Letter from the Editor

Hey, it’s Ireland again. Happy Thanksgiving! This is our special Thanksgiving edition. It has lots of excitement packed into it. If it’s Thanksgiving break and you’re starting to feel bored, get onto your blog and do something creative! Don’t lay around being bored because that’s not fun and you’re supposed to have fun over the holidays. So, over break I hope you enjoy being with your family and eating until you’re stuffed with turkey, mashed potatoes, and all sorts of other goodies!

History of Thanksgiving

The first American Thanksgiving probably took place in New England. It was celebrated by the Pilgrim settlers, who established Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts in 1620. The Pilgrims had struggled bravely through a grim winter with much sickness and little food.

The following spring, friendly Indians helped the settlers to plant corn, and in the autumn, the first crop was harvested. Governor William Bradford proclaimed three days of prayer and thanksgiving. The Pilgrims gave a huge feast and invited the Indian Chief, Massasoit, and 90 of his people.

The custom of observing a special harvest thanksgiving day spread throughout the other colonies in the following years. After the American Revolution, the various states continued the custom, each one naming its own day for giving thanks. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the first national Thanksgiving Day on the last Thursday in November. The present date was established by Congress in 1941.

Source: www.celebratelove.com/thanxhistory.htm

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” ~John F. Kennedy

The First Thanksgiving by Jean Louis Gerome Ferris
Creative Question
By Kalina and Jessie

What are you thankful for?

“My life because if I didn’t have it I wouldn’t have anything.”
~Noah, 4th Grader

“I am thankful for running water because some people in Africa don’t have any.”
~Ireland, 6th Grader

“My family because I couldn’t do anything without them.”
~Brian, 3rd Grader

“I am thankful for my cat. He always makes me laugh! Sometimes when I am really upset, he comes and cuddles with me and sleeps on my bed. Sometimes, I really think, “What did I do before I had a cat?”
~Iman, 5th Grader

“My family because they help me in life.”
~Wylie, 2nd Grader

“I am thankful for everybody in my life because they continually bless me every day.”
~Coleman, 6th Grader

“My family and friends because they are always there for me when I need them.”
~Savanna, 5th Grader

Thanks
By Grace K.

Thanks for all the help,
And thanks for all the days,
When comfortably we’d sit,
And at the stars we’d gaze.
I also remember
That week one November
When we frolicked and played in the leaves.
Those days were much greater than good,
And I would repeat them, if I could.
Those were the times,
All filled with joy,
For which I am thankful
And I did enjoy.
**Ask Daisy**

By Edie

What should I do with my Thanksgiving Leftovers?

If you have Thanksgiving with your whole family, divvy out the leftovers and send your family home with their portions. If you only celebrate within the family in your household just save the food and have leftovers for dinner the next night. Try putting leftover turkey on a salad or adding it to a yummy casserole or soup.

**Ways to Enjoy Thanksgiving**

By Coleman

Unusual Ways to Enjoy Thanksgiving

1. Go to the Beach
2. Go Hiking
3. Visit Plymouth Massachusetts
4. Sky Dive
5. Go To An NFL Game

Traditional Ways to Enjoy Thanksgiving

1. Play a Pick-up Football Game
2. Watch the NFL
3. Have a Family Game Night
4. Watch a Movie
5. Eat a Turkey

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**Pumpkin Bread**

By Katherine

Prep Time: 15 min. ~ Cook Time: 50 min.

1 cup vegetable oil
2/3 cup water
3 cups white sugar
3 ½ cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 ½ teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
½ teaspoon ground cloves
¼ teaspoon ground ginger

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour three 7x 3 inch loaf pans.
2. In a large bowl, mix together pumpkin puree, eggs, oil, water and sugar until well blended. In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and ginger. Stir the dry ingredients into the pumpkin mixture until just blended. Pour into the prepared pans.
3. Bake for about 50 minutes in the preheated oven. Loaves are done when toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Source: All-recipes.com

“He who thanks but with the lips
Thanks but in part;
The full, the true Thanksgiving
Comes from the heart.”

~ J.A. Shedd
**Top 10 Thanksgiving Giggles**

1. Why did the police arrest the turkey?
2. What kind of music did the Pilgrims like?
3. What's the key to a great Thanksgiving dinner?
4. Why do turkeys always go, "gobble, gobble?"
5. Why didn’t the turkey eat dessert?
6. Why did the Pilgrims eat turkey at Thanksgiving?
7. When did Pilgrims first say “God bless America?”
8. Should you have your whole family for Thanksgiving dinner?
9. Why is Thanksgiving such an intelligent holiday?
10. Why did they let the turkey join the band?

**Thanksgiving Reads**
- The Hoboken Chicken Emergency
- Turkey Trouble
- The Story of Thanksgiving
- 1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving
- Thank You, Sarah

**Thanksgiving Crossword**

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ACROSS
3 The main course
6 The whole point of Thanksgiving
7 A yummy food and a side dish
10 Something that you put gravy on

DOWN
1 A fruity sauce
2 A creamy substance
4 The ship Pilgrims came on
5 The people who started it all
8 What we do on Thanksgiving
9 The season Thanksgiving is in

**Thanksgiving Words**
- Turkey
- Pilgrims
- Rolls
- Squash
- Pies
- Squash
- Corn
- Yams
- Hats
- Pumpkins
- Fall

**Happy Thanksgiving**