

The Cougar Post

🦃HOLIDAY EDITION 2026🎄
Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

The Origins Of Thanksgiving
By Aubry DeBiew and Wyatt Winton

Hello! My name is Aubry DeBiew! And I am Wyatt Winton. Have you ever wondered how Thanksgiving started? Well, we've got an answer for you! In this article we will be reporting on all of the origins of Thanksgiving! So let's get into it.

Part 1-Life Before The Mayflower.

Long before the Europeans came, the nation of the Wampanoags lived normally in the states we currently call Massachusetts and Rhode Island.They lived in organized villages, farmed crops ,fished, and did normal activities that they would do around that time. A few years later, the Europeans came, and brought a great sickness, a plague. It wiped out 90% of their nation. Leaving the tribe empty and broken.

Part 2-The Arrival Of The English.

Late November 1620, a group of English Colonists, later called the Pilgrims, sailed across the ocean on a ship called the Mayflower. They were searching for a place they could practice their religion openly and freely without being judged.They decided they would build their space on an abandoned village called the Pautext, which later they renamed to Plymouth. When the winter came, so did the Pilgrims, but unprepared.They weren't ready to deal with the freezing cold, and they struggled to find food and resources. Out of about 100 Pilgrims, only 50 survived until the spring.

Part 3-The Meeting and The Treaty.

In spring 1621, the English colonists made contact with the local Native Americans. In March 1621, Wampanoag leader Ousamequin (Massasoit) met with the colonists and made a formal mutual defense and treaty trade. A Patuxet man who spoke English, lived with the Plymouth settlers starting in spring 1621. He taught them survival and farming techniques, such as how to plant native corn using fish as fertilizer, catch local eels, and find their way through the landscape.

Part 4-The Autumn Feast.

The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

After a great harvest in fall of 1621, 52 surviving colonists and 90 Wampanoag men including Massasoit came together for a three day long event of eating, diplomacy, and exercises.They ate venison, wildfowl, and a plentiful amount of local seafood, and corn. A little bit different than most of the Thanksgiving foods we enjoy, huh?

Part 5-The Making Of The Holiday

In October 1789, a request of Congress, George Washington issued the first presidential Thanksgiving proclamation.



Thanksgiving Dishes
By Aria Shoup and Jocalyn Wolfe

One of our favorite Thanksgiving dishes is pumpkin roll. It is like a cinnamon roll. We also enjoy razzmatazz bars. They are the best. If you do not know what they are, they are like raspberry jam with cookies crumbled on the top and bottom. We also enjoy the traditional turkey.



Dishes
By Aria Shoup

As mentioned previously, some of my favorite Thanksgiving dishes are pumpkin rolls and cinnamon rolls. I also love my grandma’s homemade razzmatazz bars. They’re the best. Now let's get to the real food. Ok, now one thing most people eat is turkey. Also at my house we eat mashed

The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

potatoes with gravy and carrots. I also enjoy cranberries. We also have roast beef. We all have to eat healthy food first so then we can enjoy dessert. Before we get to more dessert, we have more food. What are some dishes that your family enjoys on Thanksgiving?



Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

By Saleen Burnett

The parade was started by Macy's employees in 1924 and featured real animals from the Central Park Zoo such as elephants, lions, and tigers. They have marched every year for the exception of 3 years. When they have a Macy's Thanksgiving Parade,

there are balloons. On the balloons, there are all different characters. There are characters that walk behind the float and they wave to other people and hug them too. I bet this makes people feel excited and makes them happy. If they are crying, they can make them feel better and then they can have fun. When the parade is over, they all can go home and tell their parents and tell

them how much fun they had. They can tell their dad how happy they are when they go to bed and dream about what they saw at the parade. When they return to school after break, they can tell their friends what they saw at the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade and tell their teacher how much fun they had at the parade.

This year, there is a potential storm that meteorologists are keeping an eye on. This could potentially impact the parade and force the giant balloons to stay grounded.



The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Top Christmas Treats

By Fiona McQuiggan

In my opinion, these are some of the best Christmas treats to enjoy during the holiday season:

1. Peppermint Bark
2. Christmas Crack
3. Fudge
4. Peanut Butter Blossoms
5. Gingerbread Cookies



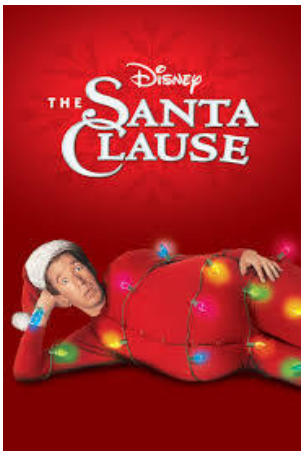
Top 10 Christmas Movies

By Leo Diate

Looking for a Christmas movie to enjoy? Here is a list of ten Christmas movies to consider watching with your family this holiday season:

1. It's a Wonderful Life
2. Home Alone
3. The Polar Express
4. The Muppet Christmas Carol
5. Elf
6. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
7. A Charlie Brown Christmas
8. How the Grinch Stole Christmas!
9. Miracle on 34th street
10. The Santa Clause





The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Top Ten Christmas Gifts for Kids 2026

By Mia Parker and Magnolia Dunlap

All Christmas gifts are very special, but these are the top ten Christmas gifts for kids chosen by them themselves! And parents, you don't need these gifts to be the “cool” parents, but your kids will be very grateful if you get these!

1. The number one Christmas gift is the Nex Playground. It is a small cube shaped console that connects to your TV and uses built in AI motion tracking to turn your body in a way, into the controller. It is great for the winter season so you're still getting exercise in a fun way like a real playground.

2. The second best Christmas gift are squishies. These are very popular currently. They are squishable, flexible and sticky things that have become very popular this year. The most popular are dumplings and Needohs. There are many different textures, but they're all great!

3.The third best Christmas gift is The Interactive Bitzee Aquarium. There are 30 different aquatic virtual animals to collect on the Bitzee. There are many different variants of Bitzees but this one is the most popular.

4. The 4th best Christmas gift for kids is the Craft & DIY sticker maker. It is a very popular toy, but a very expensive one. You press a button, speak into it and it will make the sticker.You can ask for anything besides already existing characters since the stickers are AI generated.

5.The fifth most popular Christmas toy is Lego Creative Brick Box. The Brick Box is designed to strengthen free-form creativity and imagination. It allows them to make up the way to build a lego set instead of following a tutorial.

6. The sixth most popular Christmas gift is an Owala. Owala’s are very nice and very popular cups that keep your drink cold. These water bottles have many different designs and many different colors. The variety and how

The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

cold it keeps your drinks is why it is so popular.

7. The seventh most popular Christmas gift is The Nintendo Switch 2. A lot of people have or heard of the first one, but this year, Nintendo made a second version because of how successful the first one was.

8. The eighth most popular Christmas gift is Fugglers Baby Baddies Mystery Keychain Plush. They come in many different varieties, like squishies, no fuzz mini keychain, vinyl figures, ect. They are loved although they are purposely made ugly with eyebags.

9. The ninth most popular Christmas gift is building blocks. They help kids use their own imagination and strengthen their creativity skills. Building blocks have been around for a while, but are still a great Christmas gift.

10. And last but not least, the tenth most popular Christmas gift is a Labubu. It used to be an online sensation, but the trend died down after 2025 ended. It is a key chain that is kind of like a fuggler with the monster type of vibe, but is not made to look ugly. It is cute, fluffy and adorable to carry around on a bag since it has a keychain loop.





The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Interesting Facts About Ice Skating

By Jenna Aiken



The earliest forms of ice skating date back to over 4,000 years ago to southern Finland where people sharpened animal bones and attached them to their shoes so that they could glide (ice skate) across frozen bodies of water.

The Dutch revolutionized the sport in the 13th century by introducing iron and steel blades with sharpened edges, which allowed skaters to actually cut into the ice instead of just skimming the top.

The world's earliest recorded organized figure skating club was established in 1740 in Edinburgh, Scotland.

These are some interesting facts about the sport of ice skating.



If you've never tried ice skating before, maybe give it a try this winter season!





The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Facts About Arctic Cat
By Logan Trask and Bexley Smith

1. Acquired by Textron in 2017, and subsequently purchased in April 2025 by former executive Brad Darling and an investment group.

2. Primary operations and snowmobile engineering remain anchored in Thief River Falls and St. Cloud, Minnesota.

3.The 1993 Thundercat 900cc triple and modern iterations like remaining the ZR 9000 Thundercat (featuring high-horsepower turbocharged engine) cemented its reputation for high-speed snowmobiles, with the thundercat remaining a benchmark for fast production sleds

4.Instead of wheels, snowmobiles use two front skis to steer and a giant rubber belt with grippy paddles (called a track) in the back to push forward.

5. Adult trail sleds like the Arctic Cat Thundercat have turbocharged engines that can go over 100 miles per hour and are safe, groomed.

6. Deep-snow sleds like the Arctic Cat M858 use a single rail inside the back track instead of two, which helps adult riders tilt the sled sideways to carve through deep mountain powder.



Another great activity to try out this winter season!

The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Top 10 Bills Plays This Season

By Landon Conti

This article highlights the top ten Bill's plays this season. I chose to report on these plays because they are hard plays to have happen in football.

1. Josh Allen passes Jim Kelly for Franchise TD record week 8 vs Ravens. He threw the touchdown pass to DJ Moore in a 36-10 win against Baltimore.
2. Josh Allen had a good backward flip to Keon Coleman against the Las Vegas Raiders in week 6.
3. Josh Allen's rocket to Dalton Kincaid for 40 yard play set up the team in the red zone against Baltimore in week 8.
4. Josh Allen on an extension over the goal line and into the end zone against the Ravens.
5. Tyler Bass field goal from 56 yards to start the game against the Ravens.
6. James Cook's crazy angled rushing touchdown bouncing outside and cutting back in.
7. Josh Allen had a great deep ball to DJ Moore who caught the contested ball.
8. Cole Bishop's defensive tackle hit the other quarterback in the open field.
9. Tyler Bass's crazy field goal in the 4th quarter to win the game against the Raiders.
10. Hook and ladder trick play Keon Coleman caught a pass from Josh Allen and pitched it back to Kahil Shakir for an 11 yard gain.





The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Teacher of the Issue: Interviewing Mrs. Petry By Saleen Burnett and Evelyn Holtz

1.Why did you choose this job?
-Because I love kids.

2.Do you like your job?
-I love this job!

3.What is your favorite color?
-Yellow

4.What is your favorite animal?
Kangaroo and golden retriever

5. What is your favorite season?
-Fall

6. What is your favorite part of teaching?
-Getting to know students and being able to spend time with them

7. What is your favorite food?
-Spinach artichoke dip



Thank you, Mrs. Petry, for all you do for the students at SES!

Teacher of the Issue: Interviewing Mrs. Nowicki By Saleen Burnett and Evelyn Holtz

1.Why did you choose this job?
-Because my neighbor was a teacher and she inspired me to be one.

2.Why did you choose to teach ELA?
-I love to read.

3.What is your favorite part of teaching?
- Getting to build relationships with students.

The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

4.Whitch class is the best behaved?
-They all have their own great qualities.

5.Do you think you're a fun teacher?
-I try to be.

6.What is your favorite color?
-Green

7. What is your favorite animal?
-Dogs and monkeys

8. What's your favorite food?
-Spaghetti and tacos

9. What is your favorite holiday and why?
-Halloween, all things scary.

10.What's your favorite drink?
-Alani

11. What are your hobbies?
-Reading and being outside with my son.

12.What's your favorite part about ELA?
-Getting to read all the different books and sharing my favorite books.

13.What are your favorite flowers?
Daisies and sunflowers.

14. What is your favorite dessert?
-Cheesecake.

15. Why is it important to work?
-It teaches good values.



Thank you, Mrs. Nowicki, for all you do for the students at SES!

The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Teacher of the Issue: Interviewing Mrs. Gray About Christmas

By Wyatt Winton and Aubry DeBiew

1. What is your favorite part of Christmas?
   Spending time with her family

2. Do you spend time with your family?
   Yes, here and at home.

3. Do you go outside when it's snowing?
   Yes, She likes to build snow forts and snowmen.

4. Do you get any presents?If so, what are your favorite presents to receive?
   Yes she does get presents, her favorite presents that were a surprise were airpods. She likes listening to audiobooks.

5. What is your favorite Christmas tradition?
   At her house she reads Christmas bible stories.



Thank you, Mrs. Gray, for all you do for the students at SES!



The Cougar Post

HOLIDAY EDITION 2026

Chief Editor: Mrs. Wise

Teacher of the Issue: Interviewing Mrs.Wise By Jack Lerow, Easton Johnson, and Teagan Pattyson

1.What is your favorite color?
Teal

2.What is your favorite movie?
Hocus Pocus

3.Why did you decide to host the Newspaper Club?
Because I was in the Newspaper Club when I was in school, and I love writing.

4.What is your favorite Christmas movie?
Home Alone or The Santa Clause

5.What is your favorite food?
Anything made with potatoes

6 .As a teacher lots of people look up to you, but who do you look up to?
Miss Meagan from The Wrap. She inspired me to become a teacher.

7.What is your favorite book?
Because of Winn Dixie by Kate Dicamillo

8.What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?
Spend time with my family.

9.Would you rather read a book or watch a movie?
If I'm by myself, I would rather read a book but if I am with my family I would rather watch a movie.

10.What is your favorite Christmas book?
The Night Before Christmas

11.What's your favorite holiday?
Christmas

