

# The Bethke Journal



## Best Year Ever! Highlights of the 2017/2018 School Year

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By: Colton Pawlak

This school year at Bethke Elementary has been such a fun year. We've done a lot of things. For example, we've done track and field, 1k, 2k, 3k, and 4k, the pumpkin patch for the fall festival, the Halloween parade, Halloween party, Valentine's day party, holiday party, winter break, spring break and Thanksgiving break.

For the Valentine's day party, fifth graders made little books with poems in them called heart songs and they read one poem from the book to the whole class. They all had a grand old time.

If you went to the pumpkin patch for the fall festival, you know that you were able to pick a pumpkin and take it home for free with the Bethke Elementary School discount. It was awesome!

Bethke has a bunch of other fun clubs, like student council, newspaper, and school store. Student council arranged Cans around Bethke to collect food for the food bank, newspaper club has been bringing you monthly issues of the Bethke Journal about what's going on around the school, and school store has been offering little toys to sell to you every Friday at lunch.

Personally, my favorite thing we've done so far are sprints. But then again, I am very athletic and love to run so I wouldn't be surprised if nobody agrees with me! I'm also a fifth grader. I also had a lot of fun at all of the holiday parties and parades this year.

We've also had recess at least once a day, right? That was one really great part of this year. The other day, our assistant principal, Mr. Gallagher, played football with the fifth graders. It was a lot of fun, especially since I was one of the fifth graders that was playing. Plus, Mr. Gallagher has a big arm!

I think that we can all agree that this school year has been a very fun school year. It's most definitely the best school year I have ever had!

## No Summer Plans? Ideas for Fun Summer Activities

By: Chloe Wilson

We are all so excited about summer coming up so soon. But have you been so caught up in counting down the days, catching up on work, or having strong excitement for three months of freedom to think about what you are doing this summer? Well I have a bunch of summer activities you could do.

You might want to check out the roller coasters at Six Flags or the White Lightning water slide at Water World if you're looking for a thrill.

Another thing that you might be interested in is going to some baseball games. I love watching my favorite players and eating delicious food in the warm summer weather.

The third and final thing you might want to do is go on a vacation. I love when my parents say I get to go on vacation over the summer! Whether you're relaxing on the beach or skiing at a resort on the other side of the world, I know you will have a blast with your family or friends.

I hope some of these ideas inspired you to make some plans to get out and enjoy yourself with your family this summer. See you next year!



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# How to Make the Most Out of the Last Week of School

By: Sadie McManus

The last week of school is always an exciting time of the year. But that doesn't mean that you should rush through it just to get to summer vacation faster. There are many activities that your teachers already provide. But here is a list of things that you could do to make the special week even more special.

First off, many people in all grades have best friends. Although you would want to spend every last moment with your best friend, you should spend as much time as possible with a variety of your friends. That way, the people that you can't get together with over summer will have spent time with you before you had to leave for your summer.

Something else that you could do is show whatever appreciation and respect to your teachers that you have. During the last week of school you should always get your teachers gift cards, mugs,

gift baskets, books, or any other things that could make your teacher's face or heart light up. There will probably be many children that bring presents for your teacher, but I can assure you that they will appreciate every single gift that appears on their desk.

So many times people get so excited about ending the school year that they forget the point of school: to learn. Apparently teachers want to see you work to show what you have learned. So even though the last week of school has little work for students to do, you will want to make the absolute most out of this ending part of the year. Even if you have extreme minimum work to do, you should still do your best to get a good grade on what might be your final assignment of the year.

The fourth and final thing that I believe that you should do to make the most of your last hours, days, or week of your school year is to have fun. You don't need to work hard or stress about having fun. But you do have to live like

this is your day. So whether you get an A+ on your last spelling test of the year, or a C- on your final math test, be proud of how far you have come and how much you have accomplished. Don't compare yourself to someone else because no person in any school, or on any planet for that matter, is better than someone else.

I hope that you had fun this year and I know that you should reflect and be proud of everything that you have done this year. You will be amazed at how much all of this will pay off in the future. You have had an amazing school year. Thank you for being... well, you. We all know how amazing you are, so it's time that you know it, too.



## Students Celebrate Bethke's 10 Year Anniversary



## The Mysteries of the Teachers' Lounge

By: Emma Valcho

Hello Bobcats! I know some of you are wondering about the mysteries of the Bethke teachers' lounge and what teachers do while they are in there. Are they planning to give us extra homework? Are they going to take away our recess? Or are they going to make us have school over the weekends? What do they talk about in there?

I recently had the honor of going into the forbidden land of the teachers' lounge to see what goes on in there. To answer your question: no, they are not planning to give us extra homework or take away our recess or make us go to school over the weekends. But what they are doing is planning what they are going to teach us next

week. The teachers are just having their normal conversations in the lounge, like talking about what they did over the weekends or telling stories about their families.

Have you ever wondered what it looks like in there? When I was allowed to go in there, I saw.... (get ready because this going to be good), two refrigerators, a popcorn machine, three microwaves, a coffee maker, a whole kitchen, a little library, the teachers' mailboxes, and last but not least, a Coca-a-Cola machine!

If you have ever wondered what's making that amazing smell on Fridays, that's the popcorn machine! If you're wondering where your teachers get their coffee, they most likely get it from the teachers' lounge. If you are a teacher's kid, then you might already know what to

expect in there, but most of us don't.

That's it from me, Bobcats! Now you know all about the Bethke teachers' lounge.



The Bethke teachers' lounge is no longer a mystery.  
Photo: Lauren Henderson

## Spring Break Adventures: What Did Our Classmates Do?

By: Gershona Lamkin

I know a lot of Bethke students did really exciting things over spring break, so I interviewed a few people to see what they did over spring break. Let's see who had the most fun!

First up I talked to Eliza Rose, a fourth grader in Ms. Mocke's class. She went to Omaha, Neb. When she got there, she said hi to the people she stayed with and went to unpack her things. The most fun thing she did was play with her friend, Khushi.

She also went shopping with her mom for shoes, and then went out for dinner and ice cream.

Another one of my classmates, Gabby Janik, a fourth grader in Ms. Mocke's class, went to Denver and when she got there, she shopped for clothes and toys with three siblings: Radimir, Isabella and Isaac. After they went shopping at the mall, Gabby and her family got ice cream. Gabby got wedding cake flavored ice cream. Next, they shopped for more clothes and went to the park.

It was a sunny day, so Gabby did an obstacle course with her mom and brother. Then, she had fun with another one of my classmates, Emma Valcho.

Finally, I interviewed Jacoby Beach, a fourth grader in Ms. Mocke's class. He went to the Summit. He bowled in a spot called the Eagle's Nest. After bowling, he went to an ice cream place called Menchie's and got chocolate and vanilla. Then he went mini golfing at Glow Golf and headed home.

Now you get to decide: which was the most fun vacation?



## Bethke Elementary

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We're on the Web!  
[bet.psdschools.org](http://bet.psdschools.org)

### Calendar of Events

- 4/19: First Grade Music Program, 6:30 p.m.
- 4/20: First Grade Music Program, 9 a.m.  
Deadline to Order School Kitz
- 4/23: Picture Day
- 4/27: Bethke 10th Anniversary Spring Showcase, 5-7
- 5/3: Chorus program, 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- 5/11: Field Day
- 5/16-5/18: Fifth Grade ECO Week
- 5/28: No School/Memorial Day
- 5/30: Kindergarten Celebration
- 5/31: Fifth Grade Graduation, 9 a.m.

“Honoring All Learners”

**Publisher/Editor in Chief: Ms. Kirsten Wilson and Ms. Alex Wedemeyer**

**Layout: Bethke Journal Staff**

## Student Spotlight: First Grader, Ivan

By: Eliza Rose

I recently interviewed a Bethke first grader, who also happens to be my brother, so I can tell all of you a little more about him. Ivan is 7 years old, and is in first grade. His teacher is Mrs. Harras. He says that she is the best teacher ever, and that she is always very nice to him. That is one of the reasons that he loves first grade so much.

Ivan's favorite color is black, and his favorite special is P.E. His favorite thing to do in P.E. is dodgeball. When he goes out to recess he likes to do flips on the doughnut with his best friend, Oscar.

Two of his favorite foods are burritos, and ravioli. His favorite month of the year is January because that is when he was born. His favorite holidays are Christmas and Easter. His favorite insect is caterpillars (fuzzy ones to be exact). His favorite animal is a leopard.

Ivan's very favorite book just so happens to be the one he is reading right now, which is Gulliver's Travels. His lucky number is 17, and his unlucky number is 2. His favorite days of the week are Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

Ivan's favorite letters of the alphabet are I and R. When he is at home his favorite things to do are ride his bike, color, sketch, climb, and play with his sister (me)!

Those are a few things about my brother Ivan! I hope you enjoyed learning about him!



Bethke first grader, Ivan, enjoys school and a variety of other hobbies.

Photo: Maddie Whitlock