

Issue 08

THE SHARK ENCOUNTER MAGAZINE

BAND AND
CHORUS CONCERT

CHRISTMAS
BREAK

RELIGIOUS
HOLIDAYS

SPIRIT WEEK



HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Band and Chorus Concert

by Briyana Smith

Winter chorus and band concerts are one of the most fun for students. Senior Kayla Duran said, "My favorite song sang at the concert was We Wish You a Merry Christmas." While in band playing fast paced Christmas songs can be challenging. Silas DeGarmo, 10 said, "The most difficult song to learn was Midnight Sleigh Ride, because it was very quick-paced and we didn't have much time to learn it." For seniors this concert can bring lots of emotions and for Kayla Duran 12, she said, "I'm feeling sad because this is my last winter concert."



photo by Briyana Smith

Christmas Break

by Isabella Jolly

It's finally Christmas break and students are happy to get out of school and go out of town to see their family. "I am going to New York," said Hannah McDonald, 10. Not everyone is going places for Christmas; they might just want to stay home. "I want to go to the hot pot and eat with my friends," said McDonald. For some, the break is just a time to relax and recuperate. "I am just going to stay home and spend time with my family," said Dennise Lean Martinez, 10. For some people they have their favorite traditions with friends and family. "We like to do a gingerbread house competition, and we would ask my grandma who wins, and my grandma would always pick me because I am her favorite," said McDonald. It does not matter if you are going out of town or just staying home the thought is you spend time with your family for the holidays.

Religious Holidays by Mordecai Shackelford

Christmas is a significant holiday for all people, whether you celebrate it with western traditions or novelized traditions everyone is cozying up and spending more time with their family and loved ones. This time of year, it is important to remember what the holiday season is really about. Here at Riverview High School, we pride ourselves in a diverse staff and student body. With many cultural clubs and allowing students to express their religious freedom it can be found that many students and student's families have all kinds of different traditions that are celebrated this time of year. For instance, Cynthia Perez, 11, said, "I am a Catholic, my family and I celebrate Christmas with Catholic traditions." Catholic traditions can vary depending on where and who it is that celebrates them. Cynthia says some of her family's Christmas Catholic traditions includes "a Posada, where we change baby Jesus's clothes..." This is meant to commemorate the swaddling clothes that baby Jesus was swaddled into the night he was born, this is a very significant tradition for many Catholics and is held as a sacred moment between Catholic Families. "My favorite tradition to follow is Lent, it is a 40-day period where you must give something up for the purpose of honoring God and recognizing his own sacrifices made for the betterment of mankind". Lent is a holiday that occurs during "Ash Wednesday". Ash Wednesday has come and passed but will be celebrated March 5, 2025. This holiday season it is important to be respectful and considerate of other's religious beliefs and celebrations, maybe ask your peers what they do to celebrate the Holidays.



photos by Briyana Smith

Is 2 Weeks Long Enough?

by Madyson Demian

A two week long break to enjoy family, friends, and a pause from reality, Christmas break. This break is shared between Christmas and New Years, and although students are given two weeks to enjoy the holidays, some still feel like this break just isn't long enough, while others feel like it is. Annalyse Ayala said, "yes, I feel like it's a good amount of time to have a mental break and reset but also allow yourself to miss school and get up every morning to a daily routine." While Aireona Knight disagrees, she said, "no, I think students should have more time for family and since there's two holidays in this break we should have a week more." What do you think?



photo by Mordecai Shackelford

Christmas Wishlists

by Lylliana Wyatt

It's almost Christmas break here at Riverview Highschool. With the holidays coming up, we wanted to know what's on everyone's Christmas wish list this year. From stuff people actually need to things they've been dreaming about, the answers gave us a glimpse of what matters most to students this season. "I really want a digital camera," said Venus Boyne, 10. While many students' wish lists focused on practical items, others were more centered around their hobbies and personal interests "I was hoping for roller skates," said El Myers, 10. Whatever ends up under the tree, it's always fun to see what everyone's hoping for this time of year. Happy holidays and enjoy your break!

Spirit Week

by Taylor Day

STUDENTS AT RIVERVIEW SHOWED OFF THEIR HOLIDAY SPIRIT DURING THIS YEAR'S SPIRIT WEEK. FROM PAJAMA DAY TO UGLY SWEATERS, THE HALLS WERE FILLED WITH CREATIVE AND FESTIVE OUTFITS. MANY STUDENTS WERE EXCITED, ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT BEING ABLE TO DRESS UP AND HAVE FUN.

"I LOVE DRESSING UP AND PLANNING FUN OUTFITS, IT'S COOL TO SEE EVERYONE DRESSED UP," SAID LOGAN WILSON, 12.

STUDENTS SHARED LOGAN'S EXCITEMENT, ENJOYING THE FACT THAT THEY CAN EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND SWITCH UP THE USUAL SCHOOL ROUTINE.

"I'M ALWAYS SO EXCITED FOR SPIRIT WEEK BECAUSE I LOVE GETTING INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT, ESPECIALLY WITH FRIENDS," SAID ZARIE CRESPO, 12.

SPIRIT WEEK BRINGS A SENSE OF JOY TO RIVERVIEW, REMINDING EVERYONE THAT IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT DRESSING UP, BUT ALSO GETTING TO CONNECT WITH FRIENDS.



Announcements

RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL
MATH HONOR SOCIETY
MATH TUTORING
Got a MATH problem?
We're here to help you solve it.
Tuesdays and Thursdays during
ALL 3 lunches
• YOU MUST GET A PASS FROM
ROOM 406 BEFORE SCHOOL EACH
DAY THAT YOU WANT TO ATTEND
TUTORING
• EACH SESSION IS LIMITED TO 15
STUDENTS SO PICK UP YOUR
LUNCH PASS EARLY!!!
• LAPTOPS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE
• STUDENTS MUST BRING WORK
FROM THEIR MATH CLASS

Student Closet
We are accepting donations!
Are you a RVHS student in need? Let us know!
Donations must be new or practically new items like the following:
• clothing (girls and boys, all sizes)
• shirts
• pants
• socks
• hygiene products
• school supplies
• etc
Items can go to room 235A or the main office.
Questions: Shelley.Hunsucker@cps.net

FINS TUTORING
Riverview High School
Media Center 3:45-4:45
AFTER SCHOOL: TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY
Great Opportunity to work on Credit Recovery
Tuesday: Math
Wednesday: General help in areas needed
Thursday: College Readiness/SAT/ACT
Teachers: Moss, Pinzino, Chandel, Childs, Morgan, Smith, Bogart, Koester

Bell Schedule
Starting January 17th

1st Period	8:30 AM	9:21 AM
2nd Period	9:26 AM	10:16
3rd Period	10:21 AM	11:11 AM
4th Period	11:16 AM	12:06 PM
5th Period	12:11 PM	1:01 PM
6th Period	1:06 PM	1:56 PM
7th Period	2:01 PM	2:51 PM
8th Period	2:56 PM	3:46 PM

SHARK ENCOUNTER STAFF



Briyana Smith is a staff writer for Riverview Shark Encounter. This is her second year in newspaper and her third year in Journalism. During her time in Journalism, she has done interviews and written creative stories. When she is not interviewing or writing she is on the softball field pitching or hanging out with friends.



Taylor Day is a staff writer for Riverview High School's Shark Encounter. She writes stories about current events and is a pensive and creative writer. She has been in Journalism for two years and has improved in writing and communicating with others. She enjoys music, drawing, and taking photos when she is not interviewing or transcribing her work.



Madyson Demian is a staff writer for Shark Encounter News. As this is her first year in newspaper, it is her second year in Journalism. Using her innovative abilities, she contributes to stories by expressing her creativeness on paper. When Madyson is not creating a new story, she is on the field making plays in flag football, or out with friends being nutty.



Isabella Jolly is a staff writer for the Shark Encounter. She likes helping animals and likes to help the earth. Outside of school she enjoys going on walks with my dog, reading books and learning about the government and photography. She also enjoy traveling and learning about other cultures and learning how they live.



Mordecai Shackleford is a junior at Riverview High School. With a past history in writing and graphic design, he plays a role in writing and designing the school's newspaper.



Lyllyana Wyatt is a staff writer for the Riverview High schools Shark Encounter. She is a writer who goes over current/important events around the school. She has been in Journalism for two years, along with previous experience in creative writing. When she is not working on a story, she enjoys listening to music, skating and creating art.