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Merry Christmas HMS!

Band, Jazz, and Choir concerts coming up!

Remember to dress warm, because "baby it's cold outside!"



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Christmas Gifts VS Experiences

By: Audrey Vick

Have you ever wondered if you would rather have an amazing experience than getting a gift, or vice versa, for Christmas? Here is the opinion of your fellow classmates on which is better.

Cali Earl believes "Vacations are better because the memories last longer and you can get closer to your family. Jorel Nugent also prefers wonderful experiences because he claims "I can visit cool places as a gift; I have received many gifts and none of them come close to the experiences I have instead."

Jaycee Barlow prefers getting gifts because, "my whole family has always come to my house, and we are always together."

Jakki Simmerman says, "gifts are the experience".

Our school secretary Jody Ballard states quite clearly, Experiences, but not like vacations. More like experiences that touch the heart and remind you why we celebrate Christmas."

Kya Malin likes getting gifts because: "I don't really like to go on vacation. This year I'm probably going to use my Christmas gifts a lot, and I mean a lot. (well, if i get what I'm hoping for). For your sake let's hope you get what you wished for Kya.

Ysabel Pettit enjoys gifts because:: "me and my family go on vacations like twice a year so it isn't as special and personalized as gifts."

Madison Peck says that she prefers having the homey feel to Christmas.

"I love receiving gifts, it makes me feel loved that people took their time to make/give me a holiday gift., says Amelia Gubler.

Georgie Holt would prefer experiences because in her words, "gifts

can get lost but those memories ,from experiences, are forever.

All of these opinions are great! Which one do you agree with the most?

Whatever you do for the holidays, let's hope it's amazing and that you enjoy your Christmas break!



Funniest Christmas Stories

By: Jenna Sanders

We asked our students here at HMS for their FUNNIEST Christmas stories. Here are some of our favorite answers, Hope you're ready for a laugh!

"Last year I woke up really early on Christmas day and I took all of my brother's presents and hid them so I was the only to have presents. They were so upset it was funny. My mom was not happy."

-Jakki Simmerman, 9th grade

"My mom put flour between the stove and the tree and said it was magic snow so my brother ate it and barfed."

-Cooper Cannon, 8th grade

"We were celebrating Christmas at my house and there was wrapping paper everywhere and we couldn't find the baby and she was under all the paper."

-Ethan Martinez, 8th grade

"Last year, my brothers and I grabbed a box and wrapped it in duct tape for a few layers, we then put a box around that box, and more layers of duct tape. We put a total of 4 boxes over the first box with many layers of duct tape be-



tween the boxes. Christmas comes around and we give the gift to our family member and after about a half hour of unwrapping it (We had a rule of not using tools), he makes it to the center of the first box, to find...nothing. My older brother then leaves the room and comes back with his present. So moral of the story, watching a family member struggle to open a box, all for them just to receive their gift without any struggle, is a 10 out of 10 experience, I 100% recommend."

-Kuira McGohan, 9th grade

"My sister was shaking a present to see if she could tell what it was, she said "This feels like a good one!" she opened it to find multiplication flash cards."

-Callie Hall, 8th grade

How To Be Responsible

By Cale Springer

Responsibility has a couple of meanings. One is to have a duty to do something. Another meaning is to be accountable or to take blame for something. A third meaning is the ability to act independently and not be accountable to anyone. These are from Google from the Oxford languages.

To be responsible you have to work hard, be quiet, and learn from your teachers. You also need to turn in your work. You also need to take the consequences. You need to be honest and responsible. This means you need to hold yourself accountable for your actions.

You're going to make mistakes, because everyone does.

By being responsible you can avoid negativity and stay persistent. Responsibility helps build self-confidence and persistence. You also learn to respect other people's opinions.



What Does it Mean To Be Respectful?

By: Tyler Stratton

Being respectful is an important aspect of life. Being respectful is a good trait that many people have but more need. Being respectful means showing attentiveness towards others while they are around you and listening to their advice.

According to 9th grader Jackson Smith being respectful means, "Not being mean to somebody else and doing what they would like you to."

This shows that you care about what they say and are willing to listen to them.

According to 8th grader Emily Thomas it means, "Seeing both sides of an argument and showing sympathy towards them."

This shows you care about them as a person which tells them they can trust you because you respect them.

Some people decide that from they will do something for someone else to show them they care thing and their respect for that individual. Some listen to what they say project and give their opinion on the subject too. Being respectful is more than just an assignment, it is a lesson that everyone needs to



learn.

According to Preston Wright being respectful means, "You should care about each other, and help each other. Feeling or showing difference and accepting them because of that."

This will show them that you are interested in them.

Being respectful is more than some assignment that you do because it will benefit you. It is something that people will earn from you and show theirs for you. This is important and is something all people need to learn. It will help you in friendships, group projects, and work to name a few.

Have you learned it yet?

WHY DO WE WEAR UGLY SWEATERS?

By Madison Ramirez

When you think of ugly sweaters you think of Christmas, right? Or you think of the cute sweaters too, right? But what you don't see is actual ugly sweaters. Why do people call them ugly? They might be cute or funny but people still call them ugly.

Vanessa Friedman a journalist of The New York Times stated "What we really mean by 'ugly Christmas sweater' is 'bad taste'...what is not in question is that all of this has helped transform what was once a gently cheesy piece of



mid century knitwear known as a 'jingle bell sweater'" Yes it's true
they were
called jingle bell
sweater in
the 70'
funny
right? Bill
Huxtable
didn't



think that. He was the inventor of the "jingle bell sweater" so don't laugh at his face or he'll "smack you silly" (Home Alone).

Ugly sweaters are a tradition in some families it might not be yours but it's fun.

There are different kinds of sweaters like ones with actual bells and maybe a bow or reindeer antlers you never know. So if someone gives you an ugly Christmas sweater with a big bow that's fine! Just give them a "this is great but why?" smile. Have fun with this!

IS DANCE CONSIDERED & SPORT?

By: Macee Christensen

Is dance a sport?

People have a lot of different opinions and I have taken the time to ask people around the school what their honest opinion is.

Avery Hadley says: "Dance is not a sport there is no ball or tools like almost every sport known."

Alison Sanchez could agree, she states: "I think it's not, you don't do any running which is something you do in all sports."

But not everybody is on their side. Some students agree it is and is not a sport. "Yes and no because it's a performance not a game like most sports are, but you are still moving around" says Blakesley Vargas.

Audrey Vick adds: "If you can do it as a profession and it involves physical activity then you can't deny it is a sport. Besides, more people do it than some other sports."

Riley Bennett claims: "It is quite utterly a sport, baby."

Last, but not least, Annie Haycock says "Dance is a sport it is one of the hardest ways of expressing yourself by movement. You are exercising by doing beautiful movement it takes time to learn it is making you move through expressional emotion to make a story performed in front of people just like a football game."

As you can see, There are many different points of view and opinions when it comes to dance being a sport. But, according to The International Olympics Committee recognizes dance as a sport. Dance is an activity that requires hours of practice every day for several years to become a pro dancer.



Activities Page

CHRISTMAS







CANDY CANE
CARDS
CAROLERS
CHIMNEY
COOKIES
DECEMBER
ELVES
GARLAND

GIFTS
HOLLY
LIGHTS
MANGER
MISTLETOE
ORNAMENTS
PRESENTS
REINDEER

RUDOLPH SANTA SLEIGH SNOWMAN STOCKING TINSEL TREE WREATH