



KTN
KOOTENAY TEEN NEWS

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Created by Stanley Humpries
Secondary School, Castlegar BC
Literary Studies 11

A FREE NEWSPAPER FOR TEENS BY TEENS

WINTER WINS



Castlegar beauty. Photo by Dallas Menzies

Article written by Alyssa Jenner and Deegan Whitehead

Sledding and tobogganing are pervasive in the Kootenays. Having the opportunity to embrace the beautiful scenery is something people wish they could experience. However, there are extra precautions when it comes to this. Avalanches are very typical out here, especially in higher places. Therefore, a safer option would be tobogganing on the many hills we have here. One of my favourite places to go tobogganing is my local golf course.

I live just by the golf course, which is convenient for my friends and family. I find joy in both tobogganing and snowmobiling. Although snowmobiling is faster, more “scary,” and has an engine, you still smile while tobogganing. In Castlegar, there is very little to do in the winter, but if you are up to trying something new, you should try snowmobiling. Yes, I understand that snowmobiling can be quite an expensive sport, but it is so much fun. People might argue that statement and say that tobogganing is cheaper and more fun.

Although tobogganing is more affordable, you get fewer than the number of views you get while snowmobiling. When you reach the top and take in the beautiful scenery, ride it through deep snow, while the snow covers your hood, you take in all the lovely scenery. It is one of the best feelings ever. However, going from hard-packed snow to powder is challenging when you’re just starting.

If you have ever driven a quad or a dirt bike, you will enjoy snowmobiling once you get the feel of it. Where I go snowmobiling the most is in Robson, BC. The road is called Haul Road or, as some people call it, Rialto FSR. My dad uses a cabin that can sleep six people.

Here are a few locations I like to visit in Castlegar. The Castlegar Snowmobile Association is where you can see all the places you can enjoy snowmobiling. Still, you can buy a

membership on some trails because the trails are groomed. Snowmobiling and tobogganing are very different sports; one requires a motor, the other a hill climb. Tobogganing is not even close to being as expensive as snowmobiling, and it is much simpler to convince people to go because almost everyone has a toboggan lying around. I prefer snowmo-

biling much more because you can reach those high elevations when snowmobiling.

Also, tobogganing allows you to message your friends, whereas snowmobiling requires advance planning. Snowmobiling is more complex, but it is much more fun once everything is set up.



Sled trails. Photo by Ryan Niminiken

HIGH SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

Students from Literary Studies 11, Stanley Humphries Secondary School, Castlegar, share holiday traditions



Students showcasing their dance skills to YMCA.

SHSS's Annual Winter Formal Dance written and photographed by Anastasia Salekin, Grade 11

"Winter formal was a success!" - SHSS student

Stanley Humphries Winter formal was an anticipated hit. The dance set new expectations for upcoming school events. It officially is taking students out of 2022 with a bang and is taking us into 2023 with new ideas and inspirations for the upcoming year and the following semester.

It is obvious that teens missed out on important activities and events that shape one's youth. This dance showed that we are capable of bringing back that spark of school spirit and excitement.

Not only was this a way for the school to connect, but we also raised money for two great causes. The senior boys and girls rugby teams raised money for their upcoming tournaments, and the Student Council raised money for the upcoming "Coldest Night of the Year" event in February 2023.

I am so proud of the Student Council for this event. I'm looking forward to more fun in 2023!



Jamaican Holidays by Mariah Thompson, Grade 11

On Christmas Eve, there is an annual event called Grand Market in towns and communities. Grand Market runs from Christmas Eve to Christmas morning. Shoppers buy last-minute gifts and meet up with friends and family.

On Christmas Day, we don't usually give or receive gifts, nor do we have a Christmas tree. The most we did for decorations was get new sheets and curtains and put up pepper lights. Christmas dinner is usually when everyone gathers to celebrate with family and friends.

On Christmas morning, we have our national dish ackee and saltish with dumplings and boiled bananas. When it's time for dinner,

SHSS's Annual Christmas Breakfast by Alyssa Jenner, Grade 11

Breakfast here at SHSS is a highlight of our Christmas traditions. It brings the school together and is a fun activity for the teachers and staff to fill our tummies. The Christmas breakfast has been running here at SHSS for nine years. Without our staff, this breakfast wouldn't be possible. The staff works the day before to prepare the food, to be ready to be cooked the morning of.

Not only do the teachers prepare fantastic food for us, but they also decorate our activity room. Doing this makes it feel like you aren't even at school. The food gets served in the cafeteria, and then we transfer to the activity room with most of our school.

Music is on, lights are shining, hot chocolate is served, and most of all, we all have bright smiles

on our faces. It also lands on our annual 'Pajama Day' tradition to make things feel even more fun. Therefore, it makes us students feel like our school is home. As well, blocks are shortened. We do this to spend quality time together rather than rushing to our classes.

Not only do our staff and students participate in this, but we also invite people from our school board office. Doing this gives them a better look at how great our school spirit is and brings them closer to all of us. This breakfast gets funded by PAC, which we are very grateful and fortunate to have. In conclusion, our SHSS school breakfast is something that I will remember for a very long time and many would agree. Thank you to our exceptionally loving and caring staff at SHSS!



Students preparing the annual Christmas breakfast.

Spirit Week at SHSS by Adam Menzies, Grade 11

Spirit Week at SHSS is usually an eventful week. Our Student Council comes up with a different theme for every day of the last week of school before winter break with an assembly on the last day with games and prizes. Monday, the first day of Spirit Week this year, is 'Anything but a Backpack Day'. I'm excited to see what kinds of things are used as backpacks this year.

Day two of Spirit Week is 'Dress as a Colour Day' which has never been done at SHSS since I've been here. Students get to pick a colour and dress up in only that colour. They can match with friends or do it solo. Tuesday also consists of judging the door decorating competition. SH students decorate class doors the week before Spirit Week.

Wednesday is the traditional 'Tacky Holiday Sweater Day' where kids will wear ugly Christmas sweaters. Students can post a picture in their

ugly Christmas sweaters onto their Instagram stories and tag SHSS for a shout-out.

Thursday the last day of spirit week is 'Pajama Day' where students can just wear pajamas and there is breakfast served before school for students who want it. Typically at SHSS, we would have an assembly on the last day but not this year. The assembly consists of team games. One game is where each group has two big skis and there are four people as a team. You have to work together to race the other groups lifting one ski at a time and making it across the gym floor.

Along with the skiing competition, SHSS also has a pie-eating competition in which students have their hands tied behind their backs and race to see who can eat the pie the fastest. These annual events always make students feel at home and get everyone involved and excited for the holidays.

drums and instruments, and performers engage with audiences, particularly kids.

On New Year's Eve, we have an annual event at Waterfronts in Kingston. People come from near and far. It's where we go to watch fireworks when the clock strikes 12. People also go to church that night for praise and worship thanking God for another year. They always make a comment saying, "Mi want New Years' come ketch mi inna church" which translates to, "I want the new year to come when I am in church".

On New Year's or the day after is when we go out to enjoy ourselves. Either at a party or a family get-together. Jamaican culture is colourful and fun. It is something everyone should see or be a part of to truly experience the beauty of our events. Now living in Canada, we are sure to enjoy some other traditions.

EASY GLAZED HAM

Recipe by Donovan Johnson

If you're anything like me, then the best part about the holidays is the family and the food. You get to visit and catch up with loved ones you haven't seen in a while, and you get to take part in all the delicious food people bring. However, my favourite dish overall is the glazed ham my family makes every year that is so delicious. So that is why I'm going to share the family-favorite recipe that everyone loves. This glazed ham recipe is easy to make and the ingredients are easy to get at your local grocery store. These are all of the ingredients you need to make this delicious ham:

INGREDIENTS:

- 8 lb bone-in spiral-cut ham
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup apple cider
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- pinch of nutmeg
- cooking spray
- cranberries and herbs for garnish (optional)

DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F and spray a baking sheet with the cooking spray. Add the butter, brown sugar, honey, apple cider, cinnamon, and nutmeg to a pot over medium heat.

Bring the pot to a simmer and then cook it for 5-7 minutes or until the glaze is syrupy. Place the ham on the pan and pour half of the glaze to it because you will need the other half of the glaze later. Place tin foil over the pork.

Place the ham in the oven. Then cook the ham for 2 1/2 hours. After the 2 1/2 hours are done, take the ham out of the oven and add the remaining glaze over the ham and increase the oven to 400 degrees F. Put the ham in the oven uncovered for 15-20 minutes or until the glaze is caramelized and brown.

Transfer the ham to a serving platter and garnish with fresh herbs and cranberries. Spoon pan drippings over the ham. Slice the ham, then serve.



HOLIDAY DRINKS

Recipes by Sophie and Savannah

CRANBERRY FIZZ MOCKTAIL

Recipe from thistlewoodfarms.com

- 3 ounces of sparkling cider or ginger ale
- 3 ounces of cranapple juice
- Splash of lemon or lime juice
- 3 tablespoons of sugar and 1/2 of cinnamon completely blended

DIRECTIONS

Rub a lemon or lime around the rim of your glass and then dip into the sugar and cinnamon mix. Fill your glass with ice. Add the cranapple juice. Add a splash of fresh lemon or lime juice. Top off with sparkling cider or ginger ale.

GRINCH PUNCH

Recipe from Simplisticallyliving.com

- 2 13 ounce packets unsweetened lemon-lime kool-aid
- Sugar
- Pineapple juice
- Frozen lemonade concentrate (thawed)
- Sprite
- Red sanding sugar

DIRECTIONS

Pour 8 cups of water into a gallon pitcher. Add kool-aid mix and sugar into the pitcher. Stir until dissolved. Add pineapple juice and lemonade. Stir well. Rim your glass using water and red sanding sugar. Add sprite and ice to your glass before serving.

LEMON LAVENDER MOCKTAIL

Recipe from The Merrythought

- 1/4 cup of fresh lemon juice
- 1 1/2 tbsp. Lavender simple syrup
- 1/4 tsp. Grenadine
- 3 dashes bitters
- club soda

DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients listed above in a glass with ice. Shake or stir until thoroughly chilled. Strain into desired cocktail glass. Top with club soda.

OPTIONAL

Garnish with fresh lavender sprig. Add a tiny bit of purple food coloring to the end of a toothpick and stir to get desired color.

WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS BOUNTY (...THAT NO ONE SHOULD EAT...EVER..)

Satirical recipes written by Lincoln Kurenoff and Brendan Olinger

“Christmas Dinner Pudding”

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Cup Cranberry Sauce
- 2 Cans Canned Turkey
- 1 Can of Canned Corn Beef
- 2 Cans Canned Corn
- 3 Cans Mashed Potatoes
- Half a box of Boxed Stuffing
- 1 Can of Canned Yams
- 1 can of Canned Brussel Sprouts
- 2 Cans of Canned Gravy

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large mixing bowl, mix all of the ingredients above together in a large bowl and mix it together with an equally large wooden spoon until well mixed. Serve immediately.

“Four Course Smoothie”

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Kg of Turkey
- 1 cup Cranberry Sauce
- 2 Cans of Canned Mashed Potatoes
- 4 Medium sized Brussels Sprouts
- 3 cups Gravy
- 1 Box of Boxed Stuffing

DIRECTIONS:

1. Fry 1 Medium size turkey and cut it in half

2. Blend together wet ingredients (Cranberry Sauce, Gravy)
3. Blend all ingredients together including Wet Ingredients
4. Chill for 1 Hour before serving

“Tomato Soup Cake”

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 Cans Campbell's canned tomato soup
- 1 cup Butter
- 4 eggs
- 50ml baking soda
- 25ml Cinnamon
- 5 cups Sugar
- 50ml Cloves
- 50ml Salt
- 2 cups Self Rising flour
- 350ml Raisins

DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix flour, eggs, butter, salt, sugar, baking soda and mix it all together until it's blended well.
2. Add tomato soup, cinnamon and raisins. Mix that very well and add it to the cake mix.
3. Bake in the oven at 275*f for 3 hours
4. Once done take it out and let it cool for 45 minutes before serving.

FAMILY TRADITIONS

By Megan Nephin

Mom's Interview:

During Christmas time on December 23rd, my mom used to always have her friends over and my grandma would cook a big dinner for all of them. After dinner, my mom would do Christmas baking with my grandma and grandpa and then finish the night by watching a movie with them. On Christmas day, my mom wasn't allowed to have friends over, and she also wasn't allowed to go to friends' houses because it was a day of celebrating. On the evening of December 25th, they would have their actual dinner with family. Any time before that day though, my mom would go tobogganing, have bonfires, and do many other fun activities.

Grandma's Interview:

My grandma is from Portugal so they didn't have snow. However, because my grandma is very Catholic, she spent her Christmas with her family at church. On the 24th of December at midnight, they would go to midnight mass and give thanks to God. After that, they would go home and go to sleep. In the morning when they woke up, they would go to church again. She wasn't allowed to open her presents until she gave thanks to Jesus. When she got home, she would open her presents and then start helping her mom cook dinner. They had two dinners: one would be on the 24th and the other would be on the 25th. The first dinner was just for her household family. The second one would be extended family. As her Grandma would often be heard saying, “We had two dinners because my mom said it was a way to show appreciation to our creator.”

LIVING IN THE RURAL AREA OF DEER CREEK

by Nolan Marino

To Prepare:

To live in such a beautiful, open, and secluded place as Deer Creek may come as a surprise to some. There is a lot that most people would need to prepare for and get used to before living in such a place. One of the most significant differences is the fair distance from any town: the closest being Castlegar which is about 35 km away. Another difference that a strong majority of people may find difficult to get used to is the lack of heating or cooling equipment. Homes in Deer Creek can become extremely hot in the summers and unbelievably cold in the winters. The only form of heating in my experience being out in Deer Creek has been as many blankets as I could get and a wood-burning stove downstairs for heat in winter and in summer, all windows were open and no blankets.

Activities & Favourite Places:

There are many activities to be done in Deer Creek. Although, it may take some looking for and some creativity, there is more than enough to keep anyone entertained for weeks. Some of my absolute favourites are as follows: swimming in the lake (when warm enough), going for quad rides up the long trails such as "Rusty" or "Cougar Ridge", going for a hike at Tulip Falls, or sliding down the natural waterslide along the main road. Having family in Deer Creek allows me to visit quite regularly, even from a very young age. During my stay, I visited many areas of Deer Creek. One of my favourite trails is Cougar Ridge for great trips on quads, dirtbikes, side-by-sides, or even hikes. Another one of my favourites that is very well known by anyone who has been here is Anderson Point boat launch. It is a great area for boating and fishing from a boat or the shore

and the swimming is great. These are only a few of the best places to go.

Why should you go out to a rural area?

There are many positives to going out into a rural area, especially one as far away and as forested as Deer Creek. In a place like Deer Creek, nearly anyone calm or extremely stressed will be able to clear their mind without issue and in a fairly short time. Deer Creek can also prove to be very fun and a great place to bring some friends or family for a night or even a few days on a compound or a family-owned property. There are of course some cons to being out in a place such as Deer Creek. From my experience, the biggest downside is that to enjoy an environment like this, you must already be or get used to the environment. Another thing to get used to and prepared for when going is the drastic temperature changes. No matter the season, it will more than likely be near unbearably cold outside.

FUN NIGHTS WITH FRIENDS

by Danica Gritchlin

Evenings out are usually enjoyable. With the sub-freezing temperatures, the icy roads, and the awful drivers, it might be a little difficult to venture outside in the winter. However, to have fun, you don't always need to go out. With that, here are some fun things you can do with your friends without needing to go any further than your backyard. Personally, I enjoy being outside in the winter. So, having a campfire with my friends is one of my favourite things to do. This allows me to enjoy the crisp winter night breeze without having to leave the comfort of my backyard. You and your friends could make hot chocolate and sit around a warm fire. If somebody has a speaker, you could play music and sing until your throat becomes sore.

A terrific option for you and your friends - if you'd prefer to spend the winter indoors and cozy - would be to host a movie night. Each one of your friends could bring a snack that includes things like popcorn, chips, gummies, and chocolate. Everyone can have things like a drink of choice or everyone could have a warm cup of hot chocolate. This concept is quite adaptable and you can customize it to how you would like it. Another option you could do is get together with your friends and bake things like cookies, muffins, and donuts or anything or anything else you'd like. Whatever you bake could also be a bonus as your snacks for the movie night.

If you are an outdoors person, there are many types of winter activities you can take part in. Going to a ski hill with your friends or just a random hill you find to go sledding. If you would rather be outside during the winter, find an outdoor or indoor rink nearby. Skating is another option to pass the time and have fun. If you were to go skating on a small lake or pond, you can also add ice fishing to your activity list! The best option is for you and your friends to find something to do that neither of you has done before and try something new. Try something new and pass it on to your other friends and just keep doing that until you find the perfect activity you and your friends love.

A way to show compassion and have some fun with your friends is to play a popular holiday game, Secret Santa. Exchanging gifts is a perfect way of getting into the Christmas spirit. You could also have fun with your family with Secret Santa rather than just your friends. What my friends and I do is we all go to one friend's house and we hang out, decorate cookies, and have movie nights. During that time we also like to do our gift exchange and try to guess who we got our gift from. Secret Santa is a fun way to get together with your friends and family as it is also a good way to bring people together. Adding in a scavenger hunt to your Secret Santa can add a creative bonus to that fun.



What Was Your Favourite Christmas Present?

By Marlo DeRosa

Christmas is a time that creates life-long memories between friends and family. So I decided to ask my friends and family about the favourite present that they'd ever gotten.

When Sophie Drew was 13 years old, she got an iPad with a pen and digital drawing programs. Since then, she has created many works of art and has begun designing tattoos using her iPad.

Savannah Callahan found her own hoverboard under the tree when she was 13. Ever since then, she has had the comfort of using as little movement as possible when she vacuums her house.

My dad, David DeRosa, got a B-52 Bomber Plane model at the White Elephant toy store in Spokane when he was young. He remembers begging his parents to buy the model when he saw it on the shelf.

When Jack Jones found a hockey stick under his tree one year, he began a promising career as an amateur defenceman in hockey.

My mother, Leanne Osokin recalls waking up one Christmas morning to matching leather jackets under the tree for her sister Michelle and her. It was the first year that my grandpa was in charge of getting them gifts instead of my granny. My mom's jacket was jet black, cropped with big padded shoulders, as was popular in the 80's.



WHO WORE IT BETTER?

Sophie Drew or Marlo DeRosa?

In today's "Who Wore it Better?", we cover the trending fashion of celebrities and what they wear. However, on today's installment of "Who Wore It Better?", we decided we would do this with the students of SHSS and do our take on the common question used in fashion magazines. We are taking two of our students from our Literary Studies 11 class; both students have to wear the same vintage 1998 Eddie Bauer silver ski jacket (courtesy of Ms. Hughes). We then photoshopped the two photos to look like they were up on the ski hill. Our intention was to recreate the famous trend and have a laugh.

HISTORY OF NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

By Savannah Callahan & Sophie Drew

In Canada, New Year's Eve and New Year's day are widely celebrated, and New Year's resolutions are something that most people try and commit to throughout the new year. New Year's resolutions range from eating healthier, living a more active lifestyle, all the way to knocking a few items off the bucket list. It seems as if very few people really know the origin of New Year's and New Year's resolutions. How is something that is so widely celebrated, has so many people who are unaware of how it all started? New Year's was established many, many years ago, so it must be pretty important if we still honour it today.

The origin of New Years is dated all the way back to 2000 B.C. in Mesopotamia. The origin of New Years stems from many cultures but January first as the new year was celebrated by the Romans when "Julius Caesar developed a solar-based Julian calendar." January first as the new year is what most people celebrate now in our area. January first is also to honour Janus the Roman God. It's amazing that the day we choose to celebrate was actually a day from the Romans over two thousand years ago. Further, New Year's resolutions have been around for about 4,000 years and originated from the Babylonians and their traditional festival called Akitu.

Akitu was a 12-day celebration where the Babylonians would plant crops, pledge allegiance to the reigning king, or elect a new one. They would promise to the gods that they would pay their debts and return borrowed items. They believed if they kept these promises, the gods would favour them throughout the year and if they broke their word, the gods would look down upon them. The ancient Romans believed something similar as well. When Julius Caesar introduced the new calendar, he declared January 1st as the start of a new year and dedicated this day to the Roman god, Janus.

Janus was a two-faced god who was said to look back on the past year as well as forward into the new year. The Romans would offer sacrifices to Janus and promise to be good in the new year, similar to the Babylonians. Despite New Year's resolutions being around for 4,000 years and being regularly practiced since the 1700s, most resolutions don't even last a week and only 8% of people actually succeed in completing their goals.

New Year's traditions range far and wide and some highlights of such can include eating food for good luck, eating twelve grapes at midnight, spe-

cial cakes, eating pork, eating legumes, eating noodles, wearing a specific colour of underwear, having a new year's kiss, making new year's resolutions, and so many more. It's fascinating to see the differences in the way other cultures celebrate the new year. Some of these traditions are really quite interesting and allow for fun experiences.

New Year's traditions are always a fun way to spice up the holiday, and they can easily be adopted by future generations. In a lot of cultures, food contributes hugely to New Year's celebrations. For example, long noodles are eaten in some Chinese cultures to symbolize long life, and some Spanish traditions will have you eating 12 grapes at midnight to symbolize the 12 months of the year. In Greece, Mexico, and the Netherlands, it's traditional to eat a round cake.

The circle-shaped cake represents the circle of life. Some cakes have coins in them and if you get the piece with the coin, it is said that you will have luck throughout the new year. Pork and legumes represent prosperity and progress in many cultures, and it's traditional to eat them on New Year's day. New year traditions have been around for many years and will continue to be passed down from generation to generation to connect and bond families and cultures.

Knowing more about the history and background of New Years allows us to further enjoy this holiday and know the impact it has had. Looking at the origin, traditions, and history behind resolutions gives us a more meaningful and deeper understanding of what exactly it is that people celebrate. The amount of history that is so easily brushed aside is insane and it really is quite an interesting subject. Having that knowledge allows us to carry on appreciating the holiday and what it symbolizes.

LINKS:

History of new years and christmas (how new year's resolutions started)

<https://resolutiondenver.com/history-of-new-years-eve/>

<https://www.trafalgar.com/real-word/history-new-years-resolutions/>

<https://www.history.com/news/the-history-of-new-years-resolutions>

TOP 10 WINTER CRAFTS

By Paige and Kira

With the cold weather and a caring spirit, what better way to spend time with friends and family than to engage in some fun crafts? These are our top 10 winter craft choices for this year:



Christmas Crackers

Crackers are a classic craft that many of you may remember from your younger years or your parents might remember from theirs. However, if this fun classic is new to you, the Cambridge dictionary defines it as “a tube of brightly coloured paper, usually given at Christmas parties, that makes a noise when pulled apart by two people and contains small presents”. These are easy to make with strong cardstock or thin cardboard and it can be filled with any small item of your choice. Many of the crafts below can give you an idea of how to fill it.



Homemade Ornaments

One that's fun for all ages is homemade ornaments. A simple way of doing this is where you take a plain ornament (you can find these at a dollar store) and some paint then paint the ornaments whatever design you'd like. It can be a snowflake or a Christmas tree or whatever you'd like on your ornament. This is a great craft to do with your family.

Baked Pine Needle Tree Ornaments

The ornaments tie into our next craft: baked pine needle trees. If you are looking for something a little more challenging than the previous craft then this is for you. All you need is clay and pine needles. Your first step is to take the clay and mold it into a tree. After you have molded the clay, put it in the oven so it can harden. Then after it hardens, you want to take the pine needles and some glue. Use the glue to put the pine needles on the clay. After it is dry, it is ready to put on your Christmas tree. This is also a craft you can get creative with. You can use whatever colour of clay you want. This is a great craft for the holidays.



Pine Needle Keepsake Ornament



Candy Canes

Candy canes are a classic Christmas decoration. So with that in mind, here is an easy way to make candy canes to decorate your home during the holidays. To do this take some pipe cleaners to make sure it holds the candy cane shape and glue the beads onto the pipe cleaners. To make sure it looks like a candy cane, be sure to use red and white beads for that candy cane effect. If you want to get a little creative, then you can try other colours. This is a perfect activity for younger children



Paper Snowflakes

Paper snowflakes are a classic winter activity to do with your friends and family. Take a white piece of paper and a pencil. First thing that you need to do is take your pencil and paper and draw out your snowflake. After that take some scissors and cut out your snowflake. Depending on what design you want your snowflake to be, cut holes in the snowflake. You just cut out the holes to get the desired effect. The holes can be whatever type you want. Be as creative as you want and create your own type of snowflake.

Origami Puffy Stars

Origami stars are a classic origami craft. All you need is paper. Your first step to make these is to take a strip of paper and make a tie at the end. Then you keep folding the rest of the strip of paper on a star. Then you take the extra piece at the end and fold it into the tie that looks like a star. You want to make sure at the end that you push some of the sides of your star near the middle so it creates the real star effect. This craft is great for when you need more decorations around the house. It is a great craft to do with your friends during the holidays. You can choose whatever colour paper you want. You can be as creative as you like, plus you can make as many as you wish.



DIY Wreath

Wreaths are a fun way of using leftover ornaments. All you need is a wire hanger and your choice of ornaments. What's so great about this is that the craft progresses so fast that with only a couple of minutes you can already picture how it's going to look at the end. Your first step is to take the wire hanger and make it into a wreath shape. Once that is done, then you can start putting your ornaments on it. When you start attaching the ornaments, you want to carefully use a hot glue gun and glue the ornaments on the wire hanger. You can be as creative as you want with this craft. Choose different ornaments and do whatever you would like. This craft is great for the holiday season. When you are done, you can even put it on your door and make it look all festive for the holidays.

Themed Phone Chains

Phone chains were really popular for a long time. The things you will need for this craft are fishing line (or string) and beads. The first thing you want to do is take your fishing line or string and cut a long piece of it. After that, you would want to fold it in half. Your next step is to add on the beads. After you have all the beads on you want to take both the ends and put a bead on the ends of the two. Tie it together and make sure it does not fall apart. After all of that is done, you take the end of it and loop it in your phone case. Don't worry, your phone will still fit. If you want your chain to look like winter and the holiday season, you can use holiday colours for the beads. This craft is perfect for when you want to look very festive for the holidays. You can also make some as gifts for your friends and family.



Paper Garland

A garland is a classic Christmas tree decoration. If you don't want to go out and buy garland for your tree, you can make it at home. The things you will need are scissors, tape or glue, and paper. The first thing you want to do is take your papers and cut them into strips. Then taking one of the strips tape/glue it end to end in a loop. Next take another strip and run it through the loop you just made and glue it end to end. It should look like the beginning of a chain. Then repeat until it can wrap around your tree. You can be really creative with this, you can use different coloured paper and hang it wherever you want. This is an amazing craft to do with your siblings over the holidays. It really makes your tree look nice when there is something homemade on it.

