

Tubman

Hanukkah

Hanukkah is coming soon. The children are busy preparing their rooms, getting them ready with more space for toys and things that are fun for girls and boys. The candles are lit on each of eight nights, to remind us of the Maccabees and their great plight. They wanted Jews to have equal rights, so day-in and day-out they would fight! Fight! Fight! We spin the dreidel as a game, the letter we want is *gimmel* by name. The dreidel game is very fun. *Nes Gadol Hay Shom!* Hanukkah is a nice time of year, the season is always full of cheer. Gifts, games, and the past combine, to make a holiday which is really fine!!!

Mark R. Levinson

My Christmas Poem

This is the time of year when love and laughter is spread. This is when we give and receive cheerful things from and to the ones we love. We shall sing cheerful things, we shall give, we shall love everyone and everything. We shall do those things! Yes we shall. The world needs those things.

Keake Slaughter
Grade 6

If I could have anything for Christmas

If I could have anything for Christmas it would be love. I would want it with affection and friendliness too, but most of all with the people I love the most. Why, because this is the most beautiful thing in the world to me.

Tamara Loving

Christmas

Christmas is a holiday, which is very happy and gay. We celebrate it every year, because it is so dear. I wish Christmas was everyday, so I could receive and give presents away. It is nice to hear the Christmas cheers. It's very tingling to my ears.

Darlene Washington
6th Grade

When Pondering Snowflakes

When pondering snowflakes, falling from the heavenly skies, consider each snowflake; unusual and unique, each related to itself only.

Ponder then how such beautiful designs came from such threatening clouds, and how such magical bodies are made only from water. Think also of how these tiny snowflakes can cover a whole mountain, and fall in such numbers as to immobilize great human machinery.

If one ponders snowflakes and their great power with others of their kind, but also their great power of snow alone, one can see how people together and apart can make differences. Together for great power in strength, alone for great power in ideas.

Chantal Tetreault
8th Grade

What Christmas Means To Me

Christmas is a jolly day that we should all be thankful for. To give and to be given and for sharing and to be shared. To give love and to be loved. To show your feelings to one and all. That's what Christmas means to me.

Jonnetta L. Randolph

Dear Santa,

For myself this Christmas, I would like *absolutely* nothing except for a few things such as: a Beta-Max, a Commodore Vic-20, a color TV and a life-time supply of fudge.

I deserve the above-mentioned gifts because I have done the following: I've attended both first and third Advent mass, I've been praying my Rosary with surprising frequency, and I haven't hit my little brother since yesterday. As the ultimate, I have cleaned up my room so that you may now open the door and take two, count 'em, two, steps without encountering any clothes whatsoever!!

With the gifts I will (hopefully) receive, I will record all football games and soap operas. The Vic-20 sure would come in handy when it's homework time. The color TV would stop all infantile and unnecessary bickering. The life-time supply of fudge will go to my three best pals: me, myself and I.

Sincerely yours,
Nicole Parker
8th Grade

Crystalline icicles
Happy holidays
Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer
Insurmountable ice castles
Slippery snow
Tall christmas trees
Mistletoe
Appealing angels
Santa stuffing stockings

Tracy Hyslop
8th Grade

Dear Santa,

Every year I really look forward to Christmas. Our family always decorates the house, so that everyone is in the Christmas mood. This year I would really like a new ski outfit and some boots, but there are a lot of little things that I would like too. For instance, I love stickers and rainbows and cute little things. Although I really don't need more clothes, it is still fun to buy more izodes, levis and shoes.

This year I have been as good or better than expected. Since supposedly at thirteen, there are no normal conversations between the kid and parent, I thought I would all of a sudden always fight with them. This is true only occasionally, though. I have stuck it out so far, so I think I have improved much. Please take this into consideration.

Love,
Tricia Koblitz
8th Grade

Dear Sir,

This year for Christmas I want one thing, and that thing is an Apple computer. The reason I want an Apple computer is that computers are coming of age. And I think that since it is the age of computers, I might as well get used to them at an early age, instead of waiting forever until I am an adult, and then working tremendously and strenuously.

The reason I deserve to get an Apple computer is that I have been a loving kind and respectful child for the last year.

Peter Caswell
8th Grade

Dear Santa,

This year for Christmas I would like a red, blue and black 90 ft. yacht, an island in the Caribbean with a mansion and a huge lighthouse, Fort Knox, a missile silo, 150,000 shares of stock in IBM, Hewlett Packard and Tektronix. If you decide not to get me any of those, a Coleco-Vision would do nicely.

I want these things because I consider myself "under-privileged." If you got me all of those, the situation would be dramatically changed (for the better).

I think that I deserve these things because throughout the year I have been kind, pleasant, respectful, and trustworthy (well... sort of). Except to my little brother named Daniel, who tries purposefully to get on my nerves. Sometimes he provokes me too much and receives a wallop, but overall, I'm pretty nice to him, my older brother, my mother and my father.

Thank you!
Sincerely,

Sincerely,
David Bluestein
8th Grade

Dear Santa,

This year for Christmas I would like: all of the world leaders to sign a peace treaty to show that everybody in this world can be nice sometime during the year; the economy to revive enough to drop unemployment to 5.0; a newscast where all the newscasters dressed as clowns and reported about the good things that happened.

I feel I deserve these things because I'm tired, angry and sick of the way the world is going on right now. This would really brighten my Christmas morning.

Sincerely yours,
Jason Blumkbt

Dear Santa,

Hi! How are you? How is your wife? I am fine.

I really do not want very much for Christmas this year. All I want is clothes. It will probably be too much to ask for, so you can just send money if you want. (I am pretty hard to fit.) Another thing I would like you to consider is to talk to the person who takes care of the snow, and ask him/her if they could send some snow to Portland so me and my friends can play in snow over Christmas Vacation. It gets kind of boring without any snow.

Thank you for making all my Christmas fun!

Your friend,
Kristen Wright



Patrice Latoyia Woods

Commissioner Charles Jordan