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Odyssey Charter School
By: Kierstyn Barnhart Las Vegas, NV
 Quentin Burgess Issue 2
 Tiara Wolf December
 Christina Norris

The Review

Welcome to the second issue of Odyssey's 8th grade school newspaper, The Hoot! It's almost winter time so that's what this issue will be about. We have fashion tips to stay warm, yet fashionable, and a few recipes that are perfect for this time of year. Around the city, there are many families who don't have toys or food. There are many food and toy drives around Las Vegas. You can go to <http://ccsd.net/news/Schools/2011-12-02/2726> to find out about a craft and food drive at Foxridge Park on December 14, 2011. Snuggle up close to the fire and enjoy your winter break!

Written by Tiara Wolf

Don't know what you want for your holiday gift this year? Well this is the article you need to read. It has all the latest toys and gizmos around.

Baja Beast-

It has one speed, go! The Baja Beast is a super, ridiculously, fast remote control dune buggy from the toy creators of Mastio Tech. The company measures it by the wind gusts it kicks up while speeding by. Make sure the sky is clear, and the air is still before you unleash the beast.

Phone Frenzy-

This socially interactive party game uses everyone's phone as the primary game piece. On every turn, players must complete a challenge with the help of one of their phone contacts by calling, texting, or picture messaging their friends. Produced by Buffalo Games.

U draw-

This new hit electronic drawing tablet is a must have for all ages. Compatible with X Box and the Nintendo Wii, you and your friends or family will draw anything you could ever dream of. Games like Pictionary Ultimate edition, Disney Princess Enchanting Storybook, and much more. The tablet also includes the U draw Studio Instant action.

Written By: Quentin Burgess



Flashin' Fashion Takes New York City

Step aside Kim and Kloe! Flashin' Fashion has moved to NYC!

Grab your coat and pull up your boots girls because we're going to tour NYC! (Figuratively, of course) Flashin' Fashion has moved to NYC for the rest of the winter and we want you to stay updated on all of the hottest new trends! NYC, being one of the fashion hotspots of the world, is THE perfect place to check out the newest trends! Now let's take look at all of the cute clothes that everyone is wearing!

Shoes

Ankle boots are taking over! You will be seeing them everywhere! Hurry and buy some, you don't want to be the

only person without a pair. Try to find them in blacks, grays, and browns.

Shirts

Stripes are in! Don't be spotted without at least one striped shirt! Match your new shirt with some jeans from True Religion or Hollister and your fit for the runway! After you add some accessories, of course. ("Aeropostale" has THE most adorable new shirts)

Pants

Jeans, jeans, and more jeans. The classic pant, jeans are the perfect casual touch to any outfit! Perfect for any shirt no matter what color, print, or design.

Coats

Step aside trench coat and make way for the pea coat! Shorter than the trench, the pea coat is the hottest new way to stay warm. Even though its price isn't so great, the pea coat is totally worth the money. You'll stay warm and cozy and still look great! Plus, you can pair it with those new ankle boots!

Accessories

When someone says "accessory" most people think jewelry. That's not always true; an accessory is something paired with your outfit. That could be a cute, colorful clutch, your favorite leather jacket or bold nail polish. This season,

go for bright colorful items such as a green and blue clutch or a hot pink shirt. This will make you stand out against all the other drab colors that usually adorn the city until people decorate for the holidays.. When you're getting your next main go dark with lots of shine! A dark blue or purple or even a red nail polish will look great! Makeup! Go for smoky eyes right now, especially if your eyes are blue. Green eyes, green and brown eye shadow and brown eyed girls gold, green, or brown will look best. Buy bronzer that matches your skin tone and never put a lot of it on. When applying your blush, go light and place it right on your cheek bones, a very light dusting will suffice. Just a little note: ELF (Eyes Lips Face) has THE VERY best stuff :)

Website of the month is www.seventeen.com There are lots of fun quizzes and stuff, so check it out!

Got any questions, comments, or suggestions? Moodle message Kierstyn Barnhart, or post on the blog!

"A girl should be two things: classy and fabulous." ~Coco Chanel

Written By: Kierstyn Barnhart

Make a Merry Photo Display

Here is a cool craft that you can do with your family!

Our family always goes to a tree farm to find our Christmas tree. To commemorate this outing one year, my family and I cut off a portion of the tree trunk, drilled holes in one of its flat surfaces, and inserted heavy-gauge wire into the holes. Then we each twisted the tops of the wire to hold photos of that day and used festive ribbon to secure a decorative label holder to the trunk. This is an awesome project for you and your family to remember the Christmas tree hunting you did.

Written By: Quentin Burgess

Poet's Corner

Winter,
**Infectious to you,
Now it's here,
Time to smile,
Enjoyable,
Ready?**

Christmas,
**Happiness is all around,
Remembering good memories,
Irresistible to hum-bug it,
Secret Santa,
Tree is all decorated,
Mistletoe up above you,
Angels singing,
Snow is falling!**

Written By: Christina Norris



The Real Holiday Meaning

Written By: Quentin Burgess

It's that time of year again. December has come and with it all the joys of Christmas, Kwanza, or Hanukah. What is the real meaning of the holidays? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the windows, the cards in the mail, turkey dinners with family and friends, snow in the yard, stockings hanging in the living room, Santa, and shouts of "Happy Holidays" to those who pass us in the streets? Is this really the holidays? For many people, the holidays are a time of sorrow. They don't have the extra money to buy presents for their children, family, and friends. Many are saddened at the holiday time when they think of their loved ones who will not be able to come home for various reasons. Turkey dinners may be only a wish and not a reality for some.

Sadly, this kind of thing happens to many Americans each year. Due to the economic crisis in the U.S. many people have lost their jobs and homes, some are just struggling to get by. But that can change. I am sure every one of you has heard the men and women on the street or at a store jingling their little bells asking for donations for some sort of charity. I'm also sure you usually just say "I have better things to do with my money then donate it." I admit I say the same thing too, but then I think to myself. "I wonder how all the other kids my age feel when the holiday comes and they do not have presents or if they even have a tree at all." The thought of it makes me feel depressed inside; all I want to do is help. So after that feeling hits me I drop a dollar or two into the shiny beat up can, and the person smiles and grants me a thank you in return. All of a sudden the feeling of sorrow is gone, what happened? The feeling of sorrow left my body; I felt joyful and wanted to leap in the air.

That's the true meaning of the holidays, giving back. So next time you see one of those people standing on the street with a shining grin on their face, jingling their little bell holding a shiny, old, red, beat up can, donate a dollar or even 25 cents. It won't kill ya'. Trust me you will be rewarded with the feeling of happiness.

Holly, Jolly, Recipes!

"PERFECTLY CHOCOLATE" Hot Cocoa

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 to 3 teaspoons HERSHEY'S Cocoa (or any other cocoa)
- Dash salt
- 1 cup milk
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions:

Mix sugar, cocoa and salt in large mug.

Heat milk in microwave at HIGH (100%) 1-1/2 minutes or until hot.

Gradually add hot milk to cocoa mixture in mug, stirring until well blended.

Stir in vanilla. 1 serving.

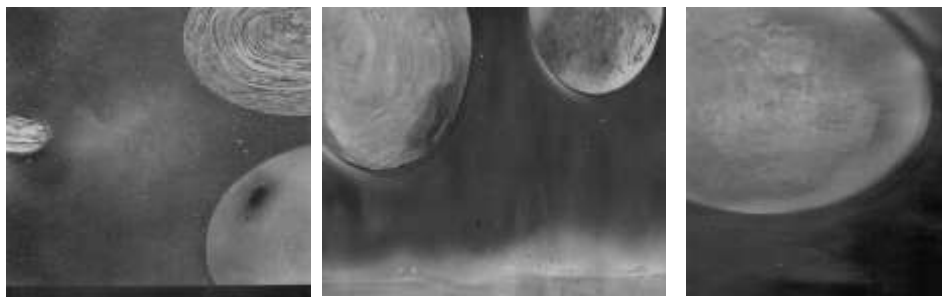
VARIATIONS:

Rich and Adult: Increase cocoa to 2 tablespoons; follow recipe above.

Lower Fat: Use nonfat milk; follow recipe above.

Sugar Free: Omit sugar. Combine cocoa and salt. Proceed as above, using nonfat milk. Stir in vanilla and sugar substitute with sweetening equivalence of 2 tablespoons sugar.

Student Artwork: Kade Nelson



Christmas Question!

Prizes will go to the first three randomly picked people with the correct answer.

Moodle Message your answer to Quentin Burgess.

In which country is it a tradition to hide all brooms in the house on Christmas Eve?

Cream Cheese Christmas Cookies

Ingredients (Can make without pecans)

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup green sugar crystals
- 1/2 cup red sugar crystals
- 1 cup pecan halves

Directions

1. Cream together the butter and cream cheese. Add sugar and vanilla; beat until light and fluffy.
2. Combine the flour and salt; gradually add to creamed mixture, beating until well blended. Stir in chopped pecans. Cover bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 15 minutes.
3. On four sheets of aluminum foil, shape dough into four 6 inch rolls, 1 1/2 inches in diameter. Wrap each roll tightly in foil and refrigerate overnight.
4. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Line cookie sheets with foil. Remove rolls of dough from refrigerator one at a time. Coat each roll with red or green sugar crystals; cut dough into 1/4 inch slices.
5. Place on prepared cookie sheets; top each cookie with a pecan half. Bake for 15 to 18 minutes or until bottom of cookie is lightly browned when lifted.