

Barks 'n' Growls



BALLARD R-II SCHOOL

Fifth Edition, January 31, 2017

From the Superintendent's Desk....

Happy New Year! It's 2017, and with a new year comes new opportunities. I sincerely hope that students, teachers, and parents are all ready to put forth tremendous effort and work together to ensure academic success. We will know we have reached a high level of achievement when all students reach their academic potential and are prepared to enter post-secondary training (college, military, vocational school, etc.) or the workforce. If we strive for excellence and keep expectations high, students will meet and exceed those expectations. It has to be a team effort, though. Please contact myself or Mr. Hon if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for making this an even better school district.

It is very important to check on progress and communicate any concerns or problems to the teacher. If you still have concerns, the next contact to make is with the principal. Next in the chain of command would be the superintendent, followed by the School Board. If you intend to present an issue to the school board, you must obtain Form 0412 Request to Appear before the Board from the Superintendent's office and return this form 5 school days prior to the Board Of Education meeting you are requesting to attend. By working together, we

can solve just about any problem and improve any situation that you feel is an issue.

As of this date (1-20-2017) we have missed 1 day of school because of weather. We will plan to use April 17, 2017, as a make-up day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our current school board members for the service they provide for our school district. These ladies and gentlemen provide leadership to our district because they care about the Ballard R-2 School District. With the week of January 23-29, 2017, being School Board Appreciation Week, I, on behalf the entire district, thank you for your service.

If anyone has any concerns about our school, please feel free to contact me. I am more than willing to discuss the concerns with you.

Written by Mr. Siebeneck
Formatted by Camryn East

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Principal's Corner

Dear Ballard Families,

Happy New Year to you and your family! Well, here it is-another year, and I hope it is an outstanding one for all of you. Students arrived back on January 4th with smiles and excitement. We are so glad to have them back in the school building! Having survived the first semester, we stand ready to finish the school year with confidence. My hope is that you, too, will look forward to the challenges of the new semester. Build on your achievements and put away your past disappointments. A few achievements that occurred include a school wide increase in reading levels, increase on Parent Teacher Conference attendance, FFA District Barnwarming, Area 7 Trap Team, successful Fall Play and Christmas Concert, students being accepted to college and services, along with numerous class improvements and achievements!

Parents, please continue to reinforce good attendance habits with your son/daughter. Attendance and accuracy of attendance is extremely important in school. Excessive absences may result in missing work, which is difficult to make up, losing continuity in school work, an irresponsible attitude toward daily obligations, and failure in school.

A couple of reminders:

- If you are a guest at visiting the school, please check in, sign into the office, and receive a visitor's badge. Please make sure you make prior arrangements with the school. This will limit the classroom interruptions.
- If your child is absent from school, please make sure you are notifying the school either by phone call or a note presented to the office by 3:00pm the day following the absence.
- If school needs to start late or be canceled due to inclement weather, this information will be sent via text through the school notifications along with local television and radio stations.

With Great Appreciation,
Mr. Eric Hon, Principal

Formatted by Camryn East

Student of the Month

December

The Ballard R-II School District is pleased to be working in conjunction with the Adrian Optimist Club to honor a Student of the Month for the 2016-2017 school year.

Student of the Month is selected by the staff of the Ballard R-II School District using the following criteria: attendance, attitude towards others and school, behavior, leadership, and improvement in or maintenance of good grades.

The Student of the Month for December is Junior, Camryn East, daughter of Kevin and Shamera East. English teacher, Mr. Smith said that "The smile never ends. Polite and compassionate. Camryn is always willing to help, to tutor, to assist, to do what she is asked, along with being an outstanding student." Art teacher, Mrs. DesCombes said that "Camryn is a hardworking, self-motivated student. She is kind to everyone and a fun person to be around." Science teacher Mr. Brewster said that "Camryn is a leader in and out of the classroom. She is always considerate of her classmates and constantly displays an excellent work ethic." Math teacher, Mrs. Kershner said that "Camryn is conscientious and self-driven. She wants to be the very best she can be at all that she does. She is also helpful when working with classmates."

Camryn is a member of the Basketball, and Softball teams. Camryn is also involved in Drama, Ballard Honor Society, Paw Pride, Art Club, Publications and Pep Club.

For Camryn's hard work in school, she is receiving a certificate of recognition from the Adrian Optimist Club and \$20.00 in Adrian Chamber of Commerce "Chamber Bucks."



Pictured above: Optimist Member Darrel Tenholder, Camryn East, Optimist Member Jerry Ferguson

January

The Ballard R-II School District is pleased to be working in conjunction with the Adrian Optimist Club to honor a Student of the Month for the 2016-2017 school year.

Student of the Month is selected by the staff of the Ballard R-II School District using the following criteria: attendance, attitude towards others and school, behavior, leadership, and improvement in or maintenance of good grades.

The Student of the Month for January is Junior, Merritt Roach, son of Rusty and Melody Roach. Math teacher, Raelynn

Kershner states "Merritt has a good work ethic and the great life skill of having a realistic outlook on what he can get done with the time he has. He expects big things from himself. If on occasion he doesn't measure up to his expectations, he is disappointed, and he lets that disappointment drive his motivation to do better. He is always pleasant and helpful in class." Social Studies teacher Brad Dunkin states "Merritt is self-assured, yet open to new ideas, with a record of continual self-improvement, and a respect for teachers rarely matched." Merritt is a member of the Baseball and FFA Trap teams. Merritt is also involved in FFA and Ballard Honor Society.

For Merritt's hard work in school, he is receiving a certificate of recognition from the Adrian Optimist Club and \$20.00 in Adrian Chamber of Commerce "Chamber Bucks."



Pictured above: Optimist Member Alvin Griffin, Merritt Roach, Principal Eric

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Holly Tate, 18, is the daughter of Troy and Jana Tate, and is the sister of Jamie and Trent Tate.

Some of her favorites include the color navy blue, Art class, pasta, Ruby Tuesday, and the song "Work Song" by Hozier. Holly's dream car is anything clean that will reliably get her from point A to point B.

Her hobbies are reading, working out, and cleaning her house. Holly's extracurricular activities include Volleyball, Publications, Ballard Honor Society, Art Club, and Scholar Bowl. Holly's pet peeve is "Most people in general."

Holly's plans for the future are to further her education at The College of the Ozarks. When asked, "Where do you see yourself in 15 years?" Holly answered, "I see myself doing something that makes me happy and making the world a little bit better of a place." Holly's famous last words are, "4'10", actually, "Morgan, put my water bottle down!" and "Yes, I am a vegetarian. No I don't hate you for eating that burger."

Formatted by Aiyana Murchie



Krazy Kindergarten

Mrs. Hathcock

Second Semester is now in full swing along with a brand new year! The kindergarteners have been hard at work, learning all kinds of new, exciting things. We have been learning facts about animals and the parts of a plant in science, and are preparing to start addition in math soon. It is so exciting to see how much they have grown and how much they have soaked up since the beginning of the year. The 100th day of school is coming up and we are preparing to celebrate with a variety of activities. We are also looking forward to cheering on the Bulldogs during court warming in another week. I am so proud of this year's kindergarten class and am looking forward to seeing them continue to learn even more in the months to come.

Written by Mrs. Hathcock
Typed by Adelyne Dowse

Fantastic Fourth

Mrs. Moore

The Fourth Graders were asked what their favorite thing to do in class was. There were multiple answers given, but the majority of them said that they liked Centers more than the rest. The other things that were said involved Math, Spelling, and Social Studies.



Written by Mrs. Moore
Typed by Adelyne Dowse



February Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|--------------|----|-----------------|
| 9 | Kelsey Pray | 22 | Kennedy Borland |
| 9 | Mikayla Pray | 28 | Brice Miller |
| 9 | Jack Rotert | 28 | Ray Cummings |
| 15 | Brice Eidson | | |

FIESTY FIFTH

Miss Norton

This month has been great for the fifth grade. As I am writing this, we are reading Harry Potter in our reading class, and are divided into three houses (or teams). These houses are Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, and Gryffindor. We are working hard to earn points for our houses so we can win the House Cup. Whichever house has the most points at the end of the Harry Potter book will get a soda of choice with ice cream and all of the toppings; second place will get ice cream with all of the toppings; and last place will get only ice cream.



In art, we are drawing pictures on our fake amate bark. We are going to use bright, vibrant colors to color them in. It will look magnificent. In music, we have sung songs about the thirteen colonies. It was pretty fun. In library, we just finished Iron Will. In P.E., my class learned a new exercise; it is called the Cherry Pickers.

In math, my class and I have been working on double dividing numbers. In science, we are learning about volume and matter. Social Studies class is really awesome right now. My class is learning about the life in the thirteen colonies and their fight against Great Britain. In ELA, we have been learning about adjectives (describing words), and in writing we are creating fictional narratives. Fifth grade is awesome!

Written by Lindy Gunter
Typed by Mikayla Whitaker



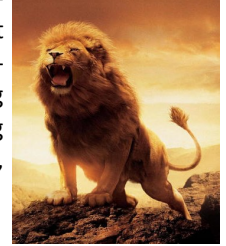
The eighth grade is working hard on learning new things and have even begun to plan for their futures. In our classes, we are learning about fun topics like the Constitution in social studies. We started typing class, which can be fun at times, but our favorite thing is gym. Gym is our favorite, because we get to do an entire month of basketball and for most of us, that is our favorite sport!

Written by Serenity Morris
Typed by Holly Tate

Snazzy Sixth

Ms. Eidson

We're glad to be back! In spelling, we are practicing our spelling bee words. We are learning about integers and rational numbers in math. In social studies, we are learning about Ancient Greece. In reading, we just finished reading "Narnia," and now we are reading "Among the Hidden." We are learning about energy sources in science. Now, we are vamping up for Court Warming!



Written by Macie Morris and Alexis Hastings
Typed and Formatted by Camryn East

Slick Seventh



We are super excited for our Valentine's Day dance that is coming up. We were disappointed when the Christmas Dance was cancelled last month, but Christmas break made up for it, and was fun also.

We only have a semester left of school! We all hope that the Seniors have a great second semester here. Make 2017 count!

Written by Briana Arredondo and Ashton Carullo
Typed by Mikayla Whitaker

Jazzy Juniors

It's great to be back from Christmas break. We hope everyone had a wonderful time. We can't believe that half of this school year is over. We also can't wait to be seniors next year. It all is flying by faster than the speed of light. The more time we spend as a class, the more we realize how precious our time is together. Next year is going to be a blast, and we're excited. We hope everyone else has a great third quarter.



Written by Savanna Allen
Typed by Andrew Hon



Sarcastic Seniors



Welcome back to school, everyone! We hope everyone had a great break! The seniors are busy booking flights and reserving a house for senior trip! We can't believe how fast this school year has gone by.

On another note, we would like to invite everyone to come out and enjoy a delicious pasta dinner! Walk-ins are more than welcome! The dinner is on Saturday, February 4, 2017, at Ballard High School. There is more information on the flyer inserted in the middle of the newspaper. This includes prices, menu, and contact information to purchase tickets. Thank you in advance to everyone that attends our dinner.

By Aiyana Murchie

Everlasting English

Mr. Smith

Eighth grade is currently working on parts of sentences and will be moving back into literature. The freshmen are working on parts of a sentence and have also been assigned their "ME" poster/ paper project, which will be due at the end of the quarter.

After this project the freshmen will move to Romeo and Juliet.

Sophomores have just finished S.E. Hinton's The Outsiders. They will also take a close look at five grammar usage units. Junior English students recently finished the play Twelve Angry Men, and have begun to read The Crucible by Arthur Miller. The College Prep class has finished a unit over Greek mythology and will soon begin immersing themselves in William Shakespeare's Macbeth. At last, speech class has been extremely busy going over how to outline a speech, and will soon be presenting a demonstrative speech.

By Holly Tate



Morgan's Matter of Facts

By Morgan Meade

1. Switching your phone to airplane mode will not turn your phone into an airplane.
2. Ten out of ten potatoes can not read, or write.
3. Without that little voice in your head, you wouldn't be able to read this.
4. Recent studies in Uganda have found that tomatoes weren't intended as weapons.
5. Fish can survive under water.
6. The color blue spelled backwards is eulb, which means absolutely nothing.
7. Gandolf the Gre and Winnie the Poo have the same middle name.
8. Today is the tomorrow of yesterday.
9. If Morgan Freeman gets thrown in jail, he is no longer a free man.
10. Nicolas Cage isn't really a cage.





Artistic Lines



Mrs. DesCombes

Each month Mrs. DesCombes will choose one student from each grade K-6 to be the Artist of the Month. This student exemplifies artistic skill, leadership, and good behavior.

This month's winners are . . .

Kindergarten: Zayden Miller — Zayden is such a happy guy. He is listening and improving with every piece of art he makes. I love his ideas and enthusiasm. He also makes some really great Lego sculptures.

First Grade: Reese Shumate — Reese is a great example to her fellow classmates. Not only is her artwork beautiful, but she also follows directions, raises her hand to ask questions, and works diligently.

Second Grade: Maribel Arredondo — Maribel is becoming more and more confident in her artwork. Because of her newfound confidence, she is taking risks and creating some really unique and well-made artwork. I am really proud of her.

Third Grade: Haley Pray — Haley is always creative and excited to be in art class. She is a very kind and funny person. I always like having Haley in class.

Fourth Grade: Zoie Wheeler — Zoie always works hard and does a great job in whatever we do in art class. From painting, to drawing with pastels, to papier-mache, there is nothing Zoie can't do!

Fifth Grade: Lilly Rotert — Lilly is energetic and enthusiastic! She always has an awesome quirky idea for an art project. I am always excited to see what she does next.

Sixth Grade: Zachary Thomas — Zach has been working incredibly hard on his artwork this year. His hard work has really paid off immensely. He is making some of his best artwork and keeps getting better with every project.



Typed and formatted by
Aiyana Murchie
and Camryn East



Bulldog Puppies

Mrs. Meade

The preschoolers have been trying to get back in the swing of things, because we have been off for almost an entire month. We have started back with the letter V and have jumped right into counting work pages that incorporated coloring skills. We have also changed our schedule a little bit. Instead of going to play in the gym at 9:00, we now go at 8:30. The students seem to enjoy this more, because they get to burn off all of their pentup energy first thing in the morning, instead of waiting till later in the morning.

By Holly Tate



Scientific Notation

Mr. Brewster

The seventh grade is finishing up their paper roller coaster. The eighth grade is working on the elements of matter. The freshman class is getting educated on radioactivity. The sophomores are focusing on punnet squares, genetics, and DNA. The biology II class is preparing to dissect a pig. The forensics class is beginning to work on online cases and are taking fingerprints.

Written by Mr. Brewster
Typed by Andrew Hon

New Faces



What is your name? Jayce Vinson
What grade are you in?
Kindergarten
What is your favorite:
Movie: Toy Story
Food: Lunchables
Color: Blue
Holiday: New Year's Eve
Sport: Football
What would you like to be when you grow up? Firefighter

By Maddy Murray

Adventures in History

Mr. Dunkin



Welcome back from the history department! To start the school year off, the seventh grade geography class is learning about modern Europe. Eighth grade U.S. History students are currently wrapping up the constitution and have begun to cover the empire of liberty. The Freshmen history class will be covering WWI and how it altered America's future.

World History is studying the middle ages. They will also be delving into how farming changed, how more of the population moved to cities, and exactly what role the Church played during this time. Civil War students at this time are discovering the differences between the north and the south and discussing the first year of the war. Finally, the geography class is finalizing their religion unit.

By Holly Tate



Library Report: Jan. 2017

Mrs. Wiskur

This month, the library staff voted to focus our report on "Crazy Book Titles." Keep in mind, this was no easy decision, as several staff members thought we ought to go ahead with our annual SNOW report, since so many people rely upon us for thorough, up-to-date, and accurate SNOW reports. Nevertheless, majority rules, and so we submit the following information on the craziest book titles in the library.



First of all, the E area (easy books) has many books with funny titles, such as I Miss You, Stinky Face, Brain Surgery for Beginners, I Wish That I Had Duck Feet, and Sneetches. (What is a sneetch, anyway?) Then there's Never Ride Your Elephant to School, Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road?, More True Lies, What is My Shadow Made Of?, Why Do Mosquitos Buzz in People's Ears? (You and blame Dr. Seuss for a few of those.)

Then, there is the juvenile section (middle school). There are those Capt. Underpants books, like Invasion of the Potty Snatchers. (Author Dav Pilkey, what were you thinking?) There's also Slob and Flush (fiction), two non-fiction books about the invention of the toilet, and titles such as Why is Snot Green? and How Loud Can You Burp? (Adolescent humor, anyone?)

Next, we looked in the high school section. Surely there wouldn't be any folderol over there; surely there couldn't be any wimpy kid or dork books in the h.s. section...

And so I looked in h.s. non-fiction. How about Rats: Observations on the History and Habitats of the City's Most Unwanted Inhabitants or Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers? Or how about Rules for Everything From Tiddleywinks to Stickball?

Then, there's the current fad of naming books with one attention-grabbing word: Gone, Rash, Dreadnought, Behemoth, Fractured, and Shattered, just to name a few. Hey, who reads these crazy books?...As a matter of fact, the answer is...*everybody!*

And so, finally (do not begin sentences with coordinating conjunctions in formal writing), we'll close with a quick letter from one of our faithful readers.

Dear Library Experts,

How much snow will we get this winter? Will we have any snow days?

Dying to Know

Dear Dying,

Of course we're going to get lots of snow! Of course we'll have some snow days!

However, no single snow storm is expected to exceed 1 5/8 feet of snow.

Written by Mrs. Wiskur
Typed by Mikayla Whitaker

Sports Page

Hangin' With the Panthers



Pictured above Adelyne Dowse

On Friday, January 6, 2017, the Ballard Lady Bulldogs competed against the Sheldon Lady Panthers, at Ballard. When asked how the girls played, Assistant Coach, Tina Eidson, stated, "The girls finally came together as a team, and played the offense. They also were able to break the press that the Lady Panthers ran." The Lady Bulldogs came out looking pretty good, and played to their full potential for the first half. When they came out of the locker room from halftime, the girls had decided to run a different play to hopefully obtain a win. In the fourth quarter, things started to get very intense. The Panthers had caught up, and eventually took the lead for good. Although the girls finally worked well together as a team, they still fell short and have a lot to work on. The score of the game was 27-25. Keep on working, Lady Bulldogs!

Lady Bulldogs vs. Miami December 19, 2016	
Ballard	33
Miami	30
Leading scorers Savana Allen and Camryn East with 10 points	

Lakeland Tournament

Lady Bulldogs vs. Hermitage January 9, 2017	
Ballard	17
Hermitage	64
Leading scorer Savana Allen with 9 points	

Bitin' at the Bluejays

On Tuesday, January 17, 2017, the Ballard Lady Bulldogs played the Montrose Lady Bluejays, at Ballard. Right out of the gate our girls got the tip, and made a layup. The pressure was on, and our girls were dying for a win. Head Coach, Mr. Brewster, was constantly pulling each of the girls out, so that they could each have a quick break. Although the girls played a heck of a game, they didn't manage to grasp the win. It seemed like every time our Lady Bulldogs scored, the Bluejays scored twice as much. Mr. Brewster stated, "I was very proud of the girls' performance, even though we fell short. In my opinion, the girls played their best game against Montrose." The final score was 23-42. Keep playing hard, girls!

Lady Bulldogs vs. Humansville January 11, 2017	
Ballard	38
Humansville	47
Leading scorer Camryn East with 13 points	

Fighting With the Bobcats

On Thursday, January 19, 2017, the Drexel Lady Bobcats faced off against our Ballard Lady Bulldogs, at Ballard. Like the game on Tuesday, Adelyne Dowse won the tip. The game was extremely physical from start to finish, on both parts. At the very beginning of the game, the score was neck and neck. Slowly throughout the game however, the Bobcats gained the lead, and it kept getting bigger and bigger until they won. The final score was 27-42. Good effort, girls!



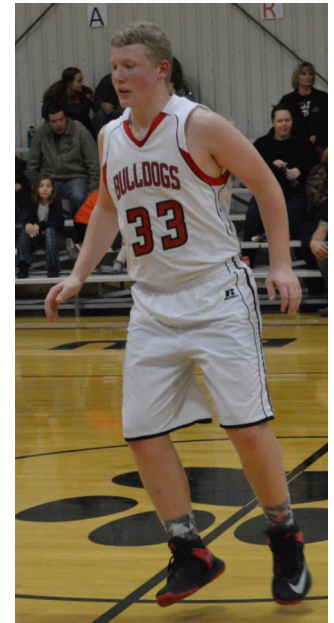
Lady Bulldogs vs. Hermitage January 24, 2017	
Ballard	21
Hermitage	51
Leading scorer Camryn East with 9 points	



Ballard vs. Miami Monday, December 19, 2016	
Bulldogs	44
Miami	30
Leading Scorer: Andrew Hon With 23 points	

Bulldogs take on the Panthers

On Friday, January 6, 2017, the Ballard Bulldogs took on the Sheldon Panthers in a very close game. The Bulldogs were up at the end of the first quarter. The crowd was very much involved and into the game at this point. At halftime the boys were up by four points. When they came out of the locker room, the Bulldogs were ready to play again. They kept their lead throughout the third quarter and kept playing hard. When the fourth quarter rolled around, the boys started to lose their lead. Andrew Hon stated, "We had a lot of turnovers at the top, resulting in them scoring on a lot of fast breaks and layups." Although the boys fell short of a victory, they have been working very hard in preparation to take on Sheldon again and teams in the future. The final score was 53-48.



Pictured above is
Garret Oerke

Lakeland Tournament

Ballard vs. Wheatland Monday, January 9, 2017	
Bulldogs	28
Wheatland	61

Ballard vs. Humansville Thursday, January 12, 2017	
Bulldogs	33
Humansville	38

Ballard Bulldogs at home

Ballard vs. Montrose Tuesday, January 17, 2017	
Bulldogs	33
Montrose	67

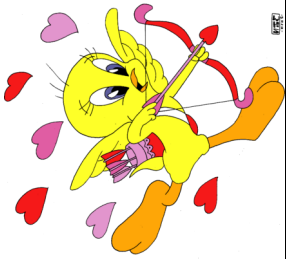
Ballard vs. Drexel Thursday, January 19, 2017	
Bulldogs	36
Drexel	52



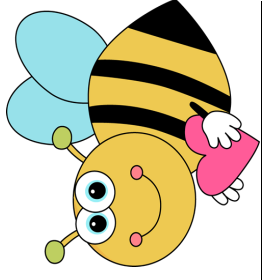
Pictured at left Colton Page

Ballard vs. Hermitage Tuesday, January 24, 2017	
Bulldogs	26
Hermitage	67

Written and typed by Adelyne Dowse



February 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	GWVC Conf Tournament @ Montrose	Boys vs Miami 6:30pm Girls vs Montrose 8pm	4-H Meeting 6/7pm K-3 Art Club 3:15-4:30pm 	2 Class/Group/Sports Pictures PTO 6:30pm	3 <u>MID QUARTER</u>	Senior Class Pasta Dinner 5-8pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Board Meeting 7:30pm	Valentine Parties 2:30pm Senior Night VBB vs Calhoun 6pm	Sophomores Vo-Tech Tour 8:30-1pm 3-D Art Field Trip All day	VBB @ Montrose 6pm	<u>NO VO TECH</u>	Project Prom Tip night 5-8pm @ Ballard Grill FOOD FOOD FOOD
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
FFA Week	<u>NO SCHOOL</u> VBB Districts @ Drexel	ESBB vs Sheldon 6pm	Ballard Spelling Bee 	8th Grade NAEP Test	ESBB vs Miami 6pm	4-H Chili Supper 5:30 -7pm
26	27	28				
		Scholar Bowl @ Sheldon 4:30pm ESBB vs Appleton City 6pm				