

# The Royal Review

VOLUME 2

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## National Novel Writing Month

By **Jasmine Connolly**

National Novel Writing Month, nicknamed NaNoWriMo, is a challenge for only the most dedicated, serious, focused novelists. The goal is to write 50,000 words in thirty days. It all begins at midnight on November 1st. You have until November 30th to finish. There is no material prize, but you do get major bragging rights.

Several people who have participated in NaNoWriMo have had their novels published, to be precise, 250 novels that were born from this challenge have been traditionally published, including *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer. Last year, 325,142 average people became novelists.

NaNoWriMo offers a variety of programs to aspiring authors, including Camp NaNoWriMo, Young Writers' program and Come Write In events. Camp NaNoWriMo is a virtual camp in which you tackle any writing project over the course of a month, novel, poem, short story, script, or anything else you can imagine. Lesson plans and supplies are sent to classrooms all around the world through the Young Writers' program. During a Come Write In, a library or some other public place opens its doors to people to simply come in and write together.

Now, the month has ended,



but it is not too late to sign up or even start working on a novel. If you sign up now, your goal will be to complete a novel in November of 2016, but you can certainly work on your own novel now.

## Student Council Update

Student Council just finished sponsoring the pumpkin carving contest. The contest was held the week of Halloween and students could bring in pumpkins to show off their creative designs. Students, during their lunch hours could vote for their favorite ones with money; the pumpkin with

the largest amount would win with the proceeds going to UNICEF. Jaden Valdez won the contest. Student Council also sponsored the costume contest. Student could wear costumes the Friday before Halloween and they had to pay a dollar to their first hour teacher with the proceeds going to UNICEF as well. Student Council sold treats every Friday in November. Friday November 6th we sold brownies and cookies. Friday November 13th we sold

puppy chow and November 20th we sold a variety of candy. Thank you for support Student Council by purchasing these items. We are now sponsoring the season of giving. There will be three barrels in the cafeteria till where students can donate items to the pads shelter (homeless) the animal shelter and toy for tots. Please donate by December 18th. Student Council meets every other Wednesday in Mrs. Renkes room. If you have any ideas we are always welcoming new members.

## Builders Club Updates

By Taylor Renkes

We did trick-or-treat for Unicef again this year, and that is where we go door to door and collect money. We also paid a dollar to dress up for Halloween and we made a total amount of \$159.33 to go to Unicef. Throughout the week of Halloween we sold ghosts pops and that money went to United Way. We made \$275.72 from selling ghost pops. We are also going to help Greer Bond who was 15 months and diagnosed for lymphoblastic leukemia. We are going to help her by doing a bowl-a-thon and collecting pledges for her. Lastly, we are going to be making Thanksgiving baskets for families that are less fortunate. So we will be donating turkeys, mashed potatoes, canned gravy, jello,

green beans, corn, and box of stuffing, frozen pie, dinner rolls, and cranberry sauce. Then all of that will be donated to a family. In conclusion, that is what is happening in builder's club right now.



## Minecraft

By Aidan Flannigan

MineCraft is an indie video game conceived and developed by one person. This game came out for beta testing in 2009 and immediately swept the world with its lovable gameplay and pixelated graphics attracting gamers of all ages. Since that moment, gaming has been forever changed and you would be hard pressed to find a person who has not heard of it.

This game starts with two modes: Survival and Creative. In creative

mode you are given unlimited resources and 200+ blocks to build imaginative structures. There is also the use of redstone which is basically a wire

that let's you create things that have the capability of making working comput-

ers and other technical wonders in the game. Survival is a cold and brutal mode in which you have limited resources and must fight cute little monsters at spawn at night.

While survival is not particularly educational, it teaches the importance of an ecosystem and how to conserve resources while giving yourself the easiest life possible.

Overall, Minecraft is a fun and safe game which can help imaginative minds to blossom.

*"Minecraft is a fun and safe game which can help imaginative minds to blossom."*

## Mockingjay Part Two

By Abigail Mayers-Brown

What can I say about the movie that won't spoil it for you? Well 4 or more die 2 are sad and the rest are not that bad in my opinion. I cried with 2. The characters are Katniss, Finnick, Gale, Peeta, Prim, Haymich, Effie, Snow, Coin, Plutarch, Annie, and Victoria. The plot was that Katniss is going to the hunger games because Prim, her sister got picked for the hunger games and Katniss volunteered for prim and the

plot in this one is that Katniss is trying to kill snow so a lot of people die for snow. And that is all I can tell you about the Mockingjay part 2.



## Top Christmas Movies

**By Elsie Gordon**

These five, excellent Christmas movies are sure to brighten your spirits this holiday. We surveyed students and staff at Reagan Middle school, and got percentages of their favorite Christmas movies:

**Elf- 43%**

**Home Alone- 30.5%**

**How the Grinch Stole Christmas- 9%**

**Polar Express- 9%**

**White Christmas- 6%**

## Toys of the Season

**By Aidan Flannigan and Joy Garnhart**

The results are out!! The top five present categories have been voted on!

**Remote control planes: 10%**

**Legos: 25%**

**Board games: 25%**

**Video games: 40%**

If you need some toy consultation this is your list to go to!

## Pumpkin Pie

**By Abigail Mayers-Brown**

### INGREDIENTS

3/4 cup granulated sugar

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1/4 teaspoon ground cloves

2 large eggs

1 can (15 oz.) LIBBY'S® 100% Pure Pumpkin

1 can (12 fl. oz.) NESTLÉ® CARNATION® Evaporated Milk

1 unbaked 9-inch (4-cup volume) deep-dish pie shell

Whipped cream (optional)

MIX sugar, cinnamon, salt, ginger and cloves in small bowl. Beat eggs in large bowl. Stir in pumpkin and sugar-spice mixture. Gradually stir in evaporated milk.

POUR into pie shell.

BAKE in preheated 425° F oven for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350° F; bake for 40 to 50 minutes or until knife inserted near center comes out clean. Cool on wire rack for 2 hours. Serve immediately or refrigerate. Top with whipped cream before serving.

## Cameron Crone

**By Aidan Flannigan**

We asked Cameron some questions and here are his answers:

RMS: Why have you been chosen?

CC: I try to do my best in every subject and stay positive.

RMS: What makes you a good leader?

CC: I like to get things done while still having fun.

RMS: What are your extracurriculars?

CC: I am in the fall play and am in the Scholastic Bowl.

RMS: How do you display good character?

CC: I am kind to everybody and help those who need help. I get all my work done and try to show good leadership.

RMS: Why should you be chosen for

student of the year?

CC: I don't think I am the best student here but I definitely try to do my best and I think that is the most important.

RMS: Thank you for giving us your time Cameron.

CC: Anytime!

## Drama

**By Joy Garnhart**

Drama is about Callie, a girl who wants to be in her middle school play, but is a terrible singer, and she knows it. So, she does stage crew, and wants to make it the biggest and most beautiful show ever. Along the way, she meets two twin brothers, Justin and Jesse. Justin wants to be the star of the production, while Jesse just wants Justin to have the spotlight and works stage

crew. They become best friends and work together throughout the production. They deal with prop malfunctions, friendship, romance, and finding out who you are, and of course, DRAMA!!!

## Eaden Hvarre

**By Elsie Gordon**

Why do you think you have been chosen for the student of the month?

"I think I have been chosen for student of the month because I am very hard working and have always taken school very seriously."

What makes you a good leader?

"I am a good leader because I am very organized and I don't like to mess around."

What are your extracurricular activities through the school and community?

"My activities are band and choir in school, and out of school I do competitive dance and gymnastics."

What would you want to change about Reagan and how would accomplish this?

"I would like to allow students to choose their classes. I would accomplish this by talking to the school board and to parents."

How do you display good character?

"I display good character by being a good role model to younger kids. I teach

and help other students with homework when they need it."

Why is displaying good character important?

"Displaying good character is important because it keeps people humble."

Why should you be chosen for student of the year?

"I should be chosen for student of the year because I am very successful in school, and I have worked very hard to be where I am today."

What are your goals for the future?

"My goal for the future is to earn a full ride scholarship to a performing arts college. Then move to L.A. to fulfil my dream to be a professional singer, dancer, and actor."



## Christmas Trees—Real or Fake

By Abigail Mayer-Brown

### \* History

The evergreen trees have been used in celebratory events since before the birth of Christ. The first decorated evergreen tree was in Germany. Nineteenth century Americans cut their trees in a nearby forest. Christmas trees are a festive decoration to go in your house for the holiday seasons.

### \* Real Christmas trees

Growing the trees can provide a habitat for the wildlife as the trees grow. The trees can remove dust and pollen from the air that can cause allergies to flare up. 59% of trees are recycled in community programs. The trees can provide the daily oxygen requirement for 18 people. The trees however can bring in spiders that have nested in the trees and can be in your house for a

long time. For some people the smell of the evergreen Christmas trees can be overpowering for some people.

### \* Fake Christmas trees

Fake or artificial trees can last for more than 6 years in your home, but guess how long in a landfill. When you throw the artificial trees away they can last centuries in a landfill. In 2002 48% of people owned a fake tree. The needles of a fake tree are not as sharp, but more soft opposed to a real tree. The artificial evergreen trees or maybe not so much like a real evergreen tree, don't smell like the real deal and this really bothers some people. You can get many versions and colors of fake trees however.

### \* This or that?

You may be thinking to yourself, "Which type do I choose?" Well if you like

the smell and feel of a classic real tree, you would probably want to choose a real tree. However if you like to have a different kind of out of the box Christmas spirit you might want to choose an artificial tree. Christmas trees are a great thing to have during the holiday season whether it is real or fake.

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