



A very merry birthday

Devon Trentz, '17, enjoys having two separate celebrations.

By: Kenzie Redmond @kenzie_redmond2

Many would believe that someone who has a birthday on Christmas would receive less presents than those who don't have a birthday on Christmas. Many would also believe that they wouldn't have their birthday party on a separate day. However, this isn't true for Devon Trentz, senior.

Trentz enjoys having his birthday on Christmas. "I love celebrating the holiday and getting double the presents. I don't want to change anything about my birthday. I like the change and seeing the snow. Christmas is a happy time, so I like having my birthday on Christmas," he said.

Trentz celebrates his birthday a few days before Christmas and then celebrates Christmas on December 25th. "My birthday is done separately. My birthday party is usually with family and it relates to

the holiday. Everyone gets up and we open presents. We still have cake and ice cream," he said.

Trentz enjoys the company on his birthday and Christmas. "Spending time with my family is my favorite part. I feel unique because my birthday is on Christmas. My family is all together and we open gifts together," he said.

Trentz loves having his birthday on Christmas as well as Chris Cruse,

senior, who has a birthday on Christmas Eve. "I like getting presents. I like not having school and being able to spend time with my family on my birthday," Cruse said.

Although many would believe that a person with a Christmas birthday would get less presents, Trentz and Cruse receive double and they enjoy being able to spend time with their loved ones on their special day.



Devon Trentz, '17 (left), and his brother open presents when they were little for their birthday.

Christmas treat contest

The bakers baked, and the journalism kids ate. The below sweet-treats were judged on taste, aroma, appearance.

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17



Morgan Swanger, '17, made a peanut butter chocolate pie.



Solomon Grootuis, '18, made sugar cookies with glaze on top.



Christina Arundale, '18, made this green tea muffins.



Haley Blazek, '17, made this extravagant rainbow cake.

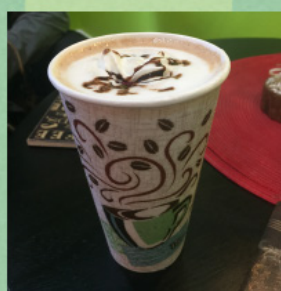
Local stops for Christmas coffee

By: Baylea Bruce @Baylea_Marie



Gingerbread Latte, Brewhemia

This delicious drink tastes just like a gingerbread cookie but isn't too sweet. It would be perfect for anyone who doesn't want anything too sweet but is looking to get into the holiday spirit.



Red Hot Reindeer Mocha, Wit's End

This drink is red hot, literally. To add a spicy twist this mocha contains some spicy red hot candy. Great for anyone who loves hot candy and wants to warm up from the cold.



Eggnog Latte, Brewed Awakenings

Any holiday party isn't complete without some delicious eggnog. So why not bring that party to the morning? It's a perfect blend of eggnog and coffee, making a very smooth drink with an after taste of spices.



Peppermint White Mocha, Aurora Coffee

A classic holiday drink. This has the perfect blend of minty and chocolate. The white chocolate is better than a regular mocha for those who don't like their drinks too chocolatey.

Favorite holiday movies

Students voted for their fav holiday movie of all time.

By: Amery Bruce @AmeryBruce



Students' Christmas lists

By: Mia Laube @mia_laube21



Nylah Morrow, '19

Written

"I'd ask for a computer."



Anwir Algharib, '18

Written

"I'd ask for a pair of stretch jeans from American Eagle."



Nikolai Lewis, '20

Written

"I'd ask for tons of money."



Alex Gaffey, '19

Written

"Maybe I'd want new clothes."



Ryan Neumann, '17

Written

"I'd want some warm clothes."



Brianna Huegel, '18

Written

"I'm asking for some Christmas money to go to a charity, Compassion International."

Unwritten

"I'd want a new president."

Unwritten

"I'd want to be able to join the military."

Unwritten

"I'd ask for new legs because I have CMT."

Unwritten

"I'd ask for happiness in general."

Unwritten

"I want my older siblings to be successful with their families."

Unwritten

"In general, I want peace, happiness, and hope for everyone."

How to: Formally set a table

By: Leah Kray @leah_kray

The main course plate goes in the center of the placemat with a salad plate on top of it. On the left side of the plate, the salad fork goes on the far left and the dinner fork is closest to the plate. To right of the plate, the knife is closest, followed by a teaspoon and a soup spoon. Finally, the drinking glass is placed in the upper right corner of the placemat.



Dressing up for the holidays at work

By: Summer Williams @summer.rose



Wacky traditions for winter

By: Blair Brooks @BlairBrooks11

There are many traditions around the holiday season. They can be festive ones, funny, or just regular traditional ones to decorating the house to putting up the tree. With all that, people can't forget the weird and odd traditions.

Many countries celebrate Christmas, close to 160 countries celebrate Christmas. Some countries don't call it Christmas, but all of them celebrate it differently. These traditions can be from a wide variety. Some can be happy a somewhat Christmasy and rewarding.

Germans that celebrate Christmas hied a pickle in the tree on Christmas Eve, first child to find it in the morning gets a gift from whoever hid it. Most are more unusual than others though. In Austria, they have a Christmas devil called the Krampus, children live in fear of the Christmas devil. A lot of these traditions seem to be dark. South Africa decided to join this tradition of a dark

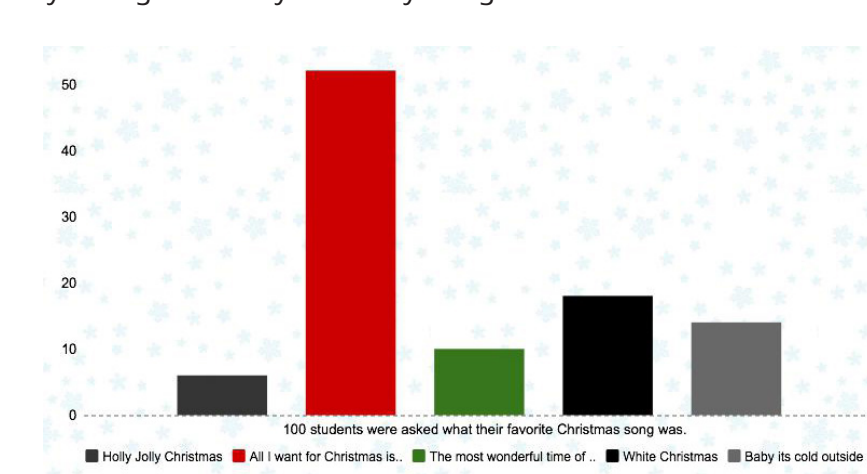
holiday tradition. The children of South Africa are told a story about a boy named Danny who ate his grandmother's cookies she had laid out for Santa, in her outrage, she killed the boy. Danny apparently is known to haunt the homes on Christmas.

Traditions should brighten someone's mood or be traditional. The children of Iceland leave a shoe out on their windowsills twelve days before Christmas. During these days, they are filled with small gifts or treats that they find the next morning. The more normal traditions England decided to follow, Santa Claus traditionally leaves gifts in people's stockings, the naughty children receive coal. Even the United States has unusual ways of celebrating. Americans have created The Running of the Santas which is a large competition bear crawl while people are dressed as Santa.

It could be down the street or across the world, but you will find weird traditions.

Favorite Christmas song

By: Madigan Crowley @CrowleyMadigan



Free and thoughtful last minute gifts

For more information on these four gifts, visit mhsvoxonline.com

By: Kayla Berry @kaylaaa_001

