



# Australia Bushfires

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By: Isabella Chase



Since September of 2019, Australia has been experiencing devastating bushfires. At least 28 people have been left dead and 3,000 homes have been destroyed since the fires started. The bushfires are usually started from natural causes such as lightning strikes. However, according to the Sydney Morning Herald, New South Wales police have charged 24 people with purposefully starting the bushfires. While wildfires there occur year-round, during their warmer months Australia goes through a fire season because of the hot temperatures. The dry weather and winds make it easier for fire to spread. An occurrence called the Indian Ocean Dipole, which is when western Indian Ocean waters become warmer and the eastern waters of the ocean becomes colder, has the effect of pushing rainy weather away from Australia. The Indian Ocean Dipole is happening now, and without the rainy weather in Australia, it is going to be more difficult to calm the fires.

Australia's bushfires has taken an enormous toll on wildlife, with a huge number of mammals, birds, insects, reptiles, and other species killed. It is estimated that more than a billion animals have been killed because of the fires. The state of New South Wales has been affected the worst, with over 12,355,269 acres of land burned and destroyed. Fortunately, firefighters from the U.S, Canada, and New Zealand are there trying their best to help. Hopefully, the fires stop soon. In the meantime, please pray for Australia and donate to charities supporting the cause if you can.

## RACA News

By: Noelle Imburgia & Zander Theodoropoulos

Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic Education in the United States. This tradition started in 1974, and it takes place during the last week of January. This year it takes place from January 26 to January 31st. There are many fun events for students and their families including Kids Day, Special Masses, Open Houses, Parents Day, Teacher Appreciation Day, and more. This year at RA we have a fun, action-packed week planned. Sunday is Open House/Mass. Many families go to the Mass. After the Mass, there is an Open House upstairs in our school for prospective families. Current families are allowed to visit as well and enjoy refreshments in the faculty room. Monday is Kids Day, every kid's favorite day of the school year. Each child is invited to dress as their favorite book character. Throughout the day, Mrs. Heppt plays music over the PA to create "Random Dancing Moments" in our school day. Lunch time is a special treat on Kids Day. We are able to eat together in the gym. Lunch is provided by the Home Academy Association. After lunch, we play bingo in our classrooms and have the chance to win some prizes. Kids can win multiple times since bingo has many rounds. Tuesday, is Open House for new students and parents. Parents and children who did not attend the Open House on Sunday will be able to attend Open House on Tuesday. This gives prospective families the chance to tour our school while it is in session. Wednesday, we invite parents to come see what we are learning in school. Parents are given a gift to show our appreciation for them. Thursday, we will be working with our buddies in some capacity. Friday is Teacher Appreciation Day. Student Council in years past has had a Breakfast Coffee Cart. This cart goes around to all of the teachers. Student Council thanks the teachers for all of their hard work and rewards them with some treats. Catholic Schools Week is a lot of fun. Stay tuned to February's Newspaper for some pictures from our Catholic Schools Week at Resurrection Ascension Catholic Academy.

**Facts**

By: Audrey Lataille, Marianna Mancini-Menditto

- The heart of the shrimp is located in its head.
- The waffle cone was created by accident.
- It takes 63 feet of plastic/metal to make a slinky.
- Snakes have the ability to predict earthquakes.
- France is the most visited country in the world.
- If Pinocchio ever said his nose would grow, it would become a paradox.
- The translation for the word tragedy is “goat song.”
- A donkey will sink in quicksand, but a mule won’t.
- Butterflies taste with their hind feet.
- The creator of the Pringles was buried in a Pringles can

**Comedy Corner**

By: Gabriel Hierro Delgado

What do you call a nice ghost that is suffering from January's cold?  
Casp-burr

What's always cold but warm-blooded?  
A snow-men

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?  
Frosted Flakes

What is red, white, and blue in a winter break?  
A sad candy cane

Where do snowmen keep their money safe?  
In a snowbank

What type of candy do snowmen like?  
Sno-caps

What happened to the snowman after getting hit on the head by an icicle?  
He got knocked out cold.

What does the ice queen like on her cake?  
A lot of frosting

What type of cheese do teachers like to eat?  
Grated-cheese

Where do snowmen keep their money?  
Snowbanks

**Iran and US- The Growing Tension**

By: Liam Sweeney &amp; Dimitri Olhoviks

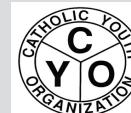
As we all know, there has been growing tension between Iran and the USA. Iran is a Middle-Eastern country that is bordered by Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iraq, Pakistan, Turkey, and Turkmenistan. Iran is the fourth largest oil producer in the world and is most known for their Persian Rugs. Most citizens in Iran are Islamic and speak Persian.

On December 31, 2019, the Iranians attacked the US Embassy in Iraq. There was no logical reason that they attacked the Embassy. They wanted to gain power in Iraq. According to ABC 7, Trump responded to Iran's attack right away saying, "...Should Iran strike any U.S. person or target, the U.S. will quickly and fully strike back and perhaps in a disproportionate manner."

The United States took action and struck back with a massive bombing. In the bombing, there were a few casualties along with top Iranian General, Qasem Soleimani! According to CNN, Soleimani was Commander of Quds Force from 1998-2020 and is responsible for the death of hundreds of Americans. Soleamni was the mastermind behind many terrorist attacks and most countries are relieved to have him dead. Even though Trump did a great thing by killing Soleimani, Congress argues that he did not inform them about the bombing. If this is true, Trump used his executive power inappropriately and there could be consequences.

**CYO Sports**

By: Emma Iorio &amp; Samantha Jarina

**Basketball**

RA won 3 championship games. The RA 7th grade team consisting of Luca Zacco, Joseph Werner, Santiago Uribe, and Maia Velazquez won against an undefeated team, St. Roberts. Santiago Uribe, #5, was elbowed and fell on his face and ended up with a broken nose. This happened on December 21st with 2 minutes left of the 4th quarter. The RA 8th grade team consisting of Ricky Werner and Carlos Urena won against St. Helens. Our other 8th grade team consisting of John Lopez, David Giraldo, Dylan Rosa, Adrian Ruiz, and Zander Theodoropoulos won against St. Stans.

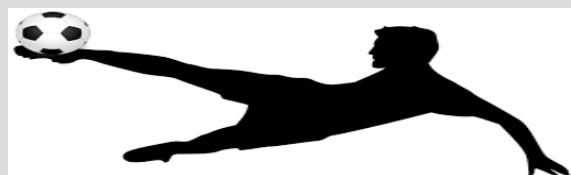
**Volleyball**

This month, we had our first volleyball game on January 18th. It was played by the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade team. We played against St. Matthias. Sadly, we lost all 3 rounds. The 6th grade won all 3 games against St. Helens. Our 8th graders won 1 out of 3 games against Immaculate Conception.

**Queensboro FC**

By: Audrey Lataille

Look out world, a new soccer team is coming for you owned by ex-NYCF (New York City Football Club) and Spain's top scoring player David Villa along with founder of KraneShares, Jonathon Krane. It is Queensboro FC. It will officially launch in 2021, but it is nice Queens finally has a soccer team. Queens is one of the most diverse counties in New York, so there will be a bunch of different nationalities on the team, which will give the team a huge advantage. With everyone with a different playing style, it will make the team unpredictable, which could be confusing to other teams. They will play near the Unisphere, which is in Corona. This will be an all male league and they will play in the USL (United States League) Championship, which is the top male league. Soccer fans alike cannot wait until we can watch Queensboro FC play for the first time in 2021.

**January****Horoscopes**

By: Noelle Imburgia &amp; Christina Johnson-Duroseau

Source: CafeAstrology

**ARIES 3/21-4/19**

Be focused on your professional life, your responsibility, and your overall image. At this time, you may be getting more recognition for your voice, work, and skill. Professional communications will be very important, so make sure you are not saying anything controversial or anything that may have an affect on your future.

**TAURUS 4/20-5/20**

This month will be an important one, Taurus you are compelled to travel, study, go places, and have more fun. During this time, you really want to share your beliefs, ideas, and journeys with others. You want to move out of your comfort zone and try new, exciting things.

**GEMINI 5/21-6/21**

During this stage in your life, you are strictly business oriented. You are looking more on the technical side of things try to take care of all of the basics and enjoy yourself more.

**CANCER 6/22-7/22**

Right now you are generating many ideas and you may want this to stop. Just know this is for your benefit and you are on your way to doing better than you can ever imagine.

**LEO 7/23-8/22**

This time of the year you will be looking for people who can help you make good decisions and help you make good choices. You may also want to hone in on certain skills and talents that you have.

**VIRGO 8/23-9/22**

You might want to work on positive lifestyle changes, work, and projects. You might be thinking of learning new ways to change your daily routines. You should look for a way to make the most of what you have and what you enjoy.

**LIBRA 9/23-10/22**

During this month you want to reach out to people you love more often. You may feel urgency to act upon your feelings. However, it's better to wait and process them.

**SCORPIO 10/23-11/21**

Your studies, learning, and your interests are a strong focus. You may have felt tied down to your desk or projects. Let go and go outside. Sometimes you may put unwanted pressure on yourself. This month is a great month to discover your feelings.

**SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21**

This is a time to handle events by taking an honest look at a plan, project, or area of your life. Think things through and consider developing a better game plan. Work on one problem at a time for the best results.

**CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19**

This month is an amazing time for developing talents and pursuing your hobbies. You can also become very creative and come up with some excellent ideas. If you take a patient approach to your work you will definitely prosper.

**AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18**

You're in good shape for learning and developing skills. This is a great time to focus on creative projects. You may start making quicker decisions and taking the lead on projects. This month is a good month for being yourself and finding a voice.

**PISCES 2/19-3/20**

This month is a great time for paying attention to your social and private life. You are far less inclined to say what's on your mind this month. You may want to become more in tune with your relationships.

## Sports Column

By: David Giraldo, Renzo Hernandez, & Dylan Rosa

### NBA Update

This offseason of the NBA was momentous. The free agency and the trading of players balanced and improved each team, revealing more and more potential. Now, NBA teams have a more diverse and proficient set of players, and with them, new found opportunities. Different combinations of players give multiple new teams a chance at making the playoffs and winning a championship. Some dynamic duos are Russell Westbrook and James Harden, Kawhi Leonard and Paul George, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Durant, Lebron James and Anthony Davis, and Luca Doncic and Kristaps Porzingis. These talented athletes bring thrill and suspense to the NBA. The excitement of seeing fierce teams oppose each other and the suspense of not knowing who's going to leave the stadium victorious is breath-taking!

According to *NBA.com*, The MVP Race's Top 5 consists of: (1) Giannis Antetokounpo, (2) Luka Doncic, (3) James Harden, (4) Lebron James, and (5) Anthony Davis. Last season Giannis Antetokounpo won MVP (Most Valuable Player) averaging 27.7 points, 12.5 rebounds, and nearly 6 assists per game! It was a close call between him and James Harden, who averaged 38 points, 6 rebounds, and 7.5 assists. This season the MVP discussion revolves around Lebron James, James Harden, Luca Doncic, Anthony Davis, and Giannis Antetokounpo. Luca Doncic has recently passed Michael Jordan in 20-5-5 stats per game, for 19 consecutive games. That's at least 20 points, 5 assists, and 5 rebounds per game. Anthony Davis had a season-high of 50 points! Even though Lebron James and Anthony Davis are both on the Lakers they are still in the MVP race because of their mesmerizing statistics. This season is going to be astonishing and thrilling for the NBA fans.

### Soccer Update

Certain aspects of this past season of soccer have made it very interesting, including player transfers and trades between Clubs. The most recent transfer is Drinkwater joining Aston Villa on loan from Chelsea. There are rumours about Gabriel Barbosa and Danie Olmo going to Chelsea. The official MLS Most Valuable Player is Carlos Vela as of 2019. Team of the Year Goalies were Allison, Ter Stegan, Onana, Oblak, and Ederson. Team of the year attackers were Neymar Jr., Bernardo Silva, Aguero, Messi, Benzema, Mbappe, Hazard, Son, Kane, Lewandowski.

## The Feast of the Epiphany

By: Stacy Diaz

The feast of the Epiphany also known as Three Kings' Day is on January 6. It is most commonly celebrated in Spain and Latin America. The feast celebrates the 3 Wise Men that visited Baby Jesus when he was born. In order to get to Him, they followed a path of a star in a desert for 12 days. This is why many people celebrate the 12 days of Christmas because it took them 12 days to arrive to Baby Jesus. They brought him 3 offerings. First, gold symbolizing that Jesus was King of the Jews. Second, frankincense which is usually often burned at church. It represents the divine nature of Jesus. The final gift was myrrh, which is a perfume that many people put on dead bodies. In addition, many families would leave them candy and salt or grass for the camels. In Italy, many people believe in La Befana. The reason why many people in Italy celebrate La Befana is because it is a story from a fairytale. The story is about a woman who flies on her broomstick and brings presents to children in Italy. The reason why she was on a broomstick is because she was searching for Baby Jesus. But she never found Baby Jesus so that is why she give so many gifts to good children.

## 2019 RACA Christmas Concert

By: Janelle-Stephanie Pascual

Do you hear what I hear? I hear the sweet carols and harmonious melodies sung by children at Resurrection Ascension. Their Christmas Concert was featured on Tuesday, December 17th. Kindergarten and Grades 1, 2, and 3 delightfully belted out songs high above the trees with their voices as big as the sea.



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By: Marianna Mancini-Menditto



### S'more Brownies

#### Ingredients:

1 3/4 cups of crushed graham crackers  
3 tablespoons of sugar  
4 tablespoons of butter (melted)  
1 box of brownie mix  
2 1/2 cups of marshmallows

#### Directions:

- Preheat the oven to 325 degrees.
- Combine graham cracker crumbs and sugar.
- Stir in melted butter.
- Bake in a prepared pan for 10-15 minutes (crust).
- Prepare brownie mix.
- Pour batter into prepared crust.
- Bake for 40 minutes.
- Top with marshmallows.

### Green Beans and Garlic

#### Ingredients:

2 tablespoons of olive oil  
2 tablespoons of butter  
4 garlic clove (sliced)  
2 pounds of fresh green beans  
1 cup of reduced- sodium chicken broth  
1/2 teaspoon of salt  
1/4 teaspoon of pepper

#### Directions:

- In a deep non stick pan, heat oil and butter add garlic.
- Cook and stir for 45 seconds.
- Add green beans to pan. Cook and stir for 5 minutes until crisp.
- Stir in broth, salt, and pepper.

## Catholic Schools Week Poem

By: Rachele Bifulco & Janelle-Stephanie Pascual

We invite you to Catholic Schools Week.  
Each event is quite unique.

Sunday holds a Family Mass.  
And a grand open house to visit each class.

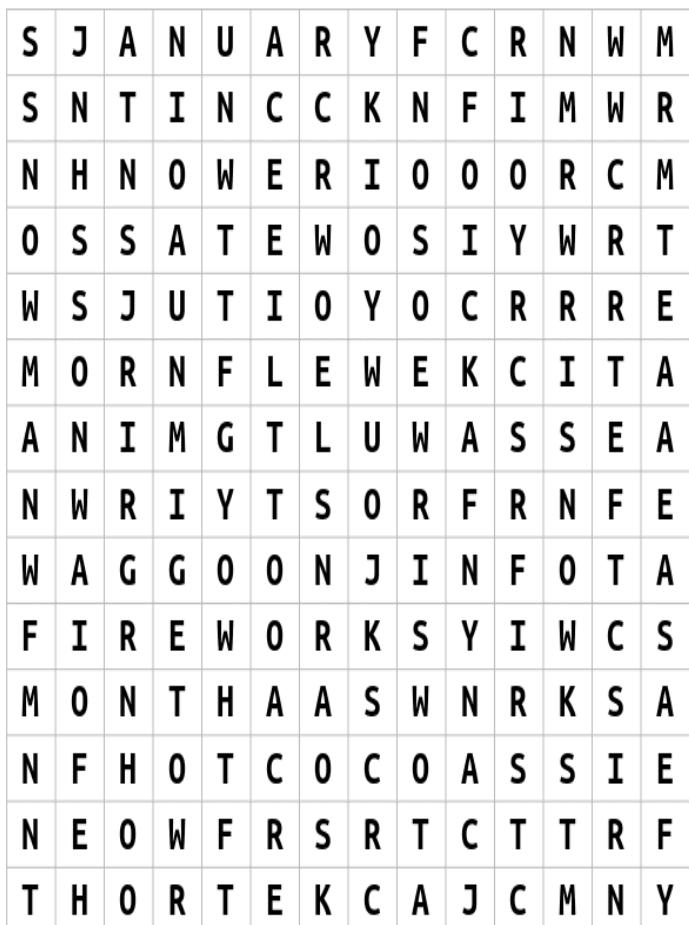
Monday is the day that the students well know.  
We eat hotdogs and play prize bingo.

Wednesday, parents come to see their children.  
They spectate their lessons all throughout the building.

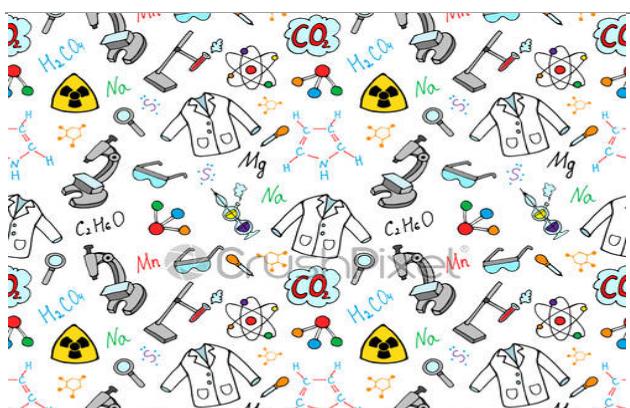
Thursday the old and the young blend  
Everyone has fun making a new friend

Friday we show our teachers appreciation.  
We thank them for our valuable education.

## JANUARY WORD SEARCH



Created by: Gabriel Hierro Delgado & Marianna Mancini-Menditto



1/31/20  
7TH GRADE  
STUDENT OF THE MONTH PLAY  
RA GYM  
8:15 AM

FIREWORKS  
FIRST  
NEW YEAR  
WINTER  
JANUARY  
MONTH  
HOT COCOA  
SNOW  
IGLOO  
FROST  
JACKET  
SNOWMAN

## Spies In Disguise Review

By: Christina Johnson-Duroseau

### Rating 3.5/5

“Spies in Disguise” is a movie starring Will Smith as Lance Sterling and Tom Holland as Walter Beckett. Spies in Disguise is a children’s movie. Super Spy Lance and scientist Walter are polar opposites. Lance is charming and smooth whereas Walter is nerdy and awkward. Walter lacks in social skills but exceeds in smarts. Walter makes some of the cool inventions Lance uses on his missions. Suddenly, something rather unexpected happens and the two are forced to work together. If these two cannot learn to work together, the whole world is in trouble. I felt the movie was a bit boring and that some of the jokes were a total miss. However, Will Smith and Tom Holland have an amazing on and off screen relationship that makes the movie more enjoyable. “Spies in Disguise” was an upbeat family movie that had amazing animation. The animation in this movie did not surprise me because I knew that it would be amazing. The animations were so sleek and the facial expressions were amazing.

## Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory Review

By: Gabriel Popa

### Rating 5/5

In 1964, Roald Dahl wrote a book called Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. It was loved by others. In 1971, Warner Bros released a film called, “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.” The film was directed by Mel Stuart. They changed the title of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory to “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.” This movie is about Charlie, a kid who lives in a tiny house with his grandmas and grandpas and his nanny. He is played by Peter Ostrum. Charlie also has a job selling newspapers in his town. Suddenly, Wonka, a company that makes all sorts of candy sends a message saying that 5 golden tickets will be placed inside one chocolate bar. The 5 people that find a golden ticket each will have a tour inside of the factory where every Wonka candy is made. The first person to get a golden ticket is Augustus Gloop, who loves to eat and is from Germany. The second person to win a golden ticket is Violet Beaugarde who loves chewing gum and is from Montana. The third person is Veruca Salt, who is greedy and always wants it her way and is from England. The fourth person to win a golden ticket is Mike Teevee from Arizona, and he loves to watch western television shows and act like a cowboy. As Charlie gets less and less confident, the (last) golden ticket is found by the governor of South America. A day later, it turned out that it was a fake ticket that was printed. Charlie goes onto find the last real ticket and his life is forever changed.

I totally recommend this movie. This is one of the greatest children movies of all time. It's up there with “The Wizard Of Oz,” “Shrek,” “ET,” and “Toy Story.” It is also one of Roald Dahl's best books. The songs in this movie are also great. The songs were even nominated for an Oscar for Best Music. All of the people involved in this movie did an excellent job. If you want to watch this movie, you can find it on Netflix. The remake is also available on Netflix. This movie is geared towards children and even adults.



## WHAT DO YOU MEME?

Memes were designed  
by:  
Micah Gagarin  
&  
Erika Yick

Why Apple is worth \$1 trillion

