

Gary The Griffin Wants to Remind You:

- December 1st -Senior Showcase
- December 6th - Earth Science exam
- December 7th - History exam
- December 8th- English exam
- December 9th- Math/Chemistry exam
- December 12th - English II EOC
- December 13th- Math 1/3 EOC
- December 14th - Biology EOC
- December 15th/16th - Make up exam
- December 16th - Early release

Club News

by Ashlyn Wray & Aaron Bruins

National Honors Society: NHS is busy volunteering with the Toys for Tots organization in Reidsville. In preparation for the Christmas season; they are creating boxes filled with toys for families in need in the community. Members must attend a meeting on December 1st at 3:15 pm or December 2nd at 8:00 am to remain within the club. Also, be sure to be present at the Toys for Tots meetings you signed up for and on distribution day on December 17th.

History Club: On December 1st, History Club will honor World AIDS Day by giving out red ribbons to raise awareness about the disease. We encourage students to wear the ribbon and show their support for those affected by AIDS. The monthly meeting for History Club is December 8th, so join them to learn about our history!

Gamer's Club: The Gamer's Club will continue to meet every Thursday to play through their Dungeons and Dragons campaigns. The campaigns are split into multiple groups. Anyone interested in joining should talk to Mr. Johnson or Markus Yarber to be placed in a group.

Hotbotz: This month, our Hotbotz club will compete in the Eastbots



Drawing by Rachel Wyatt

Robotics Competition on December 11th. If you are interested in more information regarding the club, contact Ms. Dickens or the team captain Sophia Dye. Good luck to our members!

Film Club: Film Club will only meet once before the Winter break. They will meet on December 6th from 3:00 to 6:00 to watch Die Hard. If you have any questions or concerns, see Mr. Johnson.

Battle of the Books: Battle of the Books will meet on December 6th at 8:00 am and 3:00 pm to prepare for their competition. Only one meeting is required, but you can attend both. If you have any questions or are interested in joining, see Mr. O'Neil.

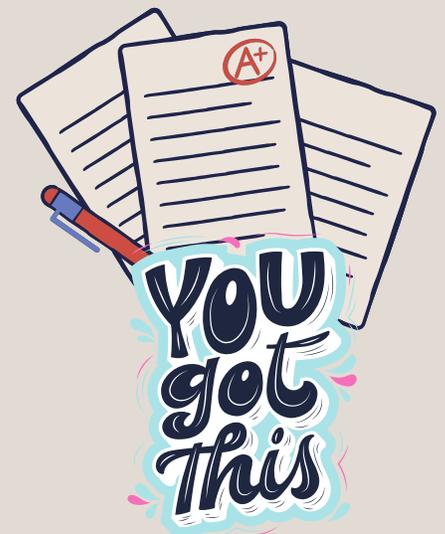
SGA: SGA has a Winter Spirit Week planned for December 5th-9th. Keep an eye out for updates on the themes for each day! SGA also has a Coat Drive in the works for January. If you have any questions, talk to Mr. Joyner or your grade representative. Angelica Perez -9th, Makayla Hairston -10th, Thomas Blackstock -11th, and Pattie Everette 12-13th.

Art Club: To get into the holiday spirit, Art Club is prepping Christmas ornaments! If you would like to join them in their festivities, talk to Mrs. Hammock for more information.

Exams are almost here!

Here are some ideas for exam day by Mrs. Tatum:

- Work out what you need to take with you on exam day and organize this the night before.
- Eat a good, light breakfast – this will help with energy and concentration.
- Go to the restroom before the exam starts.
- If you feel yourself getting worried before your exam - spend some time focusing on your breathing.
- When you sit down to do your exam, take time to slow your breathing and relax.
- Read through the exam paper carefully. Underline key words and instructions.
- Work out how long you have for each question or section.
- Aim to have time to re-read answers through and to make any changes.
- Work on the questions that you find easiest first.



Green Christmas by Keyla Olalde

It is no surprise that December is the most wonderful time of the year. However, unless it is a Green Christmas you're planning, it can also be the most stressful, wasteful, and consumer-driven time. The most important thing we can do to create a Green Christmas is to make it one we can enjoy.

How to have yourself a merry little Green Christmas:

- Choose sustainable materials

Organic cotton, hemp, silk, and wood

- Shop Locally Owned

Help support the community by shopping at small mom-and-pop stores.

- Sustainable Wrapping Paper

Fabric gift wraps, newspapers, reusable wrapping bags, etc., can all help add a personal touch to gifts.

Make it Fun

- Use a "one gift" policy and a family name draw to reduce money, stress, and waste.
- Yankee Swap
- Decorating Ideas

-Nature (ex, pinecones, wood, and pine boughs)

-Ornaments (ex, wood, metal, or cloth)

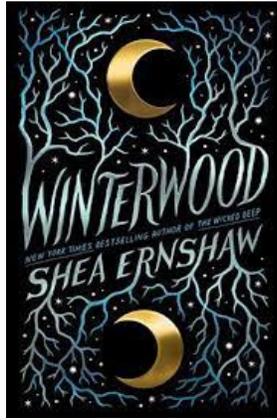
-Timers (All Christmas lights should be on timers)

-Handmade or Homemade (Handmade items help bring simple and beautiful energy into a home)



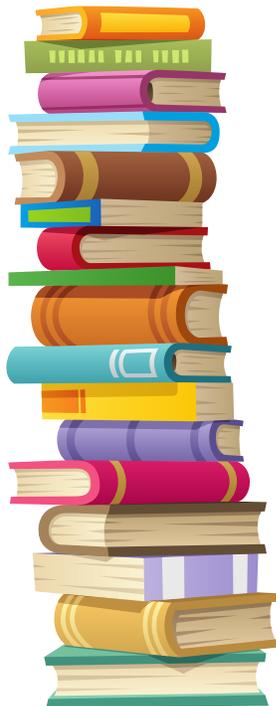
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<https://www.ariyonainterior.com/25-newspaper-gift-wrapping-ideas/>)



Book Review By: Katie Moore

Winterwood by Shea Ernsshaw is a popular young adult fiction book that is perfect for the winter season. The book follows the story of Nora Walker who comes from a long line of Walker women who are suspected of being witches. The Walker women have had a prolonged connection with the woods that they live in. Yet, once a boy from the neighboring camp goes missing during a dangerous snowstorm, Nora can feel the shift of the woods. Once Nora finds the missing boy the story takes an eerie shift as she tries to uncover his secrets and why he was out in the storm in the first place. However, the boy has no memory since being found by Nora. As Nora attempts to put pieces together everything she has ever known starts to become uncertain.



Black Panther: Wakanda Forever Movie Review by Johnna Parker *potential spoiler warning*

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever is a movie that remains unbreakable under pressure, the highly anticipated film had to meet many expectations, not only because it was the sequel to the first *Black Panther* (2018) film that earned \$1.3 billion across the world, but also because of Chadwick Boseman's death. With the death of their leading man, friend, and brother, returning cast members felt the weight of his physical absence as well as his spiritual presence throughout filming and press tours. In this film the Wakandans deal with the loss of their king, son, brother, and love, while being forced to handle the pressures of countries across the world as they yearn for a taste of the country's vibranium resources. Shuri's experience of grief is particularly highlighted throughout the film as she struggles with her brother, T'Challa's death. Meanwhile, the queen and the Dora Milaje are combatting efforts across the world to steal vibranium from Wakandan facilities. However, greedy countries soon become the least of the queen's worries, as a new kingdom, Talokan's god, Namor reveals his kingdom to the Wakandans. Talokan brings an entirely new culture to the Marvel universe, highlighting Mayan culture and addressing the history of Mesoamerican people. As this kingdom threatens the existence of every country across the "surface world," Shuri is forced to face her grief head on as she follows in her brother's footsteps of character development and fights for her family. This brilliant film, directed by Ryan Coogler earned a \$330 million global launch and a \$180 million dollar domestic launch and opened as the #1 film in the world, living up to every expectation for the director, crew, and cast.

(sources: thewaltdisneycompany.com, www.vox.com)



RECHS ATHLETES
by Ahcoshia Madkins

Who would you say your biggest competitor is, and what do you do differently when preparing to face them?

Dylan Rakestraw, Rockingham County High School JV Basketball #22 (tentative) -

"My biggest competitor is Morehead. Morehead is the only team that any one else at this school plays at. When I get ready to play them I normally try to get into some of their player's heads, specifically cooper."

Kaleah Dillard, Morehead High School Varsity Volleyball #23 -

"My biggest competitor would be the post players from Reidsville, which is our rival. If I can stop one of them from scoring and my other teammate stops the other a W will fall into our hands!"

MaTyah Mitchell, Morehead High School Varsity Volleyball #8 -

"I would say the biggest competitor is McMichael. When preparing to play them, my team gives everything we got and keeps a positive mindset. We also practice to the best of our ability the day before because how you practice is how you will play."

This November the McMichael volleyball team took home the volleyball state championship against Camden County. The school brought home a huge win for their community as this was McMichael's first state championship. Dakota Redmon was a part of the winning team, representing both McMichael and RECHS.



Why was this win personally so monumental for you?

Dakota Redmon, McMichael High School Varsity Volleyball #15

"Personally this win was so monumental for me because not everyone can say they are state champs, but now I can. This is a once in a lifetime thing that I am a part of. Few people know of the small school of McMichael in the little county of Rockingham... well now they do ;)"

Holiday Traditions
by Ahcoshia Madkins

What is your favorite Holiday tradition?

Seth Dix
Grade 9

"My favorite holiday tradition is sleeping. School is out which means catching up on sleep!"

McKayla Doom
Grade 10

"Every year on Christmas Eve, my family comes together and all of our cousins exchange Secret Santa gifts. My aunt brings homemade hot chocolate and everyone wears matching pajamas. I know it's cheesy, but I don't think there's ever a time when I won't still coordinate pajamas with my entire family because... why not?"

Ahcoshia Madkins
Grade 11

"My favorite holiday tradition is always having movie night on christmas eve and watching The Star. It is my all time favorite christmas movie. It only came out in 2017 so before that we would always watch polar express."

Daphnie Bailey
Grade 12

"My favorite holiday tradition is getting up Christmas morning and giving and receiving presents in Christmas themed pajamas. That tradition has been in my family since I was really little!"

Homemade Starbucks Peppermint Mocha

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup (4oz / 115g) milk
- 1 cup (8oz/225g) coffee
- 1 oz (30g) bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- 1 teaspoons peppermint extract

Instructions

- In a saucepan add in all of your ingredients except the peppermint.
- Stir and bring the ingredients to a simmer. Simmer for 2 minutes.
- Take the saucepan off the heat, add the peppermint, pour into your mug.
- Decorate with freshly whipped cream and a sprinkles over some crushed candy canes. Enjoy!



Yum

**Tips to Help While Studying
by Mrs. Tatum**

Stick to a routine by eating and sleeping at around the same time each day



Get a good night's sleep. This gives your brain time to recharge and remember what you've learnt.



Give yourself mini rewards once you achieve your study goals – watch a TV show or go for a run



Keep focused on your study – don't let other stuff like friendship worries distract you.



Avoid junk food - it will bring a sudden burst of energy and then fall away quickly leaving you feeling worn-out.



Eat a well-balanced diet - lots of fresh fruit, vegetables, cereals, grains, nuts and protein are all good for the brain and energy levels.



Allow yourself time to rest – try out some relaxation activities like deep breathing, meditation or listening to music.



Cut back on energy drinks they can increase nerves. Drink lots of water instead!



12 Days Till Christmas Break...

What better way to kick off the holiday season and wrap up the first semester, RECHS and SGA will be sponsoring 12 Days of Winter Spirit Days! Lots of pictures will be taken for the yearbook.

Have fun, but remember to adhere to the RCS Dress Code.

(Thursday, December 1st- PJ Pants Day- Wear your favorite Christmas or regular pajama pants with a warm sweatshirt!

Friday, December 2nd- Merry Christmas! Free Hat Day- Wear your favorite Christmas hat or hat!

Monday, December 5th- Dress Like a Christmas Tree! Be Creative!

Tuesday, December 6th- Ugly Christmas Sweater or Shirt Day!

Wednesday, December 7th- Christmas Character Day!

Thursday, December 8th- Elf vs Reindeer! Dress like an elf or a reindeer!

Friday, December 9th- Red vs Green Day and Merry Christmas! Free Hat Day! Wear a Christmas hat or hat with your Red or Green!

For the last 5 days of school, you only need to come if you are taking an EOC or have not finished with APEX/RCS Ready! Students will test in humanities and those working on APEX will sit in the cafeteria all day until complete.

Monday, December 12th- Channel Your Flannel! Wear a Flannel Shirt! Nothing Disruptive for Testing Sessions!
-EOC Testing Day! English 2

Tuesday, December 13th- Christmas Socks or Leggings! Wear and show off your favorite Christmas socks or leggings!!! Nothing Disruptive for Testing Sessions!
-EOC Testing Day! Math 1 and Math 3

Wednesday, December 14th- Ugly Christmas Sweater or Shirt Day! Nothing Disruptive for Testing Sessions!
-EOC Testing Day! Biology

Thursday, December 15th- Red vs Green Day! Wear the opposite color from December 9th!

-EOC Make-Up Day!

Friday, December 16th- Merry Christmas! Free Hat Day- Wear your favorite Christmas hat or hat!

-EOC Make-Up Day and Early Release

Newspaper Staff

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- Ahcosha Madkins
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- Denzel Waddell
- Ashlyn Wray
- Rachel Wyatt

Newspaper Advisor:
Mrs. Rebekah Williams

Questions/concerns - Contact a staff member or Mrs. Williams

*** MERRY *
CHRISTMAS**

