

The Bellport Clipper

December Edition

2019-2020 Year

New Season, Same Spirit

Written by Victoria Monte



What better way to start the season than to beat a league rival 71-57 at home? For the boys basketball team at Bellport, there was no better option. The win on Monday, December 2nd against the Huntington Blue Devils not only helped the Clippers start off strong in a season that could define the upcoming years of the team, but provided a grand opening for 2019-2020 winter sports at Bellport.

It wasn't easy however, and it seemed like maybe the Blue Devils would upset the Clippers for their season opener initially. Being outscored 12-2 after the first period, the players and the crowd were definitely a little rusty following a long off-season. With both teams drawing four fouls each, there wasn't a plausible excuse for the point differential, and the Clippers were aware of this. Almost immediately, the shots starting converting into points for Bellport as they regrouped and entered the second half tied 26-26, albeit with an additional 5 fouls against them. It was definitely the momentum builder the

Clippers were looking for as they held the Blue Devils to 31 points in the last two periods while scoring 45 more themselves in that span.

As for their slow start that

game, it seems to simply be the Clippers trend so far this season. In their first four games, carrying a 3-1 record in that time, the Clippers are averaging only 9 points in the first period but coming back with a little over 23 points on average in the second period, followed by around 15 and 20 points in the third and fourth period respectively. It's clear that once the boys get warmed up and the crowd becomes settled in, the winning atmosphere that has surrounded the team the last few years comes alive.



Why is this season so important for

the Clippers? It's no secret that some of the most talented athletes this school has ever seen will be missed on the court this season. Guys like Miles Wilson and Jarell White made such a huge impact on the winning culture of Bellport basketball in the last few seasons that it's hard to tell where the 2019-2020 team will go without their presence. This season could define how the team recovers from big changes in the roster and how they reshape their performance to accommodate new incoming talent.

All that said, the Clippers do not seem to be having a hard time keeping the wins up and the spirits raised in the community. On Friday, December 13th, the Clippers won their second game in a row against the West Islip Lions following a 50-36 non-league win against Sachem East the week before. While in West Islip, Bellport outscored the Lions in every period except the third, including a 31-9 second period, ultimately leading the Clippers to a 79-53 victory.

An animated Coach Grossi and reconstructed starting lineup have stepped up so far, keeping fans on their feet in anticipation of what the Clippers will succeed in this season. If it's any reflection of the last few seasons, only good things are in the future. With a game on the 19th against East Islip, a game on the 23rd at Freeport and a decade-finale home game on the 28th vs. Riverhead, the Clippers are looking good!

Bellport Clippers

Upcoming Schedule:

Boys Basketball -

December 19th @ East Islip
December 23rd @ Freeport
December 28th vs. Riverhead
January 8th vs. North Babylon

Girls Basketball -

December 20th vs. East Islip
January 8th @ North Babylon

Boys Bowling -

January 6th @ ESM (Bowl LI)
January 7th vs Sayville (Bowl LI)
January 9th @ BBP (AMF Sayville)

Girls Bowling-

January 7th vs Islip (Bowl LI)
January 9th @ ESM (Bowl LI)

Boys Track -

December 22nd @ Suffolk County CC
January 4th @ Suffolk County CC

Girls Track-

December 21st @ Suffolk County CC
December 28th @ Armory Track
January 4th @ Armory Track
January 5th @ Suffolk County CC

Wrestling -

December 21st @ Bellport
December 30th @ Sayville
January 4th @ Westhampton Beach
January 8th @ North Babylon

****ALL GAME TIMES AND LOCATIONS ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON
WWW.SECTIONXI.ORG**



Pinning Down the Wins

Written By Victoria Monte

The Bellport Boys Wrestling Team has once again proven their dominance on the mats as they start the 2019-2020 season off hot. On December 7th, the team took home five first place awards at the Amityville Tournament with excellent performances by Senior Josh Leidig, Juniors Jonah Poueriet and Kashaun Parrish, and Sophomore twin duo Troy and Wyatt Gentzel.



Other placings from the day include Juniors Andrew Beadle, Michael Collins, Philip Trowbridge, David Hartmann, Shaun Bolton, JT Gentzel, Nicholas Kiesling and Lucas Torelli. The wide range of weight class representation and skill in this team is extremely exciting as the Bellport Wrestling program looks to continue its recent trend of dominating tournaments.

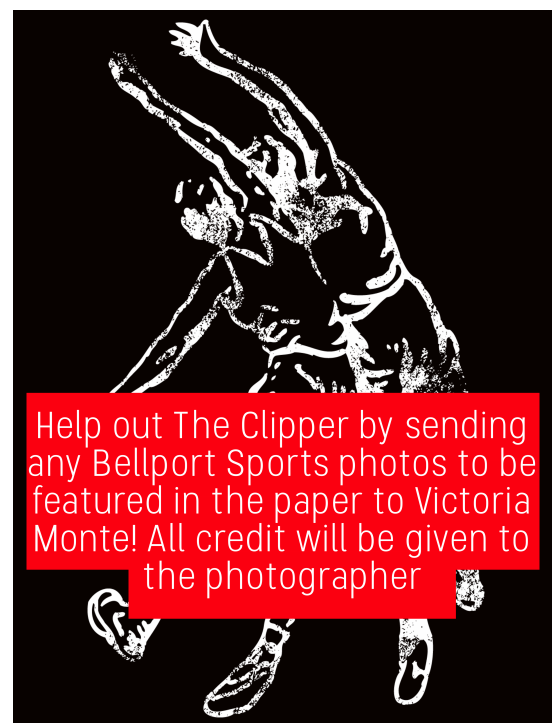


Getting a bigger look at the sport, three of the top performers on the team, Jonah Poueriet, Troy Gentzel and Wyatt Gentzel travelled to Princeton University

on the 8th to watch the Iowa, Princeton match for the day. "It was really cool," says Poueriet. "The environment was crazy. I've never seen so many people sitting in a gym watching one match," he adds. Even better, the Hawkeyes beat Princeton, a definite bonus for the guys on their trip.

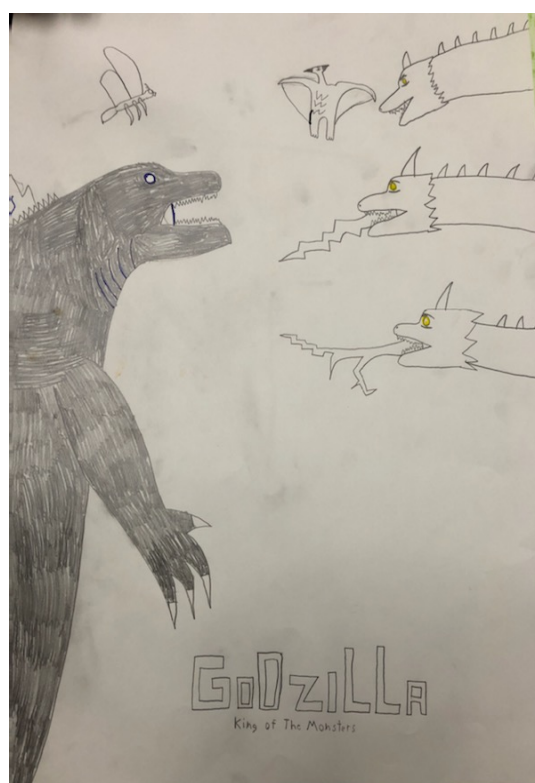
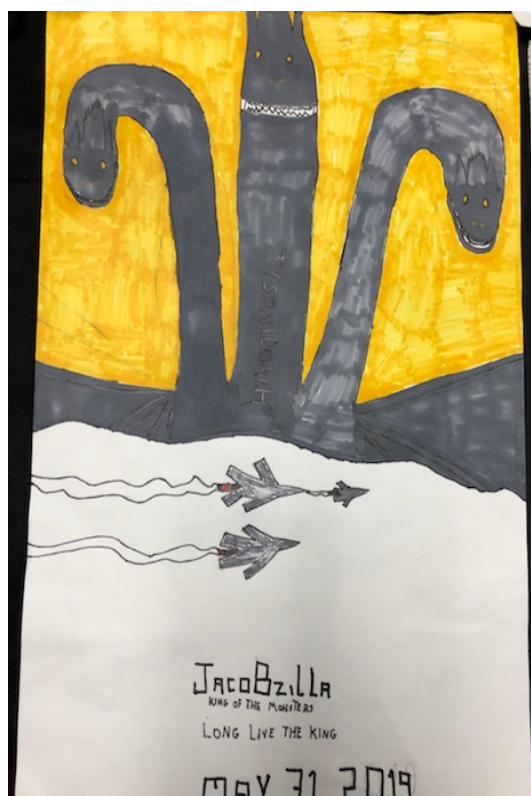
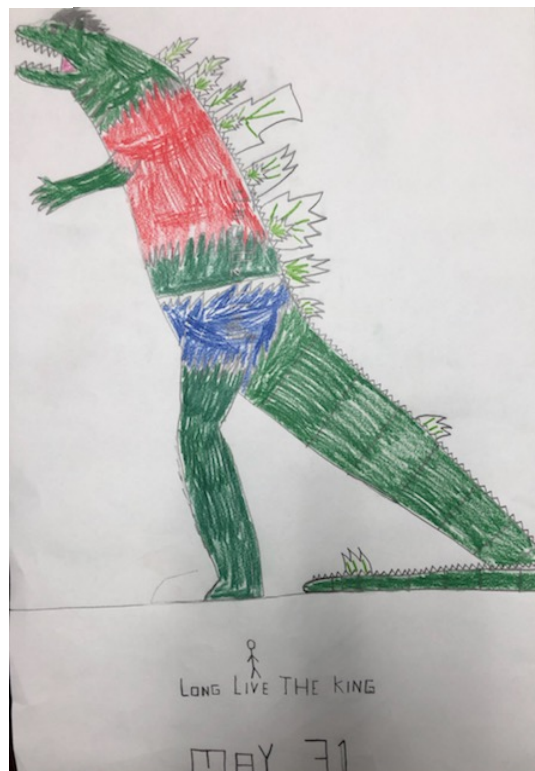
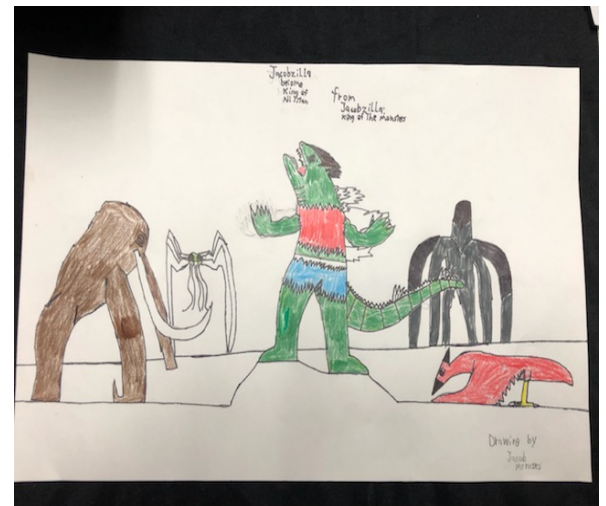
After the immense representation of Bellport athletes at regional and state qualifiers last season, the guys will no doubt be looking for the finish line to be even sweeter this year. They've been training all year and it's no surprise that each athlete is so dedicated with the brotherhood on the team. "We have a lot of tough guys that are willing to push themselves to the limit for their team and their own success," says Poueriet. "We train hard to build our confidence and strength on the mat which contributes to our talent but it's also the diversity on the team that helps make us strong."

After a 48-23 match win against Smithtown East on December 13th, the Clippers look to continue their winning line for the next few months, hopefully bringing the program a few



FEATURED ARTWORK OF THE MONTH:

Congratulations to Jacob Meneses!



Bellport Horror Story: Episode 2

“Could it Be Evil?”

Written by: JJ Tims



FIVE YEARS AGO

A chipper and loud young woman approached a decrepit, dark building next to a creek. She was holding a vlog camera. “Hey guys! It’s Leah Montgomery. Welcome back to my youtube channel, LifeWithLeah! For today’s episode of Into the Abandoned, my series for which I visit dark places with dark histories, we are going to explore an abandoned three story complex of Bellport, on Long Island, NY. This isn’t just any building - this was home to over 36 disappearances and deaths dating back to the 1600s. Legend has it that in colonial times, a young Dutch teenager named Aya befriended a group of Native Americans while hiding from her fellow Dutch colonists in a cottage planted in this very spot. The other settlers found her and began accusing the natives of kidnapping her. This is what allegedly fueled the documented Battle of Lange Eylandt, which after many brutal casualties between the natives and the Dutch, was interrupted by a fierce tornado that took out many buildings as well as the last few fighters. This building was the only thing still standing in the path of destruction.” Leah turned the camera toward an open, wooden entrance as she walked into the dusty building.

“According to the legend surrounding it, that girl was hiding in the cottage when several gunshots wounded her in the arm, shoulder and mouth. ALL of her teeth supposedly fell out, and as an act of revenge, she cursed them and scattered them across the field. This is said to have happened right before the tornado arriv-” Leah was interrupted by a ghastly sound

reverberating from a run-down staircase.

“Ooooh!” she said in a comically eerie voice. “I don’t think I’m alone you guys! Look at these spooky stairs, I have the chills.” While showing no sense of fear, she turned the flash on her camera and panned it around this part of the dark corridor she entered through. “Before I go up these stairs, I just want to take a quick moment to talk about this amazing new game called Best Fiends. If you use my promo code LEAH, you can get 50% off of all in-app purchases for the next month! Link in descripti---” Leah’s camera glitched, and only showed static for about 10 seconds until it started recording again.

“That’s weird... my camera has never done that before, what the heck?”

Leah began ascending the steps, and noticed the beige, brick wall, empty and lifeless. She stared back into the screen, but the screen showed a different picture. The empty wall was suddenly drenched in dark blood, spelling “GET OUT.”

She screamed and scurried back down the stairs, when the translucent figure of an old, bleeding construction worker met her at the bottom step, grabbing Leah’s shoulders and letting out the sound of a thousand voids from his long, oval mouth. Leah dropped her camera as she felt another spirit’s arms wrapped around her waist and carried her up the stairs. She squirmed and screamed as they moved her through a corridor, but there was no other living being to hear her.

Before she knew it, she was in an old, unfinished atrium, seeming like it was untouched for years. More dusty, bloody, and dark construction workers surrounded her while she was draped across a table, and Aya stood above her head.

“Foolish woman,” Aya bellowed. “How dare you exploit my property with your magical technology.”

“Am I dreaming?” Leah said amidst panic. Aya scoffed.

“When you dream,” replied the colonial spirit, “you wake up after you die, and you

never see the place you were in again.

But you, like these clueless laborers that stand around me, intruded my very real building, and now you’ll never leave. Nothing in your life will be more real than the consequences to your lust.” Aya and a few workers raised tools in their hands, and before Leah could make a noise, the vlogger suddenly found herself standing next to the crowd. On the table, she saw her own body. She was a ghost.

PRESENT

“It’s been 20 minutes,” Melisa complained. “My vocal chords hurt. No one’s gonna hear us scream through these vents.”

“There’s only one other solution,” Delielah replied. “I know this is gross, and I know that there are probably more teeth and nasty things in there, but I don’t think we have any other choice but to crawl through the vents.”

Melisa sighed, and looked around nervously. “....Well let’s do it.”

~//~

Like what you're reading? Stay tuned!!
The next episode of *Bellport Horror Story*
written by JJ Tims will be available in the
next issue of *The Clipper*!



Greta Thunberg, the Activist

Who Took a Stand

Written by: Kanya Shah

Greta Thunberg, a 16 year old climate change activist from Sweden, became well known for her astonishing protest outside of the Swedish Parliament before the elections in 2018. Thunberg advocated for action on global warming and pollution by sitting outside of the Parliament to gain their attention, especially by using her “School Strike for Climate Change” sign that is now very well known (LiveKindly).



Climate change refers to long term weather patterns. By increasing carbon monoxide and dioxide emissions into the atmosphere, the water vapor traps heat, contributing to the rise in temperature. According to emissions data, Earth’s temperatures could rise from 2-6 degrees Celsius by the end of the 21st century (NASA). This is significant because as the Earth’s temperature rises, our seasons will become more extreme; colder winters and extremely hot summers. Potentially devastating hurricanes, cyclones, blizzards, and other natural disasters will have intensified consequences that would raise the government’s spendings on national aid. Not only will this affect humans, our environment and ecosystems will suffer because species are acclimated to living in certain conditions. Introducing a sudden disruption to their habitat may result in the organisms extinction.



Thunberg’s goal was to inspire people to start changing their detrimental actions on the environment. She targeted the Swedish Parliament through a speech, demanding action on pollution and environmental degradation. Her movement for awareness and action spread throughout Sweden and Europe, targeting students to voice their concerns and protest for legal action on climate change.



Recently, Thunberg traveled to Madrid, Spain to join fellow activists at the COP25 summit where world leaders talked about solutions to global carbon emissions and how to pay retribution to the developing nations that suffered from the gas emissions from the rich nations. Reducing emissions would cost millions of dollars and require politicians to revise emission regulations accordingly. While the economy is a fundamental factor in implementing change, the climate crisis remains unresolved. She stated that “the people in power are ignoring the climate crisis (LA Times).”



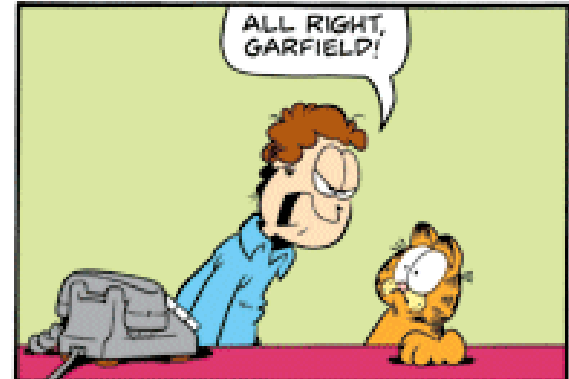
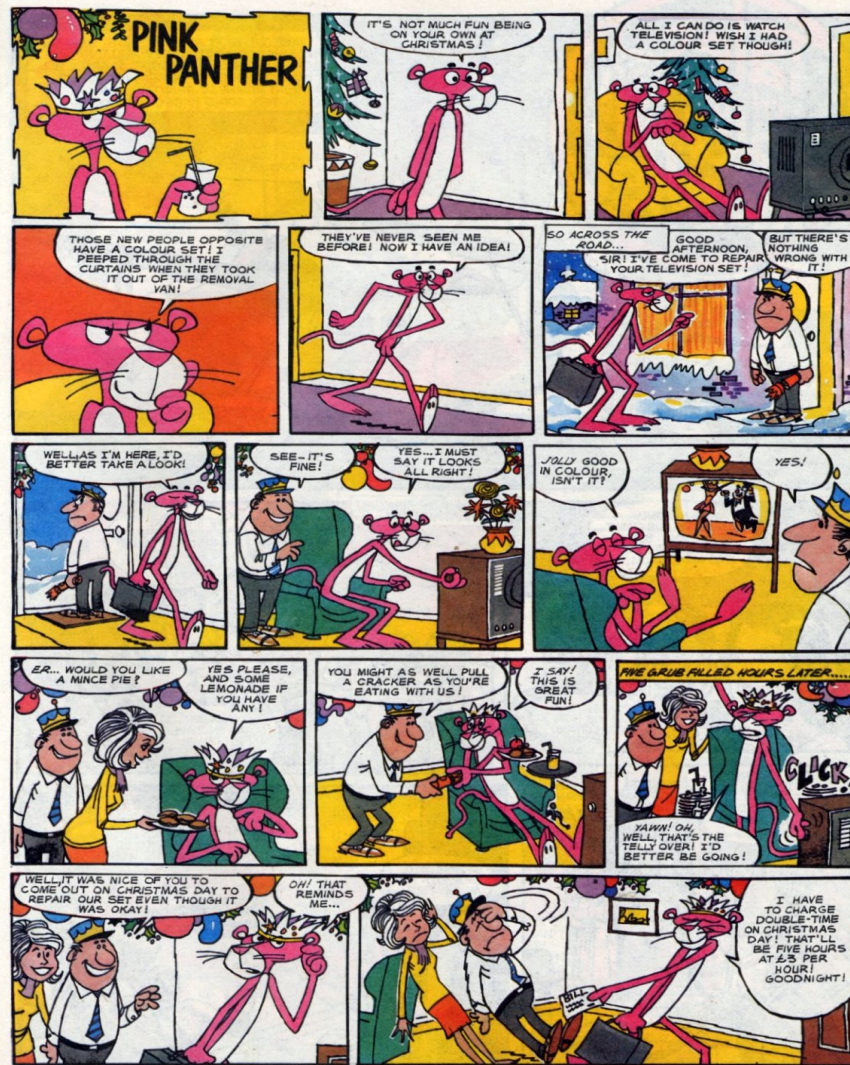
The publicity that Greta Thunberg has received from speaking out about how climate change has been unresolved for years has placed an intense amount of pressure on the UN leaders to come to a consensus on how to fix the pollution issues. Ever since her protests, her presence in

various media forms (Facebook, Twitter, etc) has increased, spreading discussions about climate action. Elon Musk, Tesla’s CEO, backed Thunberg about her scathing speech at the UN Conference and praised her efforts on advocating for change (Electrek). While Thunberg has captured the attention of celebrities and politicians, the publicity has led to backlash from influential figures who believe Thunberg is wasting her time. Chris Packham, a British television producer, supported Greta Thunberg against accusations made by Jeremy Clarkson, about being a child who didn’t know what she was doing (Yahoo News).

Thunberg has focused on her goal to get reformative legislation in favor of the environment and gained followers in the form of teen activists and societal leaders. But, the politicians have not stepped up to the challenge of passing a law to deal with the greenhouse gases released from industrial buildings and automobiles (LA Times). The real question becomes, how much time will it take for change to be implemented in terms of emissions regulations?



Seasonal Greetings from the Comic Section



Flame

Written By: Delielah Tinsley

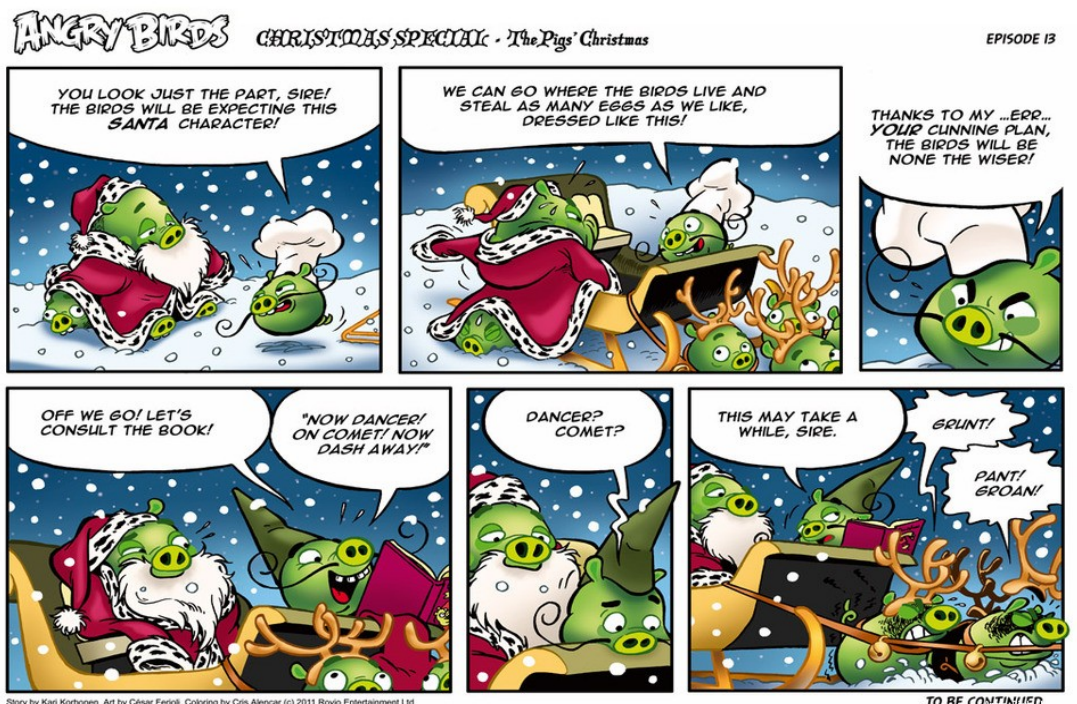
The fire in the woods was lit
by a match
that sparked a division that.
Confined the evil
and the wicked, the great and
the good. Even broke up a
united
Brotherhood.

Sparks flicker, with fiery red
and gold, the feud grows
thicker. As the story is told.
The black smoke
rises up to the air. And over
our ignorant heads

The ashes fall. We hang by
thread
The trees burn, the battle
Rages-a head

Flames rise higher. Through
mid-attack.
Smoke blinds the watchful
eye.
Blocking the unsettling sight of
dripping candle wax

That was lit by the fire's
match.



All rights reserved by artists and authors.

Happy Holidays to all of our
BHS staff member and Board of
Education! Thank you so much
for being supportive!



Christmas Reindeer

Word Search



P	R	A	N	C	E	R	S	E	D	D
P	N	E	E	R	E	L	E	N	O	A
R	C	E	V	E	E	D	D	O	N	R
E	H	T	E	I	B	A	A	R	N	U
S	R	E	G	N	L	N	S	T	E	D
E	I	H	S	D	I	C	H	H	R	O
N	S	C	A	E	T	E	E	P	C	L
T	T	O	N	E	Z	R	R	O	U	P
S	M	M	T	R	E	E	E	L	P	H
E	A	E	A	E	N	H	A	E	I	A
E	S	T	V	I	X	E	N	A	D	A

Words to find:

BLITZEN
DASHER
REINDEER

CHRISTMAS
DONNER
RUDOLPH

COMET
NORTHPOLE
SANTA

CUPID
PRANCER
SLEIGH

DANCER
PRESENTS
VIXEN

Be the first to submit the completed crossword to room 249 to be entered to win a \$5 school store certificate.