



Paw Prints



By Claire Shannon, Madden Edwards, Lana Tarr, Madison Mceachron, Haylee SantAntonio

M	T	W	T	F
16 Anime	17 C.H.O.C Weintraub 4-5 GSA Media C. 4-5	18 Dungeons and Dragons 4-5 R510	19 Step 4-5:15 Campus Life LUNCHES P8 First Priority 4-5 R130 FFEA 4-5 R404	20 Snack Chat
WINTER BREAK				
3	31	1	2	3
WINTER BREAK				
6 WINTER BREAK	7 C.H.O.C, 4-5 Weintrub STEM 4-5 Grant 4-5 R216 GSA Media C. 4-5	8 Dungeons and Dragons 4-5 R510	9 Step 4-5:15 Campus Life LUNCHES P8 First Priority 4-5 R130	10 Snack Chat
13 Anime	14 C.H.O.C. Weintraub 4-5	15 Student Council Media Center 4-5		

Bella's Blurb

By: Madison Mceachron

This month is full of fun and cool weather. Some clubs such as Student Council, Children Helping Other Children (CHOC), First Priority, and many more are having meetings this month. Make sure to attend. We hope you enjoy the 16 days off for Winter Break. Grab some hot cocoa and spend time with your family. Remember to be grateful and loving. Happy holidays!



Administration:

Principal: Ian Murry
 Assistant Principals:
 Sixth Grade- David Greenfield
 Seventh Grade- Karen Birke
 Eighth Grade- Irene Ortiz



Boggle



To play boggle you must connect the letters together make words. When you make more than a two letter word record your points on a piece of paper. The highest score you can get 41 so lets see how many points you can get!

three letter words= 2 points four letter words= 3 points five letter words= 4 points
 six letter words= 7 points seven letter words= 8 points eight letter words= 9 points

S	N	O	W	B
D	E	R	O	A
O	C	L	L	L
A	T	A	L	L

By Hannah Wingate
and Hailey Anderson

Snowflake Hunt

As you go through the newspaper, count how many snowflakes you can find.
Turn it into Ms. Dider's room to get a ROAR ticket. Have fun!



Should non-school jackets be worn?

No! They Should Not!



By: Abigail Nicolas

Money made from Indian Ridge Middle School's (IRMS) school uniforms, such as pants, shorts, shirts, and jackets, amount to one-fifth of the earnings that a school needs to stay up. It also amounts to the cost of twenty-one students attending a public school for a year, barely a classroom.

Nine out of ten students say that they want to wear their own jackets, but all of them acknowledge that this comes with dangers. With drawstring jackets, it is very possible for students to smuggle weapons or answer sheets. It also makes getting away with breaking the dress code much easier, since it's as simple as not wearing an IRMS shirt underneath their hoodies.

A student, who is not in favor of non-IRMS sweaters says, "The inclusion of sweaters also means that dress code rules have to be more enforced, since inappropriate words and pictures could be on these jackets." Non-IRMS sweaters seem like good ideas at first, but when money and numbers are involved, it's much more suitable to follow the rules, since they're there for a reason.



Yes! They Should!

By: Abigail Nicolas

It's cold outside, freezing, but school doesn't let their student wear sweaters not belonging to the school. This is a problem, since almost twenty-two million days of school are lost to things as simple as a cold. Half the population of students at school don't wear the school jackets or wear shorts in the winter, so sickness becomes far too common among schools.

Indian Ridge Middle School's (IRMS) jackets are far from bad, but most students see middle and high school as times to experiment and to express themselves. Indian Ridge allows non-IRMS jackets if they can be zipped down, but zipper jackets are harder to come across. In target, a normal place to shop, normal drawstring hoodies are usually around twenty dollars, but a zipper jacket is twenty-five dollars for males. In Old Navy, a less mainstream but still popular clothing store, female drawstring hoodies are twenty-five dollars, but zipper hoodies are thirty-five dollars. These are big differences in pricing and will skew what would be bought, since most wouldn't buy a zipper jacket unless they had to.

An IRMS student says, "With [Indian Ridge Middle] school jackets, there's only two different types so they may not fit the situation." In south Florida indecisive weather, there's no way that a simple school jacket would be able to tough it out the entire year.



Should Winter Break Be Longer?

YES! IT SHOULD!

BY: ANJALI NORI



Winter break is one of the most important times of the school year. It is a time to relax from all the stress of school and work. Winter break is also a time to enjoy the holidays with your family or friends, and is a chance to release all of the pent up stress from the first half of the school year. Winter break should be longer and here's why.

Winter break is one of the times that keep students like me from going crazy or getting mental illnesses. The stress of different projects, or upcoming deadlines can pile up and eventually break someone. According to a recent study, "Relaxation reduces stress and the symptoms of mental health conditions like depression, anxiety, and schizophrenia. Relaxation also has other related health benefits, including: lowering your heart rate, blood pressure and breathing rate, reducing muscle tension and chronic pain." Relaxation is exactly what the teachers and students need, and making it even longer would benefit both of them, as well as the school.

Winter break is also a good time to visit relatives, and I personally enjoy doing that. Once a year, I get to meet my family friends and aunts who live in other countries, and it is a joyous time for me. My family comes all the way from Virginia, or even Canada for a two week holiday. I look forward to their visiting, but it is always cut short, and they have to leave before you know it. A lot of other students at Indian Ridge agree. Marley Ahumada, a sixth grader, said, "Some families do different things for the holidays, and then there are some families that have to celebrate with the other members of their families, and they can't do that with the initial period of time, so they don't have time to do everything they plan to do." With the longer winter break, families will get enough time to do what they want, and to have fun with their families.

Having a longer break will help students focus and concentrate on the coming months after winter break, and I do expect it to have a positive impact on their overall health. With all the facts spread out, the days of winter break should be increased, so what do you think?

Neela Ascarrunz believes that winter break should stay two weeks long and not be extended.

Photo credit Ryan Seiden



NO! IT SHOULD NOT!

BY DYLAN DEPRIMO

A time relished by students and teachers alike, winter break. Children all over the United States rely on school for several things, a safe place, a place to get a nutritious meal, or a place to socialize. Some people believe that winter break should be longer, but the minority disagrees. For once the press will show the bad side of winter break.

Certain children are being brought up in poor socioeconomical areas or are just born into poor families that are forced to go to bed hungry. Although kids like this don't speak up often, their opinion still matters. "Approximately 30 million U.S. children rely on school for free or reduced-priced lunches, and 14 million children rely on school for free or reduced-price breakfast." This data was collected by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Winter break to these families is not a time to celebrate the holidays, but rather a time of financial strain.

Some children go to bed hungry, and some go to bed afraid. According to the National Association of Adult Survivors of Child Abuse (NAASCA), 3.3 million children experience domestic abuse every year, and every time a child experiences domestic abuse, they become more likely to experience it again or in a different form. School acts as a safe place, where children can find friends and not worry if they will see daylight the next day.

Winter break should not be longer. If this evidence shows anything, it's that winter break should be shorter. Children and teachers might think it should be longer on the surface, but when a person realizes just how bad winter break can make certain people's lives, maybe they will reconsider.



Homework? Yes Please

By Caroline Walsh

“Students typically retain only 50% of the information teachers provide in class, and they need to apply that information in order to truly learn it, according to, Procon.org” That is where homework comes in. Many people think that homework is stressful and unnecessary, but that is the exact opposite. Homework has many benefits like helping students get better grades. Logan Gannet a student here at Indian Ridge believes students should get homework because it acts like a study guide. Rebecca Zwick said, “It helps give extra practice to students.” Without having homework Zwick thinks that she would not know the material herself because usually when she is in class she is working with a partner. Gannet also sees homework as extra credit that helps his grade.

Another benefit homework that not a lot of people think about is that it allows students’ parents to be involved in their child’s learning. Obviously, homework has many benefits and helps students.



Logan Gannet thinks that teachers should give homework.

Photo credit Ryan Seiden

Homework? No Thanks

By Elijah Forst

Homework. We all have it but is it as good as teachers think? No. Homework can cause a lot of stress on kids, studies have shown. Almost every teacher gives a couple of pages of homework every night. With no time to do it in teachers give the students the extra work for home. Some students claim homework is helpful, but this is untrue. Out of 100 students in our school 88% of them claimed that homework causes unnecessary stress. The other 12% of the students said homework causes stress but it’s not unnecessary. Colin Pric said that homework takes away his time to do other things and it does not teach him anything new. “Homework doesn’t even help me remember the lesson!” said Pric. Some people claim that homework does help them remember that days lesson. It does not. I asked another 100 students if homework helps them remember their lesson and 74% said it did not. When I asked them to elaborate most of them said something along the lines of “I do homework just to get it done. I don’t put my all into it.”

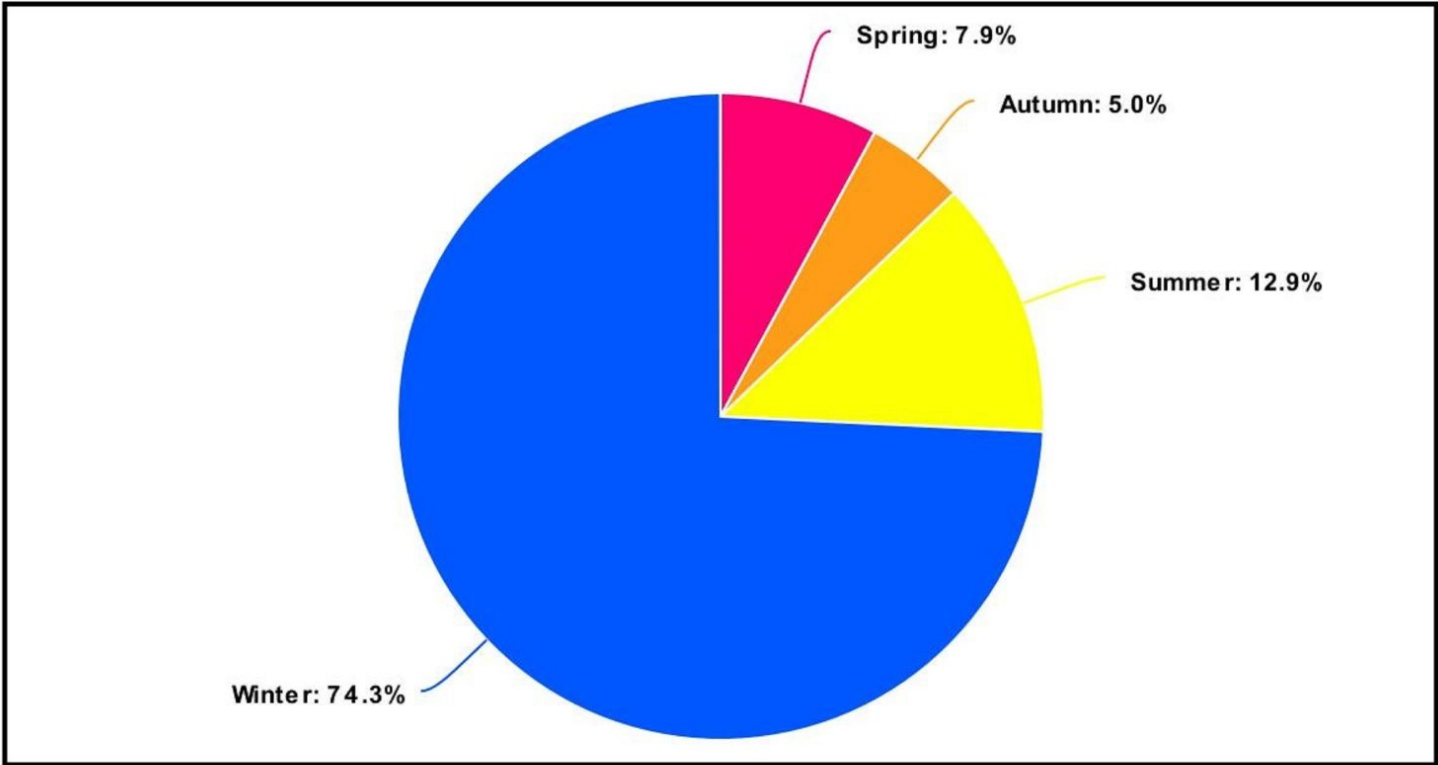


On the other hand, Colin Pric believes that homework should not be given to students.

Photo credit Lexi Arencibia



Which Season has the Best Holiday?



Spring Autumn Summer Winter



By: Kayla Martin, Mia Parra

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE WINTER BEVERAGE?



Winter Survey

By: Kayla Martin and Mia Parra



'Tis The Season



By Kaylin Hadbafnick, Catherine Truong, and Ashley Ottey



Photo credit Walmart

With the holiday season coming up, students and staff are thrilled for winter break. With three weeks off, who wouldn't be excited? Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa are all being celebrated during this time. Seventh grader Andrew Hutchins believes that winter break is the "best thing ever." According to Hutchins, "It gives students an opportunity to relax from school and celebrate the holidays." Who doesn't love winter break?

But, let's not forget about New Year's. New Year's resolution is a big tradition. Did you know that about 40% of Americans make them? Some other traditions are eating twelve grapes with twelve seconds before New Year's, putting potatoes under your bed, and serving round fruits. Eating the twelve grapes came from Spain. From Colombia, on New Year's Eve, they put three potatoes under their bed. To conclude, serving round fruits came from the Filipinos and the fruits symbolize coins that represent wealth and prosperity for the following year. There are also many more Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa traditions. A Christmas tradition is leaving cookies out for Santa and picking out a new ornament for each child in the family. A tradition for Hanukkah is lighting the menorah and playing the dreidel game. To end, a Kwanzaa tradition is lighting a candle for each day of the holiday.



Hanukkah

Photo credit Win Calender.com



Photo credit Elk Lake Resort

There are many different holidays celebrated over winter break such as Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's.

A Winter Celebration

By: Andrew Hutchins



Two members of the Student Council are handing out pizza to people at the dance. Photo credit: Natalie Pascut

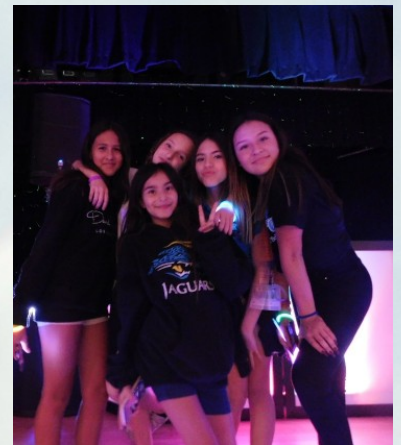


Sixth graders hanging out and eating pizza at the dance. Photo credit: Natalie Pascut

This year, Indian Ridge held a winter dance on December 6th, hosted by the Student Council and PTO. At the dance, there was music and snacks, with lights adorning the wall. Many students that attended the dance were sixth graders looking to have some fun, since they have never experienced it. There were so many people there that pizza sold out within the first fifteen minutes! All and all, the dance was fun, students reported. There were many instances of dance circles and students running around. A student council member reported that putting together the whole dance was very fun but hectic. Student Council hopes for an even bigger success next year.



Indian Ridge students posing next to the snowman at the dance. Photo credit: Natalie Pascut



Group of friends hanging out at the dance. Photo credit: Charlee Shon



Captions written by Isha Patel



Green for Green



By Owen Melville

Did you know that about two million four hundred seventy thousand trees are cut down daily? Well Jimmy Donaldson (more commonly known as famous YouTuber Mr. Beast) and Mark Rober spotted the issue and acted upon it. In a collaboration with the Arbor day foundation they created Team Trees. Team Trees is an organization that pledges to plant one tree per dollar donated. They place trees wherever they deem is needed. In an effort to help farmers in India have more reliable lives and to battle climate change. They hope to have twenty million dollars in donations by January first. Some notable people that have helped make this possible include Donaldson who donated \$100,000 challenging people to beat the record, of which they did. Soon after, British DJ Alan Walker donated \$100,001. To top that Donaldson donated \$100,002 that did not last long when Chief Technology Officer of Shopify Jean-Michel Lemieux donated \$100,100 then followed up by discover channel ending the small contest with \$100,200. Later, Susan Wojcicki (CEO of YouTube) donated \$200,000, Jack Dorsey (CEO of Square) who donated a total of \$350,000, and in attempt to beat everyone Elon Musk donated \$1,000,000. In a turn of events Tobi Lutck (CEO of Shopify) donated a whopping total of \$1,000,001 with the caption “For the Lorax.” As of right now Team Trees is at \$17,635,532 and anyone can donate and with everyones help they can reach the goal and save the planet one tree at a time.



Elon Musk donated one million dollars to this organization to plant one million trees.

Photo credit The Wall Street Journal



Team Trees is an organization that plants trees for every dollar donated.

Photo credit WestWoodHorizon.com



Mr. Beast co-created the Team Trees foundation.

Photo credit AllStarBio.com





829 North Nob Hill Road
Plantation, Florida 33324



Cell: 305-527-4579
Email: GinaTarr@keyes.com
Website: www.ginatarr.keyes.com

REALTOR®
10091 NW 1st Ct. Plantation, FL 33324

INDOOR SOCCER FACILITY IN DAVIE, FL

What we offer:

- Open Play
- Open Everyday
- Birthday Parties
- Academy Training
- Camps
- After School Care
- Autism Kicks
- Fitness Training
- And more...



954-900-3292
admin@shootingstarsindoorsoccer.com
10376 W State RD 84 Davie, FL 33324