



The Husky's Howl

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Holiday Happenings December 2016



What's Happening at Clearspring?

Calling All AWESOME Artists!

Calling all Clearspring artists - have a great comic to share? Enter our monthly comic contest!

The winning comic will be displayed in our January issue, and the due date for all entries is December 23. Comic will be judged on school-appropriateness, humor, artistic ability, and originality.

We hope to see some
AWESOME art soon!

NOVEMBER smiles bring **DECEMBER** style! We've collected 316 cards for "A Million Thanks," our tribute to the brave veterans that risk their lives to keep our country safe. We strutted our style on our first spirit day, "Dress Like A Million Dollars Day," on November 22. Our Veteran's Day concert left veterans feeling proud, and our Grandparent's Day Celebration planted seeds of joy in all of Clearspring's grandparents' hearts. We even filled over five 18 gallon tubs with candy for the "Treats for Troops" program! Be sure to check out photos and videos of Grandparent's and Veteran's Day on the Clearspring ES website! We can't wait for the glee that jumps out of the holiday gift of December!

DECEMBER HOLDS PROMISE!

- Our **Winter Concert** is on December 20, and the 5th Grade Chorus will be performing some holiday songs!
- We've got two spirit days coming up this month - **Comfy, Cozy Reading Day** will be held in accordance with **Pajama Day** on December 23!
- And... the **Toys for Tots** reign continues! Bring in **new, unwrapped toys** by Friday, December 23rd to support the underprivileged children across America this holiday season.
- Donate **gently-used books** for our **Book Drive** to the front office and help disadvantaged kids share in the joys of reading a really good story!

Giving is Getting!

This season, don't keep joy, spread it - to people you love, people you've just met, and people you might not like. After all, we all deserve some

MAGIC!

GIVING IS GETTING

"It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it."

- **Albert Einstein**

Waking up on Christmas Day to find piles of presents under the Christmas tree is always enjoyable. So is ripping up gifts on Hanukkah, Diwali, and so many other wonderful traditions from around the world.

While getting gifts is certainly pleasing, giving them brings even more joy in our hearts. It may sound cheesy or cliché, but it's true - and it's been verified by many different scientific studies. In fact, St. Stephen's Day, celebrated the night after Christmas, proves this claim - it's common to give gifts to the poor and needy on this day where everyone ends up feeling generous. I guess you could say that giving, in its own way, is getting.

Holiday Jokes

Q: Why isn't the turkey hungry at Thanksgiving?

A: Because it's already stuffed!

Q: What do you get if you cross a snowman with a vampire?

A: Frostbite!

Q: Why are ghosts good cheerleaders?

A: They have a lot of spirit!

Q: What key can't open doors?

A: Tur-keys!

Q: What cars do elves drive?

A: TOYotas!

Q: Why didn't the skeleton go to the ball?

A: He had no-BODY to go with!

3 DIY Gifts *from the heart*

Giving gifts is always nice, but heartfelt ones are better. Anyone can scoop up a box of chocolates, but presents like these will fill winter with *LOVE* all around.

1. One Cup of Love, Coming Right Up!

What You Need:

Plain white/black mug, Sharpies/acrylic paint, masking tape, (optional) tags (make your own - cut cardstock paper into the desired shape), (optional) twine/string.

What To Do: Monogrammed Mugs

- 1) Use masking tape to block out a shape or letter.
- 2) Make a consistent pattern around the tape to outline the letter. (stripes, dots, hearts, etc.) Paint goes faster; Sharpies offer more creative liberty.
- 3) Peel off the masking tape to reveal the white letter!
- 4) **Optional:** Attach a tag with a thoughtful message on to the mug's handle.



2. The Sweet Sound of Friendship

What You Need:

Empty Icebreaker/Tic-Tac container, earphones, decorative supplies (washi tape, paper, Sharpies, paper, stickers, etc.)

What To Do:

- 1) Peel off the Icebreaker label off the container, and decorate it.
- 2) Open the big side of the container and wind in the earphones. If they fit, close the lid, and if not, leave the two ear pieces hanging out as a fun touch. You've made an earphone case!



3. Shake up Some Cheer - Snow Globes!

What You Need:

Mason Jar, diaper, dropper, hot/regular glue, fake mini tree, other small Christmas trinkets (optional)

What To Do:

- 1) Glue the tree on the bottom of the jar. You can also put in your trinkets. (optional)
- 2) Cut open the bottom of the diaper, and pour the contents into the jar. Remember to leave the actual diaper out.
- 3) Fill your dropper with water, and drip some on the "fake snow". Watch the snow grow enormously!
- 4) Shake up some cheer with the most thoughtful snow globe out there!



Sources:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-aZRBq6-Cg> (image for icebreaker earphone case)
- <https://goodandmessy.files.wordpress.com/2012/11/muggoodandmessytjl.jpg> (image for mug)
- <http://www.theamusedbouche.com/2011/12/07/inspired-crafted-homemade-holiday-mason-jar-snowglobes-with-tiny-sparkly-christmas-trees/> (image for holiday snowglobes)

»» Staff Superstars »»

MRS. BOOTH

Imagine if you were Frosty the Snowman. What would you do to make the world more magical?

Well, I would build a giant ice-skating rink for all the kids to play on, because I love ice-skating.

You said you like travelling... where would you want to go?

Australia, definitely. I really like their kind of Japanese food, and the people there are interesting. I also *love* kangaroos!

Something cool about you or your job?

I hear a lot of funny stories - there are a lot of funny kids, especially when they're at lunch. And, I really love math.

If you could invent a holiday, what'd it be?

International No-School Day! Kids could stay at home, and just be who they are. Also, we should have an International Day! We have many cultures here at Clearspring, and the more you know about a culture, the more you accept and respect it.

What's your favorite book?

I love travelling, so anything by Bill Bryson. He's funny [and] adventurous.

What's your favorite holiday?

Christmas. I enjoy spending time with my family, and I love FOOD!

Which grade would you want to teach?

5th grade. I actually used to be with Mrs. Bizzell [help her out].

Mrs. Booth is one of Clearspring's jolliest staff. A smile always planted on her face,

she's always willing to help and listen to students.

Reporting this issue's



»» Staff Superstars »»

MRS. AUSTIN

Describe your dream life:

Travelling all around the world, meeting new people, and having FUN!

What's your favorite holiday?

Halloween. You can be anything you want to be; you can dress like a crazy person and that'd be fine!

What's the nicest thing a student's ever done for you?

Saying, "I DON'T WANT YOU TO LEAVE!"

What do you like to do in your free time?

Well, you know, read books, crochet, knit...

“I have to work all through the holidays, with just one measly day off! Can you believe that?”