Thanksgiving is here!

Thanksgiving Day is a major American holiday celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November each year. The holiday was started by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, and is a day to give thanks for the blessings we all have. The day also remembers the First Thanksgiving in 1621, in which early American settlers called “Pilgrims” had a three-day meal with Native Americans to celebrate the harvest. Today, Americans typically celebrate the holiday by having a large turkey dinner, giving thanks for what they have, getting together with loved ones, and watching American football on television.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING....

The end of Thanksgiving marks the start of the Holiday Season in America, which continues until the start of the New Year. Christmas is originally a Christian holiday celebrating the birthday of Jesus. However, it has largely become a secular holiday, celebrated by many cultures around the world. Common celebrations of Christmas in America include giving gifts to loved ones, decorating homes and Christmas trees! with lights, having parties, and listening to Christmas music.

Q: What's the key to a great Thanksgiving dinner?

A: The little TURKEY

Q: Who says, “Oh, oh, oh?”

A: Santa Claus walking backwards

Holiday Word Search Puzzle

Find these holiday words in the puzzle. They can be up, down, across, or backwards.

CANDY CANE
CHRISTMAS
PILGRIMS
PRESENTS
PUMPKIN PIE
REINDEER
SANTA CLAUS
SNOWMAN
THANKSGIVING
What is your project?
My project is the game of Life of Pi which is my reading assignment book in advanced reading and vocabulary class. Pi, main character in Life of Pi, is cast away in the Pacific Ocean and survives after 227 days. This game consists of total sixty steps which are adventures of Pi, and players can progress the sixty steps in order of sequence.

What inspired you to do this project?
When I was a child, I used to play board games. While I was playing the game, I could feel as if I had experience in real events. Actually, my project is similar to life game among board games. After I read my book, I wanted to make a game which players can feel as if they become a main character, Pi. I want players to experience Pi's various events and feelings, such as principles, religions, pleasure, sadness, hardship, and conflict.

What do you like about studying at Loyola?
Loyola ELLP has good programs for students, and I am satisfied with them. I started to study in beginner level, and now I am in advanced level. Each level has appropriate level of ability, and I could have built up my English skills strongly. I couldn't write and speak at all before I started to study in Loyola. Can you imagine? Also, ELLP teachers are friendly, and they always try to help students as much as they can.

What do you like about Chicago?
When I came to Chicago at first, I was so surprised to see many beautiful skyscrapers because I am from small city in Korea. I like Lake Michigan which glitters in the sunlight, so I enjoy beautiful scenery there in a lovely day.

Name: Ali Alhabboubi
Country: Saudi Arabia
Level: ESL Advanced and University Courses

What is unique about Ali?
Ali Alhabboubi is a well-integrated student at Loyola. He is working towards a Bachelor’s degree in Marketing and is taking classes such as Philosophy, English Literature, Algebra and University 101. He is also an active member of Students for Life.

How has Ali grown as a student at Loyola?
Ali arrived in Chicago in June of 2012 from Jeddah to attend the University of Illinois’ ESL program as a low-intermediate student. One year later, he was already an advanced ESL student here at Loyola, getting ready to start his Bachelor’s degree in the fall. He really likes Loyola due to its location, facilities and high expectations on students, both academically and morally. He feels very comfortable on campus and in the neighborhood.

What does Ali like about Chicago?
Ali has also gotten used to Chicago’s seasons and has grown to appreciate them. He also enjoys summer activities such as kayaking and playing volleyball. His other pastimes are hanging out on the Magnificent Mile, especially visiting the AMC movie theaters there. The thing that makes his eyes sparkle, however, are all the new friends he’s made. He has made friends with students from Brazil, Colombia, with many American students as well. One relationship he truly treasures is the one with the family that hosted him for Thanksgiving last year. He will always cherish their friendship as he learned a lot from them about Thanksgiving and what this tradition means to Americans.

What advice would Ali give to other Loyola ESL students?
One piece of advice Ali has for ESL students at Loyola is to always pay attention to what teachers are saying because it’s all for a reason. He cautions students not to underestimate the value of what teachers say because it’s all for the benefit of the students.
A talent show put on by the ESL Department on November 15th
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<td>Christkindlmarket in Daley Plaza (begins November 26th)</td>
<td><strong>ESL Christmas Party</strong> at 5:30pm in IC 4th Floor</td>
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<td><strong>ESL Finals</strong></td>
<td><strong>ESL Finals</strong></td>
<td>Fall Semester Ends Nutcracker Ballet Begins at Auditorium Theater</td>
<td>Lincoln Park Zoo-Lights Handel’s Messiah at Symphony Center</td>
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<td>Lincoln Park Zoo-Lights</td>
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<td>Seasonal Wine &amp; Beer Tasting At Chicago Botanic Garden @ 6pm</td>
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<td><strong>Christmas Eve Christkindlmarket last day</strong></td>
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<td>Happy New Year!</td>
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<td>Lincoln Park Zoo-Lights</td>
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<td><strong>New Year’s Eve Fireworks at Navy Pier</strong></td>
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**Congratulations to ELLP Instructor, Sarah Lindsey and her husband!**

Madeline Lindsey Micic was born to ELLP Instructor Sarah Lindsey and her husband Goran. Madeline was born on September 27, 2013 and weighed 8 lbs 5 oz. Mommy and baby are both doing well!

From all of us in the ELLP, good luck on your final exams and have a safe and relaxing Winter break!!!! Spring 2014 classes begin on Monday, January 13th. We’ll see you then!