

# LENA MONTHLY NEWS

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Lena Whitmore Press

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

This month's newspaper is an abridged version. We wanted to publish it before the winter vacation to share school news of the season and to wish all happy holidays!



-by Sydney F.

## LENA CONCERT

Tuesday, December 11th, our traditional winter concert was a big hit!! All the people were dressed up nicely!

Every class sang three songs. Some kids played mallets or bongos or a lot of other instruments to accompany their classes.

There were also whole school songs. The hardest

one was *Simple Gifts*. Both the melody and parts were hard to learn.

Our new Lena Choir sang too. (See *Lena Choir* article below.)

The concert has been going for 14 years, but first we just sang in the gym for each other. Parents wanted to be part of the fun and we moved to the

Moscow High School auditorium and later to the Nazarene Church.

The concert ended with our traditional song, *A NEW YEARS WISH !!!*

-by Addi G. and Caia M.

## LENA CHOIR

Friday, December 7th, was the annual Kibbie Dome concert. Guess what? Our school had a choir in it!!!! We started by practicing every Thursday. We learned the song "Winter Light" to sing alone and other songs to sing with choirs from the area. Then, we needed more

time to learn our music, so we practiced on Tuesdays also. On Wednesday, December 5th, the Lena Choir sang in front of our school. Then, on Friday, the choir went to the Kibbie Dome for a sound check. At 8:00, the concert started. It was a blast! The college kids did a rockin' overture and our choir walked

in with Lewiston High School kids. All in all, the concert was a great success!!!!

-by Mady S., Jill P.  
and Sarah P.

Answer the questions correctly and come to the GT room to claim your prize!

## INDIANA JONES

In November, Coach Fisher set up an obstacle course called Indiana Jones. Mr. Fisher took obstacles from the movie and made them come to life. He does this every year and kids love it!

Someone swings an ax back and forth while we walk on a balance beam. We jump through an intertube for the Ring of Fire. We jump off a mat and swing on a rope over snakes, sharks, bugs, poultry

and a pig.

This year Mr. Fisher added one new obstacle... **THE BOULDER!** Once we went through the Tunnel of Doom, the boulder came after us really fast and chased us over to the 1<sup>st</sup> hurdle. Lena students would like to thank coach for making Indiana Jones happen!

Here is what students thought about Indiana Jones.

I love swinging on the rope!

-Gaea R. 5b

The boulder was sweet!

-Agi 6m

Going through the Ring of Fire was spectacular!

-Henry V. 6m

I liked it even though I got hit by the ax!

-Ben S. 6p



## Meet the Press!

This issue's Meet the Press features Gaea. She writes games, trends, and she also writes for Roots and Shoots. Her favorite articles are the Meet the Staff/Press.. She likes that anyone can write an article in the paper.. Her favorite color is blue; her favorite animal is coral; and her favorite vacation spot is Denver, Colorado. Gaea has been going to Lena since second grade. Gaea is in 5th grade. She has a pet tiger salamander. Her favorite author is Diana Wynn Jones.

-by Gabby B..

Gabby B. is doing the book review and holiday craft sections. She likes the *Random Facts* section. She will be making a candy cane made of beads and pipe cleaners. Her book summary in the newspaper is going to be about *Horrible Harry and the Holiday*. Gabby's favorite color is orange. Her favorite animals are crocodiles and snakes. Her favorite vacation place is the desert.

-by Henry V.



Continued on page 3...

## THE NEW SCHOOL STORE

The Lena Whitmore school store opened on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Earlier in the week, I interviewed Patty Brehm, Will's mom, to find out more about plans for the school store. She has decided to start up the school store again to raise money for Science Camp. She said that the prices would

all be \$0.25-\$1.75. [Here are some ways that I would recommend counting out the change: 7 quarters or a dollar and 3 quarters! Mwa ha ha ha ha!!]

But anyway, the school store will be selling the same things as last year: pens, pencils, erasers, mini-staplers, pencil sharpeners, etc.



I hope you all bring some spare change because that money will go to Moss next year (McCall Outdoor Science School,) which I am sure all of you want to go to when you are in 6th grade.

-by Tyler B. and Beth R.



## ROOTS AND SHOOTS

This year we did something new - a bake sale at the Winter Concert! The bake sale was for former Lena student who has an unfortunate sickness that is hard to cure. His mom has to stay home from work so they have money is a problem. All the money from the bake sale was given to them.

We raised a total of \$577 dollars. Good work.

-by Gaea R.



Question #1:

What's the largest spider in the world?

## ANIMAL of the Month

The animal of December is the Caribou - also known as the reindeer!

Some interesting facts:

- 1.) Male caribou can weigh up to 211 lbs.! That's a lot of meat!
- 2.) Caribou live from 10-15 years if they are not caught by a predator.
- 3.) Reindeer mainly eat lichen, grass, birch and willow leaves, and mushrooms.

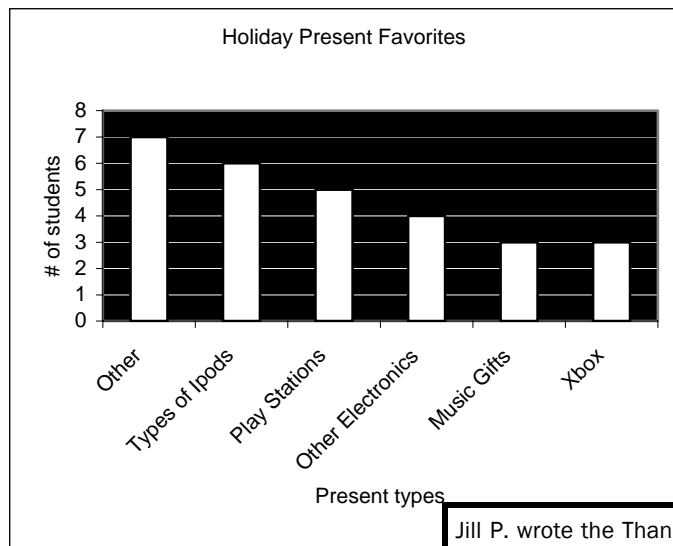
## Tis the Season HOLIDAY

Wondering what to get for Christmas? I know just that. Get your friend an Ipod!

To find out what Lena students want for Christmas, I surveyed the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. I asked each of them what they want for Christmas. There was a big variety of presents, but the most popular choice

was Ipods of several types. The present in second place was PlayStation. Other electronic items were third. These included a laptop and a video camera. Someone wanted a microphone.

My graph shows other choices. Hope this helps with your Christmas shopping.  
-by Tegan C.



Jill P. wrote the Thanksgiving Favorites for the November issue. Her sister was given credit. Our apologies, Jill!



## RANDOM FACTS FOR DECEMBER

Christmas, in some countries, is on December 24.

Christmas is derived from the Middle English word Christemasse and the Old English word Cristes-mæsse.

In Ancient Roman times, the best-known winter festival was Saturnalia, which was popular throughout Italy.

There is an island called Christmas Island. It is a small terri-

tory of Australia located in the Indian Ocean.

Pagan Scandinavia celebrated a winter festival called Yule, held in the late December to early January period. Yule logs were lit to honor Thor. Yule logs in the form of cakes are made at this time of year in present times.

Hanukkah originated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century B.C.E.

Hanukkah *gelt* (money) is often distributed to children to increase

their enjoyment of the holiday. The amount is usually in small coins, although grandparents or other relatives may give larger sums as an official Hanukkah gift.

Kwanzaa is a week long holiday celebrated by African-American people.

-by Ben S. and Beth R.

## ACTIVITY CORNER ~ CANDY CANES ~



December's holiday craft is a bead candy cane. First, you measure white pipe cleaner to 6 inches. Then you take one end and bend it up a little bit so that the beads don't come off. Then you put on interlocking beads in any pattern you prefer. After the beads are on, bend it into the shape of a candy cane. Then you can use it for decoration.

-by Gabby B.

## ANIMAL OF THE MONTH continued...

- 4.) Caribou usually have 1-2 calves every mating season.
- 5.) Caribou almost always travel in herds.
- 6.) Reindeer have two layers of fur. The lower part is a wooly part that keeps them warm. The outer layer has hollow hairs that make it easier to float. That makes the caribou a good swimmer.

I think that reindeer are very interesting and now that you have read this article I hope that you do too.

-by Henry Vaughan

Question #2:  
How tall is the tallest woman in the world?

# FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT (AND EDUCATION)

## KAYLA'S HOROSCOPE

**Aquarius (1/20-2/18):** Be careful.

You're almost on Santa's naughty list.

**Pisces (2/19-3/20):** Relax a little. The holidays only come once a year. Otherwise you may find yourself not enjoying them.

**Aries (3/21-4/19):** Keep close to your friends so you won't forget them when you grow up.

**Taurus (4/20-5/20):** This year try to give a compliment everyday. It will reward you.

**Gemini (5/21-6/21):** Listen to your teacher. She knows what she is talking about.

**Cancer (6/22-7/22):** When doing A. M. ,check your scan card. I feel you have been missing problems because of this.

**Leo (7/23-8/22):** The holidays are coming soon. Make something special for those you love.

**Virgo (8/23-9/22):** Try a new activity this year. You may end up liking it

**Libra (9/23-10/22):** Try not to be so relaxed. You may find things fall apart.

**Scorpio (10/23-11/21):** This year meet a new friend and enjoy the time you spend together.

**Sagittarius (11/22-12/21):** You're lucky. You are on Santa's nice list.

**Capricorn (12/22-1/19):** I think you are overreacting to some things. Slow

Question #3:  
What state officially  
adopted the tree frog as the

## PUZZLER

Cna yuo raed tihs?

Olny 55 plepoe out of 100 can.

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slpeling was ipmorantt!

-Contributed by Emery A.

## BOOK REVIEW CORNER

### Chapter Reviews

On

### Horrible Harry and the Holidaze

written by Suzy Kline

In this issue we decided to review three chapters from *Horrible Harry and the Holidaze*. Each is about three different winter holidays. We only chose these three chapters because if we had reviewed the whole book, it would have been too long.

#### Chapter 2: Kwanzaa

In this chapter, Ida brought her mom into the classroom to talk about Kwanzaa. She said that Kwanzaa lasts seven days, and families that celebrate it light a candle each day. Ida and her mom passed out special

treats that you eat during Kwanzaa. The class also made skull caps.

#### Chapter 5: Hanukkah Fun at Shady Pines.

In this chapter Doug and his class go to Shady Pines Nursing Home. There they saw Harry's grandfather and they played a driel game and sang. While they were there they met a few people who talked about this holiday.

#### Chapter 7. "Secret Santas"

This book is about many different holidays, but this Chapter has a Christmas theme. In this chapter Harry and his classmates are playing the roles of Secret Santas. Names are drawn, kept secret, and presents are

given to those who they draw. Secret Santas are people that buy or make an inexpensive gift for the drawing. Harry and one of his friends exchange names, because they already had a good gift for that person. Harry ended up with his friend Song Lee because he had something that she would appreciate. The next day he gave her a jar of green slime that he made that summer. She liked it very much.

-by Gabby B., Beth R. and Ben S.

Question #4:  
What's the Chinese fighting  
fish called?

**Jumble:** 1. onswllkfae 2. antas leuase 3. dorulhp 4. erpensst 5. ancleds 6. ohspgip 7. ancyd acen