Fireworks painted the midnight sky on Jan. 1, marking the beginning of a new year. In the United States, New Year's Day is typically celebrated with a midnight kiss and a fireworks display. However, most countries celebrate New Year’s in their own unique way.

**Chinese New Year:**
In China, people celebrate New Year’s with celebrations and parades that may continue for 10 to 15 days. Beating drums and cymbals are believed to drive away all evil. They also have a unique way of celebrating New Year’s where every front door of a house is painted in red symbolizing happiness and good fortune.

**Denmark New Year:**
In Denmark, residents collect dishes throughout the year and throw them at their front doors. The more broken plates, the more friends one shall have in the new year.

**English New Year:**
The English custom for welcoming New Year’s is full of hospitality and warmth. They believe the first guest for the year would bring fortune for them. He should be a male, should enter through the front door and bear some traditional gifts such as loaf for the kitchen, drink for the head of the family and coal to light the fire. Otherwise, he is not allowed to enter. They believe these bring good luck throughout the year.

**Japanese New Year:**
The Japanese New Year is meant for celebrations with family, and it begins with proper decoration of the home to welcome luck and fortune. They clean the entire house, get themselves free from all financial liability, and resolve all issues before the New Year hits. Before the clock strikes 12, they ring 108 bells to show all 108 troubles have been eliminated.

**Brazilian New Year:**
Brazilians believe lentils signify wealth and prosperity. They serve food items made up of a legume-like soup or rice on New Year’s. On New Year’s Eve, the priestesses dress up in blue and white for an auspicious ceremony celebrated for the water goddess. Also, a sacrificial boat filled with jewelry, candles and flowers from the beach of Rio de Janeiro is pushed to the ocean that brings health, wealth and happiness for them.

**German New Year:**
In Germany, lead is considered to be auspicious. They pour molten lead into cold water, and the shape that is taken predicts the future. Heart shapes symbolize marriage, round shapes denote good luck, and anchor shapes tell that you need help. However, a cross signifies someone’s demise.

The facts were provided from http://www.123newyear.com/newyear-traditions/.

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Creating Good Luck in 2014

Photo provided by: Amodiovalerio Verde
I hope everyone had a nice holiday break and you are settling in for another semester. If you are new to Family Graduate Student Housing, I am excited to welcome you to our community! The 2014 spring semester offers a fresh start, and I wish you all the best with your academic pursuits, personal goals and family life.

Did you know that Oklahoma State University is one of the only universities in the Big XII that offers Family and Graduate Student Housing? Additionally, our Family Resource Center is a one-of-a-kind facility that is second to none in the United States! As we start off this new semester, I would like to strongly encourage you to participate actively in the FGSH community.

There are many ways that you can be involved: participate in or help your Apartment Assistants (AAs) plan neighborhood gatherings, volunteer at the FRC, or attend and provide feedback on FRC and neighborhood programs. We are here to help make your time at OSU easier and more enjoyable, and I hope you will take advantage of the great resources available to you in FGSH and at the FRC.

Also, if you have a question, concern, or need, please let us know; our goal is to constantly improve our services and help residents in whatever way we can.

Sarah Gordon, Ph.D.
FRC & FGSH Assistant Director

Keep up with the FRC on Facebook! Search “OSU Family Resource Center” and like our page. Make sure to check daily to find important FGSH information and for chances to win prizes!

Interested in receiving your newsletter electronically? Send an email to sarah.wilkey@okstate.edu with your name and email address. You will still receive a paper version.

Follow the FRC on Pinterest! Search “OSU Family Resource Center” under Pinners. Make sure to look us up for interesting recipes, activities and other information!

The mission of the Family Resource Center is to provide information and resources to individuals and families, with a particular emphasis on those living in FGSH. We assist residents in their adjustment to academic life and promote their success and personal fulfillment.
Jessica Donahue is currently attending Oklahoma State University to earn a bachelor's degree with a major in elementary education. She hopes to teach first grade in her hometown, which is Broken Arrow, Okla.

She currently is a youth and family programming assistant at the Family Resource Center. She loves all of the kids at the FRC.

Jessica’s favorite holiday is Valentine’s Day. She said her favorite food is shrimp alfredo-linguine. She enjoys soccer, photography, swimming, running at the Colvin and playing with her dog Bella.

Her favorite author is Nicholas Sparks, and she likes the movies made from his books.

Jessica said an interesting fact about her is that she is allergic to avocados, kiwi and bee stings.

If she could be anywhere, Jessica would be found on the beach.

Her birthday is October 15.

Our resident of the month is Sasi Devi. She is currently supporting her husband as he works toward his postdoctoral degree.

Sasi is from India. She lives with her husband in the Stevens neighborhood.

Sasi said her favorite food is traditional Indian food. Her hobbies include attending FRC classes and housekeeping. Her favorite quote is “God is love.” Her favorite holidays include Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Her role model is her mom.

Sasi also said the thing she likes about the FRC the most are all the classes provided.

An interesting fact about Sasi is that until December 2013, she had never seen snowfall.

If you see Sasi, be sure to say “Hello!”

Please alert the FGSH staff when:

• Roommate moves in or out
• New addition (newborns, dependents)
• Extended visit from relatives/friend (two weeks or more)
• Family members move out

Help us keep our records up to date with the names of the occupants in your apartment. Any changes in the people living in your apartment need to be documented with the Residential Life office at 100 Iba hall, 744-5353.

Recent resident changes to your apartment?

If you enjoy learning more about current FGSH staff members and fellow residents, be on the lookout for more spotlights in the upcoming *Newsline* editions!
Brumley Improvements

We are currently working on making the Brumley AA’s apartment wheelchair accessible. Until this project is completed, you can reach Samantha Whiteshield at brumleyaa@okstate.edu or 405-744-2311.

Freezing Pipes

To prevent freezing pipes, turn your thermostat to 70, open the cabinet doors under sinks, leave water faucet dripping, and make sure your window shades are slanted upward.

Why is it important to keep your pipes from freezing? You don’t want to come back from winter break and find out that you don’t have water!

Shopping Shuttle

Sign up for the shuttle at the Laundry Mart 30 minutes prior to the shuttle’s departure.

**The shuttle used to start at 5:30pm, but now it starts at 5pm on Monday and Wednesday.**

*All times listed above are approximate. Due to varying traffic flow, these times may be delayed.*

**Activities for children provided**

**Monday & Wednesday Schedule**

- 5pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ....................... To Sultan International & Crepe Myrtle Asian Food
- 5:40pm Leave from International Stores ........................................ To Laundry
- 6:00pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) .......... To Walmart & Aldi’s
- 6:30pm (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) To Walmart & Aldi’s
- 6:40pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 7:15pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ....................... To Walmart & Aldi’s
- 7:25pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 7:55pm(Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 8:25pm (Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments

**Saturday Schedule**

- 9am (Pick Up @ Laundry) ....................... To Walmart & Aldi’s
- 9:30am (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) To Walmart & Aldi’s
- 9:40am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 10am (Pick Up @ Laundry) ....................... To Walmart & Aldi’s
- 10:10am & 11am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 11:40am(Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 11:40am(Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 11:40am(Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 11:40am(Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments

English Grammar with Pronunciation Skills

- 7:25pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 7:55pm(Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments
- 8:25pm (Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Aldi’s) Return to FGSH Apartments

*Samantha Whiteshield at brumleyaa@okstate.edu or 405-744-2311.*

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**Shopping Shuttle (free for all FGSH residents)**
**Community Development Programs Spring 2014 Schedule**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>10-11am</td>
<td>10-11am</td>
<td>10-11am</td>
<td>10-11am</td>
<td>9:30-10:45am</td>
<td>6-7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Skills with Katelyn**</td>
<td>Everyday English with Caroline</td>
<td>Listening and Speaking Skills with Caitlin**</td>
<td>Cultural Conversation with Caroline</td>
<td>Inventions and Innovations with Adran**</td>
<td>Survival English with Ron</td>
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<td>11am-12pm</td>
<td>11am-12pm</td>
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<td>11am-12:30pm</td>
<td>7:30-9pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Grammar with Jordan**</td>
<td>English Conversation with Caroline</td>
<td>Book Club with Jordan**</td>
<td>Current Events with Caroline**</td>
<td>Cooking Demo with Caitlin, Jesse and Jordan**</td>
<td>Intermediate English with Ron</td>
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<td>1-2pm</td>
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<td>1-30-2:30pm</td>
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<td>Writing Skills with Jordan**</td>
<td>Basic English with Jesse**</td>
<td>English Around the World with Katelyn**</td>
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<td>Pronunciation Skills with Caitlin**</td>
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<td>2-3pm</td>
<td>2:30-3:30pm</td>
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<td>3:30-4:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craft Class with Katelyn and Caroline**</td>
<td>Advanced English with Katelyn**</td>
<td>Situational English with Caitlin**</td>
<td>English Around the World with Katelyn**</td>
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<td>Idioms and Phrasal Verbs with Katelyn**</td>
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<td>4:30-5:30pm</td>
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</table>
| Pronunciation Skills with Caitlin | Teaching TOEFL with Jordan | | | | **Activities for children provided**

**Field Trip to OSU Men’s Basketball Game vs. West Virginia**

Please join the Youth & Family Programs staff and Community Development staff as we attend the OSU men’s basketball game on Saturday afternoon, January 25, 2014, from 12 to 3:30pm. Due to the nature of this program, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The recommended age for this trip is 6 years of age and up as we will be walking to Gallagher-Iba Arena.

**Welcome New Employees**

Please help us welcome our new Youth & Family Programs and Community Development employees to the FRC family. We are glad to have them this year!
Please join the Youth & Family Programs staff and Community Development staff as we attend the OSU men’s basketball game on Saturday afternoon, January 25, 2014, from 12 to 3:30pm. Due to the nature of this program, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The recommended age for this trip is 6 years of age and up as we will be walking to Gallagher-Iba Arena.

**Spring 2014 Programs**

All programs (except Family Story Hour and Teen Club) are currently full. Please send Amie an email to place your child on the waiting list at amie.allen@okstate.edu.

**Field Trip to OSU Men’s Basketball Game vs. West Virginia**

Please join the Youth & Family Programs staff and Community Development staff as we attend the OSU men’s basketball game on Saturday afternoon, January 25, 2014, from 12 to 3:30pm. Due to the nature of this program, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The recommended age for this trip is 6 years of age and up as we will be walking to Gallagher-Iba Arena.

**Youth & Family Programs Holidays for January 2014**

There will be no Youth & Family Programs on Monday, January 20, 2014, in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Regular programs will resume on Tuesday, January 21, 2014.

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### Youth and Family Programs Fall 2013 Schedule

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<tr>
<td>3-5pm</td>
<td>Toddler Time (ages 2-3)</td>
<td>3-5pm Kindergarten Kids Club (ages 4-5)</td>
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<td>10-11am</td>
<td>Toddler Time (ages 2-3)</td>
<td>10-11am Family Story Hour (ages 0-4)</td>
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<td>5-6:30pm</td>
<td>Teen Club (ages 12-17)</td>
<td>5-6:30pm After School Adventures (ages 6-11)</td>
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**Please Note:**
Programs will resume Monday, January 13.
Kids’ Page

Find the words in the word search and color this winter-themed page!

Source: www.coloring.us and worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/

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BLIZZARD
GLOVE
HEATER
ICE
JACKET
SHIVER
SNOW
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN
WINTER
Upcoming events

Use this page as a quick guide to FRC, campus and Stillwater events going on this month!

January 2014

Saturday, January 4 – 8:30am to 4pm
Free CPR classes
Stillwater Community Center • If interested, contact LifeNet, Inc. at 405-707-000

Wednesday, January 8 – 8pm
OSU Men’s Basketball game against Texas
Gallagher-Iba Arena • $25 per person

Saturday, January 11 – 2 to 3:30pm
Anime Club
Stillwater Public Library

Sunday, January 12 – 6:30pm
Williams neighborhood gathering
FRC Great Room • Food and activity

Monday, January 13
Classwork begins

Monday, January 13 – 3:30 to 4:30pm
Here and there with... Wendy Orr (author of Nim’s Island)
Stillwater Public Library • Free and open to students in grades 3 to 5 • Registration is required • Sign up by calling 405-372-3633 or emailing askalibrarian@stillwater.org.

Wednesday, January 15
Registration deadline for Outdoor Adventure: Skiing in Taos, N.M.
Price from $495 to $510 per person • For more information contact: wellness@okstate.edu or 405-744-5581

Wednesday, January 15 – 7pm
OSU men’s basketball vs. TCU game
Gallagher-Iba Arena • $15 per person

Thursday, January 16 – 6:30pm
Brumley neighborhood gathering
Brumley Community Center • Food and activity

Friday, January 17 – 5:30pm
West neighborhood gathering
FRC Great Room • Food and activity

Saturday, January 18 – 5:30 to 6:30pm
Stevens neighborhood gathering
FRC Great Room • Food and activity

Saturday, January 18 – 6pm
Morrison neighborhood gathering
FRC Great Room • Food and activity

Monday, January 20 – 1:30 to 4pm
Freeze your Fanny Run
West side of Boomer Lake • Benefiting Judith Karman Hospice, the only nonprofit hospice in the Stillwater area • Pre-registration ends January 13, 2014 • contact 405-377-8012 to register

Monday, January 20
University Holiday

Tuesday, January 21 – 4pm
Demeree neighborhood gathering
FRC Great Room • Food and activity

Tuesday, January 21 – 11:59pm
SIS web enrollment Deadline

Tuesday, January 21
100% refund, nonrestrictive, drop/add deadline

Friday, January 24 – 5pm
50% refund, restrictive, drop/add deadline

Friday, January 24 – 6 to 8pm
Prosser neighborhood gathering
FRC Great Room • Food and activity

Saturday, January 25 – 1pm
OSU men’s basketball vs. West Virginia game
Gallagher-Iba Arena • $20 per person

Thursday, January 30 – 5:30pm
ROSU Half and Full Marathon Training Information Meeting
The Spring ROSU training will focus on the half and full marathon for the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon on April 27

Activities in OKC:

December 19 to January 4 (daily)
Chesapeake Snow Tubing
Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark • $10 for 90 minutes of snow tubing • For times visit http://www.downtownindecember.com/ChesapeakeSnowTubing

November 15 to February 02
Devon Ice Rink
Myriad Botanical Gardens • $10 per person (includes skates) • For times visit http://www.downtownindecember.com/DevonIceRink

FGSH Resident’s Advisory Council

Mushfiq Alam: mdma@okstate.edu
Talat Khan: talat.88@gmail.com
Ardi Yatim: ardiyansyah.yatim@okstate.edu
Fadhil Ali: fadhilcad@gmail.com
Patrick Kanza: patrick.kanza@okstate.edu

The FGSH Resident’s Council is a group of FGSH residents who serve as representatives of the individuals, families, students, staff, faculty & other residents who live in FGSH at OSU. The Council helps give suggestions and input to FGSH & ResLife staff. Please contact a council member if you have a question, concern or feedback.