



HAPPY NEW YEAR PANTHERS! 2021!!



Nalani Kennedy taking notes during her virtual Far East Journalism. Congratulations to everyone who participated.



Hana Vogeley

8 FEBRUARY 2021

Welcome back panthers to the 2021 Sun Tribune! Hope you are all starting off your third quarter strong. One semester down, one more to go and for the seniors, only several months left until graduation! As we continue to keep our distance and wear our masks to prevent the spread of COVID in Yokota, we have managed to have several exciting events. And don't worry, there will be more to come! We are very fortunate to have spring sports this season and hope that students will enjoy the warm weather out while staying active and COVID free. The Sun Tribune will publish one more edition in the upcoming months to conclude our 2020-2021 school year so stay tuned! We look forward to bringing you more news.

Happy New Year!

OWEN TAYLOR

1 JANUARY 2021

Japanese New Year, or *Oshogatsu*, is one of the most important holidays celebrated by the Japanese people. There are a multitude of different traditions, some familiar, some unique.

Firstly you have *Nengajo*, similar to a Christmas card, the Japanese will send out New Year's cards to their friends and family. Secondly, you have *Osoji*, which means spring cleaning, or big clean up, is exactly what the title entails, it is when the whole family comes together to clean up for the new year, and start fresh.

Toshikoshi Soba is a traditional meal eaten by the families, usually after you clean. The long noodles symbolize a wish for long life. Eating the noodles also resembles "letting go", as you slurp the noodles down.

Otoshidama is arguably the kid's favorite tradition, this is where you get an envelope full of money from your family members. The older you are, the more money you get. Japanese New Year is a family favorite tradition, and is full of creative and unique traditions.



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“How Did You Spend your Holidays?”

DAVENEY OVERTON

5 JANUARY 2021

Winter Holiday break is enjoyed by many students and teachers at school. Some students and teachers may either spend the holidays with their families, friends, or go on trips. Due to COVID-19, however, many plans have been changed as to how we spend our holidays. Because winter break was different this year, I asked some students and teachers about how they spent their Christmas break.

Mrs. Swygert spent her Christmas by watching a lot of Netflix and eating sushi. I then asked if she had any New Year’s Resolutions. “I do not have a specific New Year’s Resolution, but I would like to “follow the yellow brick road.” I would like to take it one day at a time since 2020 was a surprise for all of us and taught us that we do not know what will happen in the future.”

Next, Emma Hardy spent her Christmas break by reading many books and eating lots of good food. She has made a New Year’s Resolution to study and work hard academically.

Lilly Wellons, Owen Taylor, and Alex Kosinski went skiing in Nagano with their families. They spent all day on the slopes, and then relaxed and played board games. Lilly’s New Year’s resolution is to take new opportunities and to become more fearless.

Coco Eddy says she did not do much over the winter break or celebrate Christmas as a traditional holiday, however, she decided to make a New Year’s Resolution. She does not want to be afraid to do anything. If she wants to do something, then she wants to take that opportunity to do it.

Aiko Galvin spent a relaxing winter break wearing her favorite cozy sweatshirt watching Netflix. The two week recovery was much needed.

The Wagners spent their time golfing, trying not to think about missing their grandson and daughters. They also watched their traditional Christmas Movie, “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation.” Mrs. Wagner’s New Year’s resolution is to sing one of her favorite Beatles songs every single day. *Here Comes the Sun*

I spent my break celebrating my birthday, going to Mori town, and going to Kawagoe. My New Year’s Resolution is to write a book and swim more often.

Harvard Model Congress Asia

HANA VOGLEY

11 JANUARY 2021

Harvard Model Congress Asia is a global conference held by Harvard college students where international high school students learn and experience playing the roles of officials in the United States government and several international political bodies. The conference educates future global leaders and creates an opportunity for students to meet new delegates from around the world and discuss current global issues. Students from more than twenty nations come to learn and discuss contemporary political issues, draft policy, report news stories, and decide court cases. Every year in January, the selected members from Yokota High School’s Model United Nation are given the opportunity to join the conference.

Normally, Harvard Model Congress Asia chooses a venue at a specific university somewhere in Asia for the conference to be held. Over the years they have selected exceptional locations and they did not fail to make 2021 any different. As with many things, this year’s Harvard Model Congress Asia was virtual! It was the first time Harvard has ever held a virtual conference. Despite many concerns and doubts, the staff as well as delegates worked with the same high energy as if they were in person. Hana Voageley received the Best Delegate Award, Lily Wellons and Hazel Gray received Honorable Mention Awards, and Alex Kosinski was awarded Best Written Bill or Resolution.

Congratulations to all of the hard working delegates who participated in this year’s 2021 Harvard Model Congress Asia and we hope to see many of you at next year’s conference as well.

Teacher Tales Guess the Teacher and Win a Prize

AIKO GALVIN

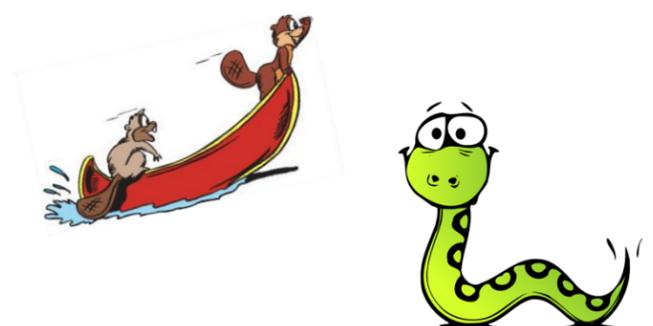
8 JANUARY 2021

This teacher loves the outdoors and used to spend quite a bit of time canoeing. There are two incidents that will be remembered forever! The first occurred in Dent County, Missouri on a very warm summer day. A sudden storm blew in and the lightning was frightening! The teacher and friend, paddled like crazy to the bank of the river, jumped out, and ran for shelter. You see, they were in a very large aluminum canoe.

Another time after a long, all day beautiful canoe trip down the Eel River with a friend, while taking the canoe out of the water, this teacher felt a searing pain in the foot. Hopping around like crazy, trying not to drop the canoe, the teacher looked down and realized the pain was from a snake bite – right through the rubber river booty! Well, the teacher lived to tell the tale! But hobbled around for many days after that snake bite.

Send your guesses to Mrs. Wagner at patricia.wagner@student.dodea.edu.

First correct answer wins!



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Far East JROTC Drill

TIFFANY EDDY

14 JANUARY 2021

Under the COVID guidelines, the JROTC Drill Team was able to have their Virtual Far East over two days, December 15th and 16th. The team competed against 9 other schools all over the DoDea Pacific District. With the help of Mr. Palmer, Hana Vogeley, Jessica Vernon, and Patrick Hakun from Video Communications, the team was able to record all 5 performances including: Unarmed Regulation, Armed Regulation, Color Guard, Unarmed Exhibition, and Armed Exhibition. The team placed 2nd place Overall, 2nd place for both Unarmed and Armed Regulation, 3rd place in Unarmed Exhibition, and 5th place in Color Guard and Armed Exhibition. The Drill Team is grateful for Mrs. Leverette for allowing them to participate in the Virtual Far East, Mr. Palmer, Hana Vogeley, Jessica Vernon, and Patrick Hakun for recording. And big shout out to SMSgt Wrenn for supporting and coaching the team all the way through the year 2020.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

HANA VOGEELEY

15 JANUARY 2021

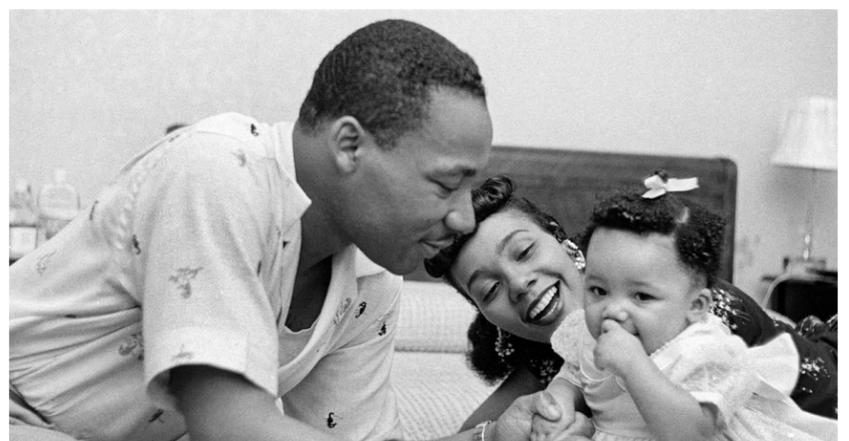
"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."

This is a quote from Martin Luther King Jr's book, *Stride toward freedom; the Montgomery story* published in 1958. Even sixty three years after the book was published, it seems that our nation is still struggling to find "true peace." It is interesting to contemplate what Dr. King would say or think about our nation today.

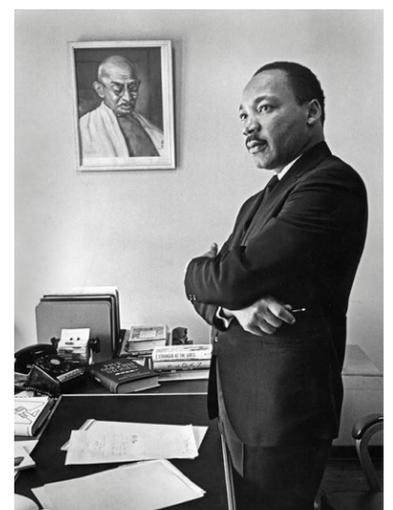
Every year on the third Monday of January, we celebrate Martin Luther King Jr's legacy and his accomplishments towards civil rights movements and social equality.

Born on January 15th 1929, Martin Luther King Jr. became a Baptist Minister and an activist who inspired many and sought equality and human rights for not only African Americans, but the economically disadvantaged and all victims of injustice through non-violent protests.

In 1964 at the age of thirty five, Dr. King became the youngest man to receive a Nobel Peace prize. As we celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day we must reminisce about Dr. King's dream and what he fought for, but more importantly continue to act upon finding true peace as Dr. King mentioned and make a change.



Martin Luther King Jr. with his family in May 1956 in Montgomery, Alabama. (Photo by Michael Ochs Archives/ Getty Images)



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What's going on in CTE classes?

KATRINA GOMEZ

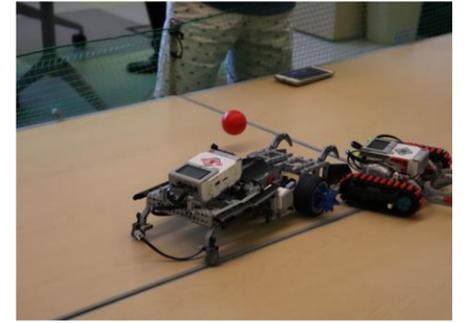
20 JANUARY 2021

Career and technical education (CTE) courses at Yokota High School teach students technical skills to prepare them for higher education. From coding Arduino boards to playing Robosoccer, students are given the opportunity to explore a new passion while exercising their critical thinking skills. Despite the obstacles posed by COVID- 19, CTE classes still manage to engage and inspire students who are interested in a career in technology.

This is what Mr. Palmer, our robotics and video communications teacher, had to say:

1. Have technology classes changed this year to coincide with COVID-19 regulations?

Yes, although it is a difficult task to maintain social distancing when the class sizes are at their maximum. We all wear our masks, keep our areas clean, and sanitize our hands and work stations regularly.



2. What kind of information and skills do your students learn in your robotics/video communication classes?

In Robotics, students learn problem solving skills associated with programming, as well as, how to perform challenging tasks with limited resources.

In Video Communications, students learn effective ways of communicating and storytelling using videos as a platform media, Students also learn the skills associated with all aspects of video pre-production through post production. This includes camera usage, lighting methods, sound and audio, practical effects as well as learning industry standard software for non-linear editing and special effects.

3. What advice would you give to students interested in robotics/video communication or a future career in technology?

I would advise students to keep an open mind and be ready for continuous learning. The tech industry changes rapidly and you have to keep your knowledge current to compete. There are many jobs associated with each of these fields and having a good foundational knowledge of each discipline will be key in future successes.

Valentine's Day Facts

JOAN WARD

14 FEBRUARY 2021

1. Why do we celebrate Valentine's Day?

Valentine's Day started off as a Christian feast day celebrating a man called Saint Valentine. It is a day celebrating love because Saint Valentine was known to help Roman soldiers (who were forbidden from getting married) have a secret wedding with their loved one.

2. Why do we give cards and chocolates?

We give cards because of Saint Valentine as well. He gave out paper hearts to remind people to love God. As for why we give out Chocolates, it's chocolate! Why wouldn't you give chocolate to someone to show how much you love them?!

3. Where did Cupid come from?

Guess who? That's right, Saint Valentine! As the stories go, he wore a cupid ring. On a side note, it COULD have also been because Cupid was a god of love. But that's a ridiculous theory! After all, you don't see pictures of Aphrodite representing Valentine's Day..

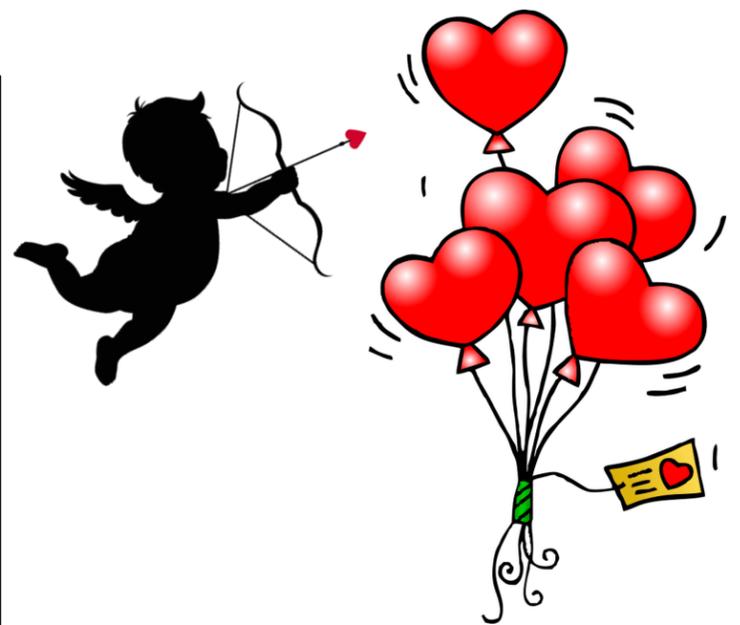
4. Were there any interesting events on February 14th?

Well, there was a massacre on Valentine's Day....but that's hardly interesting.

Tired of messing up your Valentine's gifts? Does it seem as if you can never get the right thing? Well, fear no longer about your Valentine's curse, get the perfect gift today by ordering this exclusive present.

"What is this miracle gift?" you ask. Why, it's Ducky Momo! That's right, Ducky Momo, the exclusive star of the hit show *Phineas and Ferb*.

"How is this a good gift?" you may ask. IT JUST IS! Order now and cash in on your Valentine's nostalgia. And, if you order in the next five days, you get a free Valentine's Day *Phineas and Ferb* Love Song CD featuring the best Valentine's Day song: S.I.M.P., perfect for those romantic dates you DEFINITELY planned ahead of time. Get them while supplies last.



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Valentine's Day Craft by Keiya Carlson



DIY Valentine's Day Card

Materials Needed

- Any Colored paper
- 3 by 12 inch construction paper (preferably white or black)
- 3 by 7 inch construction paper (Any color)
- 8 by 11 inch construction paper
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Marker and/or Pencil



1) Start off by cutting out 6 hearts in colors of your choice.

2) Take your 3 by 12 inch paper and put one of the hearts on the it so the bottom of the heart is touching the bottom of the paper. Now, mark the top of the heart and then every centimeter above the heart until you reach 6 centimeters.



3) Fold each centimeter mark that you previously made on the 3 by 12 inch paper.

4) Grab your 6 hearts and glue only the top of the heart at each centimeter mark.



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5) Now take the 3 by 7 inch paper and glue the middle area onto the bottom of the back side of the 3 by 12 inch paper. Once you flip the paper over, it should look like this ---->



6) Grab your 8 by 11 inch paper and fold it once hamburger style to make the paper look like a card. Then, glue down only the two flaps that are attached to your hearts and fold the rest of the paper behind the hearts and between the flaps that are glued down.



Now, when you pull down the bottom part of the paper, the hearts should flip up one by one leaving an open space to write on. Then decorate the card how you would like and you will end up with an amazing homemade Valentines Day card!

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Poetry Contest

OWEN TAYLOR

1 FEBRUARY 2021

The following poems were written by students from our very own Yokota High School. Kaleb Birch, Evan Firman, and Dylan Mills, all members of Ms. Wagner's AP Language and Composition course. Their pieces were submitted to the Academy of American Poets poetry contest. The Academy of American Poets is a non-profit organization based out of New York that offers prizes to students of all age levels annually, and works to rekindle the love and appreciation of poetry across the United States, and the world. This year's prompt is "Write a poem that you would like to read at the inauguration." The following are YHS student submissions.

Perseverance

By Dylan Mills

There once was a place
 Where all things flourished
 A place of peace
 Whose people were nourished
 A place of beauty
 That drew adventurers from far and wide
 A place of opportunity
 Where good people lived and died
 This place used to prosper
 Thousands immigrated every year
 But bad choices were made, good people were harmed
 And a time of reckoning grew near
 At first, some slight unrest
 As slavery made sides: against or for
 The flames of anger could not be quenched,
 And so started a civil war
 But this nation bounced back,
 Rebuilt with renewed strength
 And created a legacy
 That it would go to any length
 To preserve peace
 To preserve beauty
 To preserve opportunity
 To preserve hope
 To stick together
 To listen to each other
 To die for one another
 This is what America stands for
 2020 was hard,
 Our country suffered,
 But the United States of America
 Has got its people covered

I Await

By Evan Firman

I await peace in our nation.
 I await equality for all of my fellow Americans.
 I await the end of racial injustices committed in our great nation.
 I await an end of the hatred we now have for each other.
 I await the end of our political divide.
 I await the beginning of a new understanding between fellow men and women.
 I await a world in which people truly celebrate a diversity of ideas.
 I await a world in which all people can feel safe from harm.
 I await a world in which the only people scared of the police are criminals.
 I await a world where your gender, ethnicity, and sexual orientation do not dictate your ability to find happiness.
 I await peace for all mankind.

But why do I wait?
 Why do I wait for peace, justice, and equality?
 Why do I wait when I can stand up for what I know to be right?
 Now is the time to stop waiting!
 Now is the time to stand!

By Kaleb Birch

For years now it seems that our country has been divided
 Our citizens either bleeding red or blue
 We have seen ourselves not as a whole
 But as two different peoples, fighting for different goals.
 But that is not the U.S.
 Those two letters, that U and that S, they stand for something bigger
 Bigger than our rivalries, or the differences we allow to tear us apart
 Those letters stand for the American dream
 A dream which is always changing, but has stayed constant in our nation's identity
 It is time that we refocus ourselves on making that dream a reality
 For everyone of us
 We may never see eye to eye on every front
 We may all have faults, but that is why we need to stand together
 We are the ones with the keys to the car
 It is our decision which road we take
 Do we let our differences engulf us
 Or do we see past them, towards a common goal
 That is what we need to decide
 We are one
 We are many
 We are the United States

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Irish Slang Terms You Should Know

BY JACK ADAM GALLAGHER MAY 9, 2019 (UPDATED: MARCH 11, 2020)

STAFF WRITER

17 MARCH 2021

<https://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day>

St. Patrick's Day observes the death of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. The holiday has evolved into a celebration of Irish culture with parades, special foods, music, dancing, drinking and a whole lot of green

People in Ireland speak English, but not exactly the "Queen's English." With a little help from the Gaelic language—called Irish—the populace of the Emerald Isle have devised their very own collection of weird and wonderful words and phrases. Here are a few Irish colloquialisms to help you understand the next person you meet from Derry, Dublin, or Donegal.



1. CRAIC

Craic is pronounced “crack,” and it means general banter or fun. Originally it was spelled *crack* when it was used by Ulster Scots. The Gaelic spelling of the word was not widely used in Ireland until it was popularized as the catchphrase in the Irish-language TV show *SBB ina Shuí* starting in the 1970s.

2. HAVEN'T A BALDY NOTION

If you're looking for a new way to say “I have no idea,” try this phrase on for size.

3. WIND YOUR NECK IN

The perfect way to take someone who is overly arrogant down a peg or two? Tell them to *wind their neck in*. It basically means “be quiet!”

4. LETHAL OR LEEFS

These terms are mainly used northwestern Ireland, and both mean “great.” And *leefs* is also short for *lethal*.

Analog Gaming Club

DOMINIC NORTHCUT

3 FEBRUARY 2021

Mr. Jamey Weare is the founder and overseer of Yokota High School's analog gaming club. The club puts an emphasis on board games and classic retro games.

What types of games would you say are most popular within the club?

“Well, people play a lot of different games, but I'd say that the games that get played most are magic: the gathering and dungeons and dragons. There's some other board games that get played a lot, but those are definitely the two that get played the most.”

What was your primary goal with the club?

“Playing role playing games, card games and board games is kind of something that I'm passionate about, and I basically wanted to try and help the kids that are interested in playing that to have a bit of a community.”

Mr. Weare provides a space to play underappreciated and unique games with a group of people who have similar interests. If Physical role-playing games and retro games interest you, the analog gaming club takes place at the end of every week, after school.

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TIFFANY EDDY

JANUARY – MARCH CALENDARS

January 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<i>Winter Break</i>						
					Hangover Day	Si-Fi Day
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Fruitcake Toss Day	Instruction Resume Trivia Day	Bird Day	Bean Day	Bobblehead Day	Elvise Presely's Birthday	Play God Day
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	<i>Semester 1 Exams</i>				Teacher Work Day	
Houseplant Day	Milk Day	Hot Tea Day	Rubber Ducky Day	End of 2nd Quarter	Bagel Day	Nothing Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Hot Buttered Rum Day	MLK Birthday Winnie the Pooh Day	Begin 3rd Quarter Popcorn Day	Penguin Day	Squirrel Appreciation Day	Virtual Honor Roll Blondie Brownie Day	Pie Day
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Green Juice Day	Opposite Day	Australia Day	Chocolate Cake	Lego Day	Vir Puzzle Day	Croissant Day
31						
Backward Day						

By Tiffany Eddy (11)

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February 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Ice Cream for Breakfast Day	2 Ukulele Day	3 Feed the Birds Day	4 Facebook's Birthday	5 Chocolate Fondue Day	6 Lame Duck Day
7 Periodic Table Day	8 Opera Day	9 Pizza Day	10 No School Clean Out Your Computer Day	11 Be Electrific Day	12 Safety Pup Day	13 Get a Different Name Day
14 Valentine's Day Quirkyalone Day	15 President's Day Gum Drop Day	16 Almond Day	17 Random Kindness Day	18 Battery Day	19 College and Career Gear Day Lashes Day	20 Love Your Pet Day
21 Mother Language Day	22 Thinking Day	23 Dog Biscuit Day	24 Forget Me Not Day	25 Pancake Day	26 Black History Celebration Pistachio Day	27 Retro Day
28 Tartar Sauce Day	1	2	3	4	5	6

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March 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Pig Day	2 Old Stuff Day	3 If Pets Had Thumbs Day	4 Hug a GI Day	5 Employee Appreciation Day	6 Frozen Food Day
7 Cereal Day	8 Be Nasty Day	9 Panic Day	10 Find a Phone Booth Day	11 Worship of Tools Day	12 No School Plant a Flower Day	13 SAT Earmuff Day
14 Pi Day	15 Buzzards Day	16 Tea for Two Tuesday	17 St. Patrick's Day Submarine Day	18 Awkward Moments Day	19 Poultry Day	20 Earth Day
21 Fragrance Day	22 Goof Off Day	23 Near Miss Day	24 End of 3rd Quarter Chocolate Raisin Day	25 No school Pecan Day	26-27 Spring Break Make Your Own Holiday "Joe" Day	
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Spring Break						
Something on a Stick Day	Smoke and Mirrors Day	Take a Walk in the Park Day	Crayon Day			