



# Barks 'n' Growls



BALLARD R-II SCHOOL

Third Edition, November 22, 2016

## From the Superintendent's Desk...

Students, Parents, Staff, and Community

First and foremost I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. As Thanksgiving is here, it gives a wonderful reason to reflect upon that life that we are thankful for.

I am thankful for the opportunity to work here at Ballard and to call it my home and also thankful for the opportunity to educate our youth. I can honestly say, as well as most of you could, that a child has earned a quality education in their time here at the Ballard R-2 School District.

I am thankful that Ballard can be unique in their education in that we can offer students that individualized help to students that most schools cannot, mainly because of their size.

I am thankful for the Ballard R-2 School District and what it has done for our community and students. It is a great educational institution to receive an education and to become a knowing citizen in our society.

Christmas is not far away, and we all know that marks the end of the first semester. Please help us emphasize to the students the importance of turning in all assignments, studying for tests, and putting forth maximum effort in order to be successful. After all, the semester grades are part of every student's permanent record. Grades, along with attendance, are what most employers ask about, and colleges also look closely at ACT scores. Despite the various excuses, final grades are the responsibility of the students. Every teacher is more than willing to help students; however, the students have to be willing to take responsibility and put in the work necessary to learn the concepts. They also have to work even harder in subjects that don't come as easy to them. It takes hard work from students, high expectations from teachers, and support from parents to make it work. I assure you that the staff members here at Ballard have the best interests of the students in mind.

It is very possible that there will be snow days before the next newspaper article, so I want to remind everyone that there are several places to find out if school has been cancelled due to inclement weather. The local TV stations should display

this information. KCTV5, KMBC-TV9, FOX4 - WDAF-TV and KSHB-TV on channel 41 are all included, as well as their affiliates. That means the following channels should have school closing information: 4, 5, 9, 38, and 41. There are also several radio stations that announce school closings, including KDKD Radio (95.3 FM, 1280 AM, and 104.9 FM) and KMOE (92.1 FM). A third location for Ballard School closing announcements is our school web site, which is [www.ballardr2.net](http://www.ballardr2.net). Cancellations will also be sent out on a "Remind" (Group text message), as well as being put on Bates County Live. Please keep in mind that whether school is cancelled or not, there are always disagreements on the decision. My philosophy on school closings due to weather is quite simple: when in doubt, error on the side of safety, which means cancel. The last thing we want is to risk the safety of the students or staff members here at Ballard. If you have any questions or concerns about this information, please contact me at any time.

I want to end by thanking the veterans who attended the Veterans Day Program on November 11th. We appreciate the sacrifice that all veterans have made in the past and present. It definitely makes some of our "problems" seem trivial. The men and women of the armed forces deserve respect, gratitude, and support now and into the future. No matter what problems we have faced and will face, this is still the greatest country in the world. Thanks again for everything you have done for us.

Thank you for taking the time to read this article, and if you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me here at the school.

Superintendent  
John Siebeneck

Formatted by Aiyana Murchie

## December Birthdays

2	Nathaniel Fischer	18	Celia Campbell
3	Tucker Roach	19	Macie Wainscott
5	Donovan Card	21	Jamie Tate
7	Haley Pray	21	Trent Tate
7	Jada Gains	27	Rachel Evans
10	Alexis Hastings	29	Noah Bales
14	Caleb Morris	30	Chrissy Evans
15	Zach Thomas	30	Dylan Tippie



## Happy Thanksgiving



# Principal's Corner

Dear Ballard Families,

Thanksgiving is a time for eating turkey and stuffing, spending time with your family, and reflecting on the successes of the past three months of school. We have so much to be thankful for and proud of at Ballard. Some of these include but are not limited to the following: We have had an outstanding first quarter due to the combined efforts of our students, parents, faculty, and staff. Our students have been busy with a variety of events including class projects, fundraising activities, and participating in sports and extracurricular activities. Being a former basketball coach, this time of year is special to me so I would like to share a reading I have from the book Beyond Basketball: Coach K's Keywords for Success by Mike Krzyzewski, head men's basketball coach at Duke University.

## Imagination

Everybody has the ability to imagine. However, this gift is often underutilized by today's youth. In a world of video games and mp3 players, too often youngsters are entertained by someone imagining for them.

I can remember playing basketball, all alone, in a Chicago schoolyard as a kid. I would take jump shots, drive to the hoop for layups, shoot free throws, all the while verbalizing a running commentary of the game that I was playing in my head. "Down by one...79-78... six sec-

onds on the clock... Krzyzewski dribbling down the court, crosses over...3...2...1..."

As I took the final shot, I felt like I was really there, that the game was really on the line, and that I had the chance to be a hero. If the shot went in, the final buzzer sounded and I celebrated the victory. If I missed, there was, of course, a foul on the play and the game continued as I stood at the free throw line with no time on the clock. Though I enacted a broad range of imaginary scenarios throughout my youth, one thing remained the same: when I imagined, I always won!

Imagination gives you a destination. When you dream, and you feel what it is like to be inside that dream, you feel inspired to make that dream a reality. You begin a process, a journey, toward making real those feelings that you first found in your imagination.

*The greatest gift a coach can give a player, a teacher can give a student, and a parent can give to his child is the opportunity to imagine great things.* These dreams in childhood pave the way for future successes.

I would also like to thank all of the veterans for attending our Veterans Day Program. We at Ballard are proud of the sacrifices you made for us. I would also like to thank the committee for putting together the program and to the students for the wonderful job they did.

Thank you for your continued support! Please feel free to contact me at the school at any time if you have questions or ideas.

With Great Appreciation,  
Mr. Eric Hon

Formatted by Aiyana Murchie



## Strange Things Seen on Halloween



Pictured above is the Sixth Grade class

On Monday, October 31, the Ballard R-2 school and community members gathered to have a Halloween parade in the gym. Children and adults of all ages that dressed up joined in the parade; Mr. Hon welcomed everyone in the gym. The order of the parade was sixth-first, preschoolers, high schoolers, and last, but not least, the teachers. The grades all stood in a line in front of the audience, introduced who they were, and what they dressed up as. After the parade, all the elementary students and their parents went back to the classrooms to enjoy games and treats! It was a spectacular time.



Pictured above several high school students.

By Ray Cummings

# Veterans Honored at Ballard

On Friday afternoon, November 11, the Ballard School opened their doors to honor the local veterans. The program began with the Boy Scouts, sophomores Payton Inglis and Jaeden Schliem, 8th grader Wyatt Blair, and 7th grader Cody Bridges presenting the colors and leading the *Pledge of Allegiance*. After they presented the flags, Freshman McKinley Brewster led the audience and guests in singing The National Anthem. The fourth graders stood up and explained the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Hon then had the thirty-two veterans who attended the program introduce themselves stating their branch of military, years they served, and their rank.

The program continued with the third and fourth graders singing If I Had a Hammer. When they were done, the fifth and sixth graders recited their poems, some of which were about what freedom meant to them. After the last poem was said, Mr. Hon introduced Mr. George Bruto, and he shared a



moving email from a colleague about teaching children to be thankful for veterans and the meaning behind it. After he was finished, the kindergarten through second grade sang You're A Grand Old Flag. Finally, after the elementary was done, sophomores Kelsey Karo and Jack Rotert presented "Armistice Day Through the Years."

Then the entire elementary side stood and sang with our music instructor, Mrs. Lybarger, On Veterans Day. After they sat back down, seniors Morgan Meade and Aiyana Murchie, said a few words to close the program. Ms. Murchie had PowerPoint presentations to go along with the veterans Day program. After the program was finished, the veterans stayed for pictures the gym. The veterans and guests were invited to stay for the reception and the students were given the opportunity to visit with them. Ms. Murchie stated that the Ballard staff and students worked hard to put together a program that was not only enjoyable but that would honor our local veterans. The Veterans Day program was an outstanding success.



Veterans that attended:

First Row (L-R): Richard Cook, Adam Jennings, Mark Durbin, Harry Nitchals, Bob Brewster, Jim Kershner, Raymond Brewster, Dade Johnson, and Karl Harbstreet

Second Row (L-R): George Bruto, Lance McClymond, Don Durbin, Clarence Mueller, Tim Hummel, Don Arndt, Denny Petty, Andy Hon, Bobby Hon, and John Burgess

Third Row (L-R): Jessica Ginnings, Robert Gillespie, Chet Merriam, Don Ferguson, Ron Setzer, Clifford Foster, Don Hill, Roy D. Taylor, Curt Schliem, Howard Cox, Mitchell Jones, John Siebeneck, Richard Dickerson, and Charles Morris

## Thank you for your service!

Written by Mikayla Whitaker and Ms. Murchie

# Student of the Month

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 November is Senior, Aiyana Murchie, daughter of Tara Murchie and Granddaughter of Cheryl Murchie. Keith Smith, English Teacher, states that "Aiyana is very conscientious about her work and focused on her future. She is great at helping and tutoring younger students." Miranda Bridges, Counselor, states that "Aiyana is a student that you can depend on to complete any task that is handed to her. She is always willing to step up and volunteer when the need arises. She is self-motivated and is a leader that a lot of students look up to in this school. Aiyana is constantly looking for ways that she can help others and manages to successfully balance all of her other obligations. Aiyana has big plans for her future and is working hard to get there. She has already made a huge positive impact on this school, I can't wait to see what she will do after graduation!"

Aiyana is a member of the Scholar Bowl team. Aiyana is also involved in Paw Pride, Pep Club, Art Club, Drama Club and Senior Editor of Publications.

For Aiyana'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 (L-R): Principal Eric Hon, Aiyana Murchie, and Optimist Member Tim Watts,

Written by Principal Eric Hon

## What We're Thankful For



Andrew Hon went around and asked two students from each class, K-6, what they were thankful for. Their responses are...

**Aspyn Eidson-** "My Daddy and Mommy and Jacob."

**Lane Meade-** "Water"

**Kenadee Allen-** "My mom's cooking"

**Harry Greer-** "My friends, toys, and mom"

**Keslyn Page-** "The Pledge of Allegiance"

**Bradly Bergschneider-** "Thanksgiving"

**Valencia Landeros-Quiroz-** "Haley and my class"

**Haley Pray-** "Valencia and my class"

**Ethan Kennedy-** "My family"

**Zoie Wheeler-** "sisters"

**Parker Hill-** "Basketball."

**Lilly Rotert-** "Animals and family"

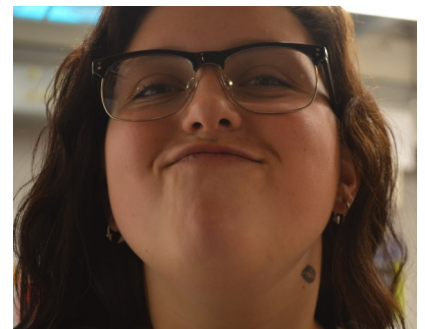
**Lexie Ward-** "Basketball"

**Clayton Bridges-** "family"

By Andrew Hon

## Morgan's Matter of Facts

1. Looking at a glass half full won't make you happy.
2. Thanksgiving is about giving thanks.
3. Blue is read as blue, not blew.
4. Left feet are usually attached to our left legs.
5. The computer mouse isn't a real mouse.
6. If you get struck by lightning, you won't have super speed.
7. Swimming in a lake doesn't usually cause blindness.
8. If you don't have money, you can't buy happiness.
9. My brother isn't my sister.
10. Eating an apple a day does not insure to keep the doctor away.



By Morgan Meade

# Happy Thanksgiving From the Entire Library Staff

Mrs. Wiskur

Many thanks to all of you for your warm telephone calls and enthusiastic telegrams following my appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Yes, the Librarians of the World float certainly was outstanding—all of those librainious folks disguised as their favorite books. I had no idea that my costume would cause such a stir.

It all started when I decided to go as Wilbur from Charlotte's Web. I put on a pink pig costume, some ears, and a pig nose.

Well, you know how envious some people can be. One of the librarians from western Kansas (the one in the Ralph S. Mouse costume) became wildly jealous. "Looks like you're in the wrong parade," she sneered, as she started to nail me over the head with a 20-lb turkey.

Having worked in a school that has several karate experts, I knew just what to do. With one clever move, I launched her—into the air, over a balcony, and onto another float.

And, of course, you must have seen me on Good Morning America the next day, proudly showing off our gold trophy for Best in Show. I was afraid it would be too big to bring home in my carry-on luggage, so I disguised it by wrapping it up in Murchie's life-size (cardboard) Alan Jackson, and set it in the seat beside me on the plane.

The stewardess brought us a little snack—pumpkin pie for everyone—even "Alan" beside me. So I did the only thing that anyone could do in a situation like that: I ate all of my pie—and his, too.

Written by Mrs. Wiskur  
Typed by Mikayla Whitaker



## Math Tweets

Mrs. Kershner



Senior Holly Tate and Sophomore Mikayla Pray participated in the second math competition of the year after school on October 9, 2016. This contest, the Caribou Mathematics Competition, is a world-wide online contest hosted by Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. The contest is held six times throughout the school year. Mikayla competed against 1,144 ninth and tenth graders from all over the world! Holly competed against 368 eleventh and twelfth graders! Both girls scored in the bottom half the world's competition on this first contest, but Holly edged into the top half of all U.S. competitors by ranking 16th out of 31 U.S. contestants. Both girls agreed that all questions were very challenging. Hopefully both will be ready to try to beat their first score in a later contest in a year. Mrs. Kershner encourages other students to compete as well. There are always snacks and each contest features a different game as well. Talk to Mrs. Kershner if you are interested in getting in on the fun!

Written by Mrs. Kershner  
Formatted by Maddy Murray

## Adventures in History

Mr. Dunkin



This month in seventh grade geography, the students are still exploring the mysteries of South America. The eighth grade U.S. history class is hitting the books on the American Revolution. The ninth grade U.S. history class is investigating imperialism and how it affected the world. Theodore Roosevelt is also getting quite a bit of attention from the class.

World History is discovering the antiquity of Islam and continuing to review the Middle Ages. Finally, the government classes have been focusing on Veterans Day and will later be moving onto the executive branch.

By Holly Tate

## Scholar Bowl Starts With a Bang

On Tuesday afternoon, October 11, the Ballard junior and senior high Scholar Bowl teams traveled to Bronaugh for our first meet of the year. The high school won all three matches, and the Junior high lost two and won one.

On Monday, November 1, we went to our second meet. High school left Miami that night still undefeated, and the junior high once again had one victory and two losses. Both teams had a great time and played their hardest!

By Morgan Meade

# Krazy Kindergarten

Mrs. Hathcock

It has been a great year so far in kindergarten, and we are already over halfway to the 100th day of school! The kindergarteners have been learning so much over the last few months and have done some pretty fun stuff. They have participated in the costume parade and had a great Halloween party put on by some wonderful moms. This month we participated in a mock election on Election Day and learned what it means to vote. We also celebrated veterans with our Veterans Day assembly and the kindergarten participated in singing a song with the first and second grade. We made army men and wrote what a veteran is to go along with the craft. Towards the end of the month, we will learn about Thanksgiving and participate in a Thanksgiving feast. So many exciting and wonderful things are happening, and it is great to see learning through all the fun and excitement.



Written by Mrs. Hathcock  
Typed by Adelyne Dowse

# Second To None

Mrs. West

November is an exciting month in 2nd grade! They will be creating models of Native American homes. They have collected real sticks and leaves to make their homes. Hopefully, everyone will enjoy this unit.

In Math, we are still working on telling time to the 5 minute, and almost every student can now add 2-digit numbers. Luke Meade says, "Math is really starting to be fun now!"

We studied sound in science, and most of the students now know about sound waves and vibrations. Playing the guitar for one lesson was really fun. I was impressed with Maggie Foster's guitar playing skills.

December will be here soon, and I know this class will be excited to work on their letter-writing skills, as well as their list-making skills.

Written By Mrs. Ordal  
Typed By Morgan Meade

# First Comes First

Mrs. Ordal



The first grade has been hard at work writing stories about Christopher Columbus, a candy corn guy, and a ghost. They have been learning about characters, setting, plot, problems, and solutions. They are improving their reading daily and are into the second month of the Pizza Hut Book-It program. It is my observation over 18 years of teaching, that those who participate and try to read 20 minutes a night improve their reading greatly by the end of the six month period. It doesn't all have to be the child reading; listening to a parent read counts too. Modeling fluency is as important as the child reading themselves.

In science, we have been exploring and learning about energy: where it comes from, what it is, and how it is made.

November holds the election for us to learn about, Veteran's Day, and Thanksgiving. Never a dull moment for us!



# Thrilling Third

By Ms. Goucher

This past month, third grade learned about buoyancy through pumpkin science. After testing our pumpkins, most of the class was amazed to discover that they float! We concluded that any object less dense than water will float, and objects denser than water will sink. We continued our experiment by testing random things in the classroom to see if they sink or float. Third grade has also begun research for their informative papers over endangered species. Each student was assigned an animal to research on the laptops. They will be finding information on habitats, threats, and diet of certain species. Look for them outside the classroom in the next few weeks!

In math, we have reviewed time and learned about calculating elapsed time. Third grade has also learned about collecting data and organizing the information into graphs. After Thanksgiving, we will be jumping into multiplication and division, which we will continue to practice until the end of the year. Mastering math facts is an important step for students to be ready for next school year. It is stated by many that memorizing the math facts will in fact help students do better in math, because it frees up part of the brain that students use for logical thinking, allowing them to focus on the problem at hand.

Written by Ms. Goucher  
Formatted by Maddy Murray

# Fantastic Fourth

Mrs. Moore

Oh, man! We have been so busy this month, we barely have time to think! As part of our reading grade, our book reports are the feathers of the turkey on the bulletin board. We are studying sentence structure, as well as researching Native American cultures for a Social Studies presentation. Our next writing assignment is about the things for which we are thankful.

Every day we do arithmetic. We add, subtract, multiply, and do basic division. We are also practicing more difficult division as we go. We have started working with fractions, but we need to know division well as we advance with fractions.

We made special presentations for the veterans at the assembly. We are looking forward to the music program in December. Please come and enjoy the concert!

Written by Mrs. Moore  
Formatted by Adelyne Dowse

# Fiesty Fifth

Miss Norton



This month has been great for the fifth grade! We have just finished our body systems project in science. Now, we are learning about biomes. In reading, we read about hot air balloons. Fun Fact: did you know hot air balloons have been around for more than 200 years? In library, we watched the movie Iron Will. It is a movie about a boy who is entering his huskies in a dog- sled race. In Social Studies, we have been learning the three branches of government; we have also finished our Veterans Day poems. In counseling, we are learning about friendship and respect!

In art we just finished our dragon eyes project with charcoal. Now we are making paper snowflakes. We just finished our chapter about nouns, and are now learning about verbs in English. In writing, we are working on informative papers. In music, we are using the keyboards to practice our holiday music. In band, students are working on their Christmas songs for the holiday concert. And last but not least, math! In math, we have been practicing our fact families. We are also working on division. We are learning so much this month!

Written by Jada Gains  
Typed by Mikayla Whitaker

# Snazzy Sixth

Mrs. Eidson

This month we have done a lot! In math, we have been working with decimals. We are learning about the energy flow through an ecosystem in science. In reading, we have been reading Tuck Everlasting. We made election posters in Social Studies. In English, we are making a commercial for the restaurants we made up to go with our Thanksgiving writing project. This has already been a busy month!



Written by the Sixth Grade Class  
Formatted by Camryn East

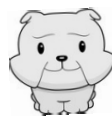
# Seventh Grade

Happy Thanksgiving!

I interviewed two seventh graders asking them what they are thankful for: Cody says he is thankful for his friends, family, and his cats and dogs. Kale says he is also thankful for his friends and family, but he also is thankful for his dirt bike.

The Seventh graders hope you have a great Thanksgiving break!

By Mikayla Whitaker



# Bulldog Puppies

Mrs. Meade



This month in preschool the students have been working very hard on their shapes and letters. We are currently working on the letter E, and have been doing plenty of awesome projects. The projects include making turkeys, creating lambs out of cotton balls, and designing horses with yarn.

By Holly Tate

# Funny Freshmen



The start of the second quarter was amazing. We raised a lot of money at our bake sale table. Thanks for supporting us, and please continue.

Written by McKinley Brester  
Typed by Andrew Hon

# Silly Sophomores

On Saturday, November 5, 2016, we had our Sophomore Hog Roast. It was successful and we would like to thank everyone that came out to support us! We would like to end our article with what we are thankful for...

Leven Howard: Guns and chicken

Payton Inglis: Food, Jesus, and cars

Kelsie Karo: Jesus, the great people in my life, and my love

Megan Mantonya: My many years at Ballard, friends, and family

Kelsey Pray: My family

Mikayla Pray: My family

Jack Rotert: Sports and shoes

Amanda Teagarden: Family, sports, and hunting

Kayla Wainscott: Everything

Jailynn Wheeler: Family, food, hot guys, and baseball pants

Morgan Wheeler: Family and friends

Kiara Valentine: Boys, Megan, food, and weird people

Jaeden Schliem: Family, food, and sports

Murchie: Family, good job, weekends off, and the sophomore class



Written by Megan Mantonya  
Formatted by Maddy Murray

## Jazzy Juniors



Well, we are halfway through the second quarter, and it's going well. Coming up on Saturday, December 3, we have a taco dinner fundraiser for our class. If you want to come support us, ask a Junior and he or she will sell you tickets. We would like to thank you for coming out and supporting our Junior class with our concession stand. We hope everyone has a great rest of the quarter.

Written by Savana Allen  
Typed by Andrew Hon

## Everlasting English

Mr. Smith



This month in eighth grade English, students have been reading several short stories, and will later be moving on to the Diary of Anne Frank. L.A. I is presently discussing Edgar Allan Poe. The freshmen are also reading the Odyssey and studying mythology. L.A. III has been examining basic parts of grammar and will soon begin an intense study of MLA format, ending with a research paper. College Prep is currently working on grammar and finishing a research paper. Finally, career prep is working on their panel symposium and will be presenting to a group of students and teachers.

By Holly Tate

## Sarcastic Seniors



Hey, everyone! The seniors are excited to continue our fast-paced year. One of us is playing basketball and began practicing at the beginning of this month. We are wishing the juniors the best of luck with the concession stand this year! We hope everyone has a gobble-gobble good Thanksgiving. (Thank you, Holly Tate, for that sweet little saying!)

By Aiyana Murchie

## FFA/Ag

Mr. Bridges

In mid-October, we took ten students to Indianapolis, Indiana, for the FFA National Convention. Everyone had a great time! Some of the highlights included convention sessions, a visit to the career show, a Cole Swindell and Chris Young concert, a visit to the zoo and aquarium, and the Indy Scream Park.

On Friday, November 11, we had our local barn warming/ bonfire at the Hinrich's house. In order to win, the king and queen candidates had to compete in several contests, including post driving, finish the lyrics, a feed sack shuttle race, and one seat musical chairs. Jordan Hinrichs and Micah Patrick ended up being king and queen.



Written by Mr. Bridges  
Typed by Morgan Meade



# Fall Play



On Saturday, October 27, 2016, the drama department put on the plays *Lucy Has a Baby* and *Money to Burn*. The students did a fantastic job, which was proved by the laughter from the audience.

In the first play, *Lucy Has a Baby*, Lucy is very pregnant, and Ricky, Ethel, and Fred prepare themselves for their trip to the hospital. Once Lucy says it's time to go, all chaos breaks loose. Ricky starts to panic, and the plan that had been so carefully crafted soon falls apart.

The second play, *Money to Burn*, was about four ladies trying to make ends meet. When they came across the client of a lifetime, she paid them hundred-dollar bills for each visit she had. Little did these ladies know that these bills were counterfeited. Things started to get interesting when the police got involved. These ladies then hatched a plan to turn in the culprit, but finding the him or her was not as easy as it sounds.

In the end, both plays were very well put together and enormously funny. When asked, Camryn East stated, "I thought that we did really well. Our quality of performance improved greatly from our performance from Friday. We would also like to thank everyone that helped us put the play on."



Back row (L-R) Trent Tate, Dale Dowse, Mikayla Whitaker, Caleb Morris, and Austin Carpenter  
Middle row (L-R) Aiyana Murchie, Kayla Wainscott, Camryn East, and Adelyne Dowse  
Front row (L-R) Brianna Pray, McKinley Brewster, Andrew Hon, and Savana Allen

By Holly Tate

## Music Notes

Mrs. Lybarger

This month the kids have been working on Christmas songs and even a performance for Veterans Day. We are still making good use of the new keyboards. High school band is making great progress and learning fast. Don't forget to come out and see the Christmas Concert on December 8, at 7pm.

By Morgan Meade



Mrs. DesCombes

Every month, Mrs. DesCombes will pick a young artist from each grade, K-6, to be an "Artist of the Month." These students show artistic skill, leadership, and good behavior in the art room.

This month's winners are:

**Kindergarten: Lane Meade-** Lane is really good at drawing his family and deer. He is a very kind student and cares about everyone.

**First Grade: Jacob Eidson-** Jacob is a creative mastermind. He is always surprising me with his new ideas and creations.

**Second Grade: Maggie Foster-** Maggie adds the coolest details to her project. I'm really impressed with the way she uses colors and patterns.

**Third Grade: Valencia Landeros-Quiroz-** Valencia always has success with her art projects, because of her natural ability and good attitude.

**Fourth Grade: Kamryn Beachner-** Kamryn has always been a rock star art student. She has a great natural talent and enthusiasm for art that makes her stand out.

**Fifth Grade: Jada Gains-** Jada follows directions and pays attention to details. Her artwork is exciting and filled with details.

**Sixth Grade: Alexis Hastings-** Alexis has been working harder and harder each week to create an awesome piece of artwork. I am so proud of the shading, creativity, and sheer determination she put into her latest art project.



First Row (L-R): Jacob Eidson and Lane Meade

Second Row (L-R): Valencia Landeros-Quiroz, Maggie Foster

Third Row (L-R): Alexis Hastings, Jada Gains

Not Pictured: Kamryn Beachner

Written by Mrs. DesCombes

Formatted by Ray Cummings

# Nelson Atkins Museum of Art Field Trip

On Wednesday, November 9, the High School Art Club traveled to Kansas City, MO, to visit the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art! The students split up into groups and explored different galleries, including Asian, European, Contemporary, and Egyptian artwork just to name a few. We even saw historic artworks. It was very different from the modern artwork, but they were just as unique. Some students went outside to the sculpture garden to see Claes Oldenburg's iconic "Shuttlecocks" and had fun going through the "Glass Labyrinth" that was created by American artist Robert Morris. It was very funny seeing Mary Patrick and Mrs. DesCombes's groups race to



escape the glass maze, but in the end Drew Hon won the race for Mrs. DesCombes's group. After our time at the museum ended, we had a great time exploring, eating, shopping, and ice skating at Crown Center. We all had a great time exploring the museum and playing around Crown Center!

We want to give a special thank you to Larry Bergschneider for driving the bus. We also want to thank Mary Patrick, April Bricker, Amanda Carullo, John Carullo, and Melody Pray for chaperoning. We couldn't have done it without you.

Written by Mrs. DesCombes

Typed by Ray Cummings

# Red Ribbon Week a Success!



During the week of October 28, the students at Ballard promoted being drug-free. The members of the Ballard Honor Society and the Paw Pride joined forces to plan a week filled with great activities.

On Monday, Pajama Day, everyone wore their pajamas because "We are cereal-ous about staying drug free!" On Tuesday, Smartie Day, sweater vests, pocket protectors and glasses were the thing to wear to show that "We were to smart to do drugs!" Wednesday was Wacky Tacky Day; students and staff wore mismatched, crazy, and neon clothes and hair to say "We don't let drugs make our lives wacky!" To go along with the theme for the day, the Paw Pride and Honor Society students, along with our Counselor Mrs. Bridges, had an assem-

bly for staying drug-free and had some fun activities for the jr. high and high school student.

"It pays to stay drug-free!" was the theme for Thursday, Pay Day; everyone was to dress for success or dress like their future career. Finally on Friday, Red Day, everyone was to wear as much red from head to toe as they could to show that "We pledge to be drug free!" The week was a lot of fun, and everyone enjoyed dressing up.



## Two Volleyball Girls Picked for All-Conference

Congratulations to Adelyne Dowse and Morgan Wheeler for being picked for All-Conference. Junior Adelyne Dowse was awarded with second-team All-Conference, and sophomore Morgan Wheeler was awarded with first team all conference. Both girls have been devoted to volleyball all through their high school career. These competitors have performed with outstanding athleticism and professionalism and have been wonderful teammates.

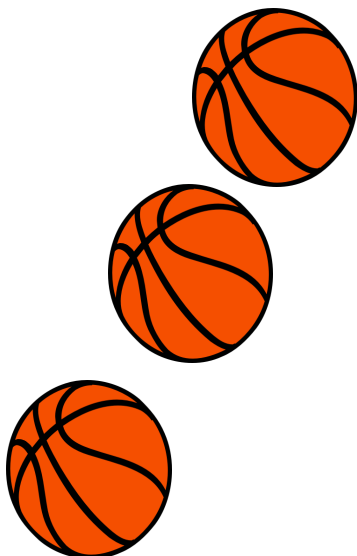


Written by Holly Tate



Next month's newspaper is our Christmas Edition, and we will be featuring letters to Santa, cartoons, and winter poems. Each elementary class will write these articles at school, but we want to encourage kids of all ages to submit a letter to be published. The preschoolers will have an opportunity to write a letter to Santa during the Early Childhood Play Group in December. If you can't make it to the play group and would like your preschooler to participate, there are several ways to get the letter to the publications class. You can do one of the following: send your letter with a student; mail it to: Attention Publications Class, Ballard R-II School, 10247 NE State Rt. 18, Butler, MO 64730-9204; or e-mail Ms. Murchie. Her address is cdm Ballard@gmail.com, subject line letters to Santa. Letters to Santa need to be turned in by December 10. If you are in jr. high or high school, you can turn your letter in to one of the editors, Aiyana Murchie, Camryn East, or Ms. Murchie.

# Meet the Bulldogs!



## Pictured (L-R):

Brice Eidson  
Colton Page  
Garrett Oerke  
Jack Rotert  
Andrew Hon  
Jaeden Schliem  
Jake Light



# Meet the Lady Bulldogs!



## First Row:

Adelyne Dowse

## Second Row (L-R)

Jailynn Wheeler  
Morgan Wheeler  
McKinley Brewster

## Third Row (L-R)

Savana Allen  
Camryn East  
Micah Patrick  
Amanda Teagarden

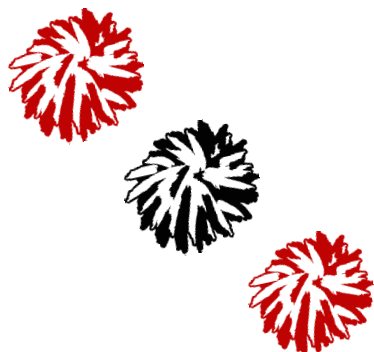
## Fourth Row (L-R)

## Mangers:

Kelsey Pray, Sudie Callahan  
Kailee Smith, Serenity Morris  
Kiara Valentine



# Meet the Cheerleaders!



## First Row (L-R):

Amanda Teagarden  
Savana Allen

## Second Row (L-R):

Jailynn Wheeler  
Adelyne Dowse  
McKinley Brewster

By Adelyne Dowse



# Fun Page

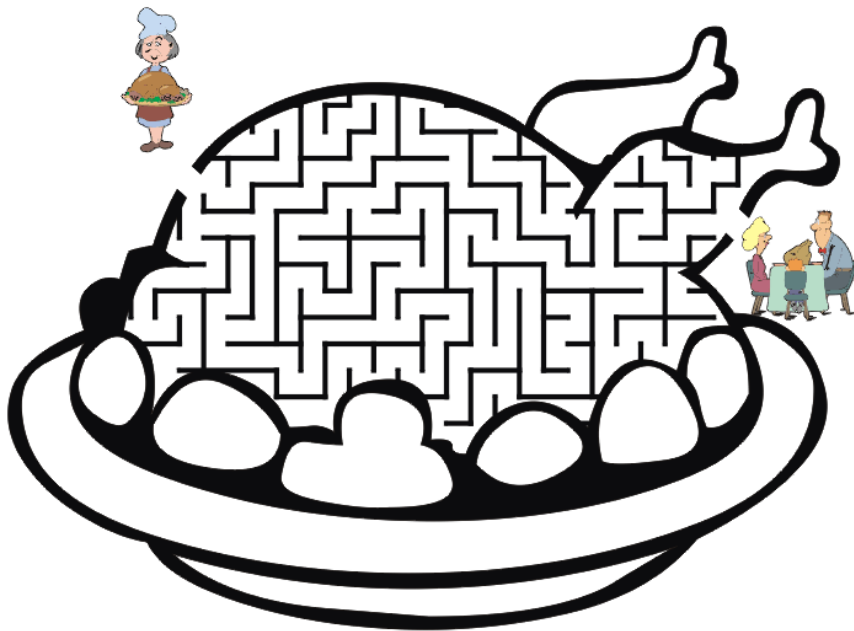
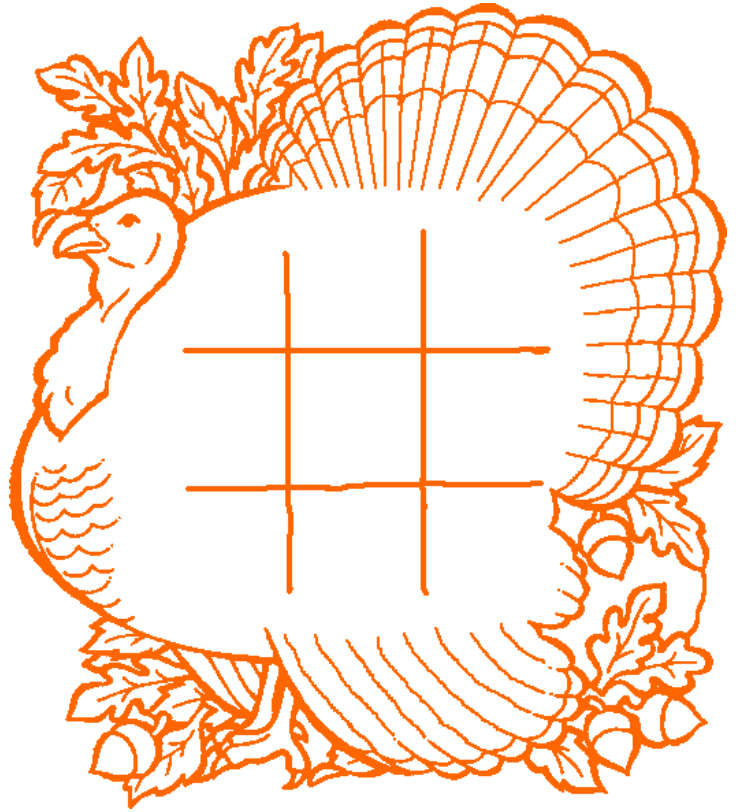
## Thanksgiving Day

C P O T A T O E S P I G  
Y E K R U T Z P I I N P  
M A Y F L O W E R L D R  
S T U F F I N G M G I B  
H T U O M Y L P L R A H  
T H A N K S G I V I N G  
R E B M E V O N N M S S  
K H O L I D A Y B S S M  
R T S E V R A H P I I A  
N O I T A R B E L E C Y  
P U M P K I N P I E R R  
A I P O C U N R O C F X

CELEBRATION  
CORNUCOPIA  
HARVEST  
HOLIDAY

INDIANS  
MAYFLOWER  
NOVEMBER  
PILGRIMS  
PLYMOUTH

POTATOES  
PUMPKIN PIE  
STUFFING  
THANKSGIVING  
TURKEY  
YAMS



Q. Why can't you take a turkey to church?  
A. They use FOWL language

Q. Who doesn't eat on thanksgiving?  
A. A turkey because it is always stuffed.

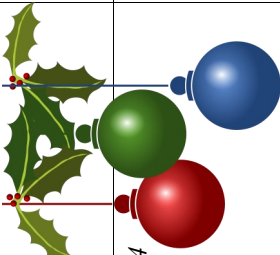











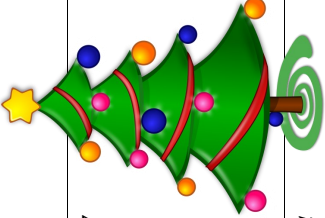






Q. Which side of the turkey has the most feathers?  
A. The outside

Q. What key has legs and can't open doors?  
A. A turkey

Q. Why did the turkey sit on the tomahawk?  
A. To hatchet



## Sat

						1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
	Book fair week 	VBB vs Bronaugh 5:30pm 	Sophomores ASVAB Test  4-H 6/7 pm	Christmas Concert 7pm 	Grandparents Lunch ES- 10:45 HS-11:30 	Jr Class Taco Dinner 5:30-8:30pm 		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
		PTO Santa's Workshop 12-3pm  VBB @ Chilhowee 6pm			 Christmas Dance			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
	 VBB @ Miami 5:30pm	End of 1st Qtr End of S1 <b>EARLY OUT</b> <u>1:05pm</u>	Christmas Break 					
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
								<b><u>Back to School</u></b> <b><u>January 4th!!!!</u></b>