



HAWK TALK

February

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Spelling Bee

By Sophia Smith



Surprisingly this year we still had a spelling bee. Sixth through eighth grade took the test in January to see if they were qualified to be in the top 30. On February 5th at 1:45 participants were called to take their places in the auditorium. The Bee lasted almost 2 hours and went 19 rounds--with the last three, Kathryn Thompson, Lillian Thomas and Kyrsten Thompson all in a tough battle for three

rounds. The overall winner of the spelling bee for the third year in a row was Kyrsten Thompson. We wish her luck at the Regional Bee at LSUS on March 6th.

Mardi Gras is a tradition celebrated all over Louisiana. There's music, floats, parades and all types of fun. But, have you ever wondered what started this tradition, well let's go back to medieval Europe through Rome and Venice of the 17th and 18th centuries. On March 2 of 1699 explorer Jean Benville arrived south of New Orleans and named the plot he was on "Pointe du Mardi Gras". When Benville and men realized it was the eve of the holiday "Fort Louis de la Louisiane". In 1703 the small settlement was the first to celebrate Mardi Gras. By the 1730's Mardi Gras was all over New Orleans. In 1875 Governor Warmoth signed the "Mardi Gras Act" allowing Fat Tuesday to become a legal holiday in Louisiana.



MARDI GRAS

By Kandice Wilson



This year's 2020-2021 National Junior Honor Society officers were elected January 21, 2021. Because of CDC regulations, an anonymous, virtual voting for the NJHS officers was held. Everyone entered the voting in high hopes and we ended with a friendly competition. The results of the voting were held January 22. The voting had an outcome of *Haley Chaffin*; President, *Ben Sullivan*; Vice President, *Addison Kapera*; Secretary, *Lauren Steiner*; Treasurer, and *Allie Best Neu* as Historian. The officers will run NJHS alongside Mrs. Barr (sponsor) and Mrs. Miller (co-sponsor) during meetings and events.

By Savannah Jester

Will Punxsutawney Phil see his shadow?
(Punxsutawney Phil's predictions (1887-2018))

Seen his shadow
104 times

Not seen his shadow
18 times



Means
**6 more weeks
of winter**

Means
**spring is
on the way**

SOURCE NOAA

Groundhog Day

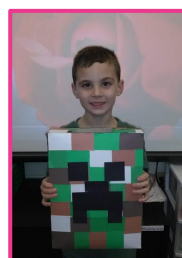
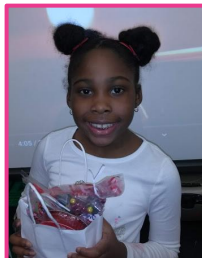
By Cooper Jennings

Celebrity Groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, has emerged from his hole and has seen his shadow, which means that he predicts 6 more weeks of winter. He has proven to be 47% accurate so he could very well be right. Whether you like winter or spring this tradition will always be a fun event for all of America.

HAPPY Valentine's DAY

By Camrey Wilson

Many people think the Romans are responsible for Valentine's Day. However, after Emperor Claudius II executed two men and both of these men's names were Valentine. Their martyrdom was honored by the Catholic Church with the celebration of St. Valentine's Day. As you can see the way Valentine started isn't all cupcakes and rainbows like we thought. It wasn't until it was the end of the 5th century when a man named Pope Gelasius declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day. But it was much later that this day was associated with love.



Student Council Elections

By: Anna Farmer

7th Grade **Senator**- Kaydence Strouse
7th Grade **Historian**- Mackenzie Dorsey
8th Grade **Senator**- Allie Beth Neu
8th Grade **Historian**- Jack Carlisle
Secretary- Haley Chaffin
Chaplain- Hoss Little
Parliamentarian- Eli Griffin
Treasurer- Addison Bell
Vice President- Addison Whittington
President- Kennedy Parker
Members at Large:
Kyrsten Thompson
Jonah Jennings
Jaycie Courtney
Erin Johnson
Devin McKenna
Zamoriah Wesley
Micalee Wrightson
Ben Sullivan

Congratulations to these students. We look forward to seeing their impact on this school year.

WHY DOES FEBRUARY HAVE 28 DAYS?

By: Keriasia Alford

February is special because it is the only month with no more than 28 days. Around 45 B.C., during the reign of Julius Caesar, a new calendar was created which added 10 days to each year. That meant each month now had 30 or 31 days — except February, which remained the same at 28 — and occasionally, 29 during a leap year. Interestingly, in order for Rome to "catch up" with Caesar's new calendar, the year 46 B.C. was stretched out to 445 days.

And you thought 2020 seemed long.

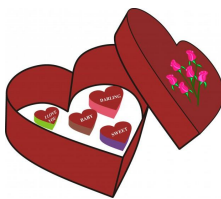


Future Hawk



By: Josey Slack

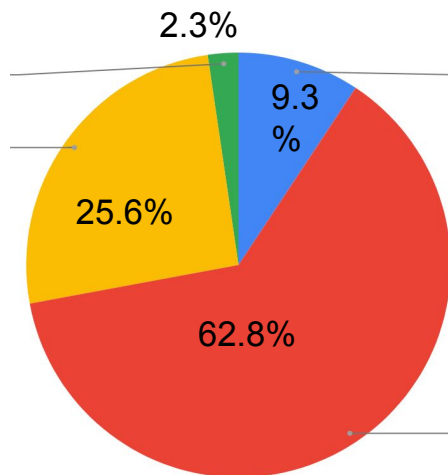
For those of you that don't know, Mrs. Ivey, one of our kindergarten teachers just got back from maternity leave. She says life as a new mom is busy but fun too. She also said that being back at school is very busy but "you find the balance quickly" and she loves that her students want to know about her baby. She says it is so sweet! Meet our future Herndon Hawk, Kason Alexander Ivey born August 15, 2020. Mrs. Ivey's favorite thing about being a new mom is all the sweet smiles and cuddles she gets when she comes home!



Sweet Treats

By: Cassie Donaghey

For the past few weeks I have been asking people what their favorite Valentine treat is between candy hearts, chocolate, cookies, and chocolate covered strawberries. 2.3% for candy hearts, 9.3% chocolate, 25.6% cookies, and 62.8% chocolate covered strawberries.



By: Maddie Willis

Our Black History Month announcements were sadly cut short by all the snow we got over Winter Break. However, the days we were at school in February we had a salute to a famous black American author and of course Mr. Herndon himself. Everyday there would be a new famous black American showcased. An NJHS member would give a description of the author, author's life, and works of literature. Black History Month is all about celebrating the lives and accomplishments of black Americans.

Snow Much Fun!

This year we enjoyed an actual Winter break with snow! Heavy snow blanketed the ArkLaTex as a major winter storm passed through Sunday night into Monday morning with some areas of snow totalling 11 inches!

