## Barks 'N' Growls

BALLARD R-II SCHOOL Fifth Edition, May 24, 2022

### From the Superintendent's Desk....

This has been a year of firsts. My first year as a Superintendent, the first year for some of our teachers, students first year in a new school, new grade level and new experiences. These experiences are what molds each of us into who we are today. While our school is not the biggest and we may not be able to offer all that the "big" schools offer, we have more tangible offerings. We offer a true family feeling in a small environment. We continue to offer sports and activities along with many Co-op opportunities. The opportunities a small school can offer and the personal experiences available are unlike what large schools offer as students get lost in the shuffle. Ballard is a district with a lot to be proud of and to be thankful for and I consider it a privilege to be a part of this school district. Thank you for a great first year.

Publications Staff Editor-in-Chief Ms. Murchie Editor Lexie Ward Staff Alexis Hastings Macie Morris

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#### From the Principal's Corner...

#### Dear Ballard Families,

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My second full year as principal at Ballard is quickly approaching. Two years seem to have flown by, but like many, I feel the days and weeks can feel long, but looking back the years seem short! As we close out the year the students are looking forward to many activities such as field day for elementary, banquets for middle and high school and then of course graduation on the 20<sup>th</sup> for high school and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> kindergarten graduation.

During the month of May we will have a meeting with our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to conduct an orientation to high school. We have discovered that students are not always aware that they will be earning credit in high school and what that actually means regarding graduation. We will pass along information about the A+ program and the qualifications required for the program. Additionally, we will discuss VoTech and the opportunities that come along students' junior year. Often students don't understand that the classes and grades they get during their first two years can impact being accepted to attend VoTech. Attendance becomes very important for A+, scholarships, and college acceptance so we will touch on that, as well as the work study program and dual credit that is also available to students later in high school. We will strive to ensure all students know this information as we don't want a student to be limited by something they don't know. As a parent or family member, if you have any questions about our programs or your child's possibilities at Ballard, please give us a call so we can help you out.

As summer approaches and temperatures heat up, being outside is the place to be, please remember to always be safe. Lately, I have heard about preventable accidents that families are dealing with and I want to take a minute to remind everyone to be safe. Have your children check in regularly with you and always know where they are going and who they are going with, if swimming or boating remember sunscreen and life preservers, and if there are new drivers in your family take time to constantly remind your child to wear a seat belt and drive responsibly. My wish is for everyone to have a safe and enjoyable summer!

To our departing seniors and their families: May you experience many successes and celebrate them with friends and family. When failures occur, celebrate them too! After all, you WILL have learned something from the failure. Simply face it head on, talk about it to someone you trust, and pick yourself up and move forward. For all the moms and dads who have a young person taking flight, celebrate your success too! You have raised a strong independent human who is ready to step up into the rest of their life and YOU helped them get there! Congratulations to our seniors and their supportive families!

Thank you for the continued support I feel from the families and community members of this school district. I am truly blessed to be a part of the Ballard family! I look forward to next year and the experiences that the "Best Hidden Gem in America" sends our way! Have a safe and fabulous summer! Sincerely,

Stephanie Nold, Principal

## Editor in Chief Signing Off

#### And words of wisdom

I came to this school in the fall of 2002 I was wanting the feeling of the community and small classes. I liked the thought of getting to know the Ballard family and students. And over the years it has been a great pleasure to help so many students learn and grow to achieve their goals. No matter what they were.

Over the years I have learned just as much from the students as I hoped they have learned from me. One of my things I always tell my students. "You never stop learning!" "Nobody is perfect!" Especially when it comes to proof reading the newspaper!"

As a Business/Technology teacher I have had some wonderful, crazy students that have added just a little extra to my years here. Thank you for making me laugh! The administration, teachers, and staff that helped me in so many ways and I can never put into words my gratitude. There are so many memories I will take with me.

My time with this school has come to a close. I want to thank you all for letting me spend it with you and your children. I would also like to take this time to thank my magnificent family for their love and support through-out my career and I can't wait to move closer to them so I can spend more time with them.

So here comes the words of wisdom...Always remember...You are in charge of your life. Live it to the fullest! You be you! Nobody can measure your success but you. And.. As I am doing, it's never too late to change your life plans.

What memories I have to take with me.

Thank you, Murchie

## Student of the Month

#### April Student of the Month

Tucker Roach

The Ballard R-2 School District is pleased to be working in conjunction with the Adrian Optimist Club to honor a Student of the Month for the 2021-22 school year.

Student of the Month is selected by the staff of the Ballard R-2 School District using the following criteria: attendance, attitude towards others and school, behavior, leadership, and improvement in or maintenance of good grades, and this month, perseverance and integrity.

The Student of the Month for April is Junior Tucker Roach, son of Rusty and Melody Roach.

At school, Tucker enjoys being a member of FFA and partici-

pating in Trap. He is a member of Paw Pride. Tucker is a team player in basketball and baseball.

Tucker's activities outside of school are; 4-H, He likes to go hunting and fishing when he can. Tucker enjoys working on the farm and his lawn care business.

After graduation, Tucker plans on attending the College of the Ozarks.

The Ballard staff has said: "Tucker shows integrity in his day-today walk, I can always trust that he is being honest with me, along with trusting his words. If he says he will do something he will follow through and complete that task. He is motivated to complete tasks the correct way, even if he does not want to. If I ask him for help he is willing to go above and beyond to help. I know like most of us, we wanted baseball and softball in our district and when that did not happen we were disappointed. However, with a co-op with Montrose, our students were still given the option to play, this upset a number of students, but he followed through and has gone to another school so that he could play the sport. To me this shows perseverance."

Tucker's inspirational statement is: "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you must endure the storm."

For Tucker's hard work in school, he is receiving a certificate of recognition from the Adrian Optimist Club and \$20.00 in Adrian Cham-

ber of Commerce "Chamber Bucks." Pictured: Tucker Roach and Principal Stephanie Nold



### April Elementary Student of the Month and Attendance Awards

Congratulations to our two elementary students, winners for April's Student of the Month. Arabella and Aspyn are excellent examples of students demonstrating our character traits for April - perseverance and integrety!

I am very proud of Arabella Fisher. She is consistently displaying integrity and perseverance. She does this by always working hard on her work, even when it is not easy. She puts her best foot forward and does the best she can. She also works hard to be a leader and do the right thing, even when someone's not looking. She sets a good example for her classmates to follow. Way to go, Arabella!

Our character words this month are integrity and perseverance. Integrity means doing the right thing even when nobody is watching. After having her in my class for a whole school year, I can say with confidence that Aspyn shoes integrity on a regular basis. She is quiet when she needs to be quiet and obeys directions well; often when her classmates are not.

Aspyn also has had great perseverance this year. I see her pushing herself to be better and overcome the hurdles life throws at her. I am proud to award Aspyn with student of the month for integrity and perseverance



### (L-R) Aspyn Eidson and Principal Stephanie Nold **Best class Attendance**

We would like to congratulate Mrs. Schmedding's kindergarten class and Mr. Duncan's sixth grade class for winning the attendance award for April.



First Row (L-R): Ben Fisher, Gus Porter and Darly Jo Lovelace Second Row (L-R): McKala Selfridge, Henry Crump, ClaraBella Bergman and Mrs. Schmedding



First Row (L-R): Nathan Bales, Piper Goth, and Harry Greer Second Row (L-R): Owen Meade, Gavin Schliem, Jacob Eidson, Addilynn Engelhardt, and Mr Duncan



(L-R) Arabella Fisher and Principal Stephanie Nold

## Student of the Month

May Student of the Month Aimee Cummings

The Ballard R-2 School District is pleased to be working in conjunction with the Adrian Optimist Club to honor a Student of the Month for the 2021-22 school year.

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The Student of the Month for May is Sophomore/Junior Aimee Cummings, daughter of the late Dan Cummings and Yea Cummings.

At school, Aimee enjoys being a member of FFA and participating in Trap. She is a member of Envirothon and the Scholar Bowl team. Aimee is a team player in basketball and softball.

Aimee's activities outside of school are; playing softball and working at the Bates County Veterinary Clinic.

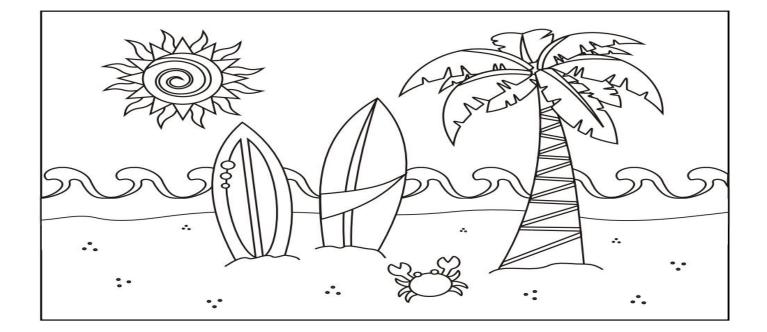
After graduation, Aimee plans on attending the University of Kansas, majoring in Cellular and Molecular Biology to pursue a career as a pharmaceutical scientist.

Aimee's inspirational quote is; "It be like that sometimes!"

The Ballard staff has said: "Aimee is a true example of friendship and honesty in her day-to-day walk, and I can always trust that she is being honest and kind to me, along with trusting that she is going to be there for those around her. If she says she will do something, she will follow through, and complete that task way beyond my expectations. If I ask her for help she is willing to go above and beyond to help. I know like most of us, she wanted baseball and softball in our district and when that did not happen we were disappointed. However, with a coop with Montrose, our students were still given the option to play, and she followed through and has gone to another school so that she could play the sport where she created friendships with her team. She was honest with her coaches and team members and showed that they can count on her as a friend."

For Aimee'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: Aimee Cummings and Principal Stephanie Nold





### May Elementary Student of the Month

Congratulations to our two elementary students, winners for May's Student of the Month. Summer Hastings and Ellee Scott are excellent examples of students demonstrating our character traits for May - friendship and honesty!

This month's words were Friendship and Honesty. Summer is a great example of both of these traits. She is a very kind and caring friend to others, she helps them on school work if they need it, and just makes sure that her friends are doing okay. Summer is also very honest, even when it doesn't necessarily benefit her. She always tells me and her peers the truth, no matter what. I've enjoyed watching Summer grow into an even more honest and caring person the past few months and I know she will continue to grow in these traits and more as she continues in school.



(L-R) Summer Hastings and Principal Stephanie Nold

I would nominate Ellee Scott for student of the month for May. Ellee consistently displays the character traits of friendship and honesty in the classroom and on the playground. She tries to be a good friend to everyone even when it's not easy. I think most of her classmates would consider her a good friend to have. Ellee is also honest all the time. She is sincere, loyal and trustworthy, which is important in being a good friend.



(L-R) Ellee Scott and Principal Stephanie Nold

# Senior Spotlight

Alexis Hastings is the daughter of Josh and Renee Hastings and Lindsey Kates. She is the sister of Jay, Summer, Violet, and Charlotte Hastings. She is also the sister of Abbie and Cayden Kates. Alexis' favorite color is burgundy, and her favorite class is Publications. Her dream car is a matte black Audi R8. One of Alexis' favorite songs is, "Get me Some of That," by Thomas Rhett. Her favorite food is French fries and chicken nuggets, and her favorite restaurant is Chipotle. Alexis' hobbies include going to the gym and watching Netflix. Her biggest pet peeve is people that lie. Alexis' famous last words are, "Anyways."

After graduating Alexis plans to attend Missouri State University and major in cell and molecular biology. When asked, "Where do you see yourself in 15 years?" Alexis answered, "Working in a hospital as an emergency medicine physician, living with someone I love, and owning my dream car."



# Senior Spotlight



Ashton Carullo is the daughter of John and Amanda Carullo. She is the sister of Caleb Morris. Ashton's favorite color is grey and her favorite class is English. Her dream car is a '69 Camaro. Ashton's favorite song is anything by Morgan Wallen. Her favorite food is crawfish, and her favorite restaurant is Jazz Louisiana Kitchen. Ashton's hobbies include napping and participating in: Cass County Youth Court, Scholar's Bowl, volleyball, and Paw Pride. Her biggest pet peeve is stupid people. Ashton's famous last words are, "This just ain't it chief."

After graduating Ashton plans on getting her real estate license and then going to school for social work. When asked, "Where do you see yourself in 15 year?" Ashton replied, "Traveling and making bank."



Payton Miller is the son of Casie and Brandon Miller. He is the brother of Brice, Chevy, and Paysle Miller. Payton's favorite colors are burgundy and black and his favorite class is P.E. His dream car is a square body truck. Payton's favorite song is, "Bad Company," by Five Finger Death Punch. His favorite food is pizza, and he doesn't have a favorite restaurant. Payton's hobbies include catfishing, hunting, and playing basketball. His biggest pet peeve is when Brice zones out. Payton's famous last words are, "Have a great year!"

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After graduating Payton plans to get a job and live on his own. When asked, "Where do you see yourself in 15 years?" Payton replied, "Owning a house in the country, catfishing everyday with a job that helps people, like a paramedic.



Formatted by: Alexis Hastings



On Wednesday, May 18, KC Wolf came to Ballard. During his time here, he talked about the ABC's of life. A– attitude. B-behavior. C-character. He talked to us about how each one of these words affect us and our everyday life. He also was able to answer some questions the students had and tell us a little about what KC

Wolf does at his job. It was a great time and the students enjoyed every minute of it!







Hello Ballard Bulldogs! We are wrapping up the year with field day on the 13th, graduation on the 23rd, and an awards ceremony on the 24th. Each of these are open to the public with times posted on the school Facebook page. This year has flown by! Our kindergarten students are readers, mathematicians, and good citizens. They have grown by leaps and bounds into wonderful young people.



Hi families! It has been an amazing year. We have learned so much in first grade. I appreciate everyone's support in making this year a good one. As we wrap up the year we will be reviewing what we learned so we are prepared for the second grade. We will have some fun activities to help us review. Have a great summer everyone!



Typed by: Mrs. Smith Formatted by: Lexie Ward



Mr. Duncan

In the Month of May we have been wrapping up the year. We finished reading *The Outsiders* and are planning to finish reading *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by the end of the year. We are exploring various extra activities in Science, and are reviewing all we learned in Math. On "Park Day" we had fun activities, games, and movies throughout the day.

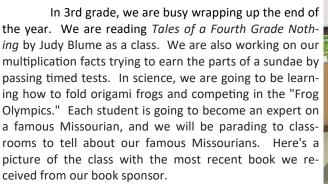


Written by: Mr. Duncan Formatted by: Lexie Ward

Written by: Mrs. Schmedding Formatted by: Darby Hill











Written by: Dr. McElwain Formatted by: Darby Hill



The 2nd Graders wrote about their plans for this summer! Here is what they came up with! What I am going to do for summer is go swimming. I am also going to sleep in my comfy bed. I also hope we camp in our yard. My grandpa's birthday is in the summer. I am going to Aunt Diana's to get some pickles. I even think that Paisley's birthday is in the summer. I hope I go to Worlds of Fun. I even hope to go to Disney Land. My plans for summer vacation is to go travel to the city. To go see my cousin Ailya. I'm going to Dani's birthday party and go to the swimming pool. I'm going to Deitz's to eat. It is a buffet. Navi Quiroz

McKenzie Claiborne

I am going to go to the lake. I am going to look at the rocks there, maybe even see my grandparents. After that, I am going to go to Kamp Kersey. I am going to swim and make crafts, and have snacks. I will have my own place to sleep. For lunch I get hotdogs and hamburgers. There are hammocks. I also get to sleep in. I will do lots of fun stuff. I even get to camp with my family.

Melody Bergen

My plans are to go to Worlds of Fun and the pool, and race in the pool. I will be spending lots' of time with my aunt and uncle and cousins. I really enjoy my summer with them.

Tapanga Eisenbeiss

My summer plans are having relaxing days and eating lots of ice cream. My favorite flavor is chocolate and strawberry. I will go swimming, too.

Hailey Culver

My plans are to have my birthday party. I will go to the swimming pools. We will get to finish our addition to our house, too! My dad and uncle are making my house bigger. We're going to travel to the lake. I'm also going to camp with my friends and mommy. I'm going to go to Branson with my family. I'm going to help my grandma bake. My aunt is having a baby! I'm probably having a sleepover with Melody! My aunt and uncle are getting a pool so I'm going to swim at their house!

**Brynlee Wainscott** 

My plans for summer is going to be going to Louisiana for the 4th of July. My dad has a friend named Brian and we are going to his house. He has crazy fireworks in the summer. I will take swimming lessons this summer. Nicholas Boston

My plans for the summer are traveling, camping, and swimming. I really love camping. I like the campfire and roasting s'more's and going to Red Robin.



#### Molly Burgin

My plans for summer are going swimming at the lake in Stockton. I want to go to the ocean. I want to go biking at the lake. I will go outdoors a lot. I will travel a lot over the summer. I will color with my whole family and see who's drawing is the best.

Nichole Luper



Written by: the 2nd Grade Class Typed by: Darby Hill

Dani Crump





The Eighth Grade Class has a lot to do for their summer plans, here are a few of them! Lucas Crump plans on going to the lake, hanging out with friends and family. Cash Anderson is going to work to make some money and maybe do some fishing along with working out. Lilly Chrisman is



traveling to Galveston, Texas with her family and plans to go to the lake to swim and to ride horses. Haley Pray is also traveling to Oklahoma and Nebraska for summer camps, swimming, working, and hanging out with family and friends. Brenden Card hasn't made plans yet. Dayne Greer is going to work and do some fishing. Jay Hastings has no plans. Lynn Landeros is going to work, attend summer camps, and hang out with friends and family.

Written by: Eighth grade Class Formatted by: Macie Morris



It's finally the end of the year, and the Juniors are excited to get to summer and soon start our senior year! We are officially done with the concession stand, and now we are figuring things out for next year, but also getting ready to serve at the Alumni Banquet. Prom was a big success, and everyone had a blast! Now it's that time of year that we are getting prepared to actually think that we are going to be seniors in just 3 months! Here comes summer!!

> Written by: Sydney Claiborne Formatted by: Darby Hill



Mrs. Chambers



In Biology, we began with our science fair, which was a big success. Throughout the year we worked on lots of different things from plants to the human body. One of our major projects we did this year was growing contour beans, and they were very successful. As we are finishing out the school year, we are working on our human system projects.



7<sup>th</sup> grade has been learning about the aquatic ecosystems. We learned the basics of fishing in this unit, such as, the art of knot tying (taught by Mrs. Boston), how to measure correctly (taught by Mr. Bergen), research bodies of water that fish are found in (taught by Ms. Burgin) and how fish have supported human life (taught by Mrs. Russell). We wrapped up this unit with a fishing pole casting lesson out at the ballfield. We had a lot of fun, I want to thank everyone that helped make this unit rock.

The Biology II class is wrapping the year up with a Prairie Project paper. They get to tie the year together using resources gained from the course, tapping into previous classes. The goal is to explain how to maintain a site using Taberville Prairie as an example on how to care, identify plants and critters, along with environmental factors, that affect how a prairie flourishes.

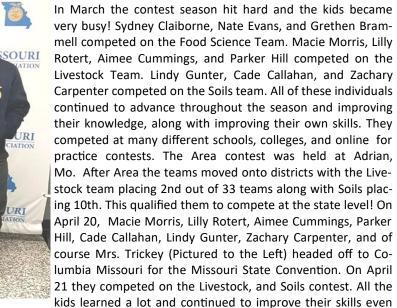


Written by: Mrs. Chambers Formatted by: Darby Hill



The Ballard FFA chapter was very busy these past few months with contest season, and Food for America. For Food for America the FFA members brought many different things including, guinea pigs, horses, cows, a puppy, a tractor, chickens and a pig. The kids all presented their animals and projects very well by making a poster and activity about the importance of their project. Grethen Brammell and Nate Evans made their presentation over the importance of FFA! They presented their presentations to the elementary students, high school students, teachers, staff, administration and people throughout the community. All the kids had so much fun by getting a brain break to hangout and learn about animals and farm equipment all day. Everyone learned a

lot about their average animal that they did not even know about!



greater. After a long hot day of competition they all enjoyed a meal at Texas Roadhouse followed by swimming! On April 22 the kids got to go to the mall and enjoyed a full day of fun shopping. That evening Macie Morris went on stage and received her FFA State Degree. This is a very big accomplishment and the highest degree you can be awarded at the state level!

After the State Convention the kids came back and started preparing for the FFA Banquet. It was held on May 17 and went great! Everyone got to see their accomplishments and hard work throughout the year pay off and we also installed the new officers for 2022-2023. A big thank you to all the parents, staff, and teachers that have helped supported the FFA chapter and we can not wait till next year!



This year has been a great year in the library! We had two book fairs that went well. Unfortunately, Scholastic has sent me an email updating their policies on tax exempt schools collecting taxes on sales. Beginning this next school year, all schools will have to start collecting tax on book fair sales. This is something we have not had to do before because our school is tax exempt. I am still hopeful that our community will make our book fairs successful! Have a great summer!!

Typed by: Ms. Burgin Formatted by: Lexie Ward

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Written and Formatted by: Macie Morris

Counselor's Corner Mrs. Lovelace



Playing catch up after Covid! This year all of the 10th, 11th, and 12th graders took the ASVAB. Two weeks after taking the test, students had a professional come in for an explanation of scores and to discuss career explora-

tion. Now each student is equipped with tools to help them narrow down potential areas of interest they may want to pursue!

Typed by: Mrs. Lovelace Formatted by: Lexie Ward

Field Day Fax

Thank you to Coach Mossman for putting on an amazing field day!

















# WGU Grant

Congratulations to Mr. Jackson Duncan - 6th-grade teacher and Mrs. Stephanie Lovelace - school counselor from the Ballard R-II School District. They applied for "Fund My Classroom" grants through Western Governors University - WGU and were awarded their grants!

Mr. Duncan (Pictured below) plans to use his funds to purchase an Oculus Quest headset that will help expand ideas in the classroom, especially in the areas of science and social studies, such as gravity, the solar system, and even what it's like being in the trenches during World War I.

Mrs. Lovelace (pictured below) plans to use her funds to purchase an elementary social skills kit that will help students better understand the complexities of feelings and reactions to their feelings in order to grow emotional intelligence and respond responsibly.





# **Kindergarten Graduation**

On Monday, May 23, the Ballard School held graduation for the graduating Kindergarten class of 2022. They had a very successful graduation. These kids have worked very hard this year and we can't wait to continue to watch them grow!



Left to right: McKala Selfridge, Augustus Porter, Darly Jo Lovelace, Benjamin Fisher, Henry Crump, and ClaraBella Bergman



graduating eighth grade class. The night went very well, with only a few tears shed. We would like to wish the class best of luck with their new adventures in the future.





Pictured to the Left (L-R): First Row: Ashton Carullo, Alexis Hastings, Briana Arredondo Second Row: Alexander Nunez, Nathan Menken, Kale Oerke, Payton Miller





Pictured to the Right (L-R): First Row: Haley Pray, Autumn Hastings, Valencia Landeros, Lilly Chrisman Second Row: Cash Anderson, Dayne Greer, Lucas Crump, Brenden Card





