Maurice Abravanel, who conducted the Utah Symphony Orchestra for more than 30 years. Although he retired before having the chance to conduct there, he was pleased with the way it turned out. Forty years later, the hall continues to house world-class performances.”

Tim Burton has created many film ideas, and few have been published. For this film that the Utah Symphony is producing, he got his inspiration from a few movie specials. “After completing his short film Vincent in 1982, Burton, who was then employed at Walt Disney Feature Animation, wrote a three-page poem titled The Nightmare Before Christmas, drawing inspiration from television specials of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, How the Grinch Stole Christmas! (1966) and the poem A Visit from St. Nicholas,” The Nightmare Before Christmas-Wikipedia said. We can see the inspiration of these television specials throughout the film, as the Character Jack Skellington tries to recreate Christmas essentially stealing the idea of it from Santa Clause, as a reference to How the Grinch Stole Christmas. Other similarities include the red noses on the skeleton reindeer, the red coat that Sally makes for Jack, and many more references to the films that the ideas were drawn from.

So, on December 21st, 22nd, or 23rd, come see the Utah Symphony perform The Nightmare Before Christmas at the Abravanel Hall in Salt Lake City, Utah. With multiple things to see, it would be an enjoyable performance for any age, and a wonderful experience to have before the holiday season comes to an end. -Kaitlyn Turley

## The Season for Giving

**You have probably heard of the charity Sub for Santa. It’s a great way to give back to the community.** The charity is all about giving children Christmas joy with gifts that usually get donated. They help families anywhere in Utah county. They are like a temporary Santa for people who don’t have the resources to get Christmas presents. They take donations so if you choose to donate, you will be helping a child feel loved and important during the holidays.

There is also a way to get help during the holidays on the Sub for Santa website. You must have certain qualifications to get help. If you get through that process, a sponsor will help you and your family. One main thing they look at is the age of the child. You must be between 18 months and 16 years old. They also only help people in Utah county. You also cannot be helped if you have been helped by them before several times. It makes it fair for more people that don’t have Christmas presents.

I talked to some students about considering donating money to Sub for Santa. Lauren Jonson says, “Yes, I would love to help those in need.” Holland Palmer, another student at Farmington Jr. High talks about donating. “Ya, I would love to have the chance to make little kids happy with presents.” As you can see, a lot of people enjoy helping kids and their families have Christmas joy. Sub for Santa is an amazing organization worth donating to. It is a noble cause and puts a smile on little kids faces.

-Nora Jensen



## Top Goal Scorers in FIFA World Cup



Image Source: Getty Images

**The semi-finals and final game of the FIFA World Cup are coming up.** Now that the U.S. team is out, who is your pick to win it all? France might be a good choice considering the top goal scorer of the competition is on their team. Kylian Mbappe has scored five goals in Qatar. Currently, he is the only player to achieve this status.

Behind him there are several others who have scored three goals in Qatar: Goncalo Ramos (Portugal), Alvaro Morata (Spain), Lionel Messi (Argentina), Marcus Rashford (England), Bukayo Saka (England), Olivier Giroud (France), Richarlison (Brazil), Enner Valencia (Ecuador), and Cody Gakpo (Netherlands). At the end of the World Cup, a special award is given to the player who scores the most goals at Qatar 2022. The award is called The Golden Boot. If two players are equal, the one with most assists will win it. The most goals ever scored by a single player in the World Cup was in 1958 when Just Fontaine of France scored 13 goals!

## What Else Can We Celebrate?



**Winter Break is coming up on December 21st.** That means that we only have 15 school days in December! During Winter Break many of us will be celebrating holidays like Hannukah,

Kwanza and Christmas and some will just be enjoying the much-needed break from school. While we are familiar with these holidays there are some holidays that are not as well known.

Did you know that there is a holiday for every day in December? Starting off on December 1st it is Eat a Red Apple Day. This day is to encourage you to eat a healthy fruit and enjoy the benefits of tasting the delicious fruit. This holiday also represents education and knowledge. December 1-7 is National Cookie Cutter week, this is a good excuse to make cookies every day for a week and try out a new cookie cutter each day. It is meant to inspire you to love baking cookies and to learn to decorate new shapes. On December 2nd it is Day Without School Day, this one is self-explanatory but apparently our school didn’t get the memo. Sorry guys we still have school on this day.

All these holidays sound very exciting and it would be fun to celebrate them with your peers, but the truth is that there is a holiday for every single day of the year. One holiday that’s my favorite is National Christmas Lights Day, which is on December 1st. It’s meant to represent the lights in others. Another one of my favorites is National Build Joy Day, which is on December 2nd and the holiday reminds people who are less fortunate that they are not alone which is important because it’s always good to lend a helping hand.

The thing that everyone thinks about during December is the main holidays but there are lots of different more meaningful or interesting holidays than you would expect. You should think about looking through all the holidays of the year.

-Lauren Hunter

# Feature

## Brian Froud: The Artistic Tolkien



The cult classic *The Dark Crystal* came out in 1982, just like FJH. The film was the first fantasy film made by Jim Henson, the creator of the Muppets. This film was made entirely with puppets and animatronics. Those puppets (along with architecture and props) were designed by artist Brian Froud.

Brian Froud started his career as a commercial illustrator in the UK. He illustrated multiple children's books and released an anthology of his art called *The Land of Froud*. This book caught the eye of Jim Henson, who asked Brian to help with the film he was working on: *The Dark Crystal*.

The film was about how a planet called Thra used to be green and good until two new races appeared: the Cruel Skeksis and the Gentle Mystics (or called UrRu if you delve into more lore). The Skeksis cracked a crystal that is basically the heart of Thra, which caused the land to slowly die. So, a Gelfling named Jen has to find the shard of the Crystal and heal it before the three suns line up. If he doesn't make it in time, then the Skeksis will have power over the stars and live forever. Brian Froud drew designs for every single thing you see in the film. Usually, when drawing, he started with the eye. During a BTS video for the film, he described the Skeksis as part reptilian, part predatory bird, and part dragon.

Brian Froud also worked on another film with Jim Henson called *Labyrinth*. The film featured more humans in it (Jim Henson thought that the *Dark Crystal* didn't do well because there weren't any humans). The film is about how a teenage girl named Sarah (played by a young Jennifer Connelly) is forced to babysit her annoying baby brother Toby. She jokingly wishes that Toby be taken away by the Goblins from her favorite book *Labyrinth*. Her wish is actually granted by the Goblin King (played by rockstar David Bowie), so she must go through a labyrinth filled with illusions and strange creatures to save Toby from becoming a Goblin.

His latest work was on the 2019 Netflix series *The Dark Crystal: Age of Resistance*. His creations are still amazing to this day. -Henry Smith

## Red Coated Crime?



Photo Credit: Getty Images

Many laws have been made to protect our personal things, privacy, and more. But, at the same time, we are aware of Santa Claus. Many of us knew Santa Claus as the big, fat, old guy who climbs down your chimney every year on the night of December

24th to deliver your annual presents.

These two beloved and particularly important things in our lives collide, as Santa Claus commits many crimes in his work. Santa Claus commits thievery, breaking and entering and/or trespassing, stalking, vandalism, and animal abuse every year.

Before Santa Claus even starts to climb down your chimney, he is already committing a crime. He is using elves as slaves to make the toys, which his reindeer will deliver. His elves and reindeer get no pay, except carrots for the reindeer. These reindeer are still over-worked and have terrible living conditions, that the carrots just cannot make up for.

Now, this is when he begins committing trespassing, just by landing on your roof. He starts by climbing down your chimney. Santa may damage your chimney, especially with his body weight and shape, which is vandalizing your house. If you happen to not own a chimney, he'll most likely come through the front door, which is breaking and entering. Then after he initially enters your home, he takes the cookies, carrots, and milk. Now, he's also committed thievery. Leaving presents in your house is like a bomb threat, as you cannot see what's inside these presents when they are traditionally wrapped, but even more vandalism.

Santa leaves your house, having committed six to seven crimes, but there is a star on top of this Christmas tree of crime: stalking. In the classic song "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," it discusses how he knows when you're sleeping, and knows when you're awake, and if you've been bad or not. This-of course-isn't Santa, that's watching you, but it's his elf slaves, so he gets the blame for it.

Santa Claus' crimes cannot go unexcused because of his kindness. Under Utah state law, Santa Claus has 24 years and 6 months to 39 years and 6 months of jail time to serve at the minimum. This also comes with the fun Christmas present of a fine starting at \$3,500 just for the crimes, and he has to pay back any damage he may have done to your house during his many visits. So, on this year's visit, just know that Santa Claus owes you those presents and much, much more. -Lauren Forsyth

## The WWI Christmas Truce



Image Source: myfaithcounts.com

Down in the Western Front of Europe in 1914, British/French troops were stopping the German troops' attack through Belgium and into France. It was in the middle of WWI and worry and depression filled nations. It was near Christmas time and several "peace initiatives" were trying to be made by many different people and groups. British suffragettes and Pope Benedict were some of the people trying to bring these initiatives; "[that] the guns may fall silent at least upon the night the angels sang," begged the Pope.

It hadn't been all violence and gunfire, however, for those among the Western Front, in fact, there was common fraternization. While there had been no official treaty agreeing to no gunfire or attacks on Christmas, the natural instinct of the soldiers on the front line had made Christmas in 1914 somewhat enjoyable.

"First the Germans would sing one of their carols and then we would sing one of ours, until we started up 'O Come, All ye Faithful' the Germans immediately joined in singing the same hymn to the Latin word *Adeste Fideles*. And I thought, well, this is really the most extraordinary thing—two nations both singing the same carol in the middle of a war," said Graham Williams, a British rifleman.

On that Christmas, there was no hostility between the 100,000 British/French and German soldiers. Army men started crossing onto No Man's Land and the two sides started exchanging small gifts like souvenirs: buttons and hats, tobacco, alcohol, and food. Both sides sang carols and the Germans put candles in their trenches and on trees. Recently killed soldiers were also able to be retrieved and brought back to their side's trenches, where a service was held for the fallen. -Megan Barker

The **Husky Howler** is the monthly newspaper of Farmington Junior High School in Farmington, Utah. The staff is made up of writers from all grade levels. Please email your questions, comments, or editorial replies to the Staff Advisor, Mrs. Kalakis at the following address: [mkalakis@dsdmail.net](mailto:mkalakis@dsdmail.net)

# Sports

## Thinking About Track?



As the school year continues, one of the sports starting up soon is track and field. For anyone interested in being on the team, intermural/pre-conditioning will start in January (more details to come).

As far as the regular track season goes, Coach Dennis says, “We will have an information

meeting towards the end of February. Then we will start conditioning at the school on March 6th and official practice begins on March 20th. We won’t be taking roll when we have conditioning, but it will definitely be a good idea to be there if students want to be on the team because we start out a little easier during conditioning and then build up. I also recommend starting to run before conditioning to build up a little bit first. Anyone wanting to participate in track needs to have a physical submitted on registermyathlete.com Physicals are good for one year, so anyone who has participated in another sport this year doesn’t need to get a new physical. Track is super fun, and everyone is welcome to come and join!” -Alyssa Romano

## The Newest Team at FJH

The girls' basketball team had their first game on the eighth of December! They played against Sunset Jr. High. They lost the Varsity game, but Junior Varsity won their game. The game’s theme was the 1980’s, so some members of the student body who came wore 80’s-themed outfits.



The team members are, Eliza Arbuckle, Maleah Beddes, Cali Crockett, Raegyn Dahlke, Tori Davis, Ellie Dorius, Kate Drommond, Kinsley Johnson, Hazel Myers, Hallie Neuenswander, Brooklyn Romney, Julia Sandberg, Morgan Snell, Ruby Vargas, Olive Wayland, Makelle Weber, Eve Wilcox, and Cambria Yospe.

After interviewing team members to find out what they thought of the game, Kinsley Johnson said, “I think we played really well for our first game. I mean there is definitely things we can work on, but in like a week we will be so in sync, and we’ll be able to play with each other so much better.” Later she commented, “Really everyone is super nice. Everyone who I’ve met so far has really good experience and handles the ball really well. They’re all just super nice and super fun to talk to.”

Another player, Ellie Dorius, said, “All the girls from the Farmington Phoenix 11-13 group made it, that tried out, and so I think it’s a good group of girls. There’s a few 8th graders and 9th graders as well, and so I think it’s going to be a good season.”

When asked what game was more interesting, Ellie said, “I think the varsity game was more fun because we were kind of the underdogs with more seventh graders playing out on the court, whereas the other team didn’t have many seventh graders out there that played JV as well as varsity.” She continued with, “... I think that was a game that was ... exciting to watch, just wondering who would win and it was kind of cool to see the 7th graders get some cool plays as well as the 9th graders.”

An anonymous girl on the team had a very inspirational remark. She claimed that, “It was a hard tough battle, and we came up a little short. We’ll take the lessons learned today and come back better next week.”

The Huskies played well in both games, and we can tell that this is going to be a great girls’ basketball season. -Hanne Davis

# Worldwide Sports



At our school, we have many different competitive sports from boys/girls basketball to cheerleading and dancing. However, have you ever wondered what the most popular sport is in the world? According to WorldAtlas, the most popular sports in the world include soccer, basketball,

and volleyball. These sports are very diverse and different, yet everybody loves them. Let’s see why.

**Soccer** We don’t have a soccer team at Farmington Junior High, but it’s important to know about the sport and why it is so popular amongst many fans. According to Bundesliga, soccer (also known as football in the U.K. and fútbol in Central and South America) is the world’s most popular sport played by over 250 million people in more than 200 different countries. Soccer is played on a rectangular field that is 220-120 yards long and 70-80 yards wide. The game is played using a ball that you shoot into your opponent’s goal. Soccer is popularly played in Europe, Central and South America, and Africa, though it has been growing more and more popular in North America and Asia.

**Basketball** We are fortunate at Farmington Junior High to have two basketball teams. A girls’ basketball team and a boys’ basketball team. Girls’ basketball tryouts were held recently and the team is now up and running. Basketball is played in 213 countries. The rules of basketball are fairly simple, shoot a ball into the opponent’s hoop that is 10 feet above the ground. Although the rules are simple, you need a lot of skill to play basketball.

**Volleyball** At Farmington Junior we have a volleyball team that had a great season this year. Volleyball was invented in 1895 by William G. Morgan. William G. Morgan had a stroke of genius when he thought of such a fun sport such as volleyball that is now played in 221 countries. Volleyball is played with two teams each team consisting of six players. The point of the game is to hit the ball over the net onto the opponent’s side of the court. If the opponent doesn’t hit the ball back, the other team gets a point.

Farmington Junior High also has additional sports ranging from track to wrestling. Watching games is a great way to encourage school spirit and learn more about sports and meet new people. Savannah Tingey (7) said “I think games are fun and a great opportunity to meet new people and have a great time!” -Kiley Kunz



## The History of Figure Skating

**Jackson Haines was the creator of the modern form of figure skating.** He was born in New York in 1840. At a young age, he began his career in ballet, but he also practiced skating. At one point during his career, he began to skate to music instead of listening to his teachers’ instructions. He meshed the style of ballet with the art of figure skating, which created the art forms we see in the Olympics today.

The oldest known date when skating is believed to have begun was 1800 BCE. The blades at that time were made from the bones of deer, horses, or cows that were strapped to the foot. Modern skates have become much more advanced and are made with types of metal.

The term figure skating comes from the patterns that were made on the ice. In recent years, this hasn’t been as important in competition. Instead there are the multiple different types of figure skating, including freestyle, ice dance, pairs as well as synchronized team skating.

Figure skating has been an Olympic sport since 1908 and was officially the very first competition in the Winter Olympics. The current minimum age to compete in figure skating was recently raised to 17. This decision was made for the Winter Olympics coming up in 2026. “Gradually increasing the age limit from 15 to 17 is necessary for the sake of protecting the physical and mental health, and emotional well-being of skaters,” officials have said. The sport of ice skating puts a huge strain on the body. After retirement, most participants have serious spine and hip injuries. Those injuries come from the immense pressure of landing jumps and constantly falling on the ice.

-Samantha Garrick

# Clubs

## Dream It, Think It, Code It

Do you like to code? Do you want to learn how to code? Do you like hanging out with your friends? If so, come to Coding Club! Coding Club is a club started by Brandon Monson that occurs on Thursdays from 3:00-4:00 in Mrs. Kovacs’s room (room 172). “People sit down and they code,” Brandon says. “It’s pretty chill. Sometimes people need help and someone else can go over and help them.”




Eli and Brooklyn work on projects during Coding Club.

So, what exactly goes on in Coding Club? Well, you code! Currently, the members are working on their own Scratch projects, and they are also planning on learning some other code languages, such as JavaScript. There is also a big project they’re going to do together in the works. When asked what he is currently working on in Coding Club, Brandon said, “I’m making a couple games, such as a procedurally generated maze, a rhythm game, and a mine-sweeper type game.”

In Coding Club, you not only get to code, but you can also hang out with your friends and fellow coders while doing so. Brandon said that his favorite part about Coding Club is “That I get to sit down and code with other people that like coding.” Brandon also said this when asked why he decided to make Coding Club, “For one, I don’t believe that there is much coding opportunities in this school, at least as compared to a couple of elementary schools.”


In this ever-evolving world of technology, coding is a good skill to have. Coding Club accepts members of all skill levels and experience, so whether you’re super into making games and programs or you’ve never touched code before, you can participate. “I would recommend it to anyone who likes to code or wants to learn how to code, just because that’s what we’re here for and it’s a good time in here,” says Brandon.


So, what are you waiting for? If this sounds like the club for you, then come on down to Mrs. Kovacs’s room from 3:00-4:00 on Thursdays and get coding!  
-Kenna LeRoy



### RUBIK'S CUBE CLUB

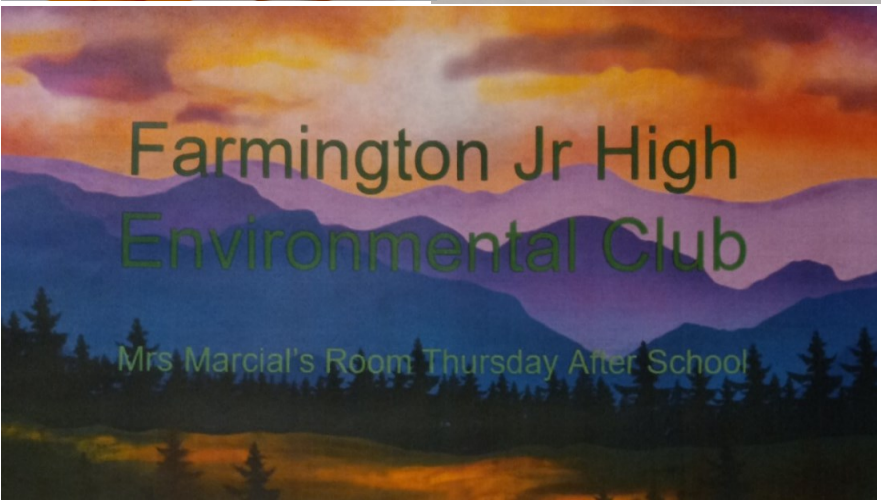
Wednesday 3-4 PM in Mrs. Dennis' Room #222!





### LEGO CLUB

**Mondays Afterschool**  
**3:00 – 4:00**  
**Room 163**  
Everyone Welcome  
No Cost, you use the school's Legos.  
Questions - See Miss Ainscough in the Counseling Center



## Farmington Jr High Environmental Club

Mrs Marcial's Room Thursday After School

## Building Fun with Lego



They’ve been one of the most popular toys in the U.S. for a long time. Kids and teens alike love to play with Legos. Legos started being manufactured in 1949. The bricks were first called automatic binding bricks. Since then, the

name has been changed to Lego bricks. Legos are plastic bricks that fit together when you put them together. They are just like puzzle pieces and come in any shape and size.

The Lego Club this year was started by Mrs. Stoddard and has been in this school for a long time. The club meets on Monday at three and ends at four. It was the first club to be started this year. I asked Jacob Bailey (8) why he joined the club. “Because I really like Legos and I thought it would be really cool.”


I also asked Jacob what his favorite thing about the club was and he said, “That you can just build anything.” When building with Legos it is fun to just let your imagination take over and build whatever you want.

Lastly, I asked Jacob how long he had been in the Lego club. “Ever since last year just when it started.” If you have never tried Legos, you can go to the Lego club to join the fun!

-Carter Jenkins


### FCS CLUB

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES



NOVEMBER 10th	BLOCK PRINT T-SHIRTS 3-4 p.m. Bring your own t-shirt to print!
DECEMBER 15th	MAKING FUDGE 3-4 p.m.
JANUARY 12th	MAKING CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP 3-4 p.m.
FEBRUARY 9th	SEWING ZIPPER CASE PENCIL POUCH PART 1 3-4 p.m.
MARCH 9th	SEWING ZIPPER CASE PENCIL POUCH PART 2 3-4 p.m.
APRIL 20th	MAKING BAKED CHURROS AND CHOCOLATE SAUCE 3-4 p.m.
MAY 18th	CROCHET AND/OR EMBROIDERY 3-4 p.m.

## PRISM Alliance Club



ALL WELCOME  
Tuesdays @ 3:00 pm  
A. Andersen's room 216



# Editorial

## The Holiday Season is the Best Time of Year

These couple of months are unique because it's the time where the majority of people in our country focus on giving to others. Our culture typically focuses a lot on acquiring things for ourselves, on accomplishing status and on our own lives in general. Something magical happens during the holiday season. People start to look outside of themselves. They start to think



and plan on how to make other's lives more plentiful and on spreading joy.

This year we can especially use a lot of service and goodwill in our country. Inflation is hitting a lot of families hard. It's hard for people right now to buy the types of things they need to sustain everyday life. There are multiple opportunities to help. If you have extra money on hand you can find a family that is struggling and do anonymous gift giving, plenty of organizations desperately need donations right now. If you have extra time, food banks, animal shelters and other organizations need helping hands. If you look around at your own neighbors, there will be people who could use some extra care and love during this season.

This season is the most joyful when we participate in the magic, rather than just being on the receiving end of it. It's the giving that makes the season the most joyful. Those memories of making magic happen for someone else will stay with you far longer than the memory of whatever presents you get this season. Let's see if we Huskies can make a difference in our community this season by spreading joy and care throughout our community. It will make the season more enjoyable and memorable for us and for the people we care about. Make this holiday season your best ever. -Braeden Randall

## The Statement Piece of the Season

Christmas trees are a must have, the questions are "what kind," "what should I put on it," and "when should I put it up." As a Christmas lover, I



know the correct way to decorate a Christmas tree to create the best effect for the jolly season. Here are my do's and don'ts for holiday decorations that you should use this Christmas season.

In my opinion, you should choose a fake tree because real Christmas trees can cause sap all over your floor. They can also bring lots of bugs in your house, catch on fire, are hard to bring inside the house, you must buy one every

year, and they will not always be the way you want them to be. Some good things about a real tree is that you have that holiday pine smell, they look authentic, and they can be cheaper. A fake tree is more expensive, but can have lights already on it saving time, and can be different colors. Fake trees can be more economically friendly because you can reuse the tree year after year while a real tree is a one time use. "It is awesome to have a real tree for the traditions but the real trees have been getting more expensive every year that it is overall better to have a fake tree" stated Ella Smith (9).

Now what ornaments should you put on it? You could go many ways. One way is to have a theme, it is a good idea because it looks aesthetically pleasing. Another way is homemade. Homemade is a good idea because it makes amazing memories and traditions that can be passed on. I think that a theme is better because it can incorporate aesthetics and homemade with the special memories. The part of the Christmas tree that draws my eyes the most is the lighting, the most important part. The only way to have the lighting is the warm lighting because it looks nice and doesn't hurt your eyes.

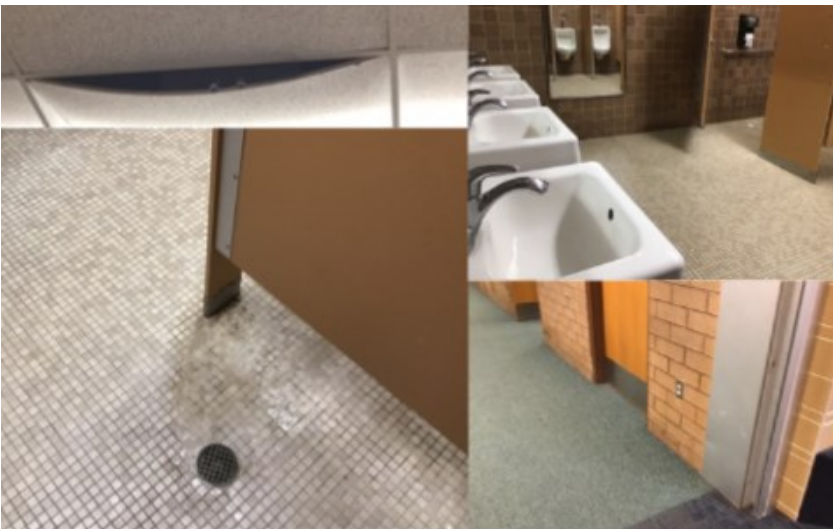
The question is, when should you set up your Christmas tree? You should set up your Christmas tree no later than after Thanksgiving and not before Halloween. If you set it up before Halloween you will lose all your excitement of the holiday season, and after Thanksgiving you don't have enough time to appreciate the lovely decorations and best of all doesn't lose that special magic.

In conclusion, I think that for this Christmas season you need a fake Christmas tree with a theme including homemade ornaments and need to set it up either during or after Thanksgiving with those you love and are close to so you can make the best memories. -Elizabeth Buckway

## Stop Updating Our Laptops; Update Our School

It feels like every week our laptops get a new update that seem to just make our laptops slower. Although slow laptops are a problem with school, the school itself is a more important problem that needs to be taken care of.

The school turned 40 years old this year and it's birthday was on November 16th. The only recent changes our school has had is replacing a portion of the old and ugly pictures hanging up in the hallway, which doesn't make much of a difference. Many students in the school try to avoid using any of the bathrooms as much as possible and only use the newish 9th grade hall bathrooms (which are still gross). The poor condition of the school can be seen in many areas. In Mrs. Kalakis' room, she has an extremely droopy ceiling tile that she put a paper in with some googly eyes and named it Lou. The ceiling tile is so close to falling that Lou is on the edge of falling out. Things like this are all over the school, but that isn't the only problem. Looking at Google reviews of the school, almost all of them mention how the bathrooms are desperate for change and "a bit old and in need of updates." The school has markings/graffiti in the cafeteria, gym, bathrooms, and classrooms. But how can this be prevented?



Updating the school can help students know that this is a nicer place and should be treated as such. With an old, outdated, and beat-up school, students don't treat the school as well as they would if the school looked better. A great birthday present to our old school could be remodeling the school and adding some more color instead of having ugly mixes of brown and green. Getting new desks and chairs may help the students be more comfortable, but the school is still the old beat-up school it is. If we remodeled the school, even a few sections at a time, in just a few years our school could look good as new.

The school can update our laptops as much as they want, but updating the look of our school will definitely have a more positive impact on our students and environment. -Max Johnson

# Arts & Entertainment

## Holidays in Harmony



If you like Christmas music, then you'll love this year's winter concert. December 13th is the night. Clear your calendars and come and hear our choirs, bands, orchestra, and more perform. With the instruments playing and the choir singing, you can hum along to the melody of *White Christmas* and other fun holiday songs. The instrument teacher Mr. Wolf said, "My favorite part of the winter concert is getting to combine with the choir." I promise you that he's right, when they combine the music is amazing. For most people, Christmas is the best time of the year, and this is a great way to get into the mood and enjoy the Christmas season. Not only is there a concert on the 13th, but also on the 12th. However, the concert on the 12th is only the choir. At this concert there are plenty of great songs to sing along to and put you in the Christmas spirit. Some of the songs they're going to sing are: *It's the most wonderful time of the year* and *All I want for Christmas is You*, two Christmas classics. Mrs. Harris, FJH's Choir teacher, said that her favorite part of this concert is "That it's Christmas" she has been teaching for 8 years and loves it every time. So don't miss out and come on the 12th and 13th of December. -Kennedy Toone

## Howls from the Past

This is the Christmas wish of a student from the December 1992 Husky Howler.



*Happy Holidays*



Dear Fellow Students,

As I am writing this, I am listening to a song by Michael Jackson, called "Heal the World". He tells people to stop existing and to start living. We need to make it a better place, and we can. But it takes a group effort. We all need to try. It starts with you. We are the youth of the world, soon our parents are going to pass the care of the earth and people in it to us. We must prepare now.

We at FJH are a family. We must start acting like a family. No more foolish fights, no more "rumbles", no more vandalism, no more stealing, and no more disrespect. To heal the world we must take pride in our school. We need to love each other. Do you know I would hug everyone I see in the halls if people wouldn't take it the wrong way? Our school would be heaven if we could do that!

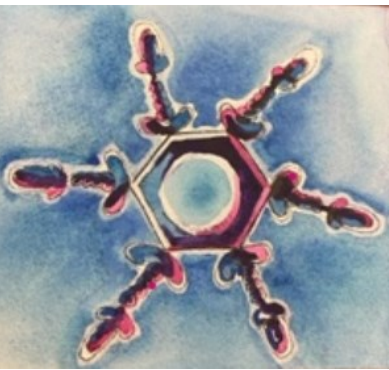
OPEN YOUR EYES! See what we have and love it. Don't worry about popularity, everyone is someone at FJH. We must want to live up to that. We must JOIN TOGETHER, WE NEED TO BE A TEAM.

Maybe this is all a crazy dream I have, and maybe it's not. But I know in your hearts, there is love and the desire to heal the world. But you must let it free, and do what your heart tell you to do. Remember in my heart I feel you are all my brothers and maybe one of you is my spouse, but please PROVE ME WRONG!

name on file

## Get Those Creative Juices Flowing!

**Art class.** A fun class where you get to be creative and make some fun projects. There are two seventh and eighth grade beginner art classes. The classes are taught by Mrs. Lewis



and Mrs. Kush. From the start of the year the two beginner art classes have been doing a lot of skill building. They have been learning to make colors and mix them. They

learned about perspective, how to draw faces, and how to shade. At the start of the year, they made a sketchbook and decorated with whatever they wanted on the cover. In October and November, they used acrylic paints to paint abstract and learn about contrast and the color wheel. The two seventh grade art teachers say they have some fun things planned for this month so if you are in an 7th art class, there are some projects to look forward to. Rees Purdie says, "Right now were doing a lot of skill building but I'm excited for some different projects." Well, this month art students in Mrs. Lewis's art class and Mrs. Kush can expect a fun project. They'll will be using a new medium: watercolor. They will be using watercolor to make some fun holiday art pieces. They will be painting things such as Christmas Lights or a holiday card to give to someone they love. Art class is a really fun and creative class, and you get to customize basically every assignment you get. So beginner art students, look forward to some fun projects! -Audra Hinckley

### HOLIDAYS in HARMONY

WITH THE FARMINGTON JR HIGH MUSIC DEPARTMENT

DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>  
7:30PM

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL  
548 WEST GLOVERS LANE  
FARMINGTON UT 84025

TICKETS \$7

FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY THE SYMPHONIC BAND, JAZZ BAND, ADVANCED ORCHESTRA, AND CONCERT CHOIR

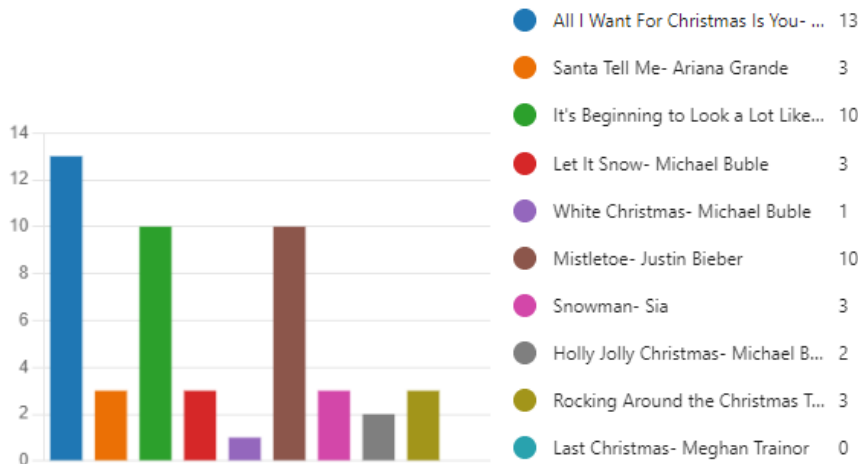
## All I Want for Christmas is You

When students at FJH were asked what their favorite Christmas song was, the most frequent answer was Mariah Carey's *All I Want for Christmas Is You*. *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas* by Michael Bubl  and *Mistletoe* by Justin Bieber tied for second. This data shows what songs are most likely playing through students AirPods this Christmas season.

*All I want for Christmas is You* is the second most played Christmas song on Spotify, being on 1,522 playlists. It is also the best selling Christmas song in the United States, with 3,200,000 digital downloads. So, it is not shocking that this song had the most votes. Calie Kilgore says that she likes the song because, "It has a good meaning to it and the song is up." Some students disagree and are surprised that it's so popular. "I feel like it's overplayed and is kind of annoying" says Jade Ward.

Another surprising result from the poll was that nobody chose *Last Christmas* as their favorite. *Last Christmas* was number one on music charts in January 2021. Breanna Auger says that she likes the song *Last Christmas* because, "It brings back great memories and feelings of nostalgia." But that it just wasn't her favorite. Clara Anderson disagrees, "I don't dislike the song, but I feel like it is one of the most overplayed Christmas songs, which ruins its reputation a bit after the 10th time you've heard it in the past two days."

Christmas music is a large part of the Christmas season. There are many different opinions on popular Christmas songs at our school. While some think they are overplayed, others love them. What songs are on your Christmas playlist? -Brooklyn Rudd



# Academics

## Gratitude in Mrs. Pead’s Class



Mrs. Pead’s 5th period class. Photo Credit: Lauren Forsyth

At the beginning of Mrs. Pead’s 8th grade science class every day, students are told to get out their notebooks and write down things they are thankful for. Sometimes they are given a theme, and sometimes they just write what they feel thankful for at that moment. After they have been given time to write down their “gratitudes,” Mrs. Pead asks the class what they are thankful for.

Many class discussions result from this daily activity, and students can get to know their peers more. While talking about “gratitudes,”

Mrs. Pead said, “I think I know my class better, it makes me want to go to work, it’s a lot more fun, and sometimes I think that some of the kids that don’t want to be in science at least enjoy part of science. Even if it’s not science.” In fact, most of the time it’s not science at all.

In Mrs. Pead’s 2nd period class, some students have made a sort of game out of the gratitude time. Whenever students can share what they are grateful for, someone always says that they are grateful for Gabe Morgan. Mrs. Pead commented that, “... all I know is that it doesn’t matter what the gratitude is, Gabe works himself in it.” Later she said, “Gabe has now been Gabe’s house, they’ve tied in food, every gratitude I’ve given, other than smell, Gabe has been brought into the gratitude. Sports, you name it, Gabe has been brought into it.”

A few moments after Mrs. Pead told the class that the theme that day for the gratitude was on smell, Phineous Rupp commented, “I have all three of mine already.” Pheobe Robins said that she likes the smell of clementines, the smell after rain, and of mothballs. Phineous said he was thankful for the smell of bacon and cold air. Oaklee Stanford said she was thankful for the Clorox wipe scent.

Mrs. Pead said, “[Gratitudes are] improving the attitude, and I think it improves trust. They’ll ask more questions, and they’ll answer more questions because they know that I trust them and that I respect them. And so, they’ll trust me with harder questions, and they’ll talk to me better.” There are some students who comment on what they are thankful for every day, while others only comment occasionally. But either way, the gratitude activities make class more fun and help students to get to know their peers, making it a great way to start the beginning of science. - Hanne Davis

## Las Diferentes Costumbres Navideñas de Países Hispanos

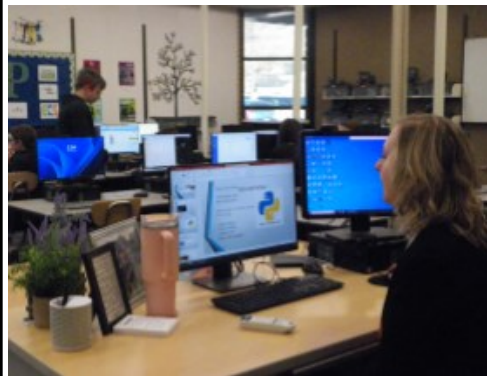


**Los Países de latino América celebran el día que Jesús de Belén nació.** En los países latinoamericanos y también hispanos celebran en la noche buena. En España, los españoles comen dulces como roscas de vino, mantecados y alfajores, También hacen una gran cena. Y en vez de escribir al papá Noel, escriben a los tres reyes magos. Pero los españoles no son los únicos que escriben a los reyes magos,

los cubanos y los mexicanos también crean que los reyes vienen a sus casas para la noche buena. Muchos países hispanos como Chile, Perú, Colombia, y otros países de latino América abren sus regalos antes del día de navidad y lo abren en la noche buena. Pero los españoles no reciben sus regalos hasta el seis de enero, el día de reyes. Y el día de navidad los españoles se visten de rojo para atraer la buena suerte el noche vieja.

De Malena Belden

## Turn the “Page” on the Sci-Fi Story



Mrs. Page has been showing her classes videos of the recent intergalactic endeavors of Blue Origin, NASA, and Space X. Her classes would watch the videos and write a one-paragraph 4-6 sentence essay reflecting on the videos. But the video that stands out the most is the Blue Origin video. In that

video, a member of the famous trick shot YouTube channel Dude Perfect got sent to space in a commercial flight by Blue Origin.

Dude Perfect released a video launching large model rockets. The winner would become a real astronaut. The winner was Coby. He was going to fly with Blue Origin. He was sent up with a group of other people into a space for about 12 minutes. He was able to float in space and confirm that the earth is round, not flat.

Mrs. Page found Blue Origin’s real website and she found something absolutely amazing. She found that you can literally book a flight to go to space. Of course, it probably costs a fortune. However, this shows that we are technologically advancing so well that we could go to the moon for a vacation in the future.

Science fiction is a very strange genre. People thought we would drive in flying cars in the future (which is possible to make, everyone just needs to get a pilot’s license). With the work of companies like Blue Origin, we might be rushing to take the space train to go to work in possibly a few years' time. We can only get better. -Henry Smith

## The Horrors of English

**December is for being happy with friends and family and enjoying the pleasant company and the peace and security of your home.** However, in the English classrooms at FJH, many people are basking in the horrifying stories of the newest project “Oh! The Horror!” written by Mrs. Kalakis. With classes underway, many people are taking the horror unit in tow throughout the holiday season.

With horror stories originating back to the ancient Greek and Roman times, the English teachers are taking a more modern twist by using a variety of stories, poems and short films that help explain the word choice and tone of the selected horror stories. Using a variety of stories such as *The Yellow Wallpaper*, *Scary Skittles*, and the poem rendition of *Frankenstein*, students stay engaged in the unit as Kalakis reads or plays the stories for the students to analyze. Many stories are fun to read, watch, or listen to, with some popular ones being *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and *Scary Skittles* produced by Skittles.



With one of the favorite stories being *The Yellow Wallpaper*, many students are fixated on the origins of the story. The purpose of *The Yellow Wallpaper* was to describe the series of events that take part in the mind of a woman suffering from post-partum depression. This is interesting as the author herself was also struggling with post-partum depression. While the story is a work of fiction, the mental state of the woman in *The Yellow Wallpaper* was expressed through Gilman’s writing, making this a great story to read as the students analyze the tone of writing.

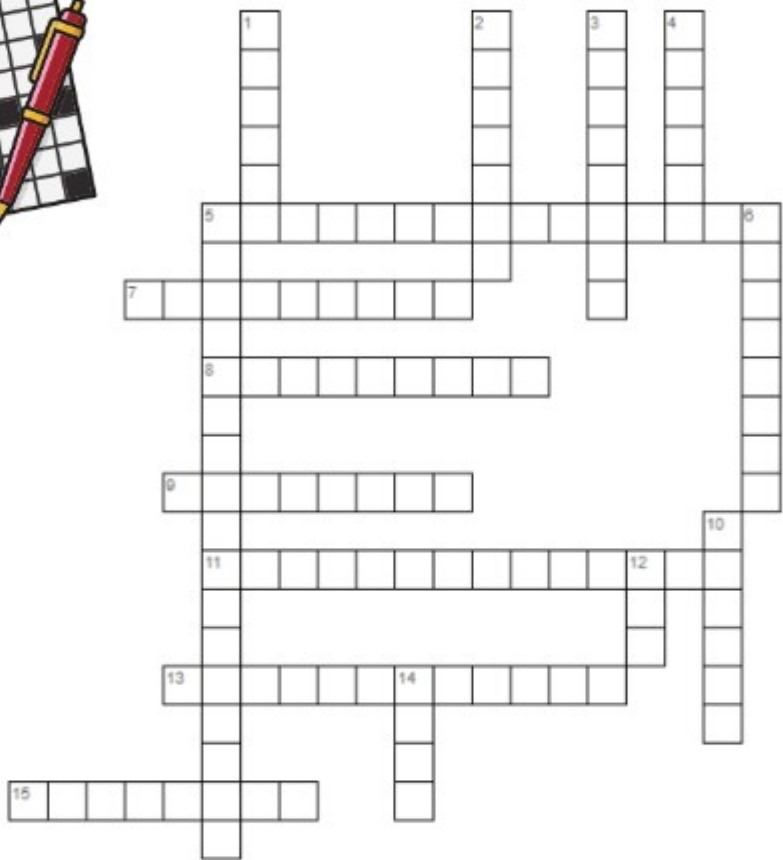
Another favorite is the short film produced by Skittles. Although the commercial itself has nothing to do with Skittles, the story, showing the struggles of a parallel universe, enthralls the viewer as questions about the story swirl throughout their minds. As the purpose of this unit is to see the choice and tone, using the short films is an opportunity to have background skills that help students better see the tone of the films by using elements such as editing, music, and a designated script. Analyzing this gives the students the opportunity to better understand the cognitive skill of word choice and tone.

Having this unit as a part of the curriculum can help students have better comprehension of the intended cognitive skills. This is to allow the students to be open minded about the aspects of horror, making this a vital lesson in the English units for the 8th graders at our school. –Kaitlyn Turley

# Comics and Games



Holly Jolly Crossword



Across

- 5 Bright bulbs that line houses during the Christmas Season
- 7 A holiday celebrated on December 25th every year
- 8 A small and delicate shape the falls from the sky
- 9 A holiday the commemorates the rededication during the second century B.C. of the Second Temple in Jerusalem,
- 11 A period of time we get off from school during December
- 13 A warm and rich cup of this is great for cold winter nights
- 15 You open these on Christmas morning

Down

- 1 This person steals Christmas
- 2 3 piles of snow stacked on top of one another with a carrot for its nose
- 3 A sock you fill with gifts
- 4 These sit on your front door for decoration
- 5 People go around and sing Christmas carols to houses in the neighborhood
- 6 When it snows, you do this down a hill in your backyard
- 10 A winter sport many people look forward to when it snows. Utah is known to have the best of the best
- 12 A famous Christmas movie starring Will Ferrell
- 14 Its not hot, but its \_\_\_\_\_



## Christmas Word Search

DNCHRISTMASTREESCFOQ  
SNOWAULGRPMOTNXAJRWK  
NSXLZFZXVPIKUUYIZSL  
UMRSCLAUSELGARLANDMC  
GGBRCVPZMIOZXPJHRIN  
BBJSYKOPBFGJOCRXOESK  
OFJSIBWONHHQRYEXJIBP  
SWGTLQRMKBTFNLSVNNQR  
AXGWLEZRJISIAATEGJDXP  
NNAQTCDXOZETMXNINEQA  
TOAEYKQDYIQSEDTDKESH  
AVOGAKJZIQFANSSFPUG  
JVUMFWULXNRUTOHXGHKM  
AASWLZQUMFGCSWZBYLFX  
KDLAKSSKQEUHEAZYXFLD  
YIZVMALNXKSMYWBBFFMO  
SANTASWORKSHOPOUTKWH  
KMISTLETOEDDECEMBERX  
SCRQXYTWZKRTZDHMSJHC  
SCADJJFEVBXMLZXSDUTN

Santa's Workshop	Christmas tree	Ornaments	Joy
Mrs. Clause	Mistletoe	Reindeer	
Presents	Sledding	Cookies	
December	Garland	Snow	
Lights	Santa		



## Just Another Day



By Cooper Allen

