

Headlight



Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community

www.mhsheadlight.weebly.com

April 16, 2015

Why We Spring Into Action

Linda Fitzpatrick, Junior Reporter

It's finally that time of year; we can all feel it. The forecast no longer shows snow storm after snow storm, and the weather just makes you want to throw your sweatpants in your closet and go outside. Streets are buzzing with happy faces, as people walk their dogs for the first time in ages, without being bundled up from head to toe. The remnants of our historic winter are almost gone. Spring. Is. Here.

What a relief, right? But, this has all gotten me thinking... Why do we love Spring so much? Is it just because we love seeing flowers blossom and grass grow green again? I don't think so. Although those things are certainly pleasant and help spread the happiness and news of a new season around, they hardly help muster up our newfound energy and urge to be hit by the sun's rays.

I think Spring is Mother Nature's way of telling us to keep going so that we can get to the best season of all, Summer. It's a reminder that students are weeks away from vacations, seemingly endless sleep-in mornings, and no homework. Spring is our reward for lasting the winter — a reward we all deserve more than ever this year. It is also a reminder of the very fact that one can survive through just about anything, no matter how painful, mentally or physically. Doug Larson, an editor for a Wisconsin-based newspaper once said, "Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush." I believe this statement is entirely accurate. Everything in Spring seems just a little easier to handle. People tend to become a bit more optimistic about life.

I feel as though everyone says this, but I am going to repeat it because I think it's important we understand: Spring is a time for new beginnings, and that includes more than just leaves and trees. It includes you. No matter how many times you felt battered and bruised during winter, and no matter how many times you were stressed beyond wit's end due to workload, Spring is a reminder that anything broken can be fixed. That is why we love Spring. We love hope.

We like knowing life can be reborn. That's why we smile when we see those tiny flowers start popping up from the brown grass and enjoy waking up to the sound of birds chirping. It's more than just love for the plants and the insects that come; it's the worldwide desire for a better life. It's a nation of differences coming together to praise the sun for its warmth and wish away the mounds of snow that left our backs aching from hours of seemingly endless shoveling. It is the knowledge and the hope that our own lives will endure some Spring themselves. And if there is one promise that can be made with the onset of Spring, it's this: times will change, and things will get better.

Cinderella: A Movie Review

Maeve Reilly, Sophomore Reporter

On Friday, March 13, Walt Disney Pictures revived a classic and beloved fairy tale with the release of

their enchanting, live action adaptation of *Cinderella*. Written by Chris Weitz and directed by Kenneth Branagh, *Cinderella* tells the traditional tale in both a sweet and stunning way. This film essentially captures all aspects of the 1950's film through its story telling, while adding an element of magnificence through impeccable costumes and scenery.

Narrated by Cinderella's fairy godmother, the film unfolds as if it were being read from a storybook. The heroine herself, depicted by Lily James, overcomes her unfavorable circumstances by remaining true to herself

Easter Around the World

Kathleen Alexandrou and Lilly Tapper, Freshman Reporters

More than two billion people practice Christianity. This means over two billion people across the globe celebrate Easter. Christians believe Jesus died on Good Friday and rose from the dead on Easter Sunday. While Christmas is more popular, Easter is recognized as the most important religious holiday for Christians. As with many holidays and events, Easter traditions vary across the world. There are different ways of saying 'Happy Easter,' as well as traditional foods and games. In this article, we take a quick trip around the globe to share what we learned interviewing people from diverse cultural backgrounds. Our first stop: Scotland.

Our Scottish correspondent, Robin McBurnie, informed us that in Scotland Good Friday and Easter Sunday are national holidays. Scottish children get two weeks off from school around Easter. Chocolate eggs are rolled down a small hill, representing the stone being rolled away from Jesus's tomb. McBurnie jokes that Scots wish each other, 'Happy Easter!' in a Shrek accent and spend time with family. Next up is Italy. Italy is known worldwide for being religious, so it makes sense that Easter is a big celebration there.

Alessandra Baldizzone, a Marblehead resident, grew up in the city of Turin, Italy. A saying in her city is "Natale con i tuoi, Pasqua con chi vuoi." This phrase, meaning 'Christmas with family, Easter with whomever you wish,' captures the spirit of Easter in Turin. Everything is closed on Easter and on the Monday afterwards, a day known as Pasquetta (Little Easter), to allow people to celebrate. People in Turin eat lamb on Easter Sunday. They also indulge in torta pasqualina, a kind of Easter pie. Baldizzone described having "huge chocolate eggs with nice little presents inside." She also fondly recalled la colomba, a sweet, dove shaped bread. The Italians are not the only culture with a special Easter bread though, which brings us to our next country: Greece.

Ninety-eight percent of Greece is Greek Orthodox. Orthodoxy is the third largest branch of Christianity, after Protestantism and Catholicism. Orthodox Easter, always celebrated after Passover, often occurs on a different Sunday than the Catholic or Protestant holiday. For the entire country of Greece and those of Greek descent in other countries, Easter is an important and exciting celebration. During Holy Week, the Greek Orthodox go to church more than any other time of the year. "My Yia Yia (grandmother) used to sleep over in church on Holy Thursday as she was very religious," said Stephanie Frangenes, a second generation Greek-American. In Greece, there are two ways to pass along Easter greetings to someone. You can say "Kalo Pascha," meaning 'Good Easter,' or "Christos Anesti," which translates to 'Christ is Risen.' The expected response to this is "Alithos Anesti" - 'Truly He has Risen.'

Greece is known for its fine cuisine, and Easter provides yet another opportunity for Greek grandmothers to force plate after plate of food into their children and grandchildren. The traditional main course is lamb, often roasted on a spit. Ham is also popular, as well as Greek dishes like spanakopita (spinach pie), tiropita (cheese pie), pastitsio (a kind of ziti baked in white sauce), and a special bread called tsoureki. Tsoureki is a sweet bread that usually has Easter

and following the motto given to her by her mother: "have courage and be kind." Despite recent concerns that Cinderella may be providing girls with "unrealistic beauty standards," the character actually proves to be a good role model through her courage, positive attitude, and kindhearted morals.

Aside from the title character, the costumes, sets, and scenery are what make this film truly memorable. Costume designer Sandy Powell created absolutely beautiful ensembles, the most memorable of these being Cinderella's trademark periwinkle blue ballgown. Powell

eggs baked into it. Greek Easter eggs, unlike most eggs, are dyed only one color - blood red. This color represents the life and the blood of Christ. The special dye is near impossible to find if you don't live near a Greek community, so many Greek-Americans use food coloring instead. A special game is played with these eggs. Pairs of people smash egg ends; the person with the uncracked end is the winner and goes on to smash another egg. The last person with an uncracked side is said to have good luck for the rest of the year.

There's another, slightly weirder tradition among the Greeks of Tarpon Springs, Florida. People set off bombs on Easter Sunday to celebrate that Christ has risen from the dead. Last year, the Tarpon Springs police department evacuated the church and the Tampa Bay Bomb Squad was brought in to check for bombs. Though the evacuation didn't go over well with the churchgoers, it did make for a slightly safer Easter.

Liz Bibby of Australia was raised in a Catholic household, where Easter was a time of reflection. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, and continued for the next forty days. On Holy Thursday, Bibby would go to church for the Last Supper mass. The next day at church, the story of Jesus' crucifixion would be told. On Sunday, Bibby would go to church to celebrate new life and Jesus arising from the dead. Chocolate eggs were eaten to symbolize new life. Additionally, Australians no longer have the Easter Bunny. The Foundation for a Rabbit Free Australia has replaced the Easter Bunny with the Easter Bilby. The bilby replaced the bunny because, according to the RFA, rabbits are Australia's greatest environmental feral pest. The RFA also wants to raise awareness that the bilby is an endangered species.

Finland's Easter traditions are similar to Halloween in the United States. In Western Finland, children dress as witches and beg for candy. Witches are believed to fly around Finland on Holy Sunday and to be more powerful during Easter celebrations. People light bonfires to ward off these witches.

About 900 miles south in the Czech Republic and Slovakia, women are whipped, although it is not intended to hurt them. It is believed whipping women on Easter will make them healthier and more beautiful.

Traditional Easter foods in Colombia could challenge even adventurous eaters. Turtles, iguanas, and big rodents are the main course at Colombian Easter dinners.

On Easter Monday in Poland, children play a simple game known as Smingus Dyingus. Boys try to pour water on girls; if a girl gets wet, legend says they will marry by the end of the year. Food preparation traditions in Poland restrict the master of the house from baking with Easter bread. If the dough were to fall on the man's moustache, his moustache would go gray and the bread wouldn't bake properly. Jessica Minzola, of Polish and Czech descent, said her Easters are focused around food. Homemade pierogis, boiled with butter and onions, are essential. Paska is a light, fluffy bread with a design, often a cross, baked into the top. Most Polish foods are tasty but some, like hrutka (a solid custard made with egg and cheese) aren't so popular. Minzola says, "Though no one really likes it, someone makes it every year out of tradition and forces the children to eat some."

Clearly, Easter celebrations vary around the world in interesting ways. But one thing is constant: the sense of joy on Easter. Whether it's accompanied by Easter eggs, water fights, or bombs, Christians everywhere commemorate Easter with celebrations of church, food and family.

said her idea for the design of the dress was to make Cinderella look as if she were "floating, like a watercolor painting." In addition to incredible costuming, the sets and scenery of the film will transport moviegoers into a fairy tale world themselves. Between an ornately decorated mansion, a seemingly enchanted garden, and an extravagant palace reminiscent of Versailles, the visual images created will leave viewers in awe. Without a doubt, Cinderella is a must see film for fairy tale lovers, young and old alike.

Headlight Staff 2014-15

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF: Alex Kerai, Meredith Piela, and Liam Reilly

EDITORS' ASSISTANT : Joanna Rosen

REPORTERS IN THE FIELD: Riley Sugarman, Drew Faria and Becky Twaalfhoven

WEBMASTER: Alex Kerai

NEWS COORDINATOR: Amber Born

FACULTY ADVISOR: Thomas Higgins