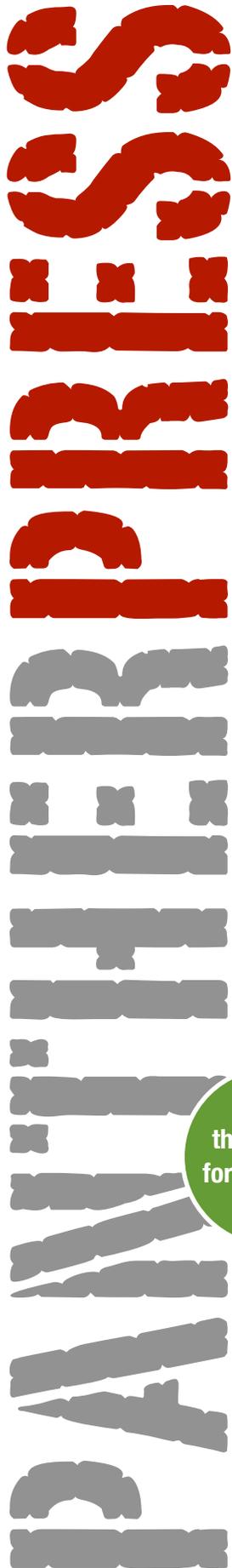


Nov-Jan



'Tis
the Season
for all things
jolly!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

By Jaci Johnson
This year for the Christmas program each class did a skit or video presentation. The preschoolers did songs. The kindergarten-4th graders all did a skit called "The Reindeer Rebellion." The 5-6 graders did a parody on "T'was the Night Before Christmas." Finally the

7-8th graders did a video presentation of what they all wanted for their "grown-up" Christmas list. The whole school did about 5 songs. Then the 3-4th graders preformed "Jingle Bells" on the glockenspiel, while Holly Escalera accompanied them on the piano. The 5-6th grade orchestra played "Allegro" and "Jolly Old Saint

Nicholas". Some of the 5th, 6th, and 8th graders played "The First Noel" on instruments as well. Then the 7-8th graders played "Joy To The World" in the orchestra. To end the program the whole school sang "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town" and we had a surprise visitor - Santa came to Swan Valley Elementary.

LIGHT THE HALLS WITH KINDNESS

By Maci Kopp

This year the school decided to do Light the Hall with Kindness. That is where all the students write something nice that someone has done for them on a paper

Christmas light. Once they had been written they were get hung up to look like a string of Christmas lights. I think it was a great idea because it makes the kids see what nice things people do to you, then you can share kindness to someone else.

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

By Savanah Metzger

I remember that my class only had three cans for the longest time. The competition was being measuring by pounds instead of how many cans. In fourth place, we have the 3-4 graders with 8 cans. In third place, the 5-6 graders with 28

cans. That is a good amount. The 7-8 graders, in second place, with 39 cans. Plus, a bag of noodles. In first place, (drum roll, then long and silent pause) we have the K-2 class, with 42 cans!!! They have the smallest number of students, but the most generous hearts.

Making ornaments to trim our school tree



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

A Swan Valley Elementary Christmas Tradition

By Kenedie Scholes

Ah caroling, the time where we pack the entire school onto one bus and go sing to those in need of some Christmas spirit. Ever since I could remember we went caroling to the elderly in the valley, it is always so much fun to get all bundled up and sing at the top of our lungs whatever carols our teachers commanded. This year we made six stops. First, we drove up to the Lundquist ranch to sing to Annette Lundquist. Then we moseyed on down to the Angus and sang to Judy Ausland, the staff, and whatever customers were in at the time. After caroling, Judy gave us each a cup of hot

chocolate and a cookie to warm us up. We finished our cookies and it was off to Mary Krueger's house who was in need of some Christmas spirit. Next, we went to Lola Sargent, who invited all the children into her house. We then went to Ella Ray's, who is an annual stop. One of our final stops was at the Irwin post office, where we sang to the local clerk, Linda. Our last stop was at the Plochers, an elderly couple who lives in Palisades. At last, we shuffled onto the bus and just like that we were done caroling, until next year where we do the exact same thing, spread cheer to those who need it most.



VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

By Jaci Johnson

The Veterans Day program went very well. We had about 15 veterans, at least one from every military branch. We also had a video and I think that was what touched most of the veterans hearts. In the video there was the song from each branch of the military. We sang several songs but didn't play any stringed instruments sadly. Some

of the kids in the school sent in pictures of their loved ones and what branch they served in. They could also say some words about what a veteran is to them. During the program each kid had a part to say that was about the program like what we were going to do next. Rayni Kopp made a new flag that now hangs in our gym. It's made out of wood and was made just in time.



Cookies or Cake, Which One is Best?



By Savannah Metzger

Cookies are better than cake. Number one: they are better because you can hold them in your hand. With cake, you have to use a fork and the frosting can be messy. Have you ever tried to eat a piece of cake with your hand? The frosting is sticky and the cake is crumbly. And it always ends up in a disaster when little children try to eat cake.



Also, have you ever been at your grandma's house and the first smell you smell as you walk in the door is that wonderful smell of baking chocolate chip cookies?

Homemade, gooey, addicting, mouth-watering cookies that look so good you would pay just about anything to get your hands (or should I say mouth?) on them? Last, but not least,

there are more flavors and different styles of cookies than cake. For cake there is yellow, chocolate, lemon, carrot and marble. There are more for cake, but who cares? We're talking about cookies, here! There are endless flavors and also endless combinations for cookies. There is oatmeal raisin, chocolate chip, pecan, old-fashioned sugar, peanut butter, snickerdoodle, brownie, white chocolate macadamia nut, M&M, and many, many other combos. Plus, you can add just about any sort of nut to the cookie. These reasons and many more are the big reason why cookies are better than cake.



GIRLS BASKETBALL

Go Panthers! This was a great season for the girl's basketball team. A special shout out to our coaches for all of their hard work and dedication to make our team the best. 8th grade girls you will be missed next year.



7TH & 8TH GRADE CLASS



Meet the Beautiful Savannah Haligan

By Savannah Metzger

Q#1) What is your favorite color?

A) All orange

Q#2) What is your favorite book?

A) Kalahari

Q#3) What is your favorite movie?

A) Suicide Squad

Q#4) What is your favorite thing to do?

A) Read

Q#5) What is your favorite thing to do?

A) Make woven bracelets

Q#6) How many people are in your family?

A) There are three people in my family: Me, Mom, and Dylan

Q#7) What is your favorite subject?

A) Language Arts

Q#8) What is your favorite food?

A) Chicken Alfredo

Q#9) What is your favorite dessert?

A) Coffee ice cream

Q#10) What is your favorite candy?

A) Sour Patch Kids

Q#11) What is your favorite pet?

A) O'Ryan

Q#12) Where do you see yourself in 15 years?

A) College

I had a great time interviewing Savannah. She is very funny and unique.

By Jaci Johnson

In the 7th and 8th grade classroom they are doing several different things. In math, one group is doing proportional relationships and are trying to graph them. They are also trying to graph them in relation to Newton's 3rd law of acceleration.

In social studies the class is studying North Africa and are making posters.

Science is the 7th and 8th grader's favorite subject.

For English the students are starting to analyze poems and

they have also started to look at one of Emily Dickinson's poems. They have just finished the book and movie "Outsiders." They also did a compare and contrast on the movie and book. Mrs. Krause was also thinking about doing another Shakespeare scene. The students like to do small group reading.

They have also been doing lots of little projects and have just finished a bullying iMovie. Another focus in class has been working on sighting sources.

Lastly, Mrs. Krause wishes that her class were larger.

Holiday crafts with the 7th & 8th graders



5TH & 6TH GRADE CLASS

By Madisyn Ausland

The 5th and 6th grades are currently doing rates and ratios and decimals in math. They have a purple and a green group. One of the groups is multiplying decimals.

For English, they are working on reading comprehension. Also, they are focusing on learning prefixes and suffixes.

In geography, they are learning about Hernando Cortes. For a project they are completing a pocket folder all about him. He is a bad guy who killed the Aztec people.

In science, the 5th and 6th grades are doing essays about the bodies. They made life-size posters of bodies that are labeled with the different systems, such as skeletal, nervous, and muscular system. These posters are hanging up in the hallway. Stop by and have a look at them.

In P.E. the class has been working on their aim by playing a game called Monster Ball. Also, they are improving their push-ups. Some students can even do 20 in a row.



5th and 6th grade class Christmas party games.



Student Spotlight: Traason Pruett

By Snaider Allen

Traason Pruett is a twelve-year-old boy. He is in 6th grade and he is currently playing basketball. Here are some things about him: his favorite food is Shepard's Pie. His favorite drink is Mountain Dew. His favorite thing to do at home is record his parkour tricks on his iPod. His favorite subject in school is art. His girlfriend is Ireland. He loves school, sports, and Call of Duty games.

3RD & 4TH GRADE CLASS



Meet the Amazing Rowan Allen

By Maci Kopp

This quarter I decided to do a spotlight on Rowan Allen. Rowan is eight years old and in 3rd grade. She has 3 siblings, one brother and two sisters. She enjoys jumping on her tramp and she loves playing basketball. If you have ever watched her play you can tell she is having a blast! Her favorite color is purple. Whenever she can read in class or at home she will be reading a Harry Potter book. Rowan has a sweet tooth and loves almond joys and ice cream, yum! Her favorite holiday is Christmas. During Christmas her favorite thing is making the advent calendar with her family, then doing all the fun activities on the daily calendar. Lastly, when Rowan grows up her dream job is to become a doctor. Just knowing Rowan I bet that goal will happen. I hope you have enjoyed getting to know Rowan a little more.

By Savannah Metzger

I was able to interview Mrs. Lundquist and we had a great conversation. I asked her some different questions that I usually don't ask. Here they are.

Have you and your class been working on any projects lately? She said that they had been working on the Candy Cane Grams during Christmas time for economics.

What is the subject that your class excels at the most? Each grade excels at different things. 3rd grade excels in math and the 4th grade excels in writing.

Do you have any particular issues that you are trying to work on academically with your class? They are trying to work on slowing down and read the entire problem. They will often go up and ask what they are supposed to do. She will say something like this, "Did you read the entire question?" Then they are like oohhhh.

What is your favorite part about teaching and what made you decide to start? Her favorite part is the kids. "They're my kids, too," Mrs. Lundquist said. She had been thinking about

becoming a teacher for a while and is so glad she did because she loves every bit of it.



Sweet and
crazy 3rd and
4th graders

KINDERGARTEN, 1ST, & 2ND GRADE

By Djoulisa Allen

The first graders are learning tens and ones. The second graders are doing two digit subtraction. The kindergartners are doing addition to ten. They are learning about animal habitats and they are presenting books about them. They do AR reading. The students like science the most. They don't like math very well. The teacher likes the variety in the grades

because the older kids can help the younger ones. They like group reading because the kindergartners benefit with everyone. The teacher also likes all the strategies they use for all the subjects, it gives student multiple way to look at a problem. She likes the number of their class because they work well together and ten is a great number.



K-2 had a visit from a turkey

This class was lucky enough to have 2 teachers this quarter: Ms. Sax and Ms. Page

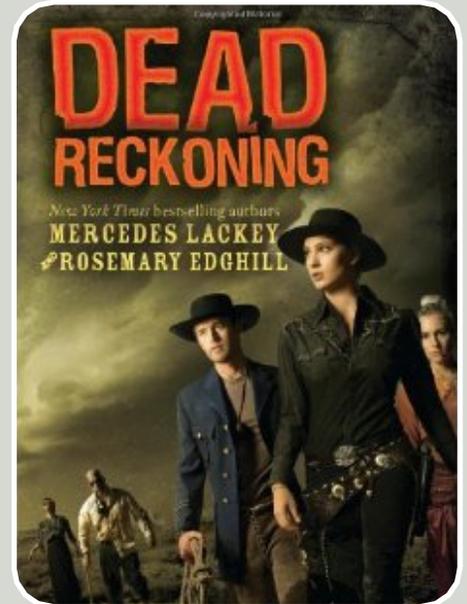


Student Spotlight: Kylie

By Djoulisa Allen

Meet Kylie: a spunky 2nd grader who loves school and loves playing with her friends. Kylie is very nice and loves to be goofy. Her favorite thing in math is "stacking" when doing adding or subtracting. In writing/language arts, she is writing about elephants. Her favorite color is black. She likes to wrestle with her dog, which is named Charlotte. She is an only child.





BOOK & MOVIE REVIEW

By Savannah Metzger

For the second quarter, the review page is coming great! I just finished reading *Dead Reckoning* by Mercedes Lackey and Rosemary Edghill. It is so good! This book is based in the 1860s. It is about a girl who is riding through Texas to find her lost twin brother. She runs into a young lady who is an extremely smart inventor and a clever good-looking man who then all work together to solve the mystery of all the disappearances of people, families and even towns that they later find out are because of zombies... This book is a great personal read that left me wanting more. I will warn you though, this book is based in a very old time and there are some very hard words. There are no bad or inappropriate words or scenes. It is very

modest, very fun, and action packed. I suggest that you read *Dead Reckoning*.

The movie that I will be telling you about today is the movie "Storks." When I watched this movie, I couldn't stop laughing at certain times. This movie is about an orphaned girl named Tulip and a very popular stork named Junior. They get themselves in some unexpected trouble and suddenly have to deliver a baby before they get caught. They form an unlikely relationship as they go through some tough times. Between birds not being able to see glass and a very talented pack of wolves, they go through an adventure that they, nor you, will ever forget. This movie truly is hilarious. I encourage that you to watch the movie "Storks."