

# The Colt Cornerstone

January 31, 2025

Butler News...

## A Team Approach to Literacy Improvement

After the pandemic, it was clear to teachers and reading specialists at Butler Elementary School that they needed to think outside of the box to meet the literacy needs of students. Prior to learning about the state’s concept of no new learning time, the team at Butler Elementary created a plan to improve literacy outcomes for all students. Led by the building Principal, a comprehensive schedule was created and designed to close gaps and accelerate learning for all students. This intervention framework included an intervention specialist, two reading specialists, and classroom teachers. The most recent grade card reflects **Butler Elementary** as a **5-Star School**, including 4 stars in Early Literacy, and 5 starts in Progress and Gag Closing. Nearly 52% of Butler’s students are economically disadvantaged and 27.1% received services via an IEP. This presentation will highlight the innovative framework and how the team used data to drive the school improvement process.



Nicole Walker, Libby Nickoli and Mayme Legron.

## **Butler Café Coloring Contest Winners:**

**KDG** 1st place—Britton Luers  
2nd place—Lennon Applegate



**1st Grade** 1st place—Emmett Miller  
2nd place—Hayden Johnson

**2nd Grade** 1st Place— Avery Branham  
2nd place— Madelyn Inman



**3rd Grade** 1st place—Zuri Brazil  
2nd place—Fiona Motter

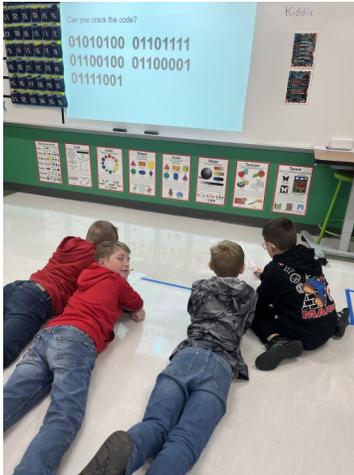
**4th Grade** 1st place—Natalie Rose  
2nd place—CJ Johnson

**5TH Grade** 1st place—Naomi Orndorff  
2nd place—Josh Pratt

**Staff** 1st place—Chief Willey  
2nd place—Miss Baker



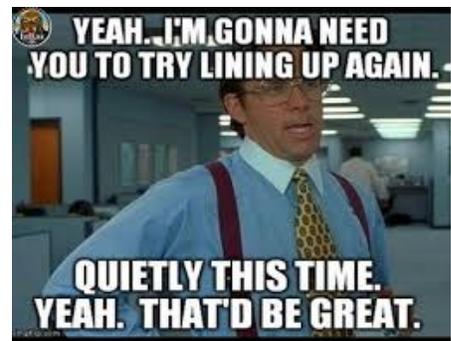
More Butler News...



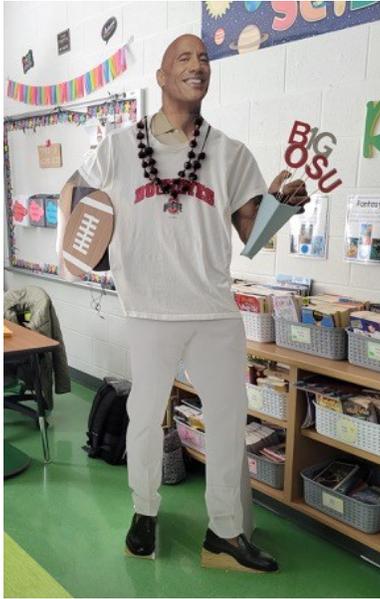
**Third— Fifth grade STEM students** were introduced to Grace Hopper, the woman who revolutionized computer code over 60 years ago. As a result, they discovered how to read Binary Code. With enthusiasm, these students enjoyed “cracking the code” to uncover words and phrases.



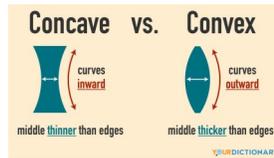
In observation of National Kindness Week, **5th grade students** typed and mailed letters to middle school students in North Carolina following the devastation of Hurricane Helene. In their letters, they expressed care and concern for these middle school students and their families who had experienced flooding and other potential hurricane destruction. Several weeks later, students were thrilled to receive letters from the Brevard Middle School Students who thanked them for reaching out to their community. Many personal stories were shared giving our students the opportunity to learn how catastrophic situations can result in resilience and perseverance.



Bellville News...

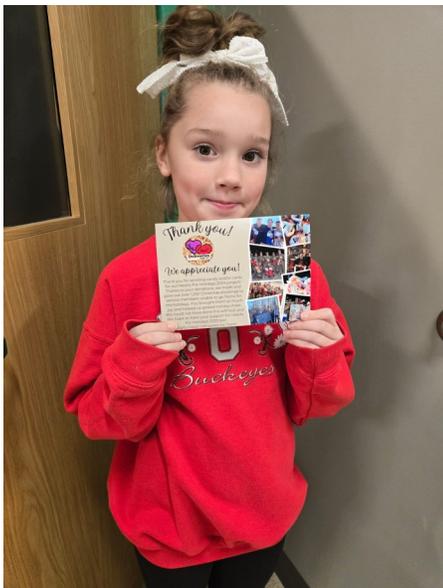


We had a celebrity sighting at Bellville Elementary! Mrs. Koch's class was lucky enough to have "The Rock" flex his muscles and show his support for the OSU Buckeyes! Let's see if he will make any more appearances throughout the school year! He also came to help them learn about concave & convex during their science lessons.



Congratulations to Bellville Students who in the 2nd quarter of the school year achieved academic excellence! We are so very proud of all of their hard work and effort!

	Honor Roll	Merit Roll—All A's	Grand Total
3rd Grade	28	11	39
4th Grade	17	7	24
5th Grade	12	17	29
Grand Total	57	35	92



Our service men and women received a sweet envelope in their stockings this December. Fifth and fourth graders from Mrs. Thorne, Mrs. Beans, Mrs. Dials' rooms participated in a Christmas letter writing project. Through Joyful Heart Deliveries, the students practiced their letter writing skills to wish Marines a Merry Christmas. The letters were sent to Joyful Heart Deliveries who put a letter in one of 1250 Christmas stockings that were given to service members unable to go home for the holidays. Many of these sweet letters were placed in stockings of Ohio service members, making it closer to home!

The awesome 4th graders in Mrs. D class,  
 Thank you very much for making cards for our Marines this holiday season! They brought so much joy to each Marine that got one. Some of the Marines were even from Ohio! They thought it was so cool to get a card from someone in their hometown. We hope you all have a wonderful rest of the school year!  
 Go Colts!  
 Marlena with Joyful Heart Deliveries

## Middle School News



Our **6th, 7th, and 8th grade students** that earned PBIS COLT awards during Quarter 2 were treated to extra gym time during Advisory this week as a thank you for demonstrating what it means to be a COLT!

**PBIS COLT!**



Coen McGhee



Troy Swank



Garrett Lane

Our Wrestling team complete their season last weekend with a 2nd place finish at the MOAC Tournament. **Coen McGhee, Troy Swank and Garrett Lane** all won their weight classes. Highlights during the season included; winning the CFMS Wrestling Invite, as well as the West Holmes MS Invite.



Ms. Kelley's class has been learning about the Lunar New Year and they made fans to celebrate the Year of the Snake!



Mrs. Bates 8th grade Science class has been studying Pangaea. Students are using geographical data and evidence to recreate Pangaea to support Alfred Wegner's theory on continental drift.



Mrs. Wendling's dog, Trigger has been welcomed to the MS with open arms! Trigger loves attending class and interacting with our students. His presence in the building can be felt during class transitions as students stop to give him attention and they leave with smiles on their faces.



## High School News...



**Jess Brokaw** organized a “Teddy Bear Toss” at the boys Varsity Basketball Game on December 27th. She collected several garbage bags full of stuffed animals that were donated to several different organizations.



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**F**  
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**S**



We would like to say **“Thank You!”** to all of the staff and community members who have supported the High School students and staff at this difficult time.

**February 6th**—Senior Night for Girls Basketball.

**February 11th**—Senior Night for Boys Basketball.

The **HS Wrestling team** won the Joshua Heppner Tournament this past weekend and they will travel to Wauseon to compete in the OHSAA Team Duals. This is the 2nd year in a row they have qualified as a team!! Congratulations!!



Shawn Ramion and Jessica Brokaw show off their cheerleading skills during the Boys Varsity Game at Galion on January 27th.



**Go Colts!!**

Miscellaneous News...



Clear Fork students performed in Mansfield Playhouse's "Alice in Wonderland Jr." last weekend!

**Briner McCready**—  
4th Grade , Butler  
"The Four of Hearts"



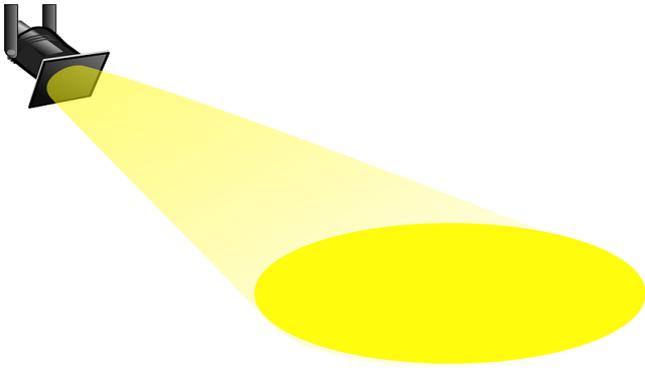
**Marco Armstrong**—6th grade

"The Dodo Bird"



**Gwyneth Jones**—11th Grade  
"Petunia the Flower"

Gwyneth with her sister Beatrice who played the part of Alice!



# Career Center Spotlight



**Senior—Katrina Rogers**

Katrina attends the Knox County Career Center and is enrolled in the Cosmetology Program. She was voted “Most Improved” in her class during her Junior year. Katrina is on the Varsity Softball and Basketball teams and enjoys lifting and spending time with her family. She plans to enter the workforce after graduation in the hair industry.

We wish you all the best, Katrina!



**Senior—Dalton Bailey**

Dalton attends the Knox County Career Center and is enrolled in the Metal Fabrication & Welding Program. While enrolled at KCCC, Dalton has earned CPR, OSHA 10, and Flux-cored arc welding (FCAW) certificates! Dalton is also on the Golf and Tennis teams. He is also a member of the Fredericktown Fire Cadet Training Program. It sounds like Dalton is a very busy guy! He enjoys playing golf, tennis and hanging out with his friends. Dalton plans on entering the workforce after graduation and be a welder. Best of luck to you, Dalton.



An update from our Interim Superintendent...

**A review of the staff interview information:**

## **Report Data Information**

### **Interview Date:**

- Number of Individuals Interviewed = 218
- Number of Responses Received = 2127
- Number of Topics Covered by Respondents = 141
- Smallest Number of Responses Per Topic = 1
- Largest Number of Responses Per Topic = 111

**The Superintendent search has begun. Applications must be received by February 13, 2025. Interviews will begin after all applications have been received and the start date of the new Superintendent will be August 1st, 2025.**