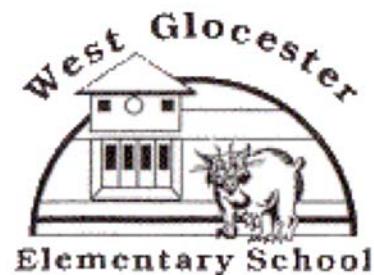
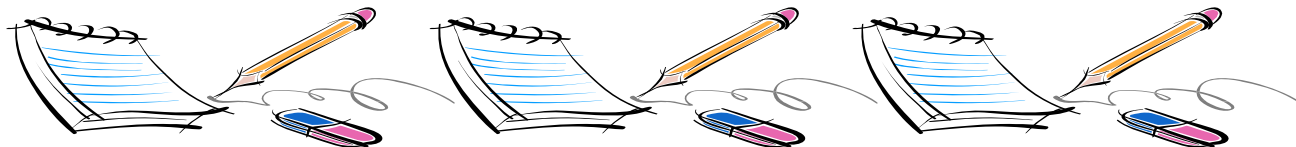


NOTEWORTHY NEWS AT WEST



December 2006



Stay Home for the Holidays

By Patrick Wahl



"No school Foster-Glocester!" That's what kids in the Foster-Glocester School District want to hear on a snowy day before school. Hearing this means sledding, skating and plenty of other things kids love about winter. With winter coming up

quickly, we'll be having school cancellations very frequently. Sadly, every pupil will regret being happy about a day off, for each cancellation will result in a day taken off of summer vacation. Last year, we had the Blizzard of 2005. Unfortunately, the blizzard was on a Sunday, and the streets were plowed by Monday. It's just luck what day a snowstorm falls on. You were not lucky if you were a kid in the Blizzard of '05, but you were in the Blizzard of 1978. This blizzard completely buried parked cars! People had to walk from colleges and universities to their homes-some as far as Pennsylvania! So really, blizzards can be good or bad. It all depends on where you are and when it happens. So remember, if there's a blizzard, and you have a choice, *stay home for the holidays!*

HOLIDAY EVENTS

December Fun

I hope you marked your calendars so that you did not miss out on the all of the fun events that have been taking place in

honor of the holiday season. If you didn't know what to buy for your family, I hope you found something at "Santa's Workshop" in the music room on December 8th. All the items were priced specially, depending on how much money you brought. That was also the day when everybody could buy raffle tickets for the basket raffle. If you wanted to stuff your bellies, well on December 9th was The Jolly Holiday Breakfast. It started at around 8:00a.m. If you like to shop, you may want to shop at Candlelight Shopping. The dates are December 7th, 14th, and 21st. They are all Thursdays and are lit by candles. I hope you are enjoying all this December FUN. By David Tassoni



Contest

"What I Like About the Holidays"

What do you like best about the holiday season? In six sentences or less, tell us what you think. Put your story into the box marked "Holiday Stories" in the foyer, with your name and grade by 1/03/07. The most detailed paragraph will be in the next newspaper!



Arts & Crafts with Fiona

Many Different Views

How many of you watched the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade? I know I did, and my favorite part was...EVERYTHING! If you watched the parade, draw a picture of it and write a sentence or two about your favorite part. I can't wait to see all the pictures! Even though you all watched the same parade, each of you will remember a certain part. Everyone has a unique perspective, so you will all draw a unique and great picture. Thanks!

HELP WANTED

Would you like to have your work featured in this newspaper? Well if you do, follow these simple steps:

1. Think of a creative craft.
2. Write up clear, easy to understand instructions.
3. Make the craft, then put it in the big box in Mrs. Belisle's Room (#23).
4. Leave the instructions in the small purple box on top of the desk.



?? Ask Rachel

Dear Rachel,

I have a whole bunch of friends but how can I call one of them my best friend? **Friends**

Dear Friends,

You don't have to have one best friend when you can have a lot of best friends. It's more fun to have lots of best friends. **From: Rachel**

Dear Rachel,

This kid is constantly asking me to do projects with him. How do I tell him

no without hurting his feelings?
Trouble With Projects

Dear Trouble With Projects,
If this person really wants to work with you, then work with him. If you don't like working with him, then just say, "Sorry I'm already working with someone, maybe next time. Then, you won't feel bad and neither will he. **From: Rachel**

Sports By Curtis Johnson Thanksgiving Sports!

This is about how football got so important on Thanksgiving, or why it is so popular. Well this is why.

April 17th, 1857 in New Haven, Connecticut, there was a camp. It was Walter Camp. It tells how football was made and they teach you how to play it. Well, this is how it was made. In England, they played a game called rugby. This game had hard rules to follow so everyone decided not to play it. Then, there was soccer. They had those rules, which were too easy for them at some times.



Next, someone had a great idea of combining the two sports rules and named it Football. They were thankful for this so they made it popular on Thanksgiving. They all played it on Thanksgiving and almost everyone went to the Walter Camp to learn about football. Walter Camp was actually a person, who made the rules of football, and he was a coach of rugby and he was a player. He went to Yale for 6 years! Then, in 1920 the NFL was started.

Now, in December, the most played sport is basketball. Basketball is a very fun sport. A man named James Naismith invented the game of basketball. This game was made by the old game, duck-on-a-rock.



Fifth-Grade Interviews

by Madison Cote & Sara Gentile

We interviewed two 5th graders from each class. It was nice to see what their answers were for the questions that were asked.

Mrs. Richard's Class:

Q- What are you looking forward to doing this year?

A- Sara Lancia- The graduation and field day because I would like to work with my little brother.

A- Dan Pincins- Having a good season this year with soccer.

Q- Is 5th grade your favorite year ? (if not what was?)

A- Sara Lancia- Yes, because we do more fun activities.

A- Dan Pincins- No, I liked Kindergarten because it was a half day!!

Q- How big do you think the change will be going from fifth grade to sixth grade?

A-Sara Lancia-Big because there will be a lot more children!

A-Dan Pincins- Pretty big because we will have lockers and no lines.

Mrs. Sargent 's Class:

Q- How is it different being a 5th grader?

A- Carly- Now people look up to us more because we are the biggest and oldest in the school.

A- Matt- It's more fun and challenging.

Q- What is it like being the oldest in the school?

A-Carly- Fun because we have special privileges.

A- Matt- Awesome because people look up to me!!

Q- What is your favorite subject? Why?

A- Carly- Science because I like doing experiments.

A- Matt- Math because I like multiplication and all the other ones.

Mrs. Peg's Class:

Q- What grade do you think will be best for field day?

A- Molly- 2nd or 3rd because they can't measure us to them, they pay more attention, and they are tinier.

A- Austin- I agree with Molly.

Q- Do you find 5th grade teachers harder or the same teaching level?

A- Molly- The same. Definitely not harder.

A- Austin- Easier. I think they make it more fun.

Q- Are you enjoying fifth grade so far?

A- Molly- Yes because I like my teacher and it is more fun.

A- Austin- Yeah, because I want to.

Thank you fifth-graders for your input!!!

Traditions From Around The World

by Halley Martin

Christmas is one of the most largely celebrated holidays in the U.S. People decorate their yards with light-up reindeer and snowmen. On Christmas Eve, kids go to sleep in hope of waking up to find "an endless amount" of presents. But what do other countries do for the holidays, this articles answers that:



In the large continent of Africa, the holidays begin with a group of carolers that walk throughout the village singing holiday songs in their own language. After they tour the entire area, the group returns home and makes preparations for the ceremony that follows.

The service is celebrates kindness and love. Everyone attending the service lies down an offering on a large platform, such as berries, clothes, or jewelry. Everyone at the service follows this tradition. A large dinner of native foods follows.

South Africa celebrates the holidays during the summer, when blazing hot sun replaces snow and long coats. What is also interesting about an African holiday is that schools are closed and everyone camps.

Homes are decorated with pine branches, and presents are seen on the eve of the holiday, but not opened until the celebration day. On The Eve, stockings are hung in hope of presents.

The next day, the presents are opened and at about 11:00 am a feast is done. Turkey, roast beef, mince pies, suckling pig, yellow rice with raisins,



vegetables, plum pudding, crackers, all of the works. Paper hats are even made.

Families go out to play games and talk. This could last the rest of

the day. Then, the next morning, Boxing Day is celebrated. Despite its name, Boxing Day is a day of relaxation, aside a few children's games.

Around 7:00, yet another feast is done. Called a fufu, the feast includes many tables of foods, but the most popular are rice, yam paste, stew, okria soup, porridge, meats, rice beef, and biscuits.

After the feast, a dazzling show of fireworks. Some patterns are so advanced that they could shape a nativity scene!

Around Christmas in Africa, you'd better have much energy to supply yourself with!

Bethlehem, where Jesus was said to be born, carries out the most unique show. The entire town is lit up with flags and Christmas decorations. Houses that are Christian have a cross painted over the front door, and families watch on their roofs to see the celebration of Christ. A homemade nativity scene is also made and showed.

Then, a parade of galloping horseman ride around the area; followed by officials and policemen on the traditional Arabian horses. Then a solitary horseman approaches on a coal-black steed. Churchmen then follow. The entire parade, along with hundreds of onlookers, proceed to the place where Jesus was said to be born, marked with a silver star. A feast then follows.

The Canadian Mummers have another tradition. Groups of young men dress up in colorful costumes that represent who they are. The Mummers come dancing into everyone's homes seeking candy and fun.

The occupants of the household try to guess whom the Mummers really are, and if they guess right, the Mummer then calls out and "blesses" the house. Children are quizzed to see if they've been good. If they have, the kids will receive tasty candy.

Germany residents start preparing for their holiday on November 22nd. They make fruit dolls, spiced cakes, pudding, presents...

December 5th is Christmas Eve. Children leave out a shoe or boot in hope of receiving presents the

next day. But if you've been bad, instead of presents there will be a rod of wood to greet you.

Some people on Christmas Day make human-sized gingerbread houses! Then "Christkind" visits each house with a basket of presents for everyone.

Boys dress up as kings and go around the village, singing carols. Girls help with the food.

Have a Happy Holiday Season!!!

Critics Corner

Movie and Food Reviews

By Abby Peckam

Food Review: Holiday Spice Tea

You need:

1 bag of cinnamon or peppermint tea

1 candy cane or cinnamon stick

(Makes 1)

How to do it:

Make a cup of cinnamon or peppermint tea, and add a cinnamon

stick or candy cane for extra flavor.

Always have an adult help you when you are using a stove, a toaster oven or handling anything hot. Enjoy! I rate this 5 smileys 😊😊😊😊😊



Movie Review: Second Hand Lions

***Second hand lions* is a downright hilarious movie that has a few mildly scary or serious parts. If I didn't have to go to school, I probably would be home watching it right now. I rate it with 5 smileys 😊😊😊😊😊**

FUN PAGE

ACROSTIC POEM

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WORD SEARCH WORDS

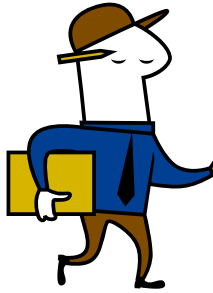
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NATIVEAMERICANS
NOVEMBER
PILGRIMS
PUMPKINPIE
RELATIVES
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY
GIVINGTHANKS
GRAVY
CRANBERRYSAUCE



Holiday Word Search

by Shivam Mehta & Collin Travers

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

By Brad Leach & Nicholas Richard

Thank you to those who participated in last month's survey!

Here are the results:

<u>Favorite Weekend Activity</u>	Sleeping 14	Playing video games 49	Playing game or sport 68	Watching TV 32	Other 11
<u>Favorite Dessert</u>	Cake 56	Pie 26	Ice Cream 63	Cheesecake 8	Other 21
<u>Favorite Holiday</u>	Easter 1	Thanks-giving 7	Christmas 94	Halloween 71	Other 1
<u>Where do you go on Christmas?</u>	Grand-parent's 69	Aunt/ Uncle's 45	Stay Home 56	Other 4	

**** Important Note ****

You can now access the newspaper on the school web-site:

www.ri.net/schools/Glocester/WGES/home.html