December’s Assembly
By: Taylor Quinn

On the sixth of December we had our assembly, and we got to learn about a special group who might be able to help you with your problems. The Hawthorn student body got to watch cheer perform, listen to choir sing the national anthem, have our IB awards, our IB skits, and we got to hear about our food and toy drive.

To kick off the assembly the choir sang the national anthem, and we also said the pledge together. Everyone was asked to stand for the national anthem, and then the choir began to sing. The choir harmonized with many different pitches. After they finished, everyone sat down, but then were immediately asked to stand back up so we could say the pledge.

During the assembly we got to learn about a new group in Hawthorn called Peer Mediation. When I asked Koryn Braun, a group member about what their goal was, she had this to say, “Our goal is to help students with their problems!” She also told me about some about the sign up sheets you can find outside of Mr. Giles’s and Ms. Kunz’s office. Out of the folders you get a form, fill it out, and then you put it back into the folder. Then you will be called in at any time they can get you in, and they will help you solve your problems. You can also suggest other people you know that you think could benefit from a talk with the Peer Mediators, and they will talk with them to see if they want or need to help them. She also told me that whatever is said in these meetings will stay in the meetings. It is also important to note that they aren’t psychiatrists, and some problems are too big for them to solve. If this happens, they’ll refer you to some better help.

After Peer Mediation presented, cheer ran onto the stage while students in the audience clapped and cheered. They stood in position for a good minute waiting for the music to start. As soon as it started, they went into action, with fist pumps, clapping, and other peppy cheer moves. When they finished, just like when they came, they ran off stage, leaving everyone clapping.

As per usual, we had our regular IB awards, and IB skit. In sixth, seventh, and eighth grade three students were nominated, while in ninth grade four students were nominated, good job ninth grade! For this month’s IB skit, the IB traits are communicator and thinker. To show these two, they showed what it looks like to not show these traits, and then what it looks like to show these traits. To show what you aren’t supposed to do, one of the peer leaders suggested to the other that he should change some things in his paper to make it better. The other peer leader denied him, and said his idea was stupid. To fix this behavior, they showed what he should have done, which was to say that he would and to say thank you.

To finish off the assembly, some of our peer leaders informed us about the food and toy drive. They told us that we haven’t reached our goal for the food and toy drive yet. They also said that if we don’t reach our goal, this will be the first year that we haven’t, so be sure to donate some food and toys by putting them in the bins at the front lobby!
a season for service: it students serve their community

1st Grade Service Project
By Tyson Zeman

The first grade service project was done in the Hawthorn halls, on December 17th. The first graders helped the 2nd, 5th, 3rd and 4th grade students. The 1st graders were very excited to go do their service project and help others by improving the day for students and teachers.

The 1st graders went into the classroom and instantly started cleaning the 2nd graders’ desks; then they put candy canes on their desks. Ms. Klenk checked everyone’s desk to see if everyone did it well, and they did a great job. The 2nd graders were very surprised and happy about the treat and clean desk before the fantastic break.

Then the 1st graders went to 5th grade and did the same thing with smiles on their faces. They moved from class to class and did it again, and every class enjoyed it. The clean desks and candy cheered them up for Christmas and winter break.

2nd Grade Service Project
By: Keaton Jensen
12/19/19

On December 19 of 2019, the Hawthorn Academy 2nd graders did a service project. The service project included making bags and bookmarks for another school.

Mrs. Alsup had set up three different tables for stations. The first table was where you would make a bag to put a bookmark, a beanie, gloves, a coloring book and some candy. The second graders used markers and pencils to design the bag.

At the second table, the kids designed a bookmark. The bookmark was the outline of a snowman. The second graders drew hats and faces on the snowman. Keaton A, said, “This is really fun to make bookmarks.” The kids colored the snowman with crayons. The second graders would then fold the bookmarks in half so that there was half of the snowman one side and half on the other.

The third table was for snacks. The second graders ate granola bars and fruit snacks. They also drank Capri Suns, while talking to one another. You could tell that this was the second graders’ favorite station out of the three.

After the students had rotated through all three tables, they put the bookmark they made, a beanie, gloves, a coloring book and a big handful of candy into the bag that they made. At the end of the line there were boxes so they could sort out the bags meant for the boys and those meant for girls.

Third Grade Service by Angelica Hardy

On the last day of school before the break, third grade did a service activity to help bring joy to their kindergarten buddies.

When I walked into the classroom, I instantly felt the warm vibrations of happiness and joy bouncing of the young children laughing and reading books. The third graders were making friendship bracelets, and reading books to each other. I could see the joy on their faces as they laughed at the silly books they read. Even Mrs. Blair read a goofy book to the students and brought a smile to each of their faces.

The kindergarteners walked into the classroom to see what their buddies had made for them. They chatted excitedly about the bracelets for a little, but soon they got off topic and started to laugh at each others’ jokes. The teachers tried to quiet them down, but they were so loud they couldn’t do much about it.

Eventually they got quieter and the teacher could announce that they were going to buddy read. They rapidly walked around trying to find an interesting book to read to with their buddy. Once they found a book they read to each other, laughing at the silly books that they had chosen.

The third grade made some new friends and enjoyed their time with them. This memory is sure to remain with them for a long time.
**Sixth grade service project**

By Justin Olschewski

On the 20th of December, the sixth graders performed a service project by tying blankets while watching different movies in different classrooms. Some were watching *The Grinch,* some watched *Polar Express,* and others were watching *The Santa Clause.* The classrooms were not very quiet because kids were talking during the movie, but they were going at their own paces not rushing nor racing, but still getting it done. Some kids finished and even went back for more blankets. Some were helping others finish theirs. The teachers at the service project arranged it all. Students cut the blankets with the supervision of the teachers, then, after they tied them, they folded them. At the end of the service project it will go to Primary Children's Hospital.

Mr Cutler said, “The service project is a great time for all to give to others and enjoy each other's company.”

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**Flash Mob Dance**

By Bridger Mason

12/13/19

On Friday Dec 13th, the first grade and their friends, the Hawthorn peer leaders, surprised Mr. Giles with a fun little dance they put together.

Miss Svendsen, the first grade teacher who put it together, talked with the peer leaders and together they came up with a dance. They practiced for 6 weeks each Friday, for 30 minutes. On the week of the dance they practiced 4 days for 30 minutes, so they were perfect. They all remembered the dance, even after the Thanksgiving break.

On the day of the dance, the first graders were ready. They practiced one more time to get it perfect, and then they went to lunch. When the Mr. Giles walked in, the Hawthorn peer leaders got up and Avery January yelled, “Mr. Giles it is the best day of my life!” Then the first graders ran to their positions, ready to dance to the song, “Best Day of Our Lives.” When they started their dance, Mr. Giles was thrilled that they did the whole dance just for him. Elsa, a first grader told me “It felt good to do the dance for Mr. Giles, and I felt nervous to get up and do the dance.” When I talked to Mr. Giles, he told me, “I was so surprised, I had no idea it was coming.” He thought that the first graders did a good job and was proud of them. After the fun was over, the first graders had their lunch and went to recess. When asked, Miss Svendsen said, “We did the dance to welcome the new principal. We also did it so the students could show their I.B. unit, ‘How We Express Ourselves.’ This dance gave them the chance to.” She felt that the students were prepared for the dance because of all the practice.

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**4th Grade Service Project**

By Cristina B.

On December 20th, 2019, at Hawthorn Academy West Jordan, the fourth grade classes decided that at this time of year they would like to do a service project for an organization called “BACA” (Bikers Against Child Abuse). The fourth graders made blankets for kids who aren’t being treated well in their homes.

All the kids in the fourth grade were given a task, to try and bring at least three, one yard pieces of fleece for the service project, by the end of the week. By the 20th, the students brought a lot of different kinds of fleece. They had solids in all the colors of the rainbow and fleece patterned with different Disney characters to use for their blankets.

When the big day arrived, the kids took the fleece, and turned it into blankets for other kids. The teachers and some volunteers cut little slits all around the edges of the fleece. The kids then learned how to finish making the blankets, by tying up all of the little slits in knots. Some of the kids already knew how to make the blankets, and some still didn’t understand, so their teachers and classmates helped them learn how to make the blankets. While the kids were making the blankets, one of the fourth grade teachers, Mrs. Powell said, “Think about the little kids who will be getting these blankets, and how they will feel.” As the kids were making progress in making the blankets they talked amongst themselves and discussed how happy the kids will be to receive their presents. One of the fourth graders from Mrs. Powell’s class, said, “I like that we’re giving to others” - Avery N.

The fourth graders’ service project to make fleece blankets for kids that might not have a lot of Christmas presents is a great example for all of us about how we can be charitable and caring this holiday season.
The Voice Inside  By: Kaylee Hi-fong  
Date: 12-27-19

At Hawthorn Academy the 5th graders were getting ready to leave the school and walk a mile to Carrington Court on Friday, December 20th. The 5th graders went there to go sing to the elderly residents and make their day even more jolly.

The students left the school and walked towards the cross walk by our school, they turned left on 9800, and walked on a little longer before making it to Carrington Court. The 5th graders waited and sat on the curb for further instructions.

After that, they walked up a series of stairs up to the room where they were to sing. They got into their places, tallest in the back and smallest in the front, making it easy to see all the kids.

The crowd went silent. The piano started to play and the kids started to sing. Using high and low pitches, the students were in perfect harmony. All of the audience was smiling with joy. They were enjoying all of the songs the 5th graders were singing. Someone in the audience actually put on a glowing Rudolf nose and started to sing along with them. During the “Jingle Bells” song, everybody got bells, including all of the audience. They started to shake them causing the sweet sound of jingling bells.

After all of the songs were sung, a woman named Diane stood up and started talking about all of the letters and pictures of Christmas trees the 5th grades had made and sent. She said, “We get so much joy from your letters, we loved them.” After that speech, the teachers announced that the 5th graders wanted to learn more about their audience and so they all went and paired up and started rotating from each person to the next. Both the audience and the speakers were learning about each other.

At the end, all of the students put all of their jackets on and left the building. Outside they got water and drank it on the way back to the school. On the way back, Tazmin said that the best part was, “Getting to know the people.” Once back at Hawthorn, all of the students went back to the regular school day, still thinking about the fun trip they had.

Hawthorn’s Coat and Blanket Drive by Asante Gondwe

At Hawthorn Academy to spread the love we did a coat and blanket drive. This coat and blanket drive was announced on November 12th and we stocked up on coats & blankets for 4 whole weeks!

The whole point of the Coat & Blanket drive is to give coats and blankets to the needy for this Winter. We had different goals each week. On the first week of the Coat & Blanket drive we struggled at the start, we barely reached our goal at the end of the week. After the student body announced different rewards for meeting the goal, we started getting coats & blankets a lot faster. We started reaching our goals within the first 3 days of the week, but on the 3rd week of the Coat & Blanket drive we started slacking again. However, in the end, we reached our goal of 2,000 Coats & Blankets. This was a great event for the school and it felt good giving to the needy of Salt Lake City.
The Ant and the Elephant
By: Haylie Richards

Putting on a play is a long process. I was part of that process as an actress. During her eighth period theatre class, Ms. January put up six options on the white board. Out of all eight, the majority of the class wanted to turn the book, The Ant and the Elephant, into a play. The students helped by adding ideas for characters, and Ms. January adapted the book adding more lines for those characters. Giselle, from the theatre class said, “It was creative and fun to add characters into this play so it was pretty amazing.”

The first week of the play, with Ms. January at the front of the room, we went around to each person in the class and came up with ideas for the small props and worked our way up to the big ones. Once we stated the ideas of each prop, every student wrote on a piece of paper what size role they would like to play. One by one, Ms. January called out which part she was talking about and who she wanted to play based on their request and the person. We ended up with Giselle as the ant, Ezra as the frog, Josh as the mud turtle, Adeline as the bird, Maddi as the giraffe, Hailey L. as the hyena, Lincoln as the lion, Brooke as the lioness, Efran as the rhino, Jayden as the monkey, Nick as the baby elephant and me, Haylie R. as the momma elephant. Now that we all knew our characters, we could dress for the part and find the right costume for the play.

Once we had our costume check, we started preparing the main props for everyone. At first the set was two wall-type things to resemble the side stage curtains and one big wall resembling the backstage wall. Making long strips of green fabric and tying smaller pieces of darker green fabric to make vines took up a whole class period! While half of the class was making vines, the other half was making Adeline’s bird egg out of a balloon and paper mache. After the egg dried, Maddi volunteered to take the egg home and paint it. It came back the next day with a new fresh coat.

Preparation. After weeks of preparation, we had our final dress rehearsal before our big performance in front of the whole fourth grade, Ms. Tyhurst’s dance class, Mr. Coletti’s eighth period gym class, and parents of some of the students from theatre. As a class, we took down every single prop that we had to the gym and set them up to perform.

Nervous. All of us were nervous to perform in front of all of those people for the first time. What if we mess up? Oh no, what if I forget my line? What if I can’t hear my cues to come onstage? All these “what ifs” took over our brains so much that it was hard to think straight. So much noise was coming from our mouths with the “what ifs.” Then it stopped. It just stopped. All of the noise was now silent. Ms. January introduced us to the audience, told them what we would be doing, and then stepped away, waiting for us to begin.

Sierra, Carmen, Alyssa, and Baylee stepped onstage first, beginning the play with Carmen’s first line. Did we mess up, here and there? Yes, but it was a great performance. The audience applauded as Ms. January’s eighth period theatre class bowed after their amazing performance.
The Ant and Elephant
By: Sami Jewkes

The theater students, both theater II and theater II, put together a play for the 4th graders. The main idea of the play was that no matter how small you are, you can still help others; and no matter how big, you can still use help from others.

Ms. January was the director of the Ant and Elephant play. She sat on the side and helped the kids who couldn’t remember their lines, or to take the place of people that were in the play but couldn’t make it.

“It was hard to memorize my lines, but I had a lot of fun.” said Giselle G. She played Ant in the play.

There were many animal roles because the play was an animal themed. There were ants, giraffes, elephants, monkeys, rhinos, hyenas, birds, and lions. It was a really creative play. Haley Richards was the elephant in the play. Her part of the play wasn’t until later. Giselle, aka the ant of the play, got blown away by the wind and was hanging onto a branch so she wouldn’t drown in the river. She tried to get another animal to help, he wouldn’t help, then he got into a predicament and needed help himself, so on and so forth. The elephant and her baby came along and helped the ant and the other animals. Then, when the elephant and her baby fell into a ravine, the ant and all of her ant friends, come and helped the elephants as they had helped her.

The play had a good story line to it and a good lesson. You could learn a lot from this play.

Christmas Concert
Mahathi Manikandan

Christmas is all about family and friends. Our 4th-5th graders invited all of their family and friends to watch them sing in our annual Christmas concert. It was held on December 12th. Students had practiced for hours each week for many weeks to get ready for this performance. Slowly, friends and family filled the gym to see their little ones sing.

Our music teacher, Mrs. Claudia Demke, had selected 7 songs for the 4th grade which include kids favorites: “No School Tomorrow,” a bubbly version of “Sleigh Bells”, “Silent Christmas”, “Suzy the Tiny Snowflake.” They sang loud and proud.

5th grade did a skit done one scene at a time to help introduce each song. A family talked about the meaning of Christmas and how we should share the joy and spirit with everyone. While they did so, unexpected guests came in such as Frosty, Santa, and Rudolph. Our Choir teacher, Mrs Claudia Demke, said that it’s all about the magic of Christmas, and one of our students, Charles Bowen said that singing was “scary, but fun.”

Hawthorn Academy Christmas Concert
By Bridger Mason

On December 19th, the Hawthorn Academy Middle School Percussion started the concert by playing a song called “We 3 Three Kings.” Playing this song was Bauer W. and Spencer G. on the Bells, Tyson G. and Andrew A. on vibraphone, and Jack C. and Bridger M. on Marimba. Jack C. told me, “We were not ready at all, we had no idea what we were doing.” Despite that, you could tell they did well.

Next, the Middle school band played a song called “Ding Dong Merrily On High,” with percussionist Bronson M., Logan S., Micky R., Tannon G., Braxton B. After the normal cheering of the crowd, they played “Christmas Lullaby” with percussionist Austin C., Zayden W., Micky R. Then they played “Farandole” with percussionist Bridger M., Braxton B., Jack C., Zayden W., Austin C.

After all the fun with the Middle School was over the Elementary Percussion and the Foundation band started with a song called, “A Celtic Christmas.” Then they finished with a song called “Christmas Proclamation” with help from the Middle School Percussion, Bronson M., Bridger M., and Micky R. Sarah M. told me, “I was proud of my kids and I feel like they did a great job.”
Kindergarten’s Christmas Concert
By Dominik Carlson

On the 18th of December, from 8:45 to 9:10, Hawthorn’s Kindergarteners sang some songs for parents and teachers. The concert was very good and you could tell that Kindergarten put some work into their amazing concert.

As the children filed into the music room, it was almost impossible not to say “Awww”. They were just so stinking cute! Once all of the kids had sat down, Mrs. Tiffany came up and said that the kids had worked so hard and she was proud of them. After she sat down, the kids sang “Must Be Santa.” Some of the kids even had super cute santa masks that they held up to their face while they sang. After everyone applauded, the teachers handed out handbells to a few of the kids. The kids that had bells stood up and got in a line in front of the audience. When everyone was ready, they rang their bells to the tune of “Jingle Bells.” It actually sounded really good and was smooth, with not a single mistake. After the kids ringing the bells were done, the teachers handed out sleigh bells to all of the kids. Then they sang “Jingle Bells” while ringing the bells to the tune of the song.

After “Jingle Bells” the kids got out some snowman masks and sang “Let’s Build A Snowman.” Then they sang “Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel” and even had a huge paper dreidel that took three kids to hold. Once that was done, the kids performed “I Love Santa Claus.” For the finale, the kids sang “We Wish You A Merry Christmas” and “Félix Navidad.” After all the songs had been sung and the audience applauded, Mrs. Demke stood up and thanked the teachers for all their hard work with the kids. I asked Kindergarten student, Hadley Arnold, if she had been nervous to perform. She responded with a short and simple, “No.” I also asked her mom, Tiffany Arnold, what she thought of the performance. She said, “It was really good. You could tell they were really well rehearsed.” “Congratulations” to the kids who did an amazing job on the performance, and “Thank You” to the teachers who work so hard to teach those kids.

The Middle School Christmas Concert
By: Giselle Guzman

On December 18th, 2019, the middle school orchestra and choir performed their concert along with the elementary orchestra and choir. As the crowd was waiting patiently and quietly, the middle school orchestra started off our concert by playing “Carol of the Bells”.

I played with the orchestra and I would say we did alright. We had practiced the musical piece, “Carol of the Bells” in class for about 45 minutes each class period. As soon as we finished playing the piece, everybody clapped with joy and were proud as they had smiles on their faces. We then proceeded to play our final piece, “Russian Dance” from the Nutcracker. Now on this piece, we played really well as my own dad said, “You guys did really well on the second one. As you guys played, you could tell you worked really hard on that piece.” As the middle school orchestra walked off the stage to have the middle school choir perform, one student from the middle school percussion came on to play along on the piano with the choir as they sang.

The middle school choir started off their performance by singing, “Winter Wonderland.” After singing, they then sang, “White Christmas.” They did really well for these two songs as Ana J, a performer from the middle school choir, said, “I would say we did pretty ok.” After they sang their two songs, they proceeded to sing two more songs called, “Mr. Santa” and “Do You Hear What I Hear,” for their last song. The song was composed of mainly solos and some parts where they all sang. After singing all their songs, the crowd clapped for the last time as they were delighted to hear the choirs angelic voices.

The elementary orchestra actually played before the middle school orchestra; it was great to see the future orchestra class in action. The elementary choir finished off our concert by singing last. When they sang, they looked very nervous but as soon they started singing, they sounded very beautiful. Overall, the elementary kids just as good as the middle school kids.
Middle School Rotations  By: Asante Gondwe

On December 17th, the sixth graders got a taste of 7th grade. This event was teaching the sixth graders about what to expect in 7th grade, including the classes that you can take and those you are required to take.

The first thing that Mrs. Sua’s class did was learn about the classes Mrs. Petty teaches. She had some middle school representatives from middle school that showed the 6th graders how it is to work in the class, and they shared some great experiences that they have had. The next “class” that they went to was dance class. Ms. Tyhurst is the teacher for Dance, and she taught the 6th graders a quick dance to get them in the “groove.”

The next activity that they did after that was archery. Mr. Coletti showed them how to use the bow and arrows. The students have a very good time shooting arrows at targets. This is one of the best activities that the students did because even though some of them didn’t get to shoot the arrows they were still watching closely and cheering on friends as they tried.

After they shot arrows, they went to see Mr. Raymond’s class. He made a fun slideshow for the students in 6th grade that told them everything about 7th grade. One of the things he said was, “In 7th grade there’s water fountains!” the students quickly realized that it was a joke, and that they would see more of his humor when they take his class next year.

After that class, they went to Ms. Rodriguez’s class. To have a good feeling of what taking a music class is like, the students in the music class sang a few songs to the students. After they did that, some of the students got to play different instruments such as the violin and the guitar.

At the end of the rotations, the 6th graders went to go see a play that the theater group has been working on for a long time, the play was very good it was called “The Ant and the Elephant.”

That is what the middle school rotations looked like on December 17th.