

THE MENDEL TIMES

The newsletter written for (and by) TTO students



HO HO HO MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Dear readers,

The Mendel Times team want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. Amidst another lockdown we hope that this special Christmas edition of the Mendel Times helps to take your mind off things and brings a smile to your face. In this issue you will find an article about our world champion Max Verstappen, articles about Christmas fashion, recipes, ideas for your Christmas Wish-lists, how to wrap your gifts, facts about Santa Clause and much more!

Enjoy and happy holidays,

The Mendel Times team

We are always looking for new members to join the Mendel Times. Interested in writing for us? Send an email to Ms. Dams (brdams@mendelcollege.nl) for more information or to sign up!



CHRISTMAS FASHION

From Christmas sweaters to the famous Santa hat, we've got you covered in terms of all things Christmas fashion! (pg. 8)



CHRISTMAS TREE IDEAS

Tired of always decorating your Christmas tree in the same way? Frieda has loads of tips to help decorate your tree this year! (pg. 11)

You are the world champion Max, the world champion!

By: Koen Federer (2EG)

12 december 2021 is a date that not many Dutch people will forget. After 22 races, the Dutch race car driver Max Verstappen (red bull racing) and British driver Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) were equal on points (the last time this happened was in 1974). Therefore, this final race would decide everything. While many people expected a boring race, we got one of the most exciting races of the season. The race remained thrilling till the last lap where Max Verstappen became the first Dutch world champion in Formula 1. A historical moment. Many things happened during the race which may have been hard to follow for people who watched Formula 1 for the first time, so here are all the things that were remarkable, summed up and explained.

1. Cutting a corner and gaining and advantage

In the first lap of the race in turn 5, Max overtook Hamilton, but Hamilton got off the track and just completely cut turn 6, which put him in first position by almost a second. He wasn't penalised for that, whereas Max got a time penalty when he did that before in during the race in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.



2. Sergio (Checo) Perez being a legend

Max Verstappen started on soft tyres which are faster but have a lower durability than the mediums from Lewis. Verstappen did stretch up his durability so much that when he had to make a pit stop, Lewis went too (they both switched to the hard compound. This means, slower lap times, longer durability), which put Perez (his teammate) in first position. Hamilton was in front by about 8 seconds but it got reduced to 1 second. Verstappen thanked him by saying: 'Checo [Perez] is a legend'.

3. Saying goodbye to a legend

This was the last race of racing legend Kimi Räikkönen (a.k.a the iceman) (Alfa Romeo, Ferrari, Lotus, Sauber, McLaren). He is retiring after 18 years of Formula 1 racing and one year of rally racing (2010-2011). He ended with 103 podiums, 21 race wins and one world championship. He is known for his calm attitude (hence, 'the iceman') but also his stubbornness as exemplified in his iconic quote, "Leave me alone, I know what I'm doing!" which he said during the Abu Dhabi grand prix in 2012 while driving for the Lotus F1 team. Unfortunately he had to retire his car earlier, because his brakes stopped working.

4. Virtual safety car

In lap 39 there was a virtual safety car, because Antonio Giovinazzi's car shut down (Alfa Romeo). A virtual safety car means that the drivers are not allowed to overtake, and have to lower their pace. They also have to ensure the a gap to the person in front is at the same distance. An advantage of a virtual safety car is that the average time lost by a pitstop is reduced (in this case from an average of 23 seconds to 14). Max made use of that and made a pitstop to the hard tyre compound. Lewis stayed out of the pitlane, so he could keep position, but his tyres were way older (so slower). The gap between Max and Lewis was 16 seconds with 19 laps to go.

5. Safety car

In lap 53, Latifi (Williams f1) crashed into a wall, which caused a physical safety car. The difference between physical and virtual is that you can reduce the gap with the driver in front and there is even less time loss with pit stops. The rest stays the same. But again, Lewis stayed out to keep his position, Verstappen did make a pit stop and switched to soft tyres, this meant that Max was significantly faster than Hamilton, but cars still weren't allowed to overtake. There also were some cars in between the two that they had already lapped. In all previous situations where this happened, the leaders were allowed to overtake lapped cars, but this time it was not allowed, until the first to last lap. Verstappen was behind by only a fraction of a second. And on the last lap, the safety car was removed from the track.

6. The last lap

There was one lap of racing left. Verstappen had the faster tyres, but Lewis was in front. This lap is what became one of the most exciting laps in f1 history. And in turn 5, Verstappen overtook Hamilton. Hamilton came close, but never regained his position. Max Verstappen became champion of the world. Christian Horner (Team principal of red bull) congratulated him with the iconic words: "You are the world champion max, the world champion!" people who watched Formula one in 2010, might have gotten a little deja vu, because when Sebastian Vettel (then for Red Bull, now for Aston Martin f1) got his first world championship, Horner said exactly those words to him.

If you have any questions about the race or a Formula One rule, you can always email me:
11159@mendelcollege.nl

Christmas recipes

By: Anna Gloria Díaz Elizarde (2EH)

It's that time of the year, bells are ringing, snow is falling and family is coming over..That means time for a delicious meal! So let's review the top three Xmas meals from 2021. **Number three...**

Beef brisket

A delicious piece of beef, beef brisket is the lower chest part of the cow. There are many ways to prepare a brief brisket but this is one of the best ways to prepare beef brisket.

Recipe by: <https://www.willcookforsmiles.com/brisket-recipe/>



“Preheat the oven to 150° and place a rack inside the large roasting pan. Lay a couple of sheets of foil that are long enough to loosely cover the brisket, crisscross, on top of the rack. (You can layer the bottom of the roasting pan with aluminum foil to catch whatever drippings might leak through.)

Place the brisket, fat cap up, in the middle of aluminum foil prepared in the roasting pan. Bring the aluminum foil together and close it, covering the brisket loosely, leaving a little space between the brisket and the foil.

Place in the oven and bake for about an hour and 15 minutes per pound, until the brisket reaches 185°. Use a meat thermometer to measure the thickest part of the brisket.

Open the foil and bake brisket for another 45 minutes to an hour, until internal temperature reaches 200-202°

Take the brisket out onto the cutting board, tent it with a sheet of foil, and let it rest for 30 minutes. Make sure to cut the brisket against the grain. Cut the pieces into 2cm thick pieces and serve”.

Number two...



Cranberry Apple Pork Chops

A piece of tasty pig with cranberry apple sauce often served with brown sugar on top.

Recipe by: <https://www.heb.com/recipe/recipe-item/cranberry-apple-stuffed-pork-chops/1392765639900>

“Preheat the oven to 180°C. Spray a 13 x 9 baking dish with nonstick cooking spray, set aside. Combine the cranberries, apples, and apple juice in a microwave-safe bowl and microwave on high for 2 minutes. Cut a large

pocket into the side of each pork chop and season all sides with salt and pepper. Heat a large heavy bottom skillet over medium high.

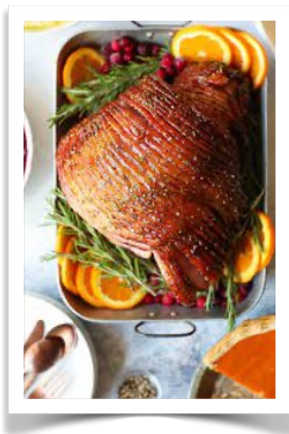
Spray the skillet with nonstick spray and sear each loin chop for 2 minutes on each side, set aside.

Using the same skillet, reduce heat to medium. Add the olive oil and stir-fry onion celery mixture for 3 minutes or until onions are tender. Turn off the heat and add the stuffing, butter, rubbed sage, and cranberry apple mixture, add salt and pepper.

Loosely stuff 1/2 cup of the stuffing mixture into each pork chop pocket. Arrange the stuffed pork chops on the prepared baking sheet, cover the baking dish with foil and bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until juices run clear.

Cut into serving size pieces and enjoy!”

And finally, number one, the favourite...



Maple Glazed Ham

Ham served with maple and/or honey.

Recipe by: <https://cafedelites.com/brown-sugar-mustard-glazed-ham/>

“For ultimate flavour and a juicy MAPLE GLAZED HAM, aim for a fully cooked bone-in ham. The best ham we baked during testing is the half leg pictured (shank end of the leg).

Cut a line through the skin all around the shank end. Insert a sharp knife between the rind and fat and run it along to detach both layers. Using your fingers, gently separate the rind from the fat. You can insert your hand deeper into the ham to keep detaching it so it's easier to peel the rind off. Peel off and discard the rind. Run knife cutting into the fat layer about 1/4-inch deep to lightly score diamond patterns all over the surface. Glaze and baste and baste and glaze and GO CRAZY with it! When the sticky sauce in the baking pan mixes through those pan drippings and begins to cool down, it starts to thicken slightly and transform into a beautiful deep brown colour.

Use THAT to baste your baked ham before serving! As you drizzle it over your ham, it creates the best shiny, golden glaze for your centrepiece!

Maple Glazed Ham smells just as good as it looks.”

ENJOY!

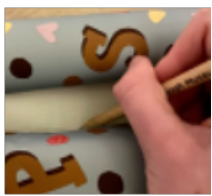
3 ways to wrap a box

by Cleo Oldenziel (2EGA)

The holiday season is coming up and it is time to wrap some presents. The only question is: “How?” starting off easy with wrapping boxes. Square shapes are easy to pack and especially if you are not good at wrapping gifts but remember to make sharp folds! Anyhow, let’s get started. What you’ll need is:

- wrapping paper (you’d rather have too much than too little)
- scissors
- tape
- a box (preferably with a gift inside)

The old-fashioned way:



The first thing you do is cut the wrapping paper. Put the box on it and try folding the paper so that the entire box is covered (see picture). You can mark the cutting line with a pencil, or cut right away. After that, you place the box in the middle of the wrapping paper and fold the edges of the wrapping paper over the box.



Take a small piece of tape and tape one side over the other.

Now, you will have a part of wrapping paper left on each side.

You fold the edges to the box (see picture) and fold the two triangles to the middle, one overlapping the other (one more picture). Do the same on the other side. And you’re all done!

A built-in card

Place your box in the middle of a big piece of wrapping paper. You



fold half of the paper to your box and then you “press” the side toward the box. (I added two pictures, I can assure you describing this is hard) and fold the upper triangle over the box, do the same on the other side. Now, fold the lower



triangle over the box like you did before and do the same on the other side. close the bottom of the present the same way you did in the old-fashioned way: Fold the edges toward the box and fold the triangle toward the middle (one overlapping the other). Slide a nice card into the folds and ta-da!



Not enough wrapping paper

Really? I warned you in the introduction! Doesn't matter, it only requires a little more skill. This time, you lay your wrapping paper in a diamond shape instead of a square. And then just fold the side toward the middle, the way you did in the old-fashioned way. When having to fold the edges, start by folding the point toward the box so you have a nice squared edge (see picture). The regular closing the box technique: see either old-fashioned or a built-in card for an explanation. In the end you might have a few uncovered spots but, oh well, should've listened to the introduction.



A ribbon

If you want to add a nice ribbon, here's how: Take a long ribbon and put it on the box and turn the ribbon mid-way (I don't know how else to explain but the picture is here to help). You then wrap the ribbon around the box and put it through the turn you already made. Put both ends over the box and tie them.



FUN & FACTS

By: Oscar Nolan (3EA)

Words to make you sound smart:



Hogamadog

A huge ball of snow built up by rolling a small ball of snow around a snowfield

Example sentence: That's no snowball, that's a **hogamadog**.

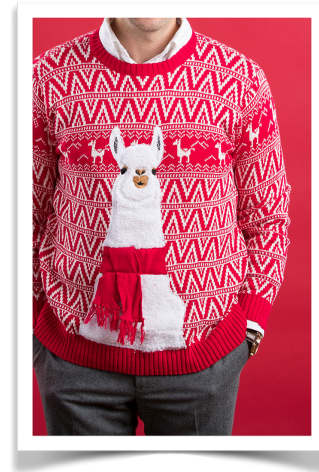
The History Of Christmas Clothing

By: Grace de Witt Hamer (1EGA)

There are many different types of fashion and Christmas also has its own style. Christmas colors are mainly red, green, gold and silver. Patterns often used for Christmas are: plaid, stars, bells, candy canes, bows, etc. For most Dutch people Christmas is not the most important holiday, but they still celebrate it with decorative clothing. Of course, fashion is an important part of Christmas.

The Ugly Christmas Sweater

The most Christmassy thing you could wear is an 'Ugly Christmas Sweater'. They come in all shapes and sizes. Some have reindeers, some have snowmen, some have elves, some have funny quotes. They're called 'ugly' because they are highly saturated in colors, and our eyes don't like to look at them for a long period of time. Christmas hats are also very popular to wear during Christmas. But what is the history behind them?



Source: <https://hespokestyle.com/ugly-christmas-sweater-trend/>

Santa's hat

Santa's hat (called a Pileus) was very popular to wear in Greece during the fifth century BC. A man named Thomas Nast drew St. Nicholas wearing a Pileus in 1863, which is the image that influenced Santa to look like that. Then in 1931 Coca-Cola popularized the red Santa hat and suit that we see nowadays.



Interview with Pleun Nijhuis: The girl next door who is making it big in Hollywood

By: Henri Akkerman (2EH)

Linda, Telegraaf, RTL Boulevard, 15 year old actress Pleun Nijhuis has been the headline in them all. However, award winning Pleun insists that she is just a normal girl. Although I am not sure I can agree with that after interviewing her, I can say that she is a wonderful person and very humble.

'Being a young actress is fun!'

So what is being an award winning actress like? In short Pleun says, "It's fun, there's always something to do on set" which makes it a bit less boring for the actors who are not in the film at that moment. According to Pleun, it's a great learning experience for anyone and some of her favorite memories are made on set.

'When I was still a kid, I wanted to be a ballerina'

Did Pleun always dream of being an actress? No! When she was a kid she didn't want to be an actress, but a ballerina. One thing for sure is that Pleun who recently won an American (Remi) award for 'best rising star', is very much in the spotlight.

'I'm a cat person for sure'

My favorite question to ask is, "Are you a cat or dog person?". When asked, Pleun answered that she was a cat person because: "They are very easy to take care of, unlike dogs", which I imagine is important as she is always very busy.

'I admire every actress'

When I asked which actress she admired, Pleun said she admired every actress. In addition she is happy that she has met a lot of famous people on set such as Georgina Verbaan who she starred alongside with.

'It's tough to balance my school career and acting'

What challenges does Pleun have to face? Not surprisingly balancing school work with her acting is not easy. In fact, Pleun said she got very bad grades when she was filming because she had to miss out on 3 weeks of school! The actress had to catch up on tons of tests and she had barely any time to study for them and had to revise by herself! Although Pleun said it was a tough experience she is happy that she did it. It seems that stardom has not negatively affected Pleun as she was also able to maintain all her old friendships. Pleun loves her friends a lot and missed them when she was taking a break from school.

'I never consider myself famous'

One thing is obvious, Pleun is very modest, she never considers herself famous and she never longs for the Hollywood lifestyle of drinking and doing drugs that a lot of young actors fall for. Of course, Pleun says that there are good and bad sides to being an actress. The actress says that being in a film is a great experience but she does get confronted at school which can be annoying. Despite her fame Pleun does not feel pressured to change her personality or appearance because of Hollywood.

'I don't think I will have a famous partner'

Even though Pleun says that she probably won't have a famous partner she does have a celebrity crush, Timothée Chalamet. Although she says it is a bit basic, Pleun thinks he is handsome and a great actor anyway.

'Never give up on your dreams!'

What is Pleun's advice to us? Simply put the star says that you should never give up your dreams and it's very easy to become an actor/actress. Her advice is to go to a casting office and get acting lessons. Although I think it might not be that simple, it is refreshing to interview a film star that is so humble.

FUN & FACTS

By: Oscar Nolan (3EA)

Did you know?

Of course we all know Santa and the myth surrounding him, but did you know that the reason that Santa has red clothing and is slightly overweight is because of Coca Cola! In the 1930's Coca Cola started an ad campaign where they depicted the jolly fat man drinking a bottle of Coke. and it worked! Both him and cola became very popular and now we can't imagine Santa looking any different.



Source: Coca Cola journey

Christmas tree ideas

By: Frieda van Schaik (1EGA)

Do you love to have a Christmas tree, but really need help? The mendel times will help you.

Step 1

Buy a tree. I think this is actually is the most important step. Because no tree, no Christmas. You can buy those for example at *DekaTuin* or *Casa* (also for a fake one). You have those from 50 cm till 300 cm. So the choice is huge! If you want one for your bedroom I would recommend one between 95 cm and 150 cm.

Step 2

I recommend picking a theme. A red theme for example or a silver, a black, a gold or a white. You can choose any colour you like. However, it does not have to be a colour. You could also choose for nature, snow or food as a theme. Search for example on *Pinterest* for some inspiration. I personally have a red and silver tree.

Step 3

Then let's put in the lights! Choose a nice set of lights and ideally one that fits with your theme. Now the most fun part (in my opinion) are the Christmas ornaments. You can have any figure you want. You can also use some vintage ribbons, santa sleighs or some bows. It does not always have to be Christmas ornaments. Put in some extra decoration, such as a Christmas angel. Then of course end with a tree topper.

Et voila. There you go. On the next page you will find some inspiration.

Merry Christmas!!



My Christmas tree



A whole pink theme

Source: Pinterest



A blue tree

Source: Pinterest



I would love to see your Christmas tree. You could share it with us on Instagram! Scan this code or search on Instagram for Mendel Times.

History of Santa Claus

By: Kyra van Schagen (2EG)

I think almost everyone knows who Santa Claus is. A man who brings presents to people during Christmas. But do you know the history of Santa Claus? It is quite interesting, and I will tell you the most important information!

Maybe you know that Santa Claus comes from Sinterklaas. Dutch colonists brought Sinterklaas from the Netherlands to North-America. There, the name slowly changed to Santa Claus. The tradition of giving presents is from Germany. At the beginning he wasn't very popular, but because of a story called 'A visit from St. Nicholas' published in 1823 his popularity increased. Most traditions of Santa Claus come from that story, some examples : the sleigh with reindeers, going through the chimney and the bag of presents. Thomas Nast made drawings of Santa Claus. His drawings have a big influence on how we see Santa Claus now. Also the idea that Santa lives on the North Pole comes from Thomas Nast.

I told you now where he comes from, but who is he?

St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) was a monk. It's believed that he was born around 280 AD. People say that he used his money to help poor and sick people, so a very nice man. One of his most famous St. Nicholas is that he saved three girls from slavery.

Brief facts about Santa:

- Santa is around 1,750 years old
- He comes from Turkey
- He was the most important saint in the renaissance
- Believing in Santa increases a child's imagination
- He started wearing red since an Coca Cola ad
- The writer of 'A Visit from St. Nicholas' is unknown



This drawing of Santa is Thomas Nast's most famous piece.

Source: Britannica

Christmas presents to add to your list

By: Mila Jansky (1EGA)



Okay, maybe it is a little expensive, but who doesn't want a Nintendo Switch? I mean, you can play on it forever, you can buy many cool games, you can stream it on your television, you can do EVERYTHING with it! And you always have unlimited game-time guaranteed. Best.Christmas.EVER!!!!

A beanie. Okay..... maybe not the thing you wish for the most but it's soooooo nice! In winter it is warm and nice and it looks good. You also can order it in many different colors. Maybe you also saw the reclame of Geitenbig in our last issue, because there you can even let them print your name or a picture on it! Who doesn't want a very own beanie?



Christmas cookies. That's not much to talk about. I mean, Christmas tree, Christmas presents, Christmas COOKIES. Everyone likes them, right? They are so delicious, and they look nice, and when Santa Claus himself eats them, how bad can they be? Enjoy your meal!!!

Markers! These markers you can use for everything to mark your texts. And they look really cool, right? With this set you always have enough markers to mark everything in your house!! And who does not want a colorful house?



Money. It is actually just like the cookies, there is not much to say about. With money you can literally buy everything you want. For example an iPad, a computer, a newspaper, and even a house or a car. If you want something very expensive, you can just ask some money for Christmas.

Led-strips is almost every kids dream. When you ask this for Christmas, you can light up your whole room with those lights. You can choose all of the colors you want, you can mix colors or just pick a random color to let the strips shine the light you want. Because the back-side of the strips are sticky, you can put them everywhere you want!



If you want one of these presents, just look it up on the internet.

Additional gift ideas: Christmas inspiration wishlist

By: Babette Boersma (2EG)

Dear all,

Christmas is coming! That is why I made a Christmas Wishlist with presents with a price that goes up until €100,- In this list you can find gifts to give someone or to put on your own Christmas Wishlist!



Fluffy Shoulderbag, Amazon
€13,-



Retro popcorn machine,
coolgift.com €40,-



Iphone disco lamp,
ditverzinjeniet.nl €9,-



Waterproof notebook,
coolgift.com €13,-



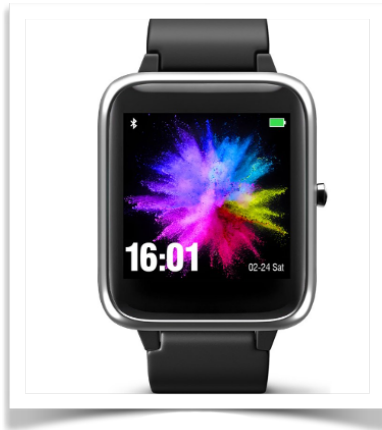
Mug, ditverzinjeniet.nl
€11,-



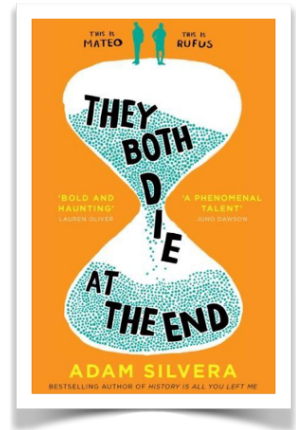
Heat sensitive mug pixel
heart, cadeau.nl €10,-



Beauty and the beast lamp,
bol.com €35,-



Smartwatch, bol.com
€50,-



They Both Die At The
End (book), bol.com €7,-



Mobile photo printer HP,
bol.com €100



Wreck This Journal,
bruna.nl €10,-

Fun & Facts

By: Oscar Nolan (3EA)

PRETTY PUTRID PUZZLES

This edition of the Mendel Times includes a maze. Without his cola, santa won't have enough energy to pilot the sleigh and go all around the world to deliver gifts. Help santa get to his cola, so everyone can get their presents!



ENLIGHTENING CHRISTMAS MEMES

Christmas when you were 8 years old
vs Christmas now

