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Dog Facts!



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Small

School, Big Stories

Volume 1 Edition 1

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Wesley and Beau in the school courtyard with Luna.

Facility Dog, New Addition to BGS

By Wesley Koller and Beau Grunow

Principal Albritton has recently been training with Luna, the new facility dog, who has now found a new home here at BGS. Luna will help the students with stress and anxiety to lift their spirits and give them a brighter day.

Mrs. Albritton said, "If some kids had a bad morning or if they are just not feeling well, Luna will be there to brighten their day."

When Luna was 5 months old her original owners moved and sadly couldn't take her with them. Before the owners left they took Luna to a no-kill rescue shelter. They saw Luna's abilities and took her to Paws Giving Independence (PGI). "All parti-poodles are known for their high intelligence and trainability. That is why Luna is a trained facility dog." **SEE DOG, 3**

Wasp Takeover!

By Finn Kuhn

The appearance of multiple wasp hives all around the school have left several students and staff with painful stings. Getting rid of these feisty insects was no easy feat for anyone involved.

Science teacher and lunch monitor Mr. Faulkner witnessed all of the stings. When asked about the severity of the wasps he said this, "The nest was probably large size, probably 300-400 wasps, it was a big one."

Killing the vicious bugs was not an easy task, and maintenance man Mr. Fairfield can attest to that.

"They were quite angry and very aggressive, [I've] been stung quite a few times," he said.

To figure out how to get rid of them, the internet came to the rescue.

"I got online and did a search to see. I learned that you could use dawn soap and water to flood the nest, 'cause most of them are in the ground. It ruins the nest so they don't come back."

They were no easy task to get rid of either. With a hive as large as it was, any attempts to exterminate it would end in painful stings and angry wasps. Mr. Fairfield said this when asked if the wasps were aggressive.

SEE WASP, 3

Kickabrew! Coming Soon!

By Brittany McGowan and Whitney Smith



Kickabrew Coffee Co. opening in Kickapoo in October 2021, will serve coffee, exotic teas, and many other items. The coffee will range from iced coffee to hot coffee and everything in between. They will also serve hot chocolate, lemonade, and have a signature treat per day that nowhere else serves. "We are shooting for an opening in October." Dr. Josh Barnewolt said.

The people behind the Kickabrew Co. are the owners Drs. Josh and Katie Barnewolt. They also

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own a Chiropractic practice in Kickapoo, Illinois known as Barnewolt & Barnewolt. “We love the town and we grew up here,” said Dr. Josh Barnewolt.

Kickabrew’s manager Jazany Schick, “grew up in Mexico and has been working in a coffee shop since she was 11 years old, and has been in the US for 4 years.” said Dr. Katie Barnewolt.

The idea of Kickabrew came from the owners sitting and talking about the idea of opening a coffee shop. Dr. Josh Barnewolt thinks that “Every small town needs a coffee shop” and has “always loved going to small-town coffee shops”. The Drs. have had the Kickabrew building for 8 years and says that the place “screams coffee shop”. Dr. Josh Barnewolt has “always had a love for coffee” and says “it’s a dream come true” to finally own a coffee shop.

The coffee beans will be roasted in the shop by hand and will have many varieties of coffee blends. Dr. Josh Barnewolt ordered 100 lbs of Kona coffee beans. The coffee beans will also come from Brazil, Indonesia, Columbia, Peru, Barind, Africa, Arabica, and other places around the world. They will also have seasonal drinks such as pumpkin spice for these upcoming seasons. The 13 exotic teas were ordered from China. Dr. Josh Barnewolt “ordered beans from a farmer and will also be roasting those beans.” Dr. Katie Barnewolt said.



They have also purchased a 1976 Camper named “The Little Bean” which will be a mobile shop that will go around to different towns and serve coffee. They will also offer “Curbside pickup,” said Dr. Josh Barnewolt. Based on how the curbside goes we might think about opening a drive-thru, but that will be in the further future”. Dr. Josh Barnewolt said.

Employees will range from high school students to experienced baristas. Jazz has been doing interviews and hopes to find good employees for the business.

“So far I have like 4 girls I would like, but half would be experienced and the other half would be high school students looking for their first job”. Jazz Schick says. They will also feature coffee art on their hot drinks, which the employees will do.

Kickabrew has been envisioned for quite some time now. The words that motivated the Doctors to finally open the business are from someone who told them recently that “Life is short, do things that make you happy.”

Upcoming Events

18th: 11:00 am regional baseball game: At City Park
11 am Sectional softball game: At Rankin Field

20th: 4:00 pm Cross Country at St. Jude
4:30 pm regional baseball game at City Park

21st: Picture day

24th: Softball State tournament game at 11:30 am Champion Fields
4 pm Cross Country at Dunlap

25th: 9:30 am Softball State at Champion Field
11 am Baseball Sectional Game at Oak Grove School

29th: 4 pm Cross Country at Farmington

Kidz Korner

Dog fun facts

1. Dogs’ noses can sense heat/thermal radiation, which explains why blind or deaf dogs can still hunt.
2. Yawning is contagious—even for dogs.
3. The Australian Shepard is not actually from Australia—they are an American breed.
4. There are over 75 million pet dogs in the U.S.
5. According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the smallest dog ever recorded was Miracle Milly, the Chihuahua. Born in 2011, Milly was a minuscule 3.8 inches tall and weighed in at one pound.
6. A dog's sense of smell has 300 million receptors
7. Greyhound dogs can beat cheetahs in a race.

Learn a Language!

Dog in German - hund

Dog in French -chienne or chien

Dog in Spanish - perra or pero

Student of the Week: Samson the Star!

By Noah Malone

Things are back in action at Brimfield and there are many returning kind faces ready for a great school year. Some students in particular have already started off their year in a great way by being kind to others. One of these students is Samson Smith, a fourth-grader.

“Sam has shown a great deal of kindness towards other students,” says Mrs. Miller, a fourth-grade teacher at Brimfield Grade School. Kindness has always been a very important trait to have and Samson seems to understand this. “He is often the first one to help out when a pencil or other things are dropped around the classroom.”

There are many traits that make Samson and other students at Brimfield great. But kindness to other students and teachers are some of the most important traits. Samson had demonstrated these traits time and time again. But he is not just kind, he is also very respectful.

“Sam has shown a great amount of manners,” said Mrs. Miller. At such a young age, it is common for students to have poor manners because they have not quite learned what proper manners are. Yet, Samson has demonstrated great manners, especially for his age.

Samson Smith is our student of the week for his kindness, respect, helpfulness, and more. While he is the student of the week, there are still many other star students at Brimfield.



Boys Baseball Off to a Great Start

By Kaeden Schastick

The Brimfield Jr. High Baseball team is on a roll this year. They are coached by Brandon Porter and Josh McKown. These coaches are arguably best in the area, if not the best in the state. They push the kids to do their best and the players are very encouraged and push themselves for the coaches.

In addition, during practice Coach McKown says they do lots of fun things but still keep doing things they need to work on to perfect their skills. Their pitching and fielding skills are on point! They hit up and down the lineup and have a real chance at going all the way to state!



Coach also says they are very focused on doing things like “daily drills, batting practice, and working on situational plays.”

Later, as they move to high school, they will have to continue to practice and keep putting in the effort. These coaches think they

are going to be very successful as they move on to high school.

Coach McKown says that there is “a lot of potential” but also thinks “they’re gonna have to continue to work and improve.”

Coach McKown says the reason the team is so good is partly because they have more older players than other teams in the past.

Coach McKown says that the team “is good because every starter is an 8th grader, we’re older than most of the teams, we have experience, plus we have kids that have played competitively for a long time in travel ball.” These are many of the reasons the Brimfield Jr. High baseball team is so good.

According to Coach McKown, this undefeated team has “a lot of potential” and they’re pushed by their coaches to “be their best.” They have four games left in their regular season and then it’s off to regionals!

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“Yes, they were aggressive. They made it hard to get close to the nest.” With how aggressive the wasps were, it’s no surprise that many students got stung. In just the junior high six students and one teacher were stung.

To understand a little more about what people were really dealing with, here are some facts about yellow jackets: Some nests have been recorded to have had over 100,000 bees in them!



According to ducksters.com, a yellowjacket’s diet consists mostly of fruit and flower nectar, and occasionally some stolen honey from bees. Yellowjackets are so vicious that other insects mimic their colors and patterns to scare off potential predators.

To keep their hives protected, the wasps carefully choose a safe location to build. This is normally in the rafters of a building, any small crevasse, or, as we encountered, in the ground. They build this hive with chewed-up wood turned into a paste.

Another way they protect themselves is how the worker wasps protect their queen. The queen is the livelihood of the hive. Worker wasps can be easily replaced, but the queen can not. The queen lays all of the eggs for the hive, while the workers protect the queen, build the nest, and acquire food.

All of this work is short-lived, however. In most places, the hive is dead when the winter comes in. Yellowjackets are cold-blooded animals, meaning that their body temperature depends on their surroundings.

All in all, the yellowjackets that inhabited our school were no easy task for anyone to deal with, so we all owe a big thank you to Mr. Fairfield and anyone else who helped in the task of removing them.

DOG from page 1



Luna was picked up by volunteers with PGS and she went to a college student who raised her until she wasn’t a puppy anymore.

“After being at the shelter, Luna went to stay with her puppy raiser for 2 months. Her name was Erika.

Erika is an ISU student. She took really good care of Luna.”

The training started with Luna right after she was released from a woman’s correctional facility in mid-July.

“I started training with Luna recently after she came out of the correctional facility. So by the time I had her she was used to loud noises, beeps, etc” said Mrs. Albritton.

Luna has some hip issues. This is also why Luna is not qualified for being a service dog. If a person with a disability needs to lean on her, Luna’s hip would give out and she would be in large amounts of pain.

Mrs. Albritton said, “Luna is now a facility dog because of her hollow hip she was not qualified for the work of a service dog.”

Mrs. Albritton had to train and work with Luna in the new environment for 25 hours until she would be able to fully adopt Luna. Mrs. Albritton has also said that she has really been enjoying Luna’s company.

“I am planning to fully adopt Luna as long as everything works out,” Principal Albritton said with excitement. Although for this to happen Luna must be able to handle all of the noises that occur throughout the school day.

Luna’s favorite dog toy is the squeaky tennis ball. Her favorite treats are any of the Blue Wilderness Trail Treats. Whenever Luna performs a trick or fetches a ball, Mrs. Albritton gives her a treat as a reward.

Mrs. Albritton said, “When she gets home at night, Luna takes her working vest off and she can play her favorite game FETCH with a tennis ball that squeaks! After each spectacular performance, Luna gets a treat”

Opinion: The School Day Should Not Start Later

By Brody Kenney

The school day should not start later. One reason is kids would have a hard time getting to school because most parents leave for work early and it's hard to find enough buses for the kids. If school starts later, you still have to go through a full day of school and with extracurricular activities, it would be hard to finish any homework you have, with games and practices having to start later.

Another reason is, while it may sound good to get to sleep every morning, you may feel more tired and find it hard to stay awake during the day. With school starting later it might influence teens to stay up later since you get to sleep longer in the morning and this might affect students' grades by wanting to sleep and not paying attention in class.

Others may say it's good to have a late start time because kids can have a healthy breakfast. But if you really want a healthy breakfast just go to bed earlier and wake up earlier than you usually do. People are already used to waking up early and having a normal routine every morning and if it changes to a later start time it may throw people off.

The last reason is it would mess up families' schedules with work and mess up the schools' schedules with bells and buses. Parents would have to either send their kids on the bus or find a different way for them to get to school and schools would have to change when the bell goes off and what time the buses leave and get to the school. You may think it would be amazing to have a later start time but it's really not worth it.

Now that I have given you all these reasons why a late start time is not good, I hope I changed your mind.

Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Cahill

By Sawyer Drury

Mrs. Cahill, currently a second-grade teacher, has been teaching here for 15 years but was originally a kindergarten teacher. She likes to spend time with her students to see them improve in her classroom and have their lightbulb moments.

"I really want a purpose and to help other children learn," Mrs. Cahill states. "I really want to help the future of America." Mrs. Cahill loves seeing children realize their mistakes and when they start to understand something. How does Mrs. Cahill keep her students interested in her class? "I reward, I give positive comments all throughout the day," Mrs. Cahill said. "All of my students are doing



something right at any given moment. I also relate what I'm teaching to their lives." Her students are compelled to listen when given an explanation about something in their world. When her students all do something correctly, she rewards them all for that so they can keep doing what they are doing well.

Mrs. Cahill's class is like the classes from all middle school teachers combined, except she is only one teacher teaching all the needed subjects within a timestamp. Mrs. Cahill explains, "There is not enough time in the day to teach everything that I would like to." There are only 7 hours in a school day and she has to teach math, reading, spelling, handwriting, science, and geography. She can fit all of that into her time frame but not as much as she would like to. Her favorite class to teach out of those subjects is math. "That's because there are so many different ways to reach a solution," Mrs. Cahill confirms. "I like seeing how all students solve problems." There are many ways students can solve a problem and there are easier and harder ways to do them.

A previous student of Mrs. Cahill, Landrie Quiram, states, "If you missed a problem she always took the time to help you individually, she never made you feel bad about yourself." Mrs. Cahill is a very kind, caring, and genuine person. She is an awesome teacher and anyone will be lucky to have her in the future. Here is a hint for future students, Mrs. Cahill states, "Always try your best and believe that you can."

About the Editors

Sawyer Drury: Sawyer is an 8th grader that attends BGS. In Sawyer's free time she enjoys the outdoors, playing softball and basketball, plays with her dog, and hangs out with her friends. She has hearing aids in both ears. She has a mom, dad, sister in 6th and a brother in 4th.

Jackson Kappes: Jackson is an 8th-grade student that attends Brimfield Grade School. In his free time, he enjoys playing sports, reading, and spending time with family. Jackson's favorite holidays are Christmas and Halloween. Jackson has 2 siblings who all are in the school district.

Wesley Koller: Wesley Koller, is a student in 8th Grade at BGS. He likes to do adrenaline-rushing activities like motocross, mountain biking, rock climbing, etc. He likes to travel to cool places, he's been to California to go rock climbing on cliffs, and surfing the Pacific ocean.

Noah Malone: Noah is an 8th grader. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with family and friends. He also enjoys playing sports, including baseball. He plays second base and pitches for the Brimfield Indians and the KHawks.

Kaeden Schastick: Kaeden Schastick is an 8th grader and plays lots of sports such as baseball, football, hockey, and golf. In baseball, he is a utility player, a quarterback, and middle linebacker in football, and in hockey, is a defenseman. He also enjoys time with family.

Sean Crowe: Sean Crowe is an 8th grader at Brimfield. He plays baseball for the Khawks and the Brimfield Indians. He has a cleft lip. He likes the St. Louis Cardinals. He plays third base or pitcher. He has 1 brother. He also likes basketball.

Beau Grunow: Beau is an 8th grader at BGS. A few years ago Beau moved to Germany for 3.5 years. There he learned to speak fluent German. Beau plays soccer for Morton United FC. His favorite foods are currywurst and schnitzel. Now he is ready for the 2021/22 school year.

Brody Kenney: Brody Kenney is an 8th grader at Brimfield grade school. In his free time, he likes to play sports and spend time with friends and family. In baseball, he pitches and plays first and third base. In basketball, he plays down in the paint. He has two siblings that are both in college.

Finn Kuhn: Finn is an 8th-grade student here at Brimfield Grade School. In her free time, she enjoys reading, playing basketball, and hanging out with friends. She really likes fall and Halloween along with watching TV. She has 4 siblings, all of which are in the school district.

Brittany McGowan: Brittany is an 8th grader that does Cross Country and plays volleyball. She hangs out with her friends and family in her free time. Her favorite food is pizza or tortellini. She loves the holiday Christmas and loves the TV show Fuller House on Netflix. She is a fun person to be around.

Whitney Smith: Whitney is an 8th-grade student who plays volleyball and basketball, whose position is setter and front row, and likes spending time with her friends. She wants to be a pediatric surgeon, or treat kids with cancer. Whitney also likes watching tv.

