



# WILDCAT LIFE



**HOLIDAY EDITION**



## WJHS BASKETBALL



Congratulations to the WJHS Girls Basketball teams. Both 7th and 8th grade teams had great seasons. The girls teams practiced and played hard all season long and represented Westville Junior High well.

The WJHS Boys Basketball teams are in the middle of their seasons. Both 7th and 8th grade have multiple games coming up before Winter Break. Keep up the hard work boys and finish the season strong!



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# Meet the Staff of WJHS

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## Mrs. Dahlenburg *by Leylah Atwood*



Wildcat Life conducted an interview with Mrs. Dahlenburg. Here is what we found out about our 8th Grade ELA Teacher.

**Wildcat Life:** What would the students be surprised to find out about you?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** I enjoy watching sports, like baseball and basketball, I even though I'm not good at playing them.

**Wildcat Life:** What can you cook to perfection? Are you willing to share the recipe?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** Chicken pot pie and Lasagna

**Wildcat Life:** What makes a 'good day' at school?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** One that goes by quickly, when the students are engaged with the lesson, and when students are listening and participating so the day goes by quickly.

**Wildcat Life:** Are there any embarrassing teaching moments you're willing to share? What are they?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** No

**Wildcat Life:** What current trends are currently baffling you? Why?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** The word "duh" and mullets

**Wildcat Life:** What differences do you see in your morning students versus your afternoon students?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** Morning students are more tired and afternoon students are usually more energetic.

**Wildcat Life:** If you could take the students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you take them?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** Somewhere in Europe

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# *Meet the Staff of WJHS*

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**Wildcat Life:** What kind of driver were you when you first got your license?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** **Not that good, more scared to drive than I am now. And I couldn't and still can't parallel park.**

**Wildcat Life:** What is your first memory from school?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** **In kindergarten, when I realized I could read.**

**Wildcat Life:** If you could grow up in any decade, which would you choose?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** **50s**

**Wildcat Life:** What is your spirit animal?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** **Cat**

**Wildcat Life:** What song do you know all the lyrics to?

**Mrs. Dahlenburg:** **Most Christmas songs, Kenny Chesney, Jimmy Buffett.**

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# Book Review

By *Leylah Atwood*

**Book:** *All Our Hidden Gifts*

by *Caroline O'Donoghue*

All Our Hidden Gifts is about Maeve Chambers finding a deck of tarot cards while cleaning out a closet for detention at school. Maeve takes the deck home and learns the cards eerily fast and starts giving our eerily accurate readings to her classmates. She can't seem to capture one person's attention, her best friend whom she betrayed, Lily O'Callaghan. Maeve is pressured to give Lily a reading by her classmates, When Maeve gives Lily a reading she gets a card that isn't supposed to be in the deck. Lily and Maeve have an argument about the card. The following day Lily gets reported missing. To find Lily, Maeve teams up with a classmate Fiona, and Lily's older brother Roe.

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## WITH KATELYNN RICKETTS

- Deviled eggs are disgusting
- **Thanksgiving is the best holiday**
- Green bean casserole is the best food for Thanksgiving

- **Turkey is better than ham**
- Ham is better than turkey
- **Christmas is the best holiday**
- Presents aren't amazing



- **Trees are overrated**
- Real trees are better than fake trees
- **Eggnog is the best drink**
- Pizza is disgusting
- **Hot dogs are better than hamburgers**
- Homework is overrated
- **Pineapple on pizza is good**
- Seafood is disgusting
- **Pumpkin pie isn't good**
- Ugly Christmas sweaters look good
- **Opening presents is better than spending time with family and friends**



- Decorating your house in decorations is overrated
- **Thanksgiving is overrated**
- Christmas is overrated
- **You shouldn't leave out cookies and milk out for Santa**
- Santa is real
- **Daylight savings time shouldn't be a thing**
- Too much money is spent on holidays





## Thankful Thanksgiving Jokes

By Tayla Messmore

- Why do turkeys hate the kitchen on Thanksgiving? **It smells fowl.**
- What do you call gossiping with a turkey at the table? **A side dish.**
- Who didn't have any friends at Friendsgiving? **The turkey!**
- What do you get when you cross a turkey with a ghost? **A poltergeist!**
- What does the turkey think about holidays? **They're about family time, after that, it's all gravy.**
- Why are turkeys good at rebelling? **They love a coup.**
- Why did the turkey run across the road? **It was time for dinner.**
- What key won't open a door? **A turkey!**
- What sound does a limping turkey make? **Wobble, wobble!**
- What do turkeys do on Sunday? **Have a peck-nic.**
- Why didn't the turkey want dessert? **He was stuffed!**
- Why do turkeys hate Thanksgiving tables? **They're a fowl sight.**
- What's the best song to play while cooking a turkey? **All About That Baste.**
- What do you call a turkey the day after Thanksgiving? **Lucky!**
- What sound does a turkey's phone make? **Wing wing wing!**
- What was the turkey thankful for on Thanksgiving? **Vegetarians.**
- Can a turkey jump higher than a house? **Yes, because a house can't jump!**
- Why do turkeys love rainy days? **They love fowl weather.**
- Why do turkeys gobble? **Because they never learned table manners.**
- What's a popular Thanksgiving dance? **The turkey trot.**
- Why do turkeys only star in R-rated movies? **Because they use fowl language!**
- When do you serve rubber turkey? **Pranksgiving!**
- What do you call a running turkey? **Fast food.**
- Why did the turkey play the drums in his band? **Because he already had drumsticks!**

 **THANKSGIVING QUOTES** 

by Tayla Messmore

1. "Gratitude is when memory is stored in the heart and not in the mind." - Lionel Hampton
2. "Wear gratitude like a coat, and it'll feed every corner of your life." - Rumi
3. "Be thankful for everything that happens in your life; it's all an experience." - Roy T. Bennett
4. "The turkey. The sweet potatoes. The stuffing. The pumpkin pie. Is there anything else we all can agree so vehemently about? I don't think so." - Nora Ephron
5. "If there's one thing I've learned over the eons, it's that you can't give up on your family, no matter how tempting they make it." - Rick Riordan (Percy Jackson Author)
6. "Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse." - Henry Van Dyke
7. "Give thanks for a little, and you will find a lot." -Hausa Proverb

# Holiday Fun Facts

By Katelynn Ricketts

- November was the ninth month until February and January came around
- Novem is latin for November
- In Japan they eat KFC for dinner on Christmas
- In Australia they spend Christmas on the beach
- In Mexico they do all night parties with pinatas for Christmas
- In Switzerland kids get advent calendars and they open a little treats until Christmas Eve
- In Singapore they put on as serious light display
- In England they hang stockings on bed posts with care
- In Austria they have Krampus who hunts for naughty children
- The Philippines noche buena and lots of lights
- In Ethiopia they do Christmas processions
- Sweden calls Christmas “St. Lucia’s Day”
- In Slovakia they have a carp for dinner
- In Iceland Santa Claus places treats in shoes
- In France they use a native crib to decorate their houses
- In Canada they send christmas card to their friends and family
- In Egypt, about fifteen percent of people are Christians they are the only part of the population that celebrates Christmas as a religion festival
- In Colombia, Christmas celebrations and preparations start on the evening of December seventh which is known as “Dia de las Velitas” or “Day of the little Candles”
- In Georgia, Christmas is celebrated on the seventh of January





# *Christmas Facts*

*BY BROOKLYN BROWN  
Happy holidays !*

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- Egyptians & Romans were the first people to use Christmas trees.
- Santa Claus didn't always wear his red clothes.
- There's a story to the song "12 days of Christmas".
- Alabama was the first state to recognise Christmas.
- Before turkey, a pig's head covered in mustard was the choice in England for a Christmas dinner.
- Christmas trees need to be grown for about 15 years before people can buy them.



## Coollest Christmas Jokes

**By Tayla Messmore**

- What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? **Frostbite.**
- What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney? **Claus-trophobia!**
- What do you call Santa when he stops moving? **Santa Pause.**
- What do snowmen eat for dessert? **Ice crispies.**
- What do you call an elf that runs away from Santa's workshop? **A rebel without a Claus!**
- What do you call a reindeer ghost? **Cari-boo!**
- What is it called when a snowman has a temper tantrum? **A meltdown.**
- Why are elves such great motivational speakers? **They have plenty of elf-confidence.**
- Why do reindeer like Beyoncé so much? **She sleighs.**
- What reindeer game do reindeer play at sleepovers? **Truth or deer.**
- What did Santa say when he stepped into a big puddle? **It must have reindeer.**
- What does Rudolph want for Christmas? **A Pony sleigh station.**
- What is Santa's dog's name? **Santa Paws!**
- Where do Santa's reindeer stop for coffee? **Star-bucks!**
- What's every elf's favorite type of music? **Wrap!**
- What's the absolute best Christmas present? **A broken drum — you can't beat it!**
- What happens if you eat Christmas decorations? **You get tinsel-itis.**
- What do Santa's elves learn in school? **The elf-abet.**
- What do you call an obnoxious reindeer? **Rude-olph.**
- What do grapes sing at Christmas? **'Tis the season to be jelly.**
- What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the ordinary alphabet? **The Christmas alphabet has Noel.**
- What did the gingerbread man put on his bed? **A cookie sheet!**
- What did the English teacher call Santa's helpers? **Subordinate Clauses.**



# STAR STUDENTS

*By Tayla Messmore*

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## **November Star Student**

🌟 **Audrina Perez** 🌟 | 🦜 | 🐭 | 🐱 | 🐶 | 🐱 |

**(A lot of Pets)**



This is Audrina Perez, she has way too many pets. She has two cats named Simba and Panda, a talking bird named Elvis, and my personal favorite, a chinchilla named Luna! She is an excellent pet owner!

Elvis- Bird, handsome, Talks and is a Trans-former!

Luna- Chinchilla, Sassy, Thinks fingers are treats and is a total diva!

Panda- Black and White-spotted cat, Quiet, Squeamish, and Cool!

Simba- Orange Cat, Loud, Squirmy, and Looks like a tiger!

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## December Star Student

 **Cheyenne Maquet** 

**(Great Friend)**



This is Cheyenne Maquet. She is so kind and unique. She dedicates her time to basketball and is so good at it. She's a great singer in chorus class and is ridiculously funny! Cheyenne is a great friend and will do whatever she can to see you smile! I recommend her as a friend! She will be a wonderful friend if you are her friend!

(Sorry my hands were shaky when I took her picture)

 **Cool Christmas Quotes** 

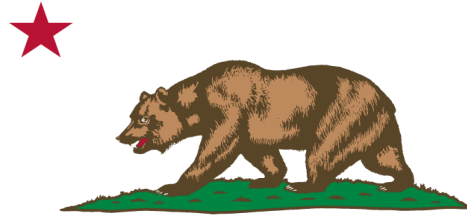
by Tayla Messmore

1. "I was Christmas shopping and ran into a guy on the street. I noticed his watch and said that it runs slow. He said, 'So does the guy I stole it from.'" — David Letterman
  
2. "I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas Tree lights." — Maya Angelou
  
3. "It's always consoling to know that today's Christmas gifts are tomorrow's garage sales." — Milton Berle
  
4. "Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year."  
— Victor Borge
  
5. "Christmas is a baby shower that went totally overboard."  
—Andy Borowitz
  
6. "Mail your packages early so the post office can lose them in time for Christmas." — Johnny Carson
  
7. "Aren't we forgetting the true meaning of Christmas? You know, the birth of Santa." — Bart Simpson

# COOL STATE FACTS BY BROOKLYN BROWN

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California is known as "The Golden State". In this issue I'll be telling you some things about California!



CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC

- **It was the 31st state.**
- **39.24 million people live in California as of 2021**
- **It is over 170 years old**
- **Its the 3rd largest state in the US**
- **Its most famous for Disneyland, Hollywood, and the Golden Gate Bridge**
- **The capital is Sacramento**
- **The state flower is the California poppy**
- **This is what the California poppy looks like**





# WILDCAT LIFE STAFF



## 7th Grade

**Brooklyn Brown**

**Tayla Messmore**

**Katelynn Ricketts**

**Lola Wagoner**

## 8th Grade

**Leylah Atwood**

**Selania Schlunaker**

# WILDCAT PRIDE