

THE NEWSHAKER

LET'S SHAKE THE CHRISTMAS NEWS!

St Marc High School newsletter



EDITO



Oh dear, Christmas is here

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter!
What could be better than a hot chocolate while reading The Newshaker?
Eh, ok, maybe Netflix!
Our third newsletter might be a little shorter as the holidays are coming fast. However, we wish you to enjoy it even more than the previous ones.
December means Christmas time, and no Christmas is complete without gifts. This month, our class is doing Secret Santa. The goal is to draw a classmate's name from a hat, to remain incognito until the D-Day and offer him or her a present. They must not know who is their little Christmas angel!
The team hopes our fabulous and faithful readers a great Christmas holiday surrounded by friends and family.
Merry Christmas!
Victoria JACQUELIN, Illustrator



FESTIVITIES IN THE USA

Merry Christmoose

The Christmas period officially begins with Christmas parades organized in New York and other big cities. Everything started on Christmas, 1924, when over 250,000 people attended the first Macy's Day Parade in NYC.

American people have their own ways to celebrate Christmas, with different traditions and habits. But one remains common the fir-tree with beautiful electric tree lights. It comes from President Grover Cleveland who in 1895 had the tree in the White House decorated with lights instead of candles.

Religion remains important; nearly half of Americans admit some connections to Catholicism. Besides the word Christmas comes from Christ-Mass, the Church service that celebrated the birth of Jesus. Christmas is the most celebrated religious festivity in the United States.

For Christmas meal, Americans are used to eating a delicious meal a bit like Thanksgiving's dinner. There are many deserts like pumpkin pies, pecan pies and apple pies.

Donald Trump will respect the tradition of **the National Christmas Tree on the White House** lawn which started in 1923 with President Calvin Coolidge.

S.F.



THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION REVIEWS

It's too good to be true...



As it is Christmas time, we decided to interview Santa Claus ...

Once upon a time, the oldest man the world had ever known, was living in a "cool" side of the world called Lapland. His name? Santa Claus. His favorite color was green and he wore clothes dyed in green: he matched the trees! He also loved his tamed reindeers. Santa Claus was wondering what he could do with his life, once he had retired. Suddenly, he had a flash of genius: why not give presents to people? Quickly, he called the elves, his friends. All together, they started preparing presents for every nice child in the world. Then, he took a sleigh, harnessed his reindeers and made them fly with elfish magic. During the night, he dropped off the packets close to children's beds.

He was exhausted and thirsty...he stopped and drank a new fabulous soda: Coca Cola. He loved it so much that he decided to change his color in honor of the drink. Helped by **Nast** in 1931, Santa Claus became red, as we know him now. Reality or fiction or just another tale...from the consumer society...

M.L.



LATEST US NEWS

Snow ball effect

On December the 3rd, Dane Best, 9 years old, from Colorado, convinced the Severance Town Council to repeal its ban on snowballs. As he believed this law (forbidding people to play with snow) was "silly", he collected signatures and letters in favor of snowballs and investigated with his classmates' help.

He presented his results on the Council meeting and after showing consideration for his resourcefulness, the Council decided unanimously to legalize snowball fights within town limits! He hit the spot!

J.B.

5 ideas of gifts for Secret Santa

It's always so complicated to find a Christmas gift, especially if you don't know the person drawn. Here are 5 ideas of gifts to help you:

I - Perfumed **candle** with a jewel in it for fashionistas...

II - World **map** to scratch...for travellers!

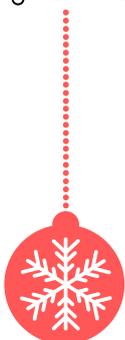
III - **Decorations...**

IV - **Michelle Obama's book**

V - Custom **card** games !



N.A.



SNAPSHOT

Exchange student

This month, we welcomed in the international section a French student who decided to go to the United States for a year. She came to visit us and to discover the way sophomores were studying in France. During her stay, I interviewed her to know more about her student's life in the United States.

Her name is Kylie Hipp, she is 15 and she was born in Howell in Michigan. She is now living at her grandmother's, in Michigan. She studies in **Hartland, a public high school** near Howell. Kylie decided to leave France for a specific purpose: to improve her English level and to discover the American culture. However, her life is not always easy in the United States. In fact, she said that she missed French food, her friends and family.

She added that France and the USA were beyond comparison in terms of school rhythm, subjects and ways of teaching...

Finally, she told me that the hardest part of expatriation was to be socially integrated. Nevertheless, she found this experience awesome and so enriching!

M.N.



ZAPPING about X-mas



Brazil

"Os Pastores"

are Brazilian traditions dating from Portugal, as they used to rule Brazil. Special plays called "Os Pastores" are performed. Catholics go to a midnight mass service, which ends at 1:00 AM. Once the service ends, big fireworks are organized in big towns and cities.

G.R.



South Korea

Known as Blue Santa Claus in South Korea, Christmas is a public holiday. In fact, one third of the Korean people are Christians. There is also an amazing display of lights. Moreover, children are used to exchanging christmas cards.

L.C.



Australia

Merry Summer

Christmas won't be the best day of the year without a stuffed turkey and puddings! However, for Australians it's the beginning of summer, so you will find salad, seafood and a swim-suit... so refreshing!

C.B.



Norway

Be a new broom!

Did you know that witches and evil spirits came out for christmas, seeking for brooms to ride on? So, now you can't say we didn't warn you Hide your brooms in the safest place of your house!

C.B.