

The Tiger Tribune

Letter From The Editor:

Welcome to the December edition of the Tiger Tribune! Somehow, we find ourselves once again at the close of the old year, and looking forward to not only a new year again but to a whole new decade that awaits us full of possibilities and opportunities! We hope you have an amazing final month of 2019, wish you good luck on your tests, and hope you enjoy this month's submissions from our fellow students at CWCS!

Sincerely,
Jannah Khan
Editor-in-Chief
The Tiger Tribune

December Survey/Staff Question

By Rida Abdulwasay

"What is your favorite quote?"

Anaya Cambridge	<i>"A dream without a plan is just a wish"</i> by Kai Chisaki . This quote means a lot to me. If I want something, I have to work for it. It's a nice reminder that I can achieve anything if I try.
Amir	<i>"To have fallen so far and learned nothing, that is your failure."</i> - Kreia from <i>Knights of the Old Republic 2</i>
Safiyah	<i>"I try not to think. It interferes with being nuts."</i> ~ Leo Valdez (<i>The Mark of Athena</i>)
Thanhthanh Nguyen	<i>"With great power... comes great need to take a nap. Wake me up later."</i> — Nico di Angelo, <i>Percy Jackson and the Olympians Book #5: The Last Olympian</i>
Tasneem	I actually have a lot of favorites-here are two: "Raise your words, not voice. <i>It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder.</i> " (Rumi) and " <i>Diamonds are found only in the dark places of the earth; truths are found only in the depths of thought.</i> " (Victor Hugo, <i>Les Miserables</i>)
Misbah	I have a countless number of favorite quotes, but here's one of them: <i>"Each day means a new twenty-four hours. Each day means everything's possible again. You live in the moment, you die in the moment, you take it all one day at a time."</i> ~ Daniel (Day) Wing, <i>The Legend Series</i>

National Cat Herders Day

By Amir Chermat

Believe it or not, there are zero known cat herders in the world. As any cat owner would tell you, herding a cat (much less petting one) is an impossible task. The saying "herding cats" is actually an idiom for attempting an impossible task, which means that a cat herder is someone who does the impossible for a living. On December 15, we celebrate Cat Herders Day by recognizing the cat herders in our lives, from astronauts to daycare workers. Alternatively, you can buy a shepherd's crook and ten kittens, then try to herd them into your bathtub. Both of these are appropriate ways to celebrate Cat Herders Day, but the first one is much easier and a lot less painful.



Unique New Year's Eve Traditions

By Melody Moy

When December rolls around, we all eagerly await New Year's Eve, when we are ready to leave the old year behind and celebrate the New Year. You may already know about the countdown and ball drop in New York City's Times Square, but here are some lesser known New Year's Eve traditions from around the world.

- Netherlands: They eat oil balls that are similar to dumplings.
- Germany and Austria: They eat pork and punch. To wrap it up, they eat spices and chocolate truffles. What a feast!
- Greece: They have a pomegranate that they hang on their door from Christmas until New Year's. When New Year's Day comes, they throw the pomegranate at the door!
- Ecuador: They burn scarecrows because they believe this burns all of the bad things from the past year away.
- Spain: They eat twelve grapes. But they eat them unusually fast - one for each month, each time the clock tolls all the way up to twelve!
- Thailand: Guns are fired; in China, firecrackers are fired; and in early America, pistols were shot to welcome the new year.

- Southern US: Black-eyed peas are told to represent good luck.
- Scotland: They run down the streets with balls of fire!
- Ireland: They eat pastries called bannocks.
- India and Pakistan: Rice is told to represent prosperity and happiness.
- England: Wassail is served in parts of England.
- Rome: Gifts and coins were traded in Rome.
- Switzerland: The Swiss have a tradition where you drop whipped cream on the floor, and it gets to stay there!

I hope you enjoyed all of these surprising and different traditions, and maybe you can try some of these traditions during New Year's Eve!

Universal Human Rights Month

By Zahra Shaikh

Today, human rights is a right that holds a lot of value and worth in the hearts of everyone. However, it is something that not everyone has the ability to experience. Moreover, in the United States, human rights is something that had a huge history and took a long time to obtain. Although most people around the world have the basic rights, there are still tons of minorities who are persecuted daily and struggle to survive.

In 1948, the United Nations wrote the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in order to encourage people all across the globe to come together and stand up for peace, dignity, justice, and equality. Soon after, the Universal Human Rights Month, which is observed during the month of December, began. This holiday honored the international document that was drafted by the UN many years before.

By partaking in Universal Human Rights Month, we are reminded that everyone was born in the same world, we are all humans, and that our different beliefs, races, cultures, languages, and religions should not divide us. This December, take some time out to learn about a new race or culture, because having knowledge about another ethnicity or religion humanizes everyone and will make you understand why they do things the way they do. Go out of your way to treat everyone with kindness, and teach others about human rights, as they are so important in the modern society.

National Craft Month

By Anaya Cambridge

National Craft Month was created by the Craft & Hobby Association in 1994. The Association's goal was to bring people together to craft something while creating memories with one another. Even though some may feel that they are not gifted in craft making, there's something special about trying a new hobby with friends. Many people

enjoy the aspect of chatting and catching up with one another, while others enjoy having a day to sit down and make whatever they want. Whatever the reason, crafting is a great way to relax and take a break from everyday stress.

Don't be afraid to try something new; there is a wide variety of crafts to try! There's crochet, pyrography (wood burning), embroidery, sewing, origami, and so much more. If you're not sure where to start, pick a craft, invite a friend or group of friends, and learn together.

Everything's better when surrounded by people you love and want to spend time with. So next time you want to try something new or don't know what to do with friends, set up a craft day; pick a random craft and see what happens. I'm sure you'll have lots of fun and make great memories.

National Cookie Day

By Anaya Cambridge

National Cookie Day is nationally recognized on December 4. The word cookie comes from the Dutch word "koekie," meaning little cake. The cookie first appeared in Persia in the 7th century. Prior to the sweet cookies we eat today, a similar cookie-like hard wafer was made and eaten on long travels. The hard wafers weren't too flavorful and lacked the sweetness cookies are recognized for. Once sugar became a common ingredient, the cookie made its way to America in the 14th century. Along with cookies, gingerbread and macarons became a very popular dessert among Americans. Today, we have several different kinds of cookies with all kinds of textures and flavors. To name a few categories, we have Bar cookies, Drop cookies, and Filled cookies. Next time you are out shopping, pick up a cookie or get a few for you and your friends.

National Horse Day

Misbah Syed

For centuries, horses have been one of the most prized animals on the planet. Known for their speed, elegance, and beauty, horses never cease to amaze. December 13 celebrates these wonderful animals.

Here are some popular breeds of horses:

- **Thoroughbreds:** Thoroughbreds are considered "hot-blooded" horses that are known for their agility, speed, and spirit. The Thoroughbred is best known for its use in horse racing.



- **Arabians:** From the Arabian peninsula, these horses are known for their endurance and spirit. They are easily identifiable by their arched necks and uplifted tails.



- **Quarter-horse:** The Quarter-horse is known as the fastest breed of horses over short distances.



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American Paint Horse: Strong, fast, and agile, Paint Horses are ridden and driven in almost every English and Western style.



- **Miniature Horse:** While they are extremely small, they are considered horses and not ponies. In the past, the breed has been kept as pets by nobility and used for work in coal mines.



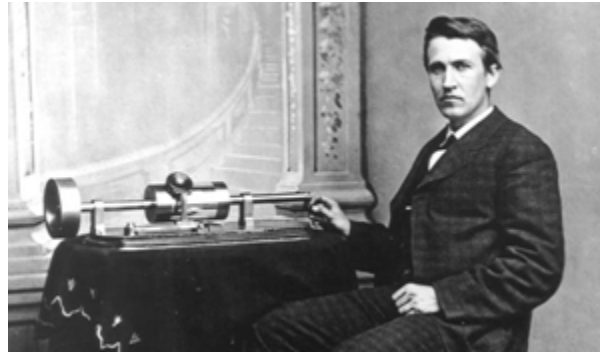
- **Andalusian:** This Spanish breed originated in the Iberian Peninsula. It was known for its prowess as a war horse and prized by nobility. They are usually grey or bay.



The Invention of the Phonograph

By Amir Chermat

Thomas Edison is famous for the creation of many things, such as the practical light bulb and motion pictures, but one of his first and favorite creations was the phonograph. While he was working on the telephone, Edison discovered a way to record sound on tinfoil covered cylinders. In 1877, Edison created a device using two needles: one for recording a message and the other to play it back. As you spoke into the mouthpiece of the phonogram, the sound vibrations from your voice would be indented into the cylinder by the recording needle. The first words Edison spoke into his phonograph were “Mary had a little lamb,” but Edison insisted that the phonograph could be used for practical purposes, such as dictation and early audio books for the blind. While the phonograph is typically not used today, its invention led to the creation of devices such as the telephone and is also a famous example of how attempting to create one thing could lead to a new one altogether.



Read a New Book Month

Thanhthanh Nguyen

December is officially Read a New Book Month! Unfortunately, you can't do much outdoors in December when the days are short and wet and the weather is cold (unless you're going to go and play in the snow). But the cold weather does not mean that you have nothing to do! For example, you still have homework and finals to prepare for, but nobody wants to do that. Instead, hide in a room and read a new book to escape into a world where you can forget the fact that your homework is piling up and you probably should have taken the laundry out of the dryer an hour ago.

Books have the power to take you places and teach you new things. As Dr. Seuss said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." So, go places this December! There are plenty of holiday-themed books to read this month such as Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, Ernst Theodor Amadeus Hoffmann's *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King*, and the popular teen fiction writer John Green's *Let it Snow*.

But you don't have to read only holiday novels! You can read science fiction, fantasy, historical fiction, and so much more. I will be reading some Orwellian novels throughout the month of December, so that will definitely bring me some good omens for the new year...

Even if you don't like reading, you should still pick up a new book. J. K. Rowling says, "If you don't like to read, you haven't found the right book." That's why you should keep looking for your right book this month, and you might just pick up a new hobby. Every book is different, and you will find that there is a perfect one out there waiting for you.

TLDR? Read a new book in December! Read any book! Have fun! Don't forget to do your homework!

I'll leave you with an appropriate quote for the gift-giving nature of the holidays: "A book is a gift you can open again and again." – Garrison Keillor

Happy Holidays!

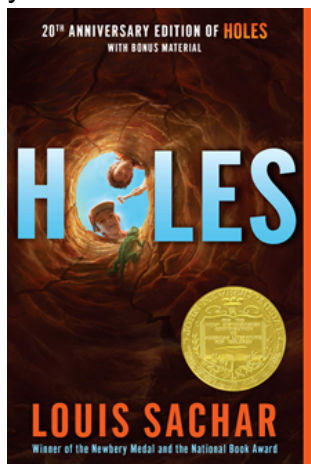
The Book Column:

By Tasneem Nasim

It's the last month of the semester- and the year- CWCS students! Here are some books for you to read while you wrap up this semester and think of New Year's resolutions. Have a wonderful winter break!

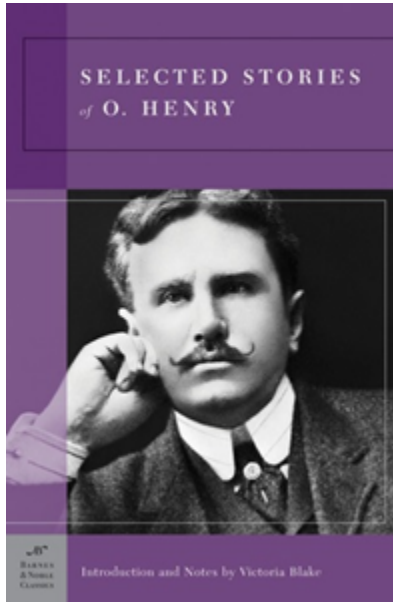
Middle Schoolers: Holes by Louis Sachar

This Newberry Medal winning novel tells the story of Stanley Yelnats (yes, Yelnats is Stanley spelled backward). Stanley is under a curse. But it's no ordinary curse- it's a curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten- pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has been passed down generation after generation in the Yelnats family. And it's just the type of curse that makes a pair of prized, but stolen, sneakers fall from the sky and into Stanley's hands. As a punishment, Stanley is unjustly sent to an all-boys detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the warden makes the boys "build character" by spending all day, every day, digging holes: five feet wide and five feet deep. But after a few weeks at camp, Stanley realizes that there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake- the boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. Stanley hurries to dig up the truth, but that's not always easy. This was one of my favorite books as a Middle schooler. The complex plot ties both the past and the present into an addictive and beautiful story that will make you laugh till your sides hurt!



High schoolers: Selected Stories of O. Henry by O. Henry

This month's book choice isn't exactly a book. It's a collection of 45 of the most renowned short stories by famed short-story writer O. Henry, and it's the perfect "book" to read over the winter break! O. Henry is commonly known for his humorous, energetic tales that always end with an ironic and shocking twist. One of his best-known works is the short story, *The Gift of the Magi* (one of my favorite short stories of all time). Each short story in this collection not only offers insights into human nature and the ways it is affected by love, jealousy, poverty, gentility, but also showcases O. Henry's talent for writing and his amazing way with words. Sit down with a cup of hot cocoa (or tea), snuggle up in a blanket, and enjoy these beautiful stories!



Have any recommendations/ books you'd like to see/ feedback for this column? Email at tasneemnasim08@gmail.com

Join The Speech and Debate Club!

Who are we?

We are the Speech and Debate club! We meet twice a month on Moodle, from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon on Fridays. Joining us is a perfect opportunity to get involved with your school and help improve college resumes! The club is open to everyone from grades 7-12, and there are no prerequisites nor any qualifications needed to join. The Speech and Debate club will help members refine communication skills and prepare students for real-life situations such as presentations, speeches, debates, etc. in a fun social environment. Friendly competitions such as mock trials, debates, and interviews are held alternately during our meetings. The Link to our [Moodle Room](#). Feel free to drop by to check our club out! All are welcome!

Our Meeting Dates For 2019:

*All meetings will be on Friday 11:00 a.m. - 12: 00 noon unless otherwise mentioned:
October 25 (10/25)
November 1 (11/1)
November 15 (11/15)
December 6 (12/6)

How to Join:

Joining us is very easy!

1. Locate us on Moodle through the Misc. Courses/ Tutoring Special/ Ed Clubs folder or by searching "Speech and Debate" in the Moodle search bar.
2. Once you've reached the Moodle page, click on the "enroll me" link.
3. Or just simply send us an email at cwcsspeechanddebate@gmail.com!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please email us at cwcsspeechanddebate@gmail.com or email our advisor Mrs. Matranga at tmatranga@cwcharter.org.

Connecting Waters Tiger Tribune Looking for Staff and Content Submissions!!!

- Do you love to write?
- Want to publicize your work?
- Do you have original content to share?
- Want to experience the thrill of journalism?
- Looking to get involved in your school?
- Need leadership credits or school activities on your transcript?

Showcase your work in the Connecting Waters Newsletter today!

Connecting Water's Tiger Tribune is accepting staff for the 2019-2020 school year! We are looking for people to write stories, articles, polls, research, and develop creative content!

Being on the newsletter team earns you both leadership and journalism credits and will look fantastic on college applications!

Writer Positions: We are always accepting new writers!

Each writer receives 1-2 assignments each month.

Assignments range from writing stories and articles to creating puzzles and graphics to conducting surveys and interviews, and more!

Content Submissions: We are always accepting content submissions!

- Original stories
- Drawings/graphics
- Flyers/advertisements
- Letters to the editor

To join our team, just send an email to cwcstigertribune@gmail.com with your name, age, and grade level!

Or just simply fill out this [form](#):

Any Questions?

Email us at cwcstigertribune@gmail.com.

Thank you!

The Letterbox

Now, readers like you are able to contribute suggestions, fun facts, jokes and comments for improvement to our newsletter! All you have to do is email your contribution to cwcstigertribune@gmail.com with your name and grade level, and check here next time our newsletter comes out!

This is ideal for those of you who don't necessarily want to or have time to commit to becoming staff writers - however, if you would like to become one of our regular staff writers, please email us at cwcstigertribune@gmail.com with your name, age, and grade level - we look forward to working with you!