

Camellia Paw Press

Volume Three



December, 2022

Teacher for a Day

by Ava Deaver

On Tuesday, November 8th, I sat down with Mrs. Bridgham to ask if I could teach her class for 30 minutes. We both agreed that I will take charge and teach her class on Tuesday, November 15th, for 30 minutes doing an art activity. But before I can do that, I had to let Mrs. Stone (my teacher) know about it and ask if it was ok for me to be out of class for 30 minutes. She agreed that I could teach Tuesday the following week. Since I will be teaching a lesson near Thanksgiving, I thought to myself, *“What better way to celebrate early Thanksgiving than to do a Thanksgiving thankful turkey art!”* Mrs. Bridgham had the same idea. I was sure she was thinking that I was thinking like a teacher. She showed me ideas of some Thanksgiving turkey art on the website “Teachers Pay Teachers.” We were originally going to do just a turkey that has feathers where students can write down what they were thankful for, but while I was looking at some examples, I saw one that caught my eye! It was a Thanksgiving turkey hat with 3 different squares to write what you were thankful for. We decided to go with the Thanksgiving turkey hat for my lesson.

After teaching Mrs. Bridgham’s class, I know now that being a teacher isn’t really all that easy. Let me tell you how it went and how I felt about teaching my very first lesson in a class of Kinders. When I first came in the classroom, they were pretty excited and a little loud. But shortly after, they settled down and I got all the materials we needed to make our craft. First, I showed them how to make their hat. I asked what were some things they were thankful for. The students said family and friends, toys, playgrounds, cats, Halloween, and Christmas. I drew some of their suggestions so they can see the word with a picture. The picture will help them remember what the word means since they can’t read yet. And yes, I’m horrible at drawing so some students made fun of my pictures. Honestly, I didn’t mind because to me it was funny. Once I was done explaining, I looked around the classroom to see their beautiful thankful turkeys! But sometimes I had to ask because I didn’t quite understand what they were drawing. They were all amazing, but I soon realized that it was my time to leave. I said bye to all the students and thanked Mrs. Bridgham for letting me teach her class. It was a great experience and it gave me a new perspective on teaching, and more respect to all the teachers. Teaching isn’t as easy as teachers make it seem. We should all be thankful for their hard work.



From Escaping in a Fishing Boat to Teaching in the Classroom: A Teacher's Journey

by Tianna Ngo

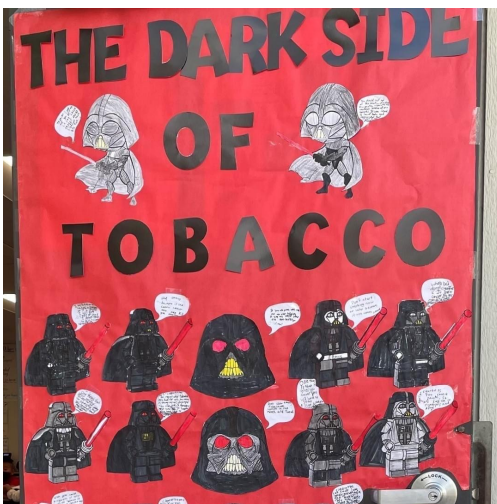
If you don't know yet, Ms. Pham is a passionate fourth grade teacher at Camellia. Many of you may not know but Ms. Pham is from Vietnam. When she was 5 years old, she left Vietnam in her dad's fishing boat. They had to leave their country because of the Vietnam War in 1978. For a child, leaving in a small fishing boat from her home might have been terrifying. Once her family escaped Vietnam, she and her family lived in the Philippines for a year. Then Ms. Pham was sponsored by a family to move to the United States. She lived in Bakersfield, California for a while, and went to Oakland Elementary School where she got help with English.

Ms. Pham thought she wanted to teach high school science. In her first year of teaching, she taught at John F. Kennedy High School. The hall monitor stopped her and wanted to see her pass. That was when she realized that she might like elementary schools better. She's taught for 24 years at the following schools: Mark Hopkins, Elder Creek, and Camellia Basic. To no surprise, she prefers living in the US more than Vietnam. Now she lives with her husband, Phu, and have no kids but her wonderful students.



Red Ribbon Week Door Winner!

Many of you have been wondering who won the door decorating contest. You don't have to wonder anymore. Ms. Pham's door won the district's door decorating contest! Congratulations to her and her students who putting together a wonderful door. And of course, please don't turn towards the dark side. May the force be with her and her class. Congratulations again!



An Adventure with Fred and Gracie: As Told by Fred

by Cassandra Figueroa



One day, I woke up to a cool, chilly morning. I decided to eat my favorite breakfast, Cat CornFlakes with milk. I poured myself a fresh bowl. Then, I decided to wake Gracie up to eat with me. I walked along the hallway to Gracie's room to wake her up. But, Gracie was dug deep into her bed sheets and I saw a huge mess! Hairballs, toys, chopped up yarn, food spilled, everything in her room was on the floor.

"Gracie! Why is there such a big mess in your room?" I screeched.

"Because, I'm too lazy to clean up this mess. May you do it?" she said.

"No way you crazy cat!" I exclaimed. "You will clean it up yourself!" I yanked her off of her bed and helped her clean. While I was cleaning, I found a special surprise in her closet, expired Cat CornFlakes! I ate a few. But anyhow, I found plenty of junk a cat like Gracie may leave on her floor.

Once I helped her clean her room, P.S I did 99% of the work, Gracie was very grateful that I helped her. She SWORE she would never do it again. I thought, "Let's see if that's true." Shortly after, I came back to the kitchen and my Cat Cornflakes were all soggy. Obviously I didn't get to eat it. But to those kids reading this, CLEAN YOUR ROOM! Don't make your parents suffer like I did.

Happy Hmong New Year

November 18, 2022





December Holidays

by Aliyah Le

December is a month that has many celebrations and remembrances. Below, I will tell you a little bit about each celebration or remembrances.

December 7th:

The day we remember the bombing of Pearl Harbor. This special day we honor those who died in Pearl Harbor by placing a wreath on the location of the sunken ships, USS Arizona.



December 18th-December 26th:

Hanukkah, which means “dedication” in Hebrew, begins on the 25th of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar and usually falls in November or December. Often called the Festival of Lights, the holiday is celebrated with the lighting of the menorah, traditional foods, games and gifts. Jews celebrate it by lighting the menorah, playing the game of dreidel and eating special holiday foods like latkes and sufganiyot.



December 25th:

Christmas is celebrated on December 25th by people all around the world, whether they are Christians or not. It is a time when family and friends come together and remember good times they had. It's where people give and receive presents.



December 26th-January 1st

Kwanzaa is a celebration that is linked to passing down African cultural heritage through feasts, storytelling, crafts, dancing, and more. What is unique to Kwanzaa: A key custom during Kwanzaa is the daily lighting of the Kinara, in which black, red, and green candles (the colors of the Pan-African flag) are burned. On day one, the black candle symbolizes the people themselves, is lit. You must be wondering, “Why was Kwanzaa created? And when?” Kwanzaa was created in the 1960's by Maulana Karenga, an African American nationalist who later became a college professor, created Kwanzaa as a way of uniting and empowering the African American community in the aftermath of the deadly Watts Rebellion.



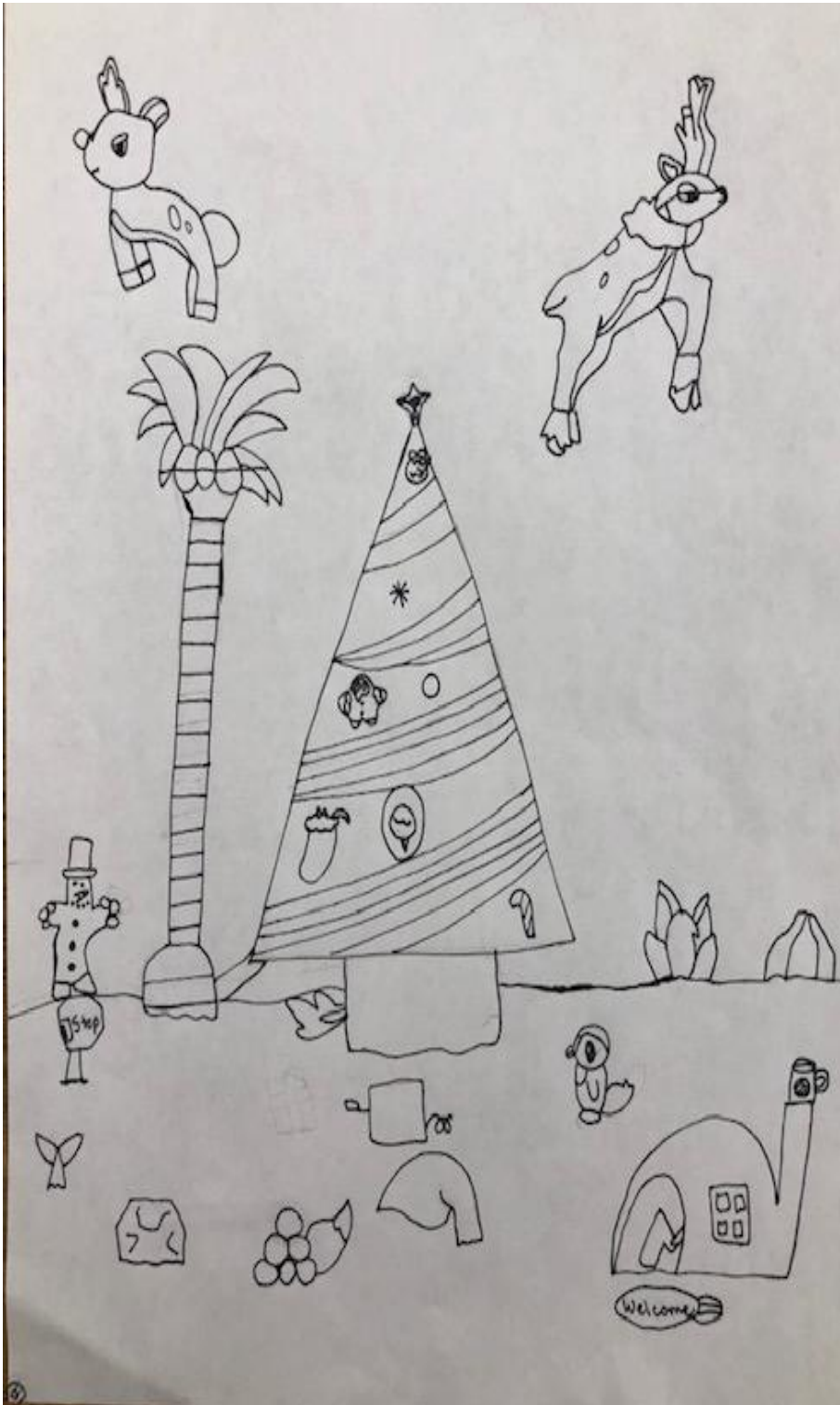
Winter Coloring page

Made by Khloe Vang

Directions:

Your task is to find ALL of the Pokemons that is in this coloring page. Please number the Pokemon you see by writing the number next to the Pokemon and writing the name on the number on the side.. Then, color the Pokemon. If you can manage to find ALL of the Pokemons, please turn it in to your teacher, to give it to Ms. Her.

Description: These Pokemons have decided to play a game before the Christmas holiday comes. But, however some of them are very smart and clever. So they blended into their surroundings while others not. Turn in it before **12/23/22** Winner will get 3 Good Worker Tickets.



*You may use the lines below for the Pokemon names if they are too small.

Name _____

Room # _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____

Number of
Pokemon

Return to Ms. Her by 1/13/23



Popular Toys and Presents for Christmas!

By: Eden Ding



“Frank, what should we get Greg for Christmas?”

“I don’t know!”

“You don’t know aye?” Well, luckily I am here today to tell you about some of the most popular toys and presents kids love for Christmas. Some presents are really cheap while others are a bit (ok, maybe more than a bit) costly. Either way, I’m here to tell you about some presents or toys your child might want for Christmas. (Depends on age).

Were any of these present/toy suggestions useful to you? If not, I’m sorry. If so, great! I would like to hear from all of you about which toys/presents you liked the best. Was it the art supplies? The electronic? The nerf guns? Write three of your favorite toys/presents below! Happy Holidays!

Name: _____

Room # _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Return to Mrs. Her anytime before or after the winter break.

Popular Presents and Toys for all kids

- Legos
- Science experiment kits
- Indoor sports games
- Board games (Monopoly, Battleship, etc...)
- Electronics (iPad, tablet, computer, etc. ...)
- Gaming Units (Playstation 5, Xbox 360, etc. ...)
- Video game gift cards
- Books (Harry Potter, Junie B. Jones, etc...)
- Art Supplies (water color, drawing pad, ...)
- Sports items (football, catcher’s mitt, etc ..)
- Clothes
- Pokemon Cards
- Fidget Toys
- Trip to Disneyland
- Dolls
- Hot Wheels
- And many others

Guess Who?

Who do you think this teacher is?
Make your prediction below, cut, and return to Ms. Her. Must be submitted by 12/23/22.

Name _____

Your Room # _____

My prediction is:

*Last month’s baby picture was

