

- We had our picture day on 12/9. If you missed it, there will be another opportunity in the spring.
- Reserve your yearbook.

Winter Break is  
Dec. 19th– Jan. 12th

All class work must  
be completed by  
the 18th!

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# The River Current

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

DECEMBER 16, 2014

## Beloved Holiday Movie: How the Grinch Stole Christmas!



Who doesn't love the Grinch despite his grinchy ways? The animated classic, first shown in 1966, has remained popular with children and adults.

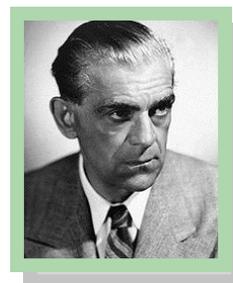
The story, written by Dr. Seuss, was published in 1957. At that time, it was also published in *Redbook* magazine. It proved so popular that a famous producer, Chuck Jones, decided to make the story into an animated feature. It has also been remade into a feature length film starring Jim Carrey and a Broadway play. There is even a Nintendo DS version of *The Grinch*!

## Food Drive— Rivercrest Steps Up to Help Out

Students and staff brought in non-perishable food items as well as books and other items for a needy Jurupa family.

Even though the students gave out of the goodness of their hearts, Ms. Saugstad rewarded them with donuts on Friday. She even made sure Mr. Diaz got his sprinkles!

Boris Karloff, the voice of the narrator and the Grinch in the cartoon, was a famous actor known for his roles in horror films. In fact, the image most of us hold in our minds of Frankenstein's monster is actually Boris Karloff in full make up.



**Boris Karloff**

Is the reason the Grinch is so popular because the characters are lovable? We can't help but adore Max, the unwilling helper of the Grinch. Little Cindy Lou Who is so sweet when she questions the Grinch's actions. But when the Grinch's heart grows three sizes, we cheer in our own hearts and sing right along with the Whos down in Whoville as the Grinch and Max ride into town on their fully laden sleigh.

*"Fah who foraze! Dah who doraze! Welcome Christmas, Christmas Day!"*



Each shoe weighed 11 pounds and the make up took hours to get just right.

Karloff starred in three different Frankenstein movies. For his work in film and television he earned two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.



L-R: Amy Rodriguez, Payton Reed, Gianni Hewit, Kieriney Luna, Cindy Rodriguez

# How about those Cowboys?



Tony Romo, Cowboy's QB

Cowboys fans thought their boys were going down to defeat AGAIN but the team rallied to win against the Eagles, 38-27.

They wasted a 21-0 lead and that is what had fans nervous, but the faithful kept their fingers crossed and were rewarded when the Cowboys made two touchdowns in less than 3 minutes to take back the lead.

Dez Bryant earned a career best in Sunday's game with three touchdown catches from Romo.

## Team Leaders as of 12.14.14

DALLAS COWBOYS				
Passing	Cmp	Att	Yds	TDs
T. Romo	22	31	265	3
Rushing	Car	Yds	Avg	TDs
D. Murray	31	81	2.6	2
L. Dunbar	5	22	4.4	0
Receiving	Rec	Yds	Avg	TDs
D. Bryant	6	114	19	3
J. Witten	7	69	9.9	0

*Lauren Hill has terminal brain cancer, but still achieved her dream of playing college basketball.*

## Lauren Hill: Terminally Ill B-Ball Player

Lauren Hill, a college freshman, received the worst possible news this last September. She was told she only has a few months to live because she has terminal brain cancer.

Instead of sitting around feeling sorry for herself, she has chosen to spend her last few months raising awareness for this type of rare brain cancer that has a 0% survival rate.

She has also had a chance to live her dream of playing college basketball, which after her diagnosis she never thought she would be able to

do. Wearing her #22 jersey, Lauren played 47 seconds and scored the first basket of her team's winning season opener. 10,000 were there to cheer her on!

Never give up!



## Winter Break Survey Results

Rivercrest students had the opportunity this month to answer a brief survey about their Winter Break activities. Here are the results:

1. What do you like to do when you are on vacation from school?

The results were pretty evenly split between watching TV/

playing video games and hanging out with friends. Sleeping came in a close second!

2. How important is spending time with your family at Christmas/holidays?

Most people (87%) said very important.

3. What is your favorite holiday treat?

The majority said XMAS cookies (48%) plus another 2 who selected "All of the above".

4. If you are leaving town, where will you go?

78% will go visit relatives. 39% will go play in the snow. One lucky person gets to go to San Francisco!

### The Results

# Movie Premieres in December



**The Hobbit:  
The Battle of  
the Five  
Armies.  
Wed. 12/17**

The prequel to the LOTR saga will be broken into 3 parts. In this movie, Bilbo (played by Martin Freeman of *Sherlock* fame) fights for his life, and that of his friends', against legions of Orcs. Only Gandalf can see the danger that lies ahead.



**Night at the  
Museum:  
Secret of the  
Tomb.  
Fri. 12/19**

In this 3rd installment of the *Night at the Museum* franchise, Larry (Ben Stiller) embarks on an epic quest around the globe to save the magic. This is one of the 4 movies Robin Williams finished before his death.

Will you be going to the movies over vacation? Here are two to choose from!

## Can you name the song?

Do you recognize these song lyrics?  
Be the 1st person to guess the title and the singer and you will win a prize!  
Bring your guess to Dr. Cortez in E2.

*I was on the lookout for someone to hate  
Picking on me like a dinner plate  
You hid during classes and in between them  
Dunked me in the toilets now it's you that cleans 'em  
You tried to make me feel bad with the things you do  
It ain't so funny when the joke's on you  
Ooh, the joke's on you  
Got everyone's laughing, got everyone clapping, asking,  
"How come you look so cool?"  
'Cause that's the only thing that I learnt at school, boy*



**Think  
you  
know  
your  
music?**

## Visit Logan's Candy Factory for a Sweet Treat

If you want to see how candy canes are made you can find out at a real candy factory right here in the IE.

During the Holiday Season, Logan's offers candy making demonstrations, but get there early as they are popular and get crowded quickly!

The times for the demos are:  
5:30, 7:00, and 8:30 p.m.

The dates are:  
Dec. 16-19 and Dec. 22-23.

They advise people to get there about 15 minutes early and there are no public restrooms so "plan accordingly."

The candy canes they make range in size from 5 1/2" to 12".

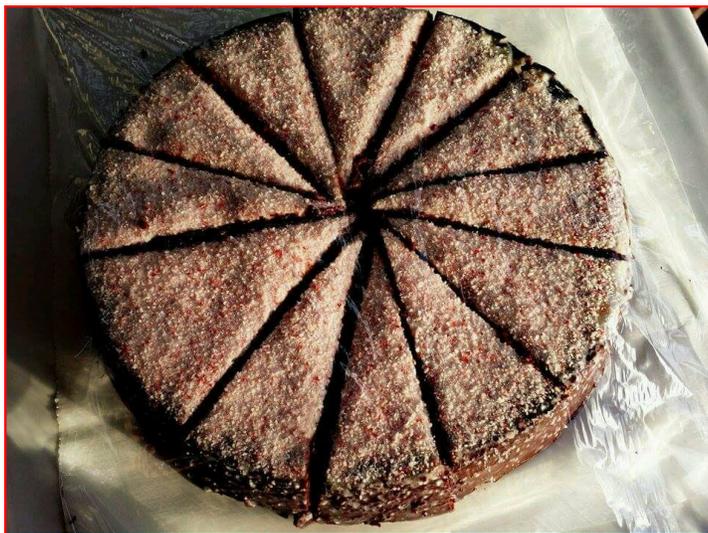
They also sell gourmet chocolates and ribbon candy.

Take the family and enjoy the Christmas scenes up the middle of Euclid Avenue while you are in the neighborhood.



# Flourless Chocolate Peppermint Bark Cake

A special holiday treat by Kaitlynn Chavez



Don't let the name frighten you, this cake is one of the easiest I've ever made, as well as it is absolutely the **best** cake I've ever made. A flourless chocolate cake topped with a beautiful coating of white chocolate ganache and a dusted layer of crushed peppermint. It sounds gourmet! As someone who will always favor a chocolate dessert this cake incorporates the perfect amount of both richness and holiday feel.

That being said it does not contain many ingredients and therefore deserves the best (quality) you can give. Let this be your go to cake this winter.

Lucky enough, this cake is also gluten-free and Passover appropriate .

## Ingredients and Supplies:

*For the cake:*

8 eggs  
1 lb of semisweet or bitter-sweet chocolate  
2 sticks of butter (16 Tbsp.)

8 inch nonstick or spring form pan  
Mixer  
Roasting pan (for water bath)

*For the ganache:*

8 oz white chocolate  
¾ cup of heavy cream

*For the topping:*

Crushed peppermint

## To create this lovely cake:

1. Preheat oven to 325° and line bottom of pan with an 8 inch round of parchment paper before greasing.
2. Boil a pot of water
3. Beat eggs at high speed (with mixer) for about 5 minutes. They should double in size.

4. Meanwhile, chop the chocolate finely and either create a double boiler or melt chocolate through the microwave over 30 second intervals (so as not to burn). A double boiler is recommended to evenly melt chocolate. Slice butter and add to chocolate while melting and stir to fully incorporate.

5. Transfer chocolate into a large mixing bowl and slowly fold in the egg foam until fully incorporated into the chocolate mixture.

6. Pour batter into your pan and smooth the top with a rubber spatula.

7. Set pan into roasting pan in oven and carefully fill roasting pan with hot water until it reaches about half way up your pan. (\*\* if using a spring form pan cover sides and bottom with foil)

8. Bake for 20-25 minutes or until cake has risen slightly, the edges should be set and thin crust has begun to form on the surface (like a brownie). The texture on the inside will be like pudding.

9. Set on oven rack until cool, wrap and chill overnight.

The following day the cake will have set. (If in spring form skip this step) To remove cake from pan, use a frosting knife around edges and add a plate or cardboard round to top. Run warm water on the pan while the cake is upside down.

## For ganache:

Create an ice water bath.

Cut chocolate finely for easy melting.

Bring heavy cream to boil and pour over chopped chocolate.

Place bowl over ice water bath and stir vigorously until desired thickness is reached.

Use a roasting pan (again) with a wire rack on top for ganache to fall into. Pour over center of cake.

Let set for 15 minutes before sifting crushed peppermint on top.

Cut with a heated knife and serve.



Springform Pan

# Student Art



Original Characters created by Daniela Jaime, 12th grade.



Original cartoon by Josh Niño, 11th grade.

# DECEMBER SELFIES with **Delaney Luna**



Rivercrest Students and Staff

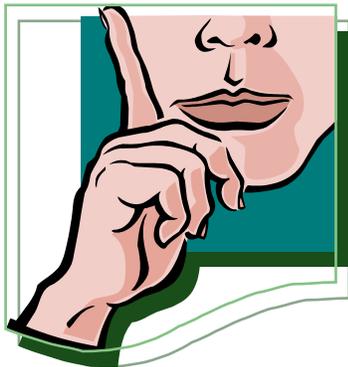


## Rivercrest Preparatory Online School

As part of a continuing series from the principal,  
**Ms. Jenna Saugstad**, this space is devoted to  
**21st Century Skills.**

### The skill highlighted this month: Problem-Solving

In order to get ahead in this competitive world, you must be able to think critically. Having the ability to observe, analyze, and come up with intelligent solutions to the problems at hand will make you a person who stands out in a crowd. Being able to write a coherent, persuasive essay or finding the answer to a complex science or math problem helps train your brain to think beyond the simple answer. You will need to learn to ask "WHY?" and "WHAT IF?" and to find ways to answer those questions by using investigation, deduction, and other tools. Understand that it will be hard, and you will be wrong sometimes, but you cannot give up when it becomes difficult. Continue through, using your mistakes to find the correct conclusion and to guide you to new ideas to solve the problems.



**Moving FORWARD to Learn  
and Lead in the 21st Century**



# Mystery Student for December

## Who is this Rivercrest student?

The first person to correctly identify the student in the photo wins a prize! Go to E2 with your guess.



Do you recognize  
this student?  
Hint: She is athletic!



Last month's Mystery Student was  
**Anthony Wood.**  
**Josh Niño** guessed and won a bow tie  
from the prize bag!