Student-Made Carnival
by: Rithish Raghu

On November 1st, 2019 the 1st and 5th graders from Sandshore Elementary School went to the Mount Olive Middle School Maker Space Carnival.

MOMS students created games and crafts for the Sandshore students. While the 5th graders worked together with their 1st grade buddies to build and play games, they were learning about hydraulics and propulsion.

Carnival visitors worked together to complete STEM projects, including rockets made of straws and a catapult for a tennis ball. There were prizes to encourage participants, such as candy and stuffed animals.

You can see more activities at the MOMS at https://www.motsd.org/moms/.

Lenape Learners
by: Raegan Pearman and Eliana Recchia

On Tuesday, November 12th, 2019 fourth graders traveled to Waterloo Village. Waterloo Village is located at 525 Waterloo Rd, Stanhope, NJ 07874.

A tour guide took the children around the village so they could learn more about the Lenape culture and see how these people lived long ago.

This was the second time these students went to Waterloo Village. The weather was freezing cold and snowy, so they went in a lot of longhouses (big wigwams) to keep warm. “While it was cold, I think it was a great experience to learn about the Leni Lenape, since we are learning about them in class,” explained Mrs. McHale.

If you would like to learn more about the Lenape Lenape, visit LenapeLifeWays.

Falling into Winter with a Dance!
by: Etelka Moliner and Racheyta Trivedi

On December 7, 2019 in the Sandshore School gym and cafe, K-5 girls and important men in their lives participated in the Winter Wonderland Dance.

The dance was held to celebrate the special relationships as well as the arrival of Winter. Dancing to the DJ’s music and feasting on delicious snacks were two of the main highlights.

Each girl received a ‘glow wand’ to take home, along with a picture frame. Aanya Chettri’s father, Mr. Sharad Chettri, was happy to share his insight on this dance. “The dance brings us together, and strengthens our relationship,” he explained. Fifth grade student Makenzie Lessing declared, “I enjoy being with my father and dancing with him. This event gives me a chance to spend quality time with him.”

For more information on the upcoming events, visit the Sandshore School Calendar!
### Steps to Success
by: Emily Beattie and Anthony Murray

The Footprints Program occurred on all Mondays in November. The Sandshore third graders participated in this program taking place in their classrooms.

This program uses puppets to teach third graders how to deal with bullying and to be safe on the internet.

The students were taught about imessages, which express current emotions based on what other people have done. One example of an imessage is *I feel happy when you make me laugh.* Third grade teacher Mrs. Lisk explained, “I think that the footprints program is a good way to go over social skills and practice handling conflicts.” Mrs. De Barros remarked, “It is beneficial because the program teaches the students how to deal with real world scenarios.”

Third grade students got a lot out of this program. Alex Swirsycz shared, “The activities I liked were the fun ones, like the imessages. Coach Katrina Kangaroo was thefunniest character.”

The website [Footprints for Life](#) gives more specific information about this program.

### Gifts Galore
By: Katherine Barbosa and Elizabeth Dressel

The Sandshore Elementary School students visited the Penguin Patch Holiday Gift Shop from December 10th - 13th in the gym.

The SHSP sponsored the event because they wanted the children to be able to purchase holiday items for friends and family.

Taylor Barbosa, father of a 5th grader, exclaimed, “I think this is a great way for kids to be thoughtful about friends and family!” A board member from the SHSP said, “It is always fun, festive and friendly!”

### The Healthy Heart Challenge
by: Jack Rawa and Vinay Satyaph

On December 4th, 2019 students participated in the Kids Heart Challenge in the Sandshore gym.

Students were challenged by rotating through different stations that get their bodies moving. This was a good way to keep the students’ hearts healthy.

Mrs. Thompson, Physical Education teacher, supports this organization because some of her family members have heart problems. Many students have family members who have a history with heart disease, and “Some students donate in honor of a family member who survived a heart attack.”

Gavin Falcetano is a 5th grader in Ms. Lash and Mrs. France’s class. For him, “The best part of the Kids’ Heart Challenge is that all the money you raise is going to kids who have heart problems.”

For more information on this organization, visit [Healthy Heart Challenge](#).
Pleasing Performances

Artsy Musical
by: Sumedha Marimganti

On Wednesday, November 20th the K-2 students of Sandshore School showcased their artistic talents in the cafe and gym.

Mrs. King hosted the musical “The Barnyard Moosical.” Mr. Heckman sponsored the art show with the theme of a barn to compliment the music. These events were held together to make it easier for the students and parents to participate.

Not only were the parents entertained by these two amazing events, but siblings and other students from grades 3-5 enjoyed them as well. Racheyta Trivedi, a fifth grader in Mrs. Mitchell’s class, recalled, “It was exciting to see all of our siblings’ artwork. Seeing how they have grown throughout the year was thrilling.”

Visitor Etelka Moliner said, “It was very amusing to watch the musical performed by the first and second graders. Their hard work was shown in their performance.”

The Mighty Musicians
by: Brayden Nettles and Vega Prasanna

The 5th grade band and orchestra students performed in a concert at the Mount Olive High School PAC on December 11th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Musicians practiced at home and at the Mount Olive Middle School early in the morning. The purpose of this concert every year is to let students demonstrate their learning to their families and friends.

Mr. Spendley conducted the orchestra students as they played First Christmas March, Chanukah Medley, and Two Winter Sketches: The Holly and The Ivy. “It is a chance to learn from our mistakes and make our concert better every year,” he shared.

Fifth grader Racheyta Trivedi told reporters, “I felt prepared because we practiced as a whole group. I was ready to face the challenge.”

To learn additional information about the concert visit https://www.motsd.org/ss/departments/music.php?

A Magical Christmas Chorus
by: Makena Drew and Alicia Ginalska

On Wednesday, December 18th at 6:00pm, a magical 4th grade chorus concert took place on the Sandshore stage in the cafeteria.

To make this performance so wonderful, the students sang and danced to seven fun holiday songs which celebrated different cultures for the holidays.

This performance was directed by music teacher Mrs. King, and the songs featured different languages like Latin and Spanish. Mrs. King explained that, “Having a concert like this gives students an opportunity to perform in front of a large audience.”

The dress rehearsal took place at Sandshore during the day on December 18th for all other grades. In addition, the 4th grade Kindness Ambassadors visited the Senior Center to sing for them.
On the fourth Thursday of November in the U.S.A., people celebrate Thanksgiving. Nearly four hundred years ago in England, the citizens were very unhappy. Their king wanted them to worship one religion, but they wanted to worship in another way. If they disobeyed their king, they could be put in prison or worse, so they decided to leave and go to Holland. After a few years, they found a nice place to set up their new home in North America, but what they didn’t know was that misery and hard work were around the corner. The brutal Winter was very harsh for the Pilgrims, but the friendly Indians helped them get through it, teaching them how to fish and hunt and grow crops. Soon they had a bountiful harvest and celebrated with a nice meal with their new neighbors.

President Lincoln was the first person to make the Thanksgiving feast a tradition. He did this in November of 1863 so Americans could have a holiday to be thankful for their many blessings. People celebrate this holiday by gathering for a meal or watching the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

Ms. Mainiero, school secretary, shared that, “Thanksgiving means being with my family and being thankful for them.”

For more information on the origins of Thanksgiving, visit A Children’s Thanksgiving Story.

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**Fabulous Feasting**  
by: Etelka Moliner and Sachin Vijayabharathi

Americans in the US participated in the holiday of Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 28th. During their celebrations, people remember the Pilgrims’ first harvest. People eat turkey, cranberry, pumpkin pie, and other treats. Another tradition to do on Thanksgiving is to enjoy NFL football. A popular team to watch is the Detroit Lions, who play nearly every Thanksgiving.

Sandshore students have their own traditions. Fifth-grade student Michael Alfano exclaimed, “My cousin and I do a talent show with each other!” Mason Fulton, first grader, shared that he likes to watch football. To find additional information about Thanksgiving traditions, above go to Ducksters.

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**Giving Thanks**  
by: Sashitej Palla

As people gathered for Thanksgiving, they enjoyed delicious meals and created beautiful holiday symbols.

**Feeling Crafty?** Try making this Pilgrim Hat Crayon Cup! You will need black paper cups, black cardstock, ric rac, scrapbook paper, buttons, hot glue gun, hot glue, and a x-acto knife. Then,
- Cut out the rim of the cup  
- Glue the ric rac to the rim, wrap around again and glue to keep secure
- Glue a piece of scrapbook paper to where the ric rac ended  
- Glue a button on top  
- Fill with crayons

**Feeling hungry?** Here is a Thanksgiving cookie recipe. You will need Pillsbury refrigerated cookies, orange frosting, ⅔ of chocolate frosting, candy corn, black gel, and M&M mini candy.
- Bake cookies as on roll and cool
- Spoon chocolate frosting into a bag, then cut out the bottom of the bag and squeeze on to the outer edge of half of cookie
- Arrange candy corn over frosting for feathers
- Pipe orange icing to cookie to resemble turkey face and feet
- Use orange icing for baked eyes
- Squeeze black gel for baked centers of eyes
**The Holiday of Hanukkah**
by: Kyara Chiminazzo and Kaylee Dezart

Hanukkah will be celebrated by Jewish people around the world from December 22-30 of this year.

This Jewish holiday celebrates the dedication of a temple in Jerusalem in 164 BC after a war. An oil lamp burned for 8 days, which was a miracle.

There are a number of traditions and rituals. Many celebrate by giving gifts, eating special foods like potato pancakes, donuts with jam, and fitters, playing the game of dreidel, and singing hymns.

For more information on this special holiday, visit Holidays for Kids: Hanukkah

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**Holly, Jolly Holidays!**
by: Capucine Bossu Venitucci, Charlene Sliker

All around the world Christians celebrate Christmas on December 25.

The holiday honors the birth of Jesus Christ. People decorate Christmas trees with ornaments, open gifts, sing Christmas carols, have a Christmas dinner with family and friends, bake cookies, and leave them out with milk and cookies for Santa Claus.

In Sandshore Elementary School, students celebrated by participating in the Giving Tree that Ms. Melokos, the guidance counselor, placed in the main lobby. Students took ornaments and bought gifts, then the Kindness Ambassadors wrapped them. Ms. Melokos said, “I love Christmas because I get to be with my family. I like to bake, wrap gifts for others, and spend time with my family, playing games and watching Christmas movies.”

Fifth grader Max Koller said, “On Christmas Day, I wake up at 5am. I usually have time to watch a movie, then wake up my family. My mom takes pictures of the presents we open. Then, we go to my cousin’s house and eat a big lunch!”

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**A Holiday to be Remembered**
by: Bhavana Chadalavada and Racheyta Trivedi

From December 26th to January 1st, people of African descent celebrate Kwanzaa. Although Kwanzaa has its roots in African culture, people around the world and in the United States celebrate Kwanzaa.

Families gather together for the seven days following seven principles called the Nguzo Saba, one for each day. They decorate place mats with religious symbols of African culture, including a unity cup, an ear of corn, and gifts. Dancing to drums, poetry, feasts, and storytelling are included in the holiday after praying as a family to give thanks for a community, a great harvest, and gifts in their lives. Traditional colors in the celebration include black, green, and red.

Dr. Maulana Karenga created Kwanzaa in 1966 to bring African Americans together as a community. Kwanzaa came from “matunda ya kwanza” in Swahili, meaning “first fruits.” Mrs. Mitchell, a fifth grade teacher, really enjoys the Kwanzaa kinara. “I love how so many of the holidays in different cultures focus on light!”

To learn even more about Kwanzaa, Ducksters is the website for you!