

## Class of the Month: Kindergarten

By: Jeanine D. and Sara D.

Hello Cougars! The class of the month is kindergarten, our newest students to the Word of Life Ascension Campus! We want to give them a big welcome by sharing with you some of their favorite things! They haven't been on any field trips yet, but they are excited for future adventures. They love their wonderful teacher Mrs.

Moormann because she is nice and funny. Their favorite thing to do with their class is play on their secret playground. Shhh! Don't tell them I said that!



About the teacher:  
Mrs. Moormann

- ★ Favorite color is teal
- ★ Favorite snacks are pretzels and oyster crackers
- ★ Hobbies are watching her kids play sports, cooking & walking

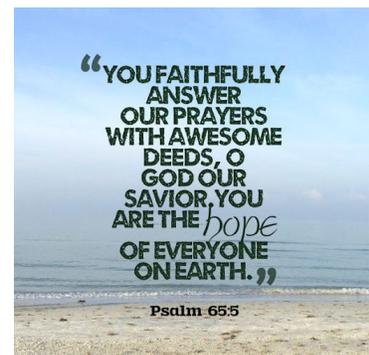


Stay tuned for next month's class of the month!

## HOPE

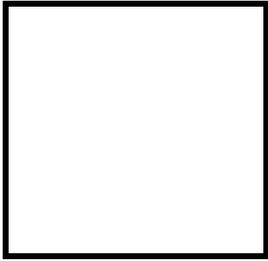
By: Naibishina F.

This month's bible verse is Psalm 65:5, " You faithfully answer our prayers with awesome deeds, O God our savior. You are the **hope** of everyone on earth." This verse means that God talks to you by listening to your prayers and by answering your prayers . And it also means that he is our hope. What does this bible verse mean to you?



## Elementary Book Review

By: Sara D. and Tina N.



This month's elementary book is very cash money. This book will teach you your 1, 2, 3's. *One* by Kathryn Otoshi is about standing up to bullies. It will not only teach you about

counting, but how sometimes it just takes one person to change everything and how "everyone counts!" This may even add a little drip drop in your eyes. But now you can listen to our bars. *This is an amazing book that you can read whenever you're feeling blue.*

## Middle School Book Review

By: Anna C.

Ok, so I have a lot of favorite books like *Because of Mr. Terupt*, *Sherlock Holmes*, and *The Messengers*. A book that is also one of my favorites is *Max and the Midkights* by the author of *Big Nate*, Lincoln Peirce.

Max is destined to become a troubadour because that is what Max's Uncle Burdick is. A troubadour is a traveling entertainer from medieval times. Max wants to become a knight, but that's virtually impossible. In this book, you will learn about the importance of kindness, cleverness, and foraging your own path. And guess what? Mrs. Maxfield has this book in her library, so grab a sticky note and request it today!

## Movie Review

By: Tina N. and Zach S

Hey Cougars! This month's movie is *Noelle*! This movie is only available on Disney+. This movie starts with Santa dying. Noelle's brother, Nick Kringle, has to be the new Santa. Everyone in the North Pole has to prepare Nick to be Santa. One day, Nick disappears because he is stressed from all of the Santa

training. Everyone in the North Pole freaks out and blames Noelle for Nick disappearing. Noelle has to get Nick back in time to deliver all of the presents and save Christmas. Watch Disney's *Noelle* and join Noelle on her adventure to save Christmas!

## Restaurant Review

By: John H.

### Pint Size

Pint Size is a bakery that serves, bakery items like cakes, cupcakes, etc. The food is SUPER DELICIOUS. My favorite thing to get from there is the salted caramel croissant, but hurry, they close at 2 PM every day except Wednesday. They close at 4 PM on Wednesday. It is the perfect place to go to for a treat!

## Youtuber review

By: John H.

### **KreekCraft**

Kreek is a gaming Youtuber who not only does videos but does Livestreams, I love watching his streams, they are great! He plays Roblox, sometimes Minecraft, Among Us, and sometimes vlogs. I would totally recommend him.

## TV Show review

*By: Tina N. and Anna C.*

Have you ever tried to make a cake like this:

But it turned out like this:

Well then *Nailed It!* is the show for you! There are three judges every episode, which are Nicole Byer, Jacques Torres and the third judge is a celebrity guest. Watch as amateur bakers try to make masterpieces in a short amount of time and attempt to win a prize of \$10,000 and the Nailed It Trophy. There are 6 seasons in total; 4 normal seasons and 2 holiday seasons. This hilarious show can be found on Netflix. People of all ages love *Nailed It!* and this is another of my (Anna's) favorite shows. Bring the snacks and sit back and enjoy *Nailed It!*

## Cougar Contest

*By: Sara D. and Nabi F.*

This month's coloring contest is a snowman! Remember that we are judging by your creativity and effort. Please turn it in to your teacher by January 8th. Good luck!

## Game Review

*By: Zach S.*

Super Mario 3D World is a very fun platformer. It is made by Nintendo and it is on the Wii U.

The storyline of the game is that Bowser took fairies that have different powers. To save them, you have to play through the different worlds and beat Bowser's castles to beat the game.

The new power-up is the catsuit. With the catsuit you can climb, dart, and scratch Bowser's minions. Enjoy this game if you dare.

## St. Louis Attractions

*By: Candace D.*

When you are driving to school in December, what do you see? CHRISTMAS LIGHTS! They look so amazing especially with the decorations on the front of the lawn. However, have you seen Six Flags Holiday in the Park christmas lights? If you haven't, they look amazing! SixFlags coordinators decorate each ride to a holiday theme (on the Batman ride they have Christmas lights that are yellow and white). They also have a walk-in christmas tunnel with wonderful lights. Don't worry SixFlags workers take extra precautions during this tough time. The cafe has seasonal foods like hot chocolate with a twist, and a christmas funnel cake. Plan your visit today by making reservations on their website, by January 3! Happy Holidays Cougars!!

# Christmas World Records

By: Zach S. And Jon T.

## Most Expensive Christmas Tree Decorated

The most expensively dressed Christmas tree was valued at 41,329,531 AED (\$11,026,900 US; £6,975,880) and was erected and displayed by the Emirates Palace (UAE) in Abu Dhabi, UAE, from 16 to 29 December 2010.



The tree was covered in 181 items of jewelry and stood 13.1 m (43.2 ft) high.

The biggest cinnamon roll in the world!  
The ingredients included:

- 9 kg (20 lb) of whole eggs
- 158.7 kg (350 lb) of flour
- 171.4 kg (378 lb) of cinnamon sugar filling
- 68 kg (150 lb) of white sugar
- 45.3 kg (100 lb) of brown sugar
- 220 cinnamon sticks

# Animal of the Month:

## The Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko

By: Jonathan T.



The satanic leaf-tailed gecko contains more than one species. The variance of their species allows for many different textures and colors. They range from brown or tan to red to match their surroundings of bark and leaves. Their tails contain notches to blend in like a leaf. They have no eyelids, meaning that they can't blink. Because of this, they lick their eyes to clean them! They have curved paws and a prehensile tail to help them hold on to the tree.

The satanic leaf-tailed gecko is found only in the northern and central tropical forests of Madagascar. They live in the trees, but they do come down occasionally. They reside in the mountainous rainforest areas in east Madagascar as well.

This little gecko is a nocturnal hunter, meaning that they catch food at night. We don't know about their hunting in the wild, but they eat anything they can catch in captivity.

"Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko Facts." *CRITTERFACTS*, 15 June 2020,  
[critterfacts.com/critterfacts-archive/reptiles/critter-of-the-week-satanic-leaf-tailed-gecko/](https://critterfacts.com/critterfacts-archive/reptiles/critter-of-the-week-satanic-leaf-tailed-gecko/).

# The History of Christmas Trees

By: Jeanine D.



Everyone loves Christmas trees. The lights, the tinsel, the family ornaments, what's not to love! But you know what would be even better? Knowing the history behind those bright triangles of joy! Get ready and shake your sleigh bells, we're going on an adventure!

Germany gets the credit for starting the Christmas tree tradition when devout Christians brought decorated trees into their homes. They would just collect trees from forests and tree-filled areas, add a little pizzazz, and voila!

Some Germans didn't like Christmas though, like Oliver Cromwell. He influentially preached against "the heathen traditions" of Christmas carols, decorated trees, and any joyful expression that desecrated "that sacred event." In 1659, the General Court of Massachusetts made a law saying anyone who participated in the act of hanging decorations would be fined for a penal offense. As time passed, this all changed.

One night in 1846, Queen Victoria and her family were sketched standing around a Christmas tree and people got a change of heart. By the 1890s, ornaments were being brought to America from Germany. Americans even got trees as tall as their ceilings! With all of these decorations, lights and delicious treats, Christmas trees began appearing in town squares across the country. Having a Christmas tree became a tradition.

History.com Editors. "History of Christmas Trees."  
*History.com*, A&E Television Networks, 27 Oct. 2009,  
[www.history.com/topics/christmas/history-of-christmas-trees](http://www.history.com/topics/christmas/history-of-christmas-trees).

# Celebrity Look-Alikes

By: Sara D., and Tina N.

Violet (*The Incredibles*)      Mrs. Bolling (Preschool teacher)

Our first celebrity look alike is Mrs. Bolling and Violet from the *Incredibles*. They both have jet black hair. They're practically twins! What do you guys think?

Kristoff (Jonathan Groff)      Grant M. (7th grader)

Our second celebrity look alike is Grant M. and the voice of Kristoff from *Frozen*, Jonathan Groff. They have the same dirty blonde hair and bright eyes. We think they look alike, how about you?

**Merry Christmas and a Happy  
New Year from the ROAR staff!  
Anna C., Sara D, Jeanine D.,  
Candace D., Nabi F., John H.,  
Grant M., Tina N., Zach S.,  
Jon T.**

# Cougar Survey

By: Sara D. and Grant M.

This month's survey was "What's your favorite Christmas movie?" The choices were *Elf*, *Home Alone*, *The Star*, *The Grinch*, and *Polar Express*. The winner was *Home Alone*, which beat *Elf* by 16 votes. Stay tuned to find out the results for the next survey and have a Merry Christmas!

# Kids activities: Word Search

By: Zach S.

## Fun Facts for Christmas and New Years!

By: Jon T.

**A song that takes 1000 years to play launched on January 1, 2000.**



**2,000 pounds of confetti are dropped in Times Square on New Years.**

**"Jingle Bells" was originally a Thanksgiving song.**



### Birthdays

Caylin S. 12/2  
Reed S. 12/2  
Ethan Gu. 12/4  
Brooke K. 12/5  
Isaac C. 12/7  
Adriel G. 12/9  
Jayvyn S. 12/10  
Amira D. 12/11  
Kaydee 12/12

Anna C. 12/15  
Annabelle D. 12/16  
Luke D. 12/16  
Jasmine D. 12/18  
Hunter D. 12/19  
Jeanine D. 12/21  
William R. 12/22  
Sophia M. 12/23

### Baptismal birthdays

Michael W. 12/3  
Carter W. 12/4  
John H. 12/16  
Sophia J. 12/16  
Hunter M. 12/23  
James Mc. 12/27  
Lilly W. 12/29  
Louie W. 12/29  
Sara D. 12/30

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_



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