

1/25/2016 (#32 this year)

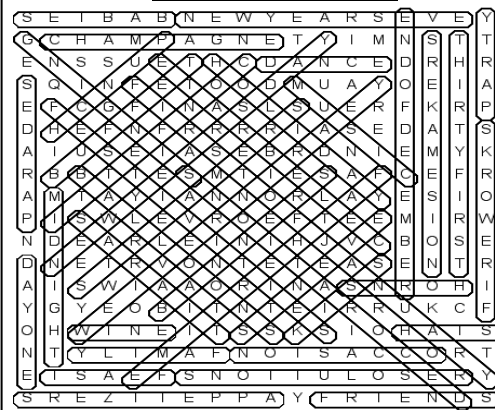
What a lot of snow we had last week. I bet¹ the people in charge of² the snow festival are relieved³. It seemed like⁴ we weren't going to have much snow this year and then suddenly it tipped down⁵. How are you all doing with your ski classes? I haven't been able to go this year, which is a shame⁶, but I hope you are all skiing safely. I am probably the worst skier in the world, although I am extremely⁷ fast. I can ski from the top to the bottom in seconds but I cannot stop or turn, so woe betide⁸ anybody who gets in front of me! Ha ha.

Something You Didn't Know (Pudding)

1. Puddings used to be savory⁹ (many English foods are called pudding: black pudding, Yorkshire pudding) but over time the word has come to mean a sweet food.
2. The word pudding comes from the French boudin, meaning "small sausage,". This is because in Medieval European¹⁰ puddings meat and other ingredients¹¹ were stuffed¹² in a skin¹³ that was cooked, in the same way as a sausage.
3. The modern pudding (what you think of as a pudding) started in the 19th century when a chemist¹⁴, Alfred Bird, made an egg free¹⁵ custard powder.
4. Sweet puddings are usually eaten cold but rice pudding and zabaglione¹⁶ are eaten hot.
5. 5.44kg in three minutes is the current¹⁷ pudding eating record. Wow.



Last Week's Answers



Announcements

Skiing: Mon 5th grade, Tues JHS, Thurs 4th grade, Fri 5th grade.
And that's all that is happening this week. Enjoy yourself.

News

Hokusei Teacher Eats 3.6kg Pudding

Last Friday night Hokusei teacher, Steven Askew, 38, was able to set¹⁸ a new personal best¹⁹ by eating a 3.6kg pudding in 50 minutes. Steven puts his success²⁰ down to²¹ "really, really liking pudding". A few weeks before Steven had eaten a 2kg pudding in a competition²² with his brother but he knew that he could do more if he pushed himself²³ a littler harder.



The reaction²⁴ of his wife, and the world in general²⁵, has been, "why? Why would you do something so stupid?" Steven was unable to answer this question. "Why do people climb mountains?" was his feeble²⁶ attempt²⁷ at an answer. "For the view²⁸," we said. "Ah," was all he said. Steven is a long way from competing²⁹ on the professional eating circuit³⁰.

We asked Steven if there were any other challenges he was thinking of. He said that there is a 2.5kg pancake and a 3kg curry challenge in Sapporo but he isn't sure if his wife will let him try them. If anyone has any ideas for things Steven could try and eat then please let him know.



1. Bet きっと〜だと断言する
2. In charge of ~を担当する
3. Relieved 安心する
4. Seem like ~のように見える
5. Tip down 多く降る
6. Shame 残念
7. Extremely 非常に
8. Woe betide に災いあれ
9. Savory 塩味
10. Medieval Europe 中世ヨーロッパ
11. Ingredient 材料
12. Stuff 積み込む
13. Skin 皮
14. Chemist 科学者
15. Egg free 卵無
16. Zabaglione イタリア料理。卵黄、砂糖、マルサーラワインなどのお酒で作るカスタード風デザート
17. Current 現在
18. Set 記録を作る
19. Personal best 自己最高記録
20. Success 成功
21. Put~down to~のせいにする
22. Competition 大会
23. Push oneself 自分を駆り立てる
24. Reaction 反応
25. In general 一般
26. Feeble 薄弱な
27. Attempt ~を試してみる
28. View 景色
29. Compete 競争する
30. Professional eating circuit プロ大食い連盟