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Easter Eggs and Explanations

By Cameron G. Baylor



When you hear the word Easter, what do you think of? Do you think of spring, vibrantly colored eggs, or fuzzy white bunnies? Or do you maybe think of church, family, and a feast of food? Easter seems like a conglomeration of various symbols and traditions. However, this holiday was celebrated before that Easter Bunny came hopping along the bunny trail.

Easter is an incredibly important holiday for Christians all over the world. On Good Friday, Jesus Christ was ordered to be crucified because he claimed to be the Son of God, and the Roman rulers didn't agree, as they thought that took away from their authority. Christians believe Jesus Christ resurrected, defeating death. In doing this, they believe Jesus proved what he claimed to be; the world's savior.

As Jesus was lead to the cross, he was tortured, whipped, beaten, humiliated, and mocked. He was nailed to the cross through both of his hands and feet, wearing a crown of thorns around his head. Christians believe he dangled from the cross for another reason; to pay for the sins of humanity.

In the Christian Bible, Hebrews 9:22 says, "In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." Christians believe that God, being holy, must judge right from wrong. This judgement was "poured out" and satisfied when Jesus, the one sinless human being, gave his life at the cross. This allowed God to forgive humanity for their sins so that they may have the chance to enter heaven, saving the world. Three days later, on the day known as Easter, Jesus' tomb was found empty. Instead he was seen walking around Jerusalem after defeating death. It was said in Romans 1:4, "...by being raised from the dead he was proved to be the mighty Son of God, with the holy nature of God himself." Soon after Easter, he claimed that he was coming back again, ascended into heaven, leaving everybody with

a choice; to walk with God or not. Christians rejoice because of what has been done, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

So, why are eggs and bunnies associated with Easter? The exact origins aren't known, but there are quite a few theories. The goddess Eostre was the Teutonic goddess of new life and fertility. Notice how "Eostre" is similar to "Easter". The goddess' symbol is the hare and the egg. Both the hare and the egg have represented fertility and new life since ancient times. The Germans are credited for bringing these symbols to America in the 1700s as they immigrated.

These symbols have evolved into new traditions. Easter eggs are found by children for a reason that is actually legitimate. Certain churches ban specific foods during the season of Lent, a forty day period of fasting; eggs are among this list. They are easily produced in mass amounts, and were boiled to be preserved for Easter day. Also, they were popular at pagan spring festivals. Decorative eggs can be linked to King Edward I of England, who ordered and gifted eggs covered in jewels and gold.

Easter candies have become popular in more recent years. These include jellybeans, specifically for their fun, colorful, egg-shaped appearance. Peeps were developed in the mid 1950's and have intrigued consumers with their bright, festive chick shape and marshmallow taste. Over time, Peeps have become an Easter staple, being the #1 non-chocolate Easter candy. It was estimated that 700 million Peeps would be consumed just this past Easter.

Easter has many different meanings. Despite what every individual may think, there is no denying that spring is upon us, and that the flowers will be blossoming. The sun will come out and make us notice how wonderful the season of rebirth can be.



NHS members old and new beam proudly after the ceremony. (Photo/Staff)

NHS Induction Ceremony

By Desiree Bechtol

The new members of National Honor Society have been selected! The inductees were announced at the NHS Ceremony on Wednesday, March 25th. The current NHS Seniors baked cookies for the momentous occasion and chose the inductee that they would tap at the ceremony. Both the Senior members and the hopeful Juniors that applied for NHS dressed their best for the induction ceremony.

The ceremony began with a speech from school board member Dr. Jody Seward. He spoke of his time in National Honor Society at Fairless, and about the meaning behind each of its pillars. The four pillars of NHS are Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character. The speech was inspiring to the current members and the inductees. After Mr. Seward finished speaking, the president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary also spoke on the pillars of NHS.

There are now 65 members of NHS now at Fairless. The Sophomore and Junior class attended the ceremony, along with the families of those inducted. Once the seniors finished tapping, the NHS members, both old and new, went to the cafeteria to enjoy cookies and punch together. The inductees were excited and their parents seemed proud.

Duke is the NCAA Champion!

By Kylee Palfy



(Photo/buffingtonpost.com)

The NCAA Men's Basketball champion was Duke. The North Carolina athletes fought past six other schools on their way to the championships. The team faced Wisconsin last, winning 68-63.