



Saunders Sentinel

THE HOLIDAY EDITION

MAKING MAGIC IN THE MAGNETS

Cosmo Gives Back

Kelysse Ochoteco, Class of 2024

Our Saunders High School Cosmo Seniors gave the wonderful Cerebral Palsy School of Westchester an exciting day of beauty and pampering! Seniors performed services such as hair washes, hair cuts, hair trims, braiding, and even manicures. It was a pleasure to have the students, as their energy and spirits filled the room with laughter, love, and joy.



The First EV in Auto

Yanisa Vasquez, class of 2024

A dedicated staff member donated the first ever electric vehicle to Saunders' automotive magnet. Mr. Mule is very excited about having an electric car in this class, as he is thrilled to teach his students how the electric car works. With the world turning to a progressively more green lifestyle, learning about electric vehicles is important, as it can lead to a better understanding of the environmental, economic, technological, and societal implications of the transition to electric transportation.



Ornaments by Architecture

Lizeth Severo, Class of 2024



The holiday season has come upon us all and our Arch-12 Seniors are getting into the spirit with a new fundraiser! With the guidance of Mr. Mitrione, our production team worked hard to create holiday ornaments so that your tree can represent our school spirit. The intricate design, created by senior Jeremy Sarno, comes in 3 different yet captivating styles: All of our ornaments have our Saunders logo in the center of them and can be used as decoration or as a thoughtful present for a loved one. Like all of our fundraisers, our profits will be used to fund our scholarships which are awarded to our seniors during our Arch Open House in May. All ornaments will be sold for \$5 each and will be sold during the last 3 periods of the day. Show our seniors some support!



CLUB FUN: SPREADING JOY TO EVERYONE



Diwali in Asian Club *Jada Chang, Class of 2024*

This November, Asian Club has honored and embraced Hindu culture with their celebration of Diwali, the festival of lights! Diwali is a significant Hindu festival that traditionally celebrates the victory of good over evil. It is held between October and November with festive gatherings, clay lamps (diyas), fireworks, feasts, and prayer. On November 16th, Asian Club hosted their first cultural presentation and celebration on Diwali. Asian Club members presented information about Diwali to other members and after served various cultural foods like, samosas, green chutney, desi namak para, and soan papdi! After members ate, there was an opportunity for members and guests to get their henna done (with some awesome music in the background). Asian Club also decorated the front of the entrance hallway to commemorate the celebration. Overall, this month's celebration was a success and members and guests had tons of fun! Look forward to the next cultural celebration

...🌸🌸🌸... Key Club Gives Back ...🌸🌸🌸...

The Key Club continues to serve the community by collecting donations to bring to local organizations. This November, members collected non-perishable food items to be donated where necessary for those in need this Thanksgiving. The collecting was a success, as the Saunders' family banded together to give back this holiday season.



Student Government Sponsors the Blood Drive *William Williams, Class of 2025*

During the Christmas holiday, Saunders High School embraced the spirit of giving by hosting a blood drive. Well-trained nurses from the local New York Blood Center professionally and compassionately collected blood from students, parents and staff. Saunders very own Student Government, advised by Mrs. Crispo and Mrs. McNerney, ensured a smooth process, guiding donors to the rest area and making sure they replenished with complimentary snacks. Overall, Saunders reached a goal of 55 donations, each bag saving about 3 lives. We are proud to say the Saunders students and staff helped make a significant impact on many lives.



Music Club

This year we were fortunate to have the music club bring holiday cheer to the cafeteria. Performing during the lunch periods, these students showed their talents singing Christmas songs as well as other popular songs. Led by teacher, Mr. Williams, these students were able to showcase their talent.





HOLIDAY DOORS & FESTIVE FLOORS



Mrs. Clark

Ms. DeLucia-Pryzgoda

Ms. Rega



Ms. Laguna

Mr. Janszen

Ms. Crispo



Ms. Gallucci

Ms. Carchi

Ms. Hyland

Ms. Tome





SEASONAL SPIRIT WEEK





MORE JOY FROM SAUNDERS



Different Cultures Celebrate Christmas

Sofia Paulino, Class of 2026

In many cultures, they all have their festive ways to celebrate Christmas. Some cultures possibly have treats or desserts that appear on the dinner table once a year. They also may have special ways to give gifts, hold parades, or decorate in a certain tradition or culture. In my house, we celebrate Christmas on Christmas Eve, we have a big feast and have fun opening gifts that we've given one another. The day after especially, we open more gifts and go to my aunt's house to eat the same food we had the day before.

Christmas is widely celebrated worldwide, including in non-Christian countries. Every family may also have treasured traditions and ways to celebrate Christmas – like watching holiday movies, sipping eggnog, or teaming up to cook an elaborate feast. Christmas traditions around the world are unique as they come and hold special relevance to elevate the occasion. Some traditions are as old as time, and some are a combination of different cultures coming together. So, how do people celebrate Christmas? Let's take a short tour around the world to learn more:

First and foremost, in Japan, Christmas is a relatively new holiday, having gained widespread recognition only in the past few decades. Rather than a religious celebration, it is viewed as a joyful, romantic time for couples or an occasion for ordering KFC or dining out instead of cooking a large meal at home. December 25th is recognized more as a couple's day than a day for family. Couples can be seen out and about on romantic dates or strolling around enjoying all the winter illuminations.

In Poland and Polish communities worldwide, Christmas Eve dinner, or Wigilia, begins with the sharing of Oplatek, a paper-thin, square wafer made of flour and water that features an image of the Nativity. At the start of the meal, each person at the table breaks off a piece of the wafer and exchanges holiday greetings before passing it along to the next person. Occasionally, even pets join in on this festive tradition.

In Mexico and many other Latin American countries, families celebrate Nochebuena on Christmas Eve with a huge feast, singing, dancing, and often a piñata for children. While some attend midnight Mass for religious observance, the evening remains focused on bringing family together.

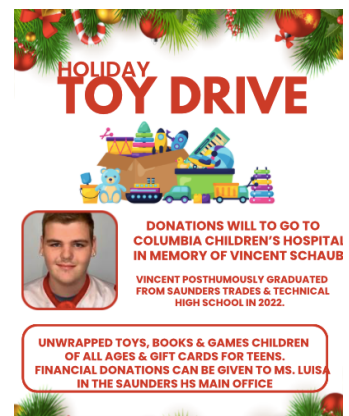
In Sweden, Finland, and Norway, St. Lucia's Day is an important part of the Christmas season celebrating St. Lucia, said to be one of the first Christian martyrs. On this day, candlelit processions are held with the eldest girl in each family dressed as St. Lucia in a white gown and candle wreath. The girls also serve S-shaped Lucia buns and coffee or mulled wine to their families.

Lastly, Iceland celebrates Christmas in a unique way, with festivities beginning 13 days early. Children receive gifts from 13 Santa Claus-like figures called Yule Lads, each with distinct personalities, though some can be mischievous. Well-behaved children who place their shoes on the windowsill are rewarded with small gifts from the Yule Lads. However, children who misbehave may find rotten potatoes in their shoes instead.

However you celebrate your holidays, remember to take a moment to appreciate other holidays that are celebrated by students here at Saunders and around the world.



During this holiday season, Saunders continues to think of the community through food and toy drives. The Key Club is sponsoring another food drive to donate to the local YMCA. A toy drive is being held in memory of former Saunders student Vincent Schaub. Toys will be donate to Columbia's Children Hospital.



**The Holidays Are Supposed To Be Happy...
But For Many Students & Families
They Are Not**

**If You Want To Talk To Someone,
Please Reach Out To...**

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Ms. Carolina Alvarez | 9th Grade School Counselor |
| Ms. Marya Smith-Rossi | 10th Grade School Counselor |
| Ms. Anne Talone | 11th Grade School Counselor |
| Ms. Celeste Griffin | 12th Grade School Counselor |
| Ms. Krisztina Ghazal | Student Assistance Counselor |
| Dr. Saribel Ballester | School Psychologist |
| Ms. Meagan Molina | School Social Worker |



*Thank
you!*

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