



Central Scoop
January 2020
Edition 04

Editor's Note

by Lilly

So... How are the New Year's resolutions coming? Only about one in five Americans stick to theirs throughout the year, so if you keep yours up, you can be proud of the fact that you're part of the top twenty percent in the country! If you're not even going to attempt that (or if you didn't make any), I guess that just means you have more time to fill out Central Scoop's polls and read a few of our articles... (which is perfectly fine, too :)

Quote of the Month

found by Lilly

“Although **no one** can go back and make a brand new **start**, anyone can start **now** and make a brand new **ending**.”

– Carl Bard

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Laugh. Out. Loud.

Silly Stories

by Renee

Once upon a time, there was a blender named Betsy Blender who lived with her boyfriend, Toasty Tim the toaster. They lived a happy life filled with toast and smoothies.

One morning, Betsy Blender woke up to find Toasty Tim missing! "Toasty Tim! Where are you?" she called.

"In the kitchen, Betsy Blender!" Toasty Tim replied.

Betsy Blender went into the kitchen to find Toasty Tim toasting some buttered toast—her favorite!

"Thank you Toasty Tim!" she said. "My favorite!"

"You're welcome!" he replied. "It's almost done."

With a bing and a pop, the toast popped out---and it popped right onto Betsy Blender! She was covered in butter!

"Toasty Tim!" she scolded. "How could you?"

"It was an accident!" Toasty Tim cried. "I didn't mean to!"

But Betsy Blender wouldn't believe him. "You did it on purpose!"

Toasty Tim kept insisting that he didn't mean to, but Betsy Blender knew better than to believe his lies.

"To the scissors!" Betsy Blender exclaimed, wiping the butter off of her and grabbing the scissors from the drawer. She hopped over to where Toasty Tim was sitting on the counter.

"No!" Toasty Tim cried, realizing what she was going to do.

"Yes!" Betsy Blender squealed with glee. Carefully, she went behind Toasty Tim and placed the scissors around his cord. Slowly, she closed the blades. She didn't really know if scissors would work to cut the cord, but luckily, after a few moments, the cord snapped.

"No!" Toasty Tim screamed. "Don't do it!!!"

"It's too late now, Toasty Tim," Betsy Blender said. "All that's left now is to wait until you die!"

"B-B-Betsy B-Blen—" Toasty Tim began before being cut off on account of his death.

"Well, that is that!" exclaimed Betsy Blender, hopping off the counter and climbing back into her drawer for a nice, long nap. She

fell asleep within seconds. However, a few minutes later, she was awoken by a police siren.

"Why are the police coming for me?" Betsy Blender wondered, seeing the red and blue flashing lights stop right outside her window. Then, she remembered what she did. "Gosh, Betsy Blender!" she said to herself. "Why'd you do that? Didn't you know you would get in trouble?"

"Well," she replied to herself, "I wasn't thinking. But now you better hide!"

"You're right!" Betsy Blender said. But it was too late.

She peered out of her drawer to go find a better hiding place and discovered a MicroCop staring at her.

"You're arrested!" he said. Betsy Blender then jumped out to find dozens of other microwaves behind him armed with scissors!

"I guess I am," she said. "But you'll never catch me!"

"Yes we will!" another MicroCop said, grabbing her.

"Oh," Betsy Blender said. "I guess so."

The MicroCops brought her to the local Appliance Prison and locked her in a cell. They left, but to Betsy Blender's delight, they forgot to lock the door behind them! She scrambled into action, winding her cord around her so it wouldn't be in the way. However, just as she was about to walk out, she heard voices.

"George, did you lock the door?" a MicroCop asked.

"No, Larry; did you?" George replied.

"No! I thought you did!" Larry said.

Betsy Blender knew she had to hurry. She quickly ran out the door and found herself in a small oven.

"It's hot in here!" she said. Luckily, she saw a door. After jumping out, she was on the sidewalk of a neighborhood. "Where will I go?" she asked herself. All she knew was that she had to get away from the Appliance Prison. So, she started running down a random street, stopping to catch her breath in a random yard.

And that was where I came in---because it was my yard! I ran out of my house, confused as to why there was a blender catching her breath in my front yard.

I asked her, "Why is there a blender catching her breath in my front yard?" And she explained her story to me.

"I'll take you in, little Betsy Blender!" I exclaimed, picking her up and taking her into my house before the MicroCops found her. "After all, my old blender just broke! And by the way, my name is Sally Sue."

"Aww, thanks, Sally Sue!" Betsy Blender said. And we lived happily ever after, drinking smoothies and milkshakes every single day.

Life lesson: Don't get on a household appliance's bad side.

THE END

Did You Know?

Fun Facts

by Mariam

1. 'J' is the **only letter** not used in the Periodic Table of Elements.
2. If you stand around for an hour, you can burn **114 calories!**
3. When magnets are heated up, they can **lose** their magnetism.
4. Only **two countries** have the color purple on their flag: Nicaragua and Dominica.
5. The Great Pyramid of Giza has **eight sides**, rather than the traditional four.

Source: <https://www.thefactsite.com/1000-interesting-facts/3/>

National Days

by Brianna

January 1

New Year's Day

January 2

National Buffet Day

National Cream Puff Day

National Personal Trainer Awareness Day

National Science Fiction Day

January 3

National Chocolate Covered Cherry Day

National Fruitcake Toss Day

January 4

National Missouri Day
National Spaghetti Day
National Trivia Day

January 5

National Bird Day
National Keto Day
National Screenwriters Day
National Whipped Cream Day

January 6

National Bean Day
National Cuddle Up Day
National Shortbread Day
National Technology Day
National Thank God It's Monday Day - First Monday in January

January 7

National Bobblehead Day
National Tempura Day

January 8

National Argyle Day
National Bubble Bath Day
National English Toffee Day
National JoyGerm Day
National Winter Skin Relief Day

January 9

National Apricot Day
National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
National Static Electricity Day

January 10

National Bittersweet Chocolate Day
National Cut Your Energy Costs Day
National Oysters Rockefeller Day
National Save The Eagles Day

January 11

National Arkansas Day
National Milk Day
National Step in a Puddle and Splash Your Friends Day
National Vision Board Day - Second Saturday in January

January 12

National Curried Chicken Day
National Marzipan Day
National Pharmacist Day
National Sunday Supper Day - Second Sunday in January

January 13

National Clean Off Your Desk Day - Second Monday in January
Korean American Day
National Peach Melba Day
National Rubber Ducky Day
Stephen Foster Memorial Day
National Sticker Day

January 14

National Dress Up Your Pet Day
National Hot Pastrami Sandwich Day
Ratification Day
Shop for Travel Day - Second Tuesday in January

January 15

National Bagel Day
National Hat Day
National Strawberry Ice Cream Day

January 16

National Fig Newton Day
Get to Know Your Customers Day - Third Thursday of Each Quarter
National Nothing Day
National Religious Freedom Day
National Without a Scalpel Day

January 17

~ none ~

January 18

National Use Your Gift Card Day * - Third Saturday in January
National Michigan Day
National Peking Duck Day
National Thesaurus Day
National Winnie The Pooh Day

January 19

World Quark Day
National Popcorn Day

January 20

National Buttercrunch Day
National Cheese Lover's Day
National Disc Jockey Day.
Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Third Monday in January

January 21

National Granola Bar Day
National Hugging Day
Squirrel Appreciation Day

January 22

National Blonde Brownie Day
Library Shelfie Day - Fourth Wednesday in January

January 23

National Handwriting Day
National Pie Day

January 24

National Compliment Day
National Peanut Butter Day

January 25

National Florida Day
National Irish Coffee Day
National Opposite Day
National Seed Swap Day - Last Saturday in January

January 26

National Green Juice Day
National Peanut Brittle Day
National Spouses Day

January 27

National Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day - Last Monday of January
National Chocolate Cake Day

January 28

National Blueberry Pancake Day
Data Privacy Day
National Have Fun At Work Day
National Kazoo Day
Plan for Vacation Day - Last Tuesday in January

January 29

National Corn Chip Day
National Puzzle Day

January 30

National Croissant Day

January 31

National Backward Day

National Big Wig Day - Last Friday in January

National Hot Chocolate Day

National Inspire Your Heart With Art Day

Note: * = Proclamation

Extra-Curricular Update

by Corinna

The CIS Dance Team is made up of fifteen girls from seventh and eighth grade who tried out in April. They have a total of six dances, including the Eighth Grade Dance and the Christmas Dance (which they collaborate with the cheerleaders on). They perform at the eighth grade boys' basketball games. Come out and support the dancers!

I interviewed Bella, an eighth grade dancer.

What is your favorite part of the dance team?

... making up the dances and figuring out what they're going to be.

What is your favorite dance?

My favorite is "Survivor". Everyone else likes "Spirit".

What makes that dance so fun?

I just like the song, the costumes, and the intensity---I like everything about it!

What advice do you have for other dancers?

... don't be embarrassed when you dance. You can mess up the dance but still have fun, and the dance will be ten times better.

What is your favorite costume?

... “Spirit”’s because it’s like competitive dance costumes.

How To...

Recipes

by Erica

Blueberry Muffins

Ingredients

- 2 cups of all-purpose flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of sugar
- 1 tablespoon of baking powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup (1 stick) of butter (melted then cooled a little bit)
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup of plain yogurt
- Zest from one lemon
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of blueberries (frozen or fresh)

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit and line the tin with muffin cup liners (you can use paper ones, silicone ones, or just grease the tin).
2. Whisk the dry ingredients together in a large bowl.
3. Whisk the melted butter and eggs together in a medium bowl.
4. Add the yogurt, zest, and vanilla.
5. Whisk some more.
6. Combine the wet and dry ingredients, and stir until combined.
7. Fold in the blueberries.
8. Divide the batter between the muffin tin sections and sprinkle some sugar on top (if you want).
9. Bake it for twenty minutes.
10. Then, test a muffin by inserting a toothpick. If it comes out clean, the muffins are done.
11. Let the muffins cool slightly before eating.

Recipes

by Addyson

Snowballs

(dairy- & gluten-free)

Ingredients

- 1 cup butter (I used Smart Balance butter)
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose, gluten-free flour
- 1/2 teaspoon xanthan gum (leave it out if your flour already has it)
- 3/4 cup finely chopped nuts (I used peanuts, but pecans work great as well)
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- powdered sugar for rolling

Instructions

1. Preheat your oven to 400°F.
2. Mix the creamed butter, vanilla extract, and powdered sugar together in a large bowl.
3. Add the flour, xanthan gum (if necessary), salt, and finely chopped nuts.
4. Mix until the dough starts to hold together and all the ingredients are combined.
5. Shape the dough into one-inch balls using a tablespoon or cookie scoop.
6. Place each one an inch apart on a parchment-lined cookie sheet.
7. Place in the freezer for five minutes.
8. Bake for about ten to twelve minutes until set but not turning brown. Since all ovens are different, make sure you watch the balls carefully to avoid burning them!
9. Allow the cookies to cool for three to five minutes.
10. Place powdered sugar in a small bowl and roll the cookies in it while they are still warm.
11. Allow the cookies to cool again.
12. Then, roll them in powdered sugar for a second time.
13. Enjoy!

Tip: Store these in an air-tight container! I kept mine in the fridge, but it isn't necessary.

Crafty Corner

by Lillian

Bullet Journaling

Supplies:

- a bullet journal
- colorful pens
- other decorative supplies

How To Make a Calendar:

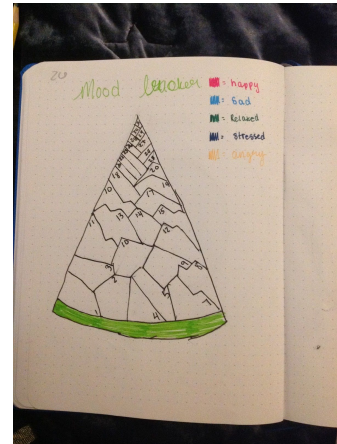
1. Label the days of the week. Underline them.
2. Label the dates below them.
3. Add a decorative trim around the calendar.
4. Write the name of the month in cursive.
5. Finalize with decorations (like snowflakes, for example).

How To Make a Book List:

1. Create a flag and title it "Books to Read".
2. Draw three lines (for bookshelves) and create a rectangle.
3. Draw books, plants, and objects of different sizes.
4. On the spines of the books, write the titles of the ones you want to read.

How To Make a Mood Tracker:

1. Draw a pineapple (or any shape).
2. Divide it up according to the days of that month.
3. Label each section a number depending on that day.
4. Create a key with a different color for each "mood".
5. Create a header at the top and write the month at the bottom.



Student Suggestions:

Movie Mowdown

by Nick

Title: *Ford v Ferrari*

Release Year: 2019

Reviews: 92% Fresh on Rotten Tomatoes

Age Rating: PG-13

Duration: 2h 32min

I love a good car movie, and this one is the best. It wasn't like *Fast & Furious*, but it's still super good. It tells the story of two companies, Ford and Shelby, teaming together to build a car that would break Ferrari's five-win streak of the 24-Hours of Le Mans. They struggle indefinitely and fail many times, and the suspense of that kept me on my toes throughout the entire film. The end of the movie is very satisfying, especially for a car fanatic like me.



Book Review

by Annabelle

Title: *The Borden Murders*

Author: Sarah Miller

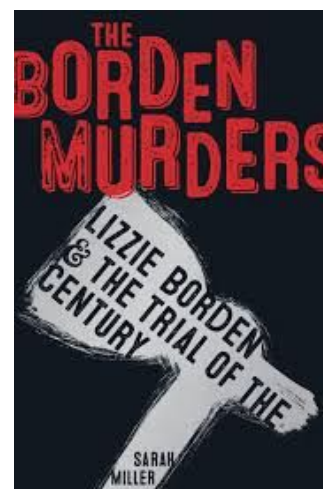
Reading Level: 7.8

Audience: middle grade

AR Points: 12

Summary:

On August 4, 1892, Lizzie Borden finds her father lying in the sitting room... with his face hacked



to pieces. She cries out for help, and the town police, doctor, and her friends arrive. Not long after, Mrs. Borden is found dead, her head also hacked to bits by an axe. As the police slowly try to piece together what happened and who committed the bloody murder, one true suspect emerges... Lizzie Borden herself. Did Miss Borden do it, or is she innocent? Forge your own opinion, and read on to find the truth behind what has been dubbed "The Trial of the Century"!

Review:

This book is an incredible crime novel that'll have you guessing up until the very last page! As a girl who loves murder mysteries, I found this to be a very enjoyable book. Although some details were a bit graphic or mature, the Borden Murders was a case I was dying to solve. The book is very well written, with little bits in between the story to help explain some details about the time. This is perfect for reading while you're snowed in this winter!

Student Surveys

Staff Spotlight

by Ethan

This month, my survey found that the majority of the sixth graders I interviewed chose [Mrs. Lawson](#) for the Staff Spotlight. She is the most popular because she makes her lessons fun and exciting for everyone, and the games she comes up with are competitive. She's also very willing to help with homework and questions, especially since her class can be challenging.

Poll

by Lilly

[Go ahead and take our January Poll!](#)

Click on the following link to fill out the New Year's-themed questionnaire:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScZ5qADTFBh24IF8zBugW_IyQ63OKm2qGoCjrh9OzjMkWUicQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Thank you for reading! We hope you enjoyed. :)

The next edition will be published on February 1st, 2020, on the [Central Scoop Website](#) under the “The Paper” section.