

# The Bethke Journal



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## Bethke's Spelling Bee Winner is Fourth Grader Jayden Pauly

By Hailey King

Hello Bobcats! Thank you for supporting every student who participated in the Bethke spelling bee last month. Congratulations to Jayden Pauly in fourth grade for winning the spelling bee. There was a hard fight between Nolan Smith and Daryan Shaw for runner up, but Daryan in fifth grade was eventually the winner of the runner up position for the spelling bee.

The spelling bee, which took place on December 14, 2018, is a fun, competitive event where students are given difficult spelling words and they have to try to spell them correctly. If a word is spelled incorrectly, that student is eliminated. There can only be one winner and one runner up.

I think that the spelling bee is really fun because if you're in it, you get to try your hardest and just have fun. Great job to everyone who competed in our school spelling bee! We are so happy to see all of our fellow Bobcats try their hardest.

The next spelling bee is the Poudre School District spelling bee on February 4, 2019. The district bee is where all of the school spelling bee winners from our district will compete against each other. The person who wins it will be the winner of the Poudre School District spelling bee. Make sure to check it out if you get a chance. Good luck to Jayden at the Poudre School District spelling bee. We will all be cheering him on!



Congratulations to Bethke Spelling Bee winner Jayden Pauly and runner-up Daryan Shaw!

Photos: Avery Foose

## What Does a New Year Mean to You?

By: Gershona Lamkin

What does a new year mean to you? To me, it means family. It doesn't matter if I'm up in Maine with my grandparents or in New Orleans to see my aunt and uncle. This year, I was with my grandparents at my house.

Did you stay up until midnight on New Year's Eve? It is a custom to do so on New Years. When it comes to 10 seconds before a new year, everybody does an elaborate countdown.

"Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one-" and a big cheer comes up celebrating Jan. 1st. When I asked my mom if I could, she said, "We'll see." I thought, *well, that's not a no, exactly.*

Think about this: what is **YOUR** unique new year custom. Ours is family, like I said before. Last year there was a big meal with everyone. Do you like to play games or give gifts? What do you like to do on this festive celebration?

# 2019

Maybe you should think about giving. Start the new year right with gifts or donations to: the animal shelter, the homeless shelter, the soup kitchen, the food bank, to services helping natural disaster survivors, or to give to a nonprofit.

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## Bethke Students to Show Off Amazing Skills at Talent Show

By: Charlotte Nagl

Do you know about the Bethke Talent Show? The Bethke Talent Show is a fun event where a bunch of third, fourth and fifth graders get together and show their talent on stage to the whole school! A talent means someone has skill or a really good technique with their singing voice, dance, playing the piano, jumping rope, comedy, magic or other things. I also think the talent show means that you can just have fun! I mean, we'll all clap anyway!

This year's talent show is on Friday, January 24, 2019. I'm actually participating in the talent show this year and I'm a little bit nervous, but I know my mom will be cheering, so that might help. I'm

also super excited because it's my first year doing it. Anyway, the talent show can be fun and scary. In the fun way, you can just do the activity you're doing and just show all of your talent. Sounds fun, right? In the scary way, you could mess up or nobody could clap. But I don't think that would happen. Let's just be happy and support our fellow students even if we think they could've done better.

I went through tryouts a few weeks ago and had a blast. I felt nervous when the judges asked if the music was in the right spot, but when I started my audition, I just kept going. Cheers and smiles from friends were helpful, too.

The Bethke Talent Show is probably one of the most fun activities we do at Bethke Elementary. It's mind blowing to see all the kids who signed up and watch them do what they love. Let's support our fellow Bobcats at the Bethke Talent Show!



Singing is one of the many talents you'll see at the show.  
Photos: Bethke File

## Winter Break Travel Fun in Alabama

By: Emma Baker

Hi Bobcats! I hope you had a fun winter break. I did, and I want to tell you all about it. Over winter break, my mom, dad, sister and I went to Alabama for Christmas to see my family.

We hopped on a plane to go see them. When we landed, we waited for a little while before my grandfather picked us up to go to his house. But before we got to his house, we went to go eat at a great restaurant called Mayas.

If you go to Alabama, you might want to try it because they have the best white cheese dip ever.

After that we went to my grandfather's house and visited with him. The next morning, we went to my dad's parents' house to spend some time with them. That night we opened up the presents that everyone in my family gave to us.

After we spent two nights with them, we went back to my grandfather's and the next morning was Christmas. We woke up and saw so many good

presents under the Christmas tree.

After about an hour or two, we went to my aunt's house to eat lunch and then went back to my grandfather's house.

Finally, two days later we packed our bags and left to come back to Colorado. It was a wonderful break for me. I hope your break was terrific too!

## Bethke Brag: Colorado Wax Museum

By: Sadie McManus

There is a reason that Colorado is such a great state. There is also a reason that Bethke is such an amazing school. Bethke has exciting activities of practically all kinds, such as the Wax Museum, which took place on December 13. Colorado has an amazing story behind all of the mountains. The Wax Museum is a great way to show the tale of Colorado. This is a project for the fourth graders of Bethke. So, let me take you on a quick journey through the possible showings at our Colorado History Wax Museum!

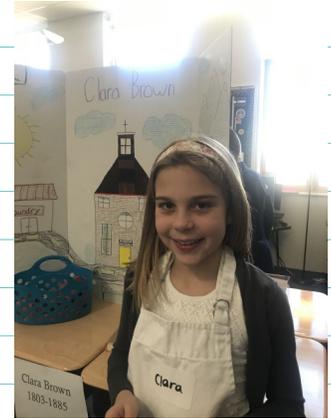
Though there are many events that took place for our remarkable state to come to be, there are a lot of people who contributed to Colorado's legend. The fourth graders are given a variety of options of who they could study, during a short period of time, that had done something that contributed to Colorado in some way. After choosing a person to study, the fourth graders got straight to work each day and researched the person which they chose. They had a certain rubric or

guideline that they must follow for their research that shows important information, such as the birthday, death day, what they are famous for, and full name of the person, as well as the impact the person had on Colorado.

As soon as all of the research was put together, it was put into paragraphs, printed out and put on bulletin boards in the hallway. The students decorated their own poster boards and then dressed up as the famous person. For example, if a student was studying Temple Grandin, they dressed like her on the day of the Wax Museum. The students set up their poster boards behind themselves on their desks and stood in front of them. The fourth graders gave a small speech about the person's life. They said the speech as if they are telling about their own lives.

All of the grades of Bethke and parents walked around the fourth grade classrooms to learn about the many people who helped Colorado to become the beautiful state and the prodigious community that we are so fortunate to be in today.

The Wax Museum is not only a great learning experience that helps the students at Bethke, but it is an incredible way to respect and recognize the many wonderful people that have devoted themselves to make this state from a piece of land, into a home for many. I hope you enjoyed this year's Wax Museum!



Bethke fourth graders had a blast dressing up as their favorite Colorado history characters.

Photo: Zoe Rummel

## Bethke Students Celebrate the Holidays in Classroom Parties

By: Bella Gow

All students seem to enjoy the holiday parties right before winter break. Every year we celebrate finishing the first half of the school year by having parties the day before we take a two week break. The Bethke holiday parties are exciting events where you get to do fun stuff instead of regular school, like making crafts or eating snacks.

In my class, our party theme was the Grinch! It was a whole hour of awesome activities, including a book trade. During our book trade, students traded wrapped books, so we didn't know what book we were going to get. We also made Grinch ornaments, which was so fun! We got to have Grinch punch and Rudolf snack bags. We had the best party ever, and we hope you did too!



Fourth graders made Grinch ornaments at the holiday party.

Photo: Chloe Wilson



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We're on the Web!  
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### Calendar of Events

By: Paige Cloudman

- 1/24: 4th/5th Talent Show, 2:30 and 6 p.m.
- 2/11 PTO Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 2/14: Valentine's Day parties
- 2/18: No School/Staff Work Day
- 2/21: Third Grade Music Program, 2:30 and 6 p.m.

"Honoring All Learners"

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## Spotlight: Mrs. Gephart

By: Peyton Ells

This year Bethke is honored to welcome a couple of new staff members, and we are so happy to add them to our team. One of these special people is Mrs. Gephart. She was welcomed to Bethke this year as a new kindergarten teacher.

When she was young, Mrs. Gephart's favorite teacher was her chemistry teacher. This new teacher's favorite movie is "Pure Country" and her favorite book is "The Hunger Games." She enjoys watching the TV show "Friends." Her personal favorite subject in school is science, and while we may know her on an educational level, she has quite an extraordinary life outside of teaching.

Mrs. Gephart loves to run. She loves it so much that some of her proudest moments include

completing two marathons and completing multiple partial marathons. I personally thought this was such an interesting fact to learn.

One of Mrs. Gephart's biggest pet peeves is a messy room. Our fabulous new teacher was born on August 29 in Elk City, Oklahoma and is currently 28 years old. When describing herself in three adjectives, Mrs. Gephart chose silly, fun, and caring. Mrs. Gephart's favorite vacation spot was Italy because "the pasta was really good!"

To wrap it all up, Mrs. Gephart wants to be remembered as a great teacher, and more importantly, a teacher who cared! I had a great time learning about Mrs. Gephart, and I can't wait to learn even more about her throughout these last few months of school, and I would like to say to Mrs. Gephart herself, WELCOME TO OUR TEAM!



Mrs. Gephart is Bethke's newest Kindergarten teacher.

Photo: April Ottley