History of Our World By Ilya (grade 8)

This year we are bouncing around the world learning about civilizations and events that shaped the modern world. Our teacher, Mr. Sharp, does a great job teaching us about history. We play fun games and do fun activities.

The first thing we learned about were world religions. We learned about the five major religions, Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. We also learned about some minor religions of our choice and how different religions influence each other.

The second thing we learned about was trade. We learned about trade routes, like the Silk Road, and different kingdoms along these trade routes. The Silk Road was a trade route to China that enabled places like Rome to get silk. Many other goods traveled along this road as well such as spices and slaves. We also studied the gold for salt trade and the Empire of Ghana which controlled Saharan trade routes becoming rich off of taxes levied on traders.

Next we studied the Renaissance (Italian for rebirth). In this subject thing we did presentations on important people and inventions of that time. Some people we learned about were Galileo, Leonardo Da Vinci, and Copernicus. We learned about the invention of the telescope, microscope, and the mechanical clock.

Now we are studying colonialism and how the world was changed by globalization. Overall history class is really fun and informative. We have lots of fun learning about the old world and events that changed our everyday lives.

The Amazing Dummy Downhill By Kellen (grade 5)

The Dummy Downhill is a fun amazing event at Hoodoo’s Winter Carnival. This year the Dummy Downhill was on Head Wall, a black diamond run. People are very imaginative and create dummies on skis. The dummies are pushed down the run to a jump where they go flying. The top three dummies get prizes like a giant trophy, a season pass, and money.

This year students at Black Butte School entered the Dummy Downhill together. They made a bus and named it Buszilla. They put photos of themselves and the bus driver on Buszilla so it looked like they were on the bus. They added a lot of details to make it look like the actual school bus. They did all of the work after school, and the students put a lot of time into it. Families were a big help too. It was a fun project.

The Dummy Downhill is always fun to watch. Over half of the dummies crash, which pleases the crowd. After the Dummy Downhill, it was clear one mistake was made in the construction of Buszilla. The skis were too far back, causing the nose to hit the ground and run the bus at the jump (or perhaps it was bus driver Scott not wanting to crash with students aboard). Since Buszilla didn’t crash we are going to fix it and enter it again next year.

Maybe you will come cheer us on!

The Fish Report By Ki, Guide on the Metolius (grade 5)

This month we’re talking about hotspots and hatches on the Metolius. One of the main hatches on the Metolius is a Caddis, they live about 4 years underwater. In the summertime, they go crazy above the surface. Fishing with a Caddis is so great because the fish are way more active.

In the winter the fish are less active because of the colder water temperature. That’s when you will want to use a Caddis Pupa, which is still in its shell. Take your caddis Pupa and tie about 24in of tippet, then you tie a zebra Midge on the end. In the winter, I like to use a red zebra Midge, the fish go bonanzas for it.

There are a lot of hotspots on the Metolius. In the winter and summer, Allingham Bridge is a great fishing place for White Fish and Rainbow Trout; if you are lucky you might catch a Bull Trout. Another hot spot is the Dolly Hole. This place requires big gear because there are large Bull Trout. My pb is a 30 inch Bull Trout. Another good spot is bridge 99, on the left hand side you can catch all species.

Thanks especially to Daniel Perke, Mr. Sharp, and Gavin Ferguson for all their work making the Dummy possible!