



Things to do indoors this winter...

Matthew Brodsky

Welcome to winter 2020. It seems like a lonely cold time, but it doesn't have to be that way. We can still do many things indoors that are just as fun as outside. For example, you might want to look into buying "Snow Packs" which has all the same properties of snow without the melting. While you're shopping around for the "snow" you might as well look into buying "snowballs" which have all the same properties as a snowball, but do not break on impact. However, you don't need fake snow to have a great time inside this winter. Maybe build a gingerbread house or make some holiday cookies. If you do celebrate Christmas, you could decorate your house with homemade decorations. Don't forget about your family. Go ahead have some laughs, watch a movie, finish a puzzle, and just have a fun time. Just because you are indoors does not give you the excuse not to sled in your house or have fun. Go ahead and sled in your house, have a snowball war, make a snow angel, and have a jolly good time, because the possibilities indoors are truly endless.

The History of Thanksgiving

Anna Bergelson

The delicious turkey, the amazing smell of pumpkin pie, and the large family dinner. All of these things remind us of the holiday we know and love: Thanksgiving. Not only is it important to be thankful and have fun on Thanksgiving Day, but it also matters to know the history of Thanksgiving.

The tradition of Thanksgiving first started when the Pilgrims left England, seeking religious freedom for themselves. They sailed the Mayflower across the Atlantic Ocean and settled in Massachusetts. They started to establish a small village called Plymouth. The Pilgrims' first winter in Plymouth was brutal, as many suffered from outbreaks of a contagious disease. In the spring of 1621, the Pilgrims were surprised by a visit from two Native Americans.

The Native Americans taught them how to cultivate corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers. The Pilgrims also became allies with the Wampanoag, a local tribe.

In November 1621, the Pilgrims' first corn harvest was proven successful. There was a celebratory feast with the Pilgrims and Native Americans, now known as America's "First Thanksgiving." The first Thanksgiving definitely had different foods than what we eat today. Pilgrims and Native Americans feasted on waterfowl, deer, seafood, berries, fruit, and pumpkin. No matter how different the first Thanksgiving was, it is important to enjoy the Thanksgiving we have today. This day is all about celebrating family and friends and being grateful for what you have.

First Woman to become Vice President

Argita Idrizi



Joleen Kattoura

Celebrations broke out throughout the country after finding out Joe Biden and Kamala Harris won the 2020 Presidential election. This is a great milestone in history. Kamala Harris is the first woman to be elected Vice-President. I find Kamala Harris winning this election not just inspiring to me, but other girls my age by proving that women can do anything men can do. Kamala Harris has always stood for women's rights and the speech she made after winning showed that. "While I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last. Because every little girl watching tonight sees that this is a country of possibilities." Reading about her speech gave me much hope that women will start to have more power in the U.S and that more women will be in office. More Americans voted for the 2020 election, as compared to any other election in history. Surprisingly, most of these voters are women.

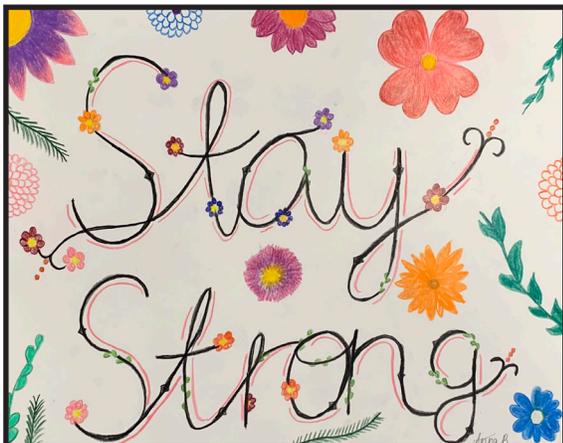
Amazing Things that Happened in 2020

Kevin Matias

For many of us, 2020 was a terrible year; it's not hard to admit it. Even though 2020 was not the best, there are some positive things that happened this year.

- Drive-in movie theaters made a comeback since the 1950s
- Many restaurants shared their recipes so we could make them at home during quarantine.
- People had much more time to connect and spend valuable time with their families.
- Americans all around the country rushed to help adopt pets due to the pandemic.
- Things such as board games, puzzles, baking, gardening and comfort food made a comeback.
- The Black Lives Matter movement which campaigns against violence and systemic racism was brought internationally with protests around the world.
- Because of this Covid-19 situation, pollution is dropping, keeping the environment healthy and safe.
- Companies such as 3M and Apple put production aside to help make millions of masks to protect people.
- People around the world used their sewing skills to make masks for protection.
- Health Workers and First Responders are now heroes for saving many lives.

Sure, 2020 wasn't a great year for many people, but there were many positive things that made the year bright.



Anna Bergelson

Winner of the Student Council Fundraiser

Logan Yoon

Mrs. Foster was announced as the winner of the Food Basket Fundraiser. She won various gift certificates, special masks, and a variety of other prizes. The raffle raised \$150, and the proceeds were donated to the Franciscan Food Pantry in Fairview to help out local families in need.

Positive Quotes

"Being sad means you'll eventually be happy."

-Logan Yoon

"However difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do to succeed at."

-Stephen Hawking

"Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value."

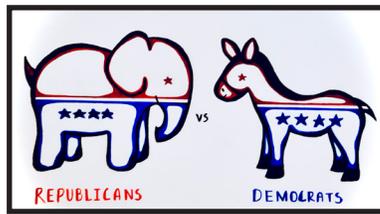
-Albert Einstein

"It's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

-Abraham Lincoln

Presidential Election 2020

Arhaan Gandhi



This year the presidential election has been different from past elections, but finally on November 7th our very own former VP Joe Biden, Democratic Presidential Nominee, became President Elect of the United States of America. Currently he has 306 electoral votes and 81.2 million votes. Every four years when an election happens, there is a popular vote which is given by every citizen who voted in the country. In contrast to that, there are electoral votes which are the main part of the election that helps the President win. You need 270 electoral votes to win the election. Biden has 306 electoral votes and Trump has 232.

Our current president, Donald Trump, thinks this presidential election was riddled with fraud. He is asking the Supreme Court for recounts in many states where the election is very close. President Trump has yet to formally concede to President Elect Biden. All we can do is wait and see what comes ahead of us and hope that our country will prosper in the future.

My Wish List for 2021

Irena Avalos

As you know, there is less than one month until the New Year. Everyone is ready for 2020 to be over. My standards for 2021 are significantly higher than they were for 2020.

Here is my wish list for 2021:

1. **A cure for COVID19** (You probably expected this one).
2. **A desk** (For remote learning, so I don't turn into Quasimodo from The Hunchback of Notre Dame).
3. **An actual birthday** (My birthday is in September and because of the coronavirus, I wasn't able to celebrate this year).
4. **Better WiFi and/or a computer** (I'm pretty sure you know why).
5. **A decorated bedroom** (I share a room with my 7-year old sister, and as you can imagine, it is not fun. There's a humongous Sofia the First sticker on the wall that stares at me when I go to sleep. How nice).

Staff

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How the Holiday will be Different this Year

Sahir Baksh

With everything that has happened in 2020 there has been a lot of changes that impact the world and society. One of those changes is how we will celebrate the holidays. As the year comes to an end, the holidays will definitely be different.

In a traditional holiday, people would gather together, eat together, and have fun with each other in person. However, due to the pandemic, people will need to have smaller gatherings. According to the CDC, people should wear a mask, keep 6 feet from each other, and only have up to 10 people during an in person gathering. They also recommend for people to hold a virtual gathering instead of an in person gathering.

Halloween has already passed but there were some changes from previous years. This year Halloween 2020 was different. People who went trick or treating wore face masks to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Instead of handing out candy directly to kids, people thought of creative ways to

give out candy safely. People placed goodie bags and candy on tables, clothes lines, and sticks in the yard as well as candy shoots so kids could get it safely.

Remember when people would eat big turkeys at the Thanksgiving dinner table? Thanksgiving 2020 had smaller turkeys than usual. According to Fox News, they claimed that this year's Thanksgiving would unfortunately have a smaller turkey at the dinner table. People are finding other ways to replace the turkey such as chicken and turkey breasts.

When you think of Christmas and the holidays you might think of a lot of shopping. Holiday shopping in 2020 will be different. Most shopping will be online. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people are going to shop online so they can help stop the spread of COVID-19. Most of the deals will be on websites such as Amazon, Walmart, Home Depot, Target, and others. The deals will start earlier than Black Friday to encourage people to shop online. Some stores have already begun having deals starting in mid-October.