



### Important Dates:

- 1/27 FAFSA Help
- 2/9 Early Release
- 2/14 Valentines Day
- 2/17 Parent Teacher Conferences- No School
- 2/18 No School
- 2/21 Presidents Day- No School

### New Mural

By Julia Chupich

Class of 2022 has started a mural. The mural is being created to represent each year's homecoming theme of high school. Freshman year our theme was spring, shown on the left side. Sophomore year was *Coco* represented in the black section where more figures will be added. Unfortunately, junior year went on without homecoming. And senior year will be dedicated to our 80's theme. There will also be a rollercoaster seen going through different obstacles in the mural. The pictures seen below are the blue prints of the product and the updated progress of the mural. Go check it out, outside of the libraries' main doors! If you are a student in class of 2022 and want to take part in creating our mural, please talk to Mrs. Hereley and Class President Caden Scott about next steps.



Staff Photo

### COVID-19

By Yesi Escobar and Karen Puentes

We all know Covid is still around and even though things have gotten better, we still must take precautions. A positive test result now requires a five day quarantine; to come back to school, one must have no symptoms and be fever free. Close contact for unvaccinated students also require a five day quarantine unless they have had Covid in the last 90 days. Vaccinated students can continue to stay at school as long as they are symptom free.

*The Buzz or The Hive*

**Comments? Questions? Suggestions?**

**Please contact Mrs. MacKenzie, room 215**

### Graduation Requirement - FAFSA

By Abigail Tittle

One of the many requirements for seniors to graduate from Harvard High School is the completion of the FAFSA. On January 27th a professional will be located in the student services office from 11AM-2PM to guide you through the completion of the FAFSA. Contact Mrs. Miller in the student services office for more information.

### New Years Resolutions

By Jose Pichardo

New Year's Resolutions are a commitment made at the start of the year that we aim to fulfill. How did this tradition begin? According to the *HISTORY* magazine it began more than 4,000 years ago in Babylon. Babylonians held this belief: The gods would bless them in the New Year if they honored their commitments. Similarly, they felt that if their vows were empty, they would not get the benefits of the pagan gods.

We sent a survey to Harvard High School students, and the following are some resolutions with the percentage of those who have kept them.

Going to the gym and improving one's diet were by far the most common goals. The second was focusing on themselves, whether it was by ignoring toxic people or just taking some time to work on their own goals. A few unique ones; not using any heat on their hair which was needed to stop damaging that hair, and trying new foods to feel more connected to a culture other than their own.

According to the survey, 50% of respondents have started and had some success or have just started making these adjustments, while 42% say they are totally dedicated and have kept to their goal thus far. Only 8% say they haven't started or have already given up on that specific goal.

### Save Those Bottle Caps!

By Oger Bernal

The AVID 12 class is working on a community service project that requires collecting plastic caps and lids. Their goal is to reach 550lbs of plastic lids and caps for a new picnic table, that will not only look amazing outside, but will be made with the caps collected. We're saving the planet one cap at a time. Only plastic caps from bottles or containers will be accepted; they must be less than 8 inches in diameter.

Examples include, snap-ons, butter tubs, coffee cans, yogurt lids, milk jugs, juice jugs, pop caps, detergent caps, etc. These plastic caps and lids will be collected in boxes located in all classrooms and at the main entrance. Try to save large amounts of caps and lids at home to bring them into school to help us reach our goal to gift the school a picnic table.

### What To Do When Absent

By: Alexis Gonzalez and Brian Palafox  
First of all, one should never be absent from school by choice. Therefore, all medically excused students are expected to join the class through a Zoom link that is posted by your teacher in Google Classroom. If wifi is an issue, apply for the hotspot that the district provides; you just have to click on the district website and search; <https://www.cusd50.org/>. Here's the online protocol according to Mr. Hobbs: If medically excluded, students are not expected to stay on the Zoom during the entire class period. Log in at the beginning of class, get the information needed, and then do the work on your own. Of course, all are welcome to stay in the Zoom if it is helpful.

### Makeup days for Winterbreak

By Eric Aquino, Karen Puentes, and Yesi Escobar  
Starting this winter, two school days were canceled due to Covid. Because of this, the Harvard CUSD 50 Board of Education and administration decided that April 18th and May 27th will now be school days for all students. Also the district decided that school will not be on Zoom on days missed due to any reason, which can be COVID outbreak, bad weather, etc. Remember we also have a two hour delay schedule if weather conditions are supposed to improve mid-morning. School would be starting at 10:00am and end like always at 2:45pm.

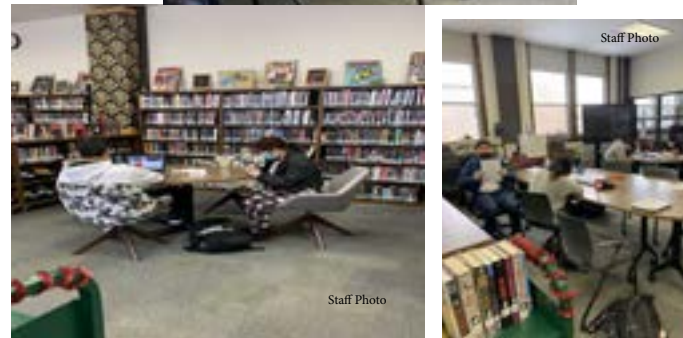
### Winter Break Vacays

By Julia Chupich  
Winter break has come and gone, but the memories we made over break will stay with us forever. I interviewed a few students at the high school about their travels, memories, and games. Senior Abby Perkins traveled to Cancun, Mexico for a week. She said her favorite memory was chilling by the beach with her family. Sophomore Meadow Jader played in a three day basketball tournament hosted by North Boone. She remembers and appreciates how hard everyone played and the positivity on the court. Senior Nicole Garcia traveled to Mexico City for almost a month visiting family. Her favorite memory in Mexico was the food, as seen down below. Do you have anything planned for spring break? Hopefully these travels gave you some ideas!



### BPA

By Esme Ramirez and Mayra Mercado  
Harvard High School has started a new club this year called BPA (Business Professionals of America). The enrollment started December of last year. Twenty-seven students joined and competed in their first competition on Friday, January 14th. This competition consisted of tests, computer events, slide presentations, and oral presentations depending on the event each chose to compete in. There are over 50 events to choose from, and students were allowed to choose two events. The next step is the state competition at Oak Brook, Illinois in February. If they do well there, they'll move on to the National Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas in May. Next year look for enrollment information in August and September; the National Competition will be in California! All grade levels are more than welcome to join. While it is not a requirement, it would be helpful to have taken a business class before joining. BPA advisors are Ms. Beetsra and Mr. Valenziano. When asked about the program, they responded, "We are proud of the effort students have put in and proud to offer this opportunity at Harvard High School."



### What is Mercury Retrograde?

By: Jacky Ortiz and Emily Huicochea  
Mercury retrograde means when the planet Mercury appears to be moving in opposite directions than the earth. This happens three to four times a year. Mercury is the planet of communication, the mind, intelligence, connection, media, technology, and travels; when it is in retrograde, delays and miscommunications are likely to occur. This time is not only likely to cause us problems, but it allows us to re-evaluate our current life. That is why it is likely for people, situations, and projects from the past to pop back into our lives. It slows us down and forces us to revisit the past to either invite it back into our lives or let it go and learn the lessons once and for all.

## Har-Co Highlights

### Upcoming Sports Dates:

- 1/25 Girls Basketball Home vs. Woodstock
- 1/26 Boys Basketball @ Oregon, Girls Bowling Home vs. Huntley
- 1/27 Wrestling @ Glenbard South
- 1/28 Boys Basketball @ Johnsburg, Wrestling Home vs. North Boone & Rock Falls

### Bowling Expectations

By Jacky Ortiz  
This year, Harvard High School's bowling team was open for boys and girls with no fee! We had the opportunity to speak to a few senior girls about this school's first ever bowling team. We asked, "How was your experience being a part of the bowling team?" Rachel Kramer said, "I was kind of nervous at first, like I would be with any new thing, but the girls in it were super nice, and um it was just fun to do." Team members Yadira Placencia and Emily Huicochea added how they were not very interested in the beginning, but they are glad they stuck to it. I questioned what a normal bowling tournament would be like. The day starts off on route to Rockford. They would then bowl 6 games, sometimes with a break in the middle. The tournament is usually all day, 8AM to 5PM. Yadira then added, "We get a lunch break, well one time we didn't get one, but we always get breakfast." Finally I asked the girls who they recommend to try bowling. They said, "Anyone who feels like they want to be a part of something but don't know what they are good at, everyone makes the team."

### Conference Champs!

By: Abby Perkins  
Harvard wrestling has had a lot of success so far this season. On Wednesday (1/12), the team defeated Woodstock North in a tri meet determining them conference champs. In addition, Coach Shultz received his 100th win as HHS head coach a couple of weeks ago when the team defeated Marengo. Last week was senior night; the Hornets went 1:1. There are two more meets left for the 2021-2022 season. Good luck to all the wrestlers with the rest of their season!



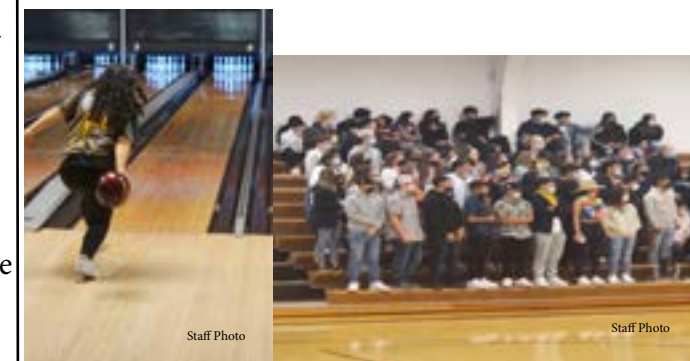
### Winter Sports Updates

By Abigail Tittle  
Girls Basketball: The girls varsity basketball team has been in season since mid November. The team, consisting of five seniors, two juniors, and lots of underclassmen, has been making great strides to improve its game and continue to fight during games. The team's next game will be Senior night on Tuesday the 25th at home against Woodstock.

Boys Basketball: The boys varsity basketball team with six seniors, and eight juniors has had various successes including taking first place in the North Boone Christmas Tournament. Senior night will be February 15th at home against Johnsburg.

Girls Bowling: The first season of Girls Bowling at Harvard High School is competing this winter in the KRC Conference. The team consists of ten girls from all grade levels who helped the program accomplish their first win over Johnsburg. The girls won 2275-2269 in a nail biter. Congratulations to the team and the program.

Boys Bowling: Along with Girls Bowling, the boys also had their first season at HHS; there were nine participants in the first of many seasons. Although the boys did not win a match this year, Logan Jacobs was named the Northwest Herald Athlete of the Week! Goodluck in future seasons.



The senior slideshow is underway and is still in need of senior pictures. That includes; baby, middle and senior pictures, sports, friend groups, clubs, etc. These pictures can be of any age, but all need to be Class of 2022. Please keep this strictly seniors! Send to [hsmmj@cusd50.org](mailto:hsmmj@cusd50.org).



# WRITTEN IN THE STARS



**Aries:** Take a step back and go over how you're connecting with your friends, groups, and the communities. This upcoming Mercury Retrograde will bring many confusions and loads of gossip/drama. An old friend, ex or contact, may try to reach out and connect with you. You can go for it but if you're still salty or not over what happened before, don't go for it. Anything that may show up is just giving you a chance to alter and/or review your course

**Taurus:** This upcoming Mercury Retrograde will affect your career, ambitions and public standing. Don't engage in certain activities, professional careers, nor start a new job or make bold claims publicly, you may regret them at the end. However, if some old activity or job comes back in your life, you could decide to return to it confidently.

**Gemini:** Mercury Retrograde seems to be attacking you this season. This is because of your planetary ruler who is especially important to you, and you're deeply affected by their every move. This cycle will likely confuse you on how you're pursuing new perspectives in life. You may feel frustrated that travel, academics or anything are hitting dead ends. Hang on in there, Mercury will cause you to get up on your feet.

**Cancer:** Get ready for plenty of confusion in partnerships, Cancer. This upcoming Mercury Retrograde will bring a big focus on your relationships with business or love. Mercury can or will bring ex's or old partners from the past. This will give you a chance to reconsider where you stand, and if you'd like to connect another chance. Make sure to stand tall and be ready for heartbreaks, Cancer.

**Leo:** Relationship drama will be coming your way Leo's be prepared. Something you have agreed before will be up to be reviewed in a significant partnership. While you may be given a chance to go over the details again, you might decide you're just not on the right page. Some people can come back and say hello to you. Later in this cycle, confusion around your work, employment, health or pet situations will crush your nerves.

**Virgo:** Mercury Retrograde is telling you to slow down and calm down. This cycle will bring you delays and confusion around work. Something you may have been focusing on your job may be needing plenty of revisions and may be causing you headache problems. Go take a walk if you're up to it. If you'd like to connect with someone old, this would be the perfect time to connect with them.

**Libra:** Brace yourself for the love drama mercury has planned for you, libra. No matter what your situation is either you feel like you and your boo aren't seeing eye to eye, or you're casually dating and feel like you're at a dry spell or like your crush is way out of your league! Maybe even you're caught up thinking about an ex. This confusion could reflect on your mood or creative projects, stay low for now and don't make any routine changing decisions.

**Scorpio:** The upcoming Mercury retrograde could have you feeling like you're trapped in barbed wire, Scorpio. Be mindful of how you communicate your emotions and ideas. The early times of this cycle might bring confusion around the home or family concerns, do your best to go with the flow. This is not the time to make decisions, especially ones focused on relocating!

**Sagittarius:** Watch your mouth, Sagittarius! This mercury retrograde phase will make you check yourself if you step out of line and talk out of turn. Be very careful about what you say or post. If it is time for you to take a vacation, take even more stress off your shoulders and visit a place you've already been to. Just don't spend too much cash! Later on in retrograde money might be a concern for you.

**Capricorn:** Take care of your finances this season, capricorn! Mercury retrograde could be making an impact on your pockets! Expect unexpected expenses and delays around money. Don't stress too much about making ends meet, just keep track of where you're putting your finances. Later on Mercury will be traveling in your sign of capricorn and make your life feel like it is upside down! Confusion and stagnation is likely.

**Aquarius:** If you've already felt the energy, you probably already know that, yes, mercury retrograde is going to suck for you, Aquarius. Just like everything in life, take this time as a blessing in disguise, when you see all your plans getting canceled take the time to readjust your plans for the year. To end the cycle you might start to feel some anxiety. This could possibly be someone from your past or a secret could be blurted out into thin air.

**Pisces:** Mercury Retrograde will have a bunch of random ideas in your head, Pisces. On one hand it could be your intuition warning you on the other it could just be your over the top anxiety. Also people, situations and secrets from the past could emerge during this time either face them or let them go. During the last stage of retrograde expect some drama surrounding friends. Take advantage of this time of gossip, and go off on your social media, and leave haters lurking.

**MMJ's YouTube Channel**

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