

The Viking Chronicle

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A Night of Infection *by Sarah Alteio*

On Thursday, the 9st of November, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm, the Bellevue Christian Junior High Student Council hosted a great event. All the junior high kids played Infection, but it wasn't just Infection, we played Glow in the Dark Infection outside the Bellevue Christian main campus Commons. We played so that if you were infected, you wore your glow stick outside your shirt, but if you were not infected (tagged), then you wore your glow stick inside your shirt so that it could not be seen.

A few things that the student council asked those who were coming to bring were socks and canned food for a local charity. A student council member answered a few questions about this night. Here were her responses. Katie Alteio, member of the junior high Student Council, said that the reason why they chose to do Infection Night was because it was a big hit last year, so they decided to do it again this year, and even more people showed up than planned which was great. The Student Council was pleased with how many people brought canned goods and socks. At the end of the night, everyone was happy with the turn out of this amazing night.



Sarah Alteio, Jade LaBossier, Cianna Brady, Katie Alteio, Marieke Wybenga

Honoring Veterans *by Leo Trepte*

by Leo Trepte

On November eleventh, you probably honored Veterans Day by thinking to yourself, "I think today is Veterans Day," then didn't think about it at all for the rest of the day, but Mrs. Sweeney, the computer teacher at Mack, honored Veterans Day by putting up American flags and helping out at a cemetery in Sultan, Washington.

Her family has done this every year on Memorial Day and Veterans Day for several generations to honor their ancestors and other veterans. Each holiday, they work on 20-30 graves. They do this to honor the memories of the lives cut short by wars and to encourage other people to do the same.



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Quarter One Ends *by Matthew Tjoelker*

If you haven't heard than you must have time traveled because quarter one ended a while ago. Some people thought of this as a small check in on how you are doing, some people thought of it as a big deal and if they have one thing lower than an A on their report card that it's unchangeable. Mr. Olson, the Junior High principal, said that quarter one was really good and very successful. Mr. Olson also said he looks forward to our community getting stronger. He said that the new students and new teachers had the most stress but that quarter two will be easier for new people settling in. Mr. Olson stated that quarter one ending is a big deal but more of a transition. He also said that student council probably has another social planned for before Christmas break or at the end of the quarter. Mr. Olson said that his favorite thing that happened was the first day. Mr. Olson said the thing he wants to see the most to be improved is the lunch clean up crew. Mr. Olson's favorite place is the B Hall because of all the kids there. "The quarter has been a great start now all we have to do is keep up the hard work." said Mr. Olson.

Noah Mathew, a seventh grade student, said he is glad quarter one is over, and that he thinks he did well because he tried his hardest. He also said that some of the classes at the beginning were hard because of the transition to junior high from elementary. He said that "the second quarter will be easier because I have gotten used to the change from elementary to junior high and I know what is required of me." Noah likes how the year is going because it is easier than what he expected. He said he will get better by doing what he's already doing. He says that he hopes that there will be more hands on projects and or more combining of two or three classes like English/social studies. He thinks there is more stress on students because the transition to 7th grade from 6th grade. He thinks students will have more homework and a form of finals tests. Noah really liked the hands-on games and stuff like the food chain game in science class. Noah said the quarter was a little bit hard because of the transition but otherwise was overall good.

Cam Aaslund, a seventh grade student, said he likes having quarter one over and he thinks we did well in our classes. The classes were hard enough and he thinks quarter three will not be easier than quarter one. Cam thinks there will be more homework for quarter two and his favorite thing that happened this year is school in general.

This was a fun first quarter for students and we hope that the second quarter of the school year is just as fun.



Weight Training Club *by Stephen Martin*

Weight training club is a great club for those who want to use their energy but still learn new things about lifting weights. This club leader is Mr. Walters who is very good at lifting. I asked Austin Harrison what he has learned in this club and he replied "It really lets you use your energy in a productive way and gets you in a better shape. I also asked him how long have you been lifting weights and he replied "This is my first year and it won't be my last. Some doctors say that it is unhealthy to lift at a young age but Mr. Walters makes sure it's done safely. Austin Harrison said "God has told me to lift and I see a future in it." Weight training is useful in our everyday lives from picking up your groceries to fixing up your house.

Student Council Hot Chocolate and Apple Cider Day *by Keon Saburi*

Student council held hot chocolate and apple cider day on December 1st and everybody was invited. According to Katie Alteio, a student council member in 7th grade, "This day was supposed to make coming to school more fun." The event took place in the Commons at lunch time. Kalie Davis or Maddie Rulon were the council members in charge of the event.



Spirit Week *by Ella Hay*

Spirit week took place the week of October 23-27. This whole celebration was created by the student council. Spirit week was a week where our school had different days to dress up as different things like dressing up as your favorite Disney character or Washington sports team. These days were fun because we got to see a lot about the way people dress. One of the best days was twin day where best friends dressed up to match each other. Spirit week made junior high fun and many people dressed up and made great memories.

Amazing Work of Art Found in the Greene Commons! *by Wendy Zylstra*

Have you seen the mural yet? It's on the wall in the Greene Commons, and students say that it is very majestic. The large piece of art is a pastel interpretation of *The Last Dinner*, by Leonardo DaVinci. Each individual piece of the mural is drawn (with pastels) by different students in Ms. Drake's Art through the Ages class. The class includes both 7th and 8th graders, so it provides quite a variety of ideas and art styles. It took the student artists about 3-4 weeks to make the mural, and Marianne Ma, a student in that class remarked that the hardest part was either blending the color brown, which holds a prominent role in the pastel painting, or putting all the grooved pieces together. But teachers and students alike are very grateful that they managed to pull through, and that the mural looks as fabulous as it does today!

Spikeball Tournament

by Jack Ghaly

On October 30th through November 8th the student council hosted the spike ball tournament. What is spike ball you may ask? Well it is a 4-person game with 2 people per team. There is a ball thrown at a net shaped like a trampoline and bouncy. Like 4-square you hit the ball to the other persons side but there are two sides not 4 squares. I interviewed Zach Potthoff to get some intel on the event like is it hard, who won, what was the max amount of points, and how many contestants there were. The game can be difficult if you don't play often, the max amount of points are 21, we had 16 contestants and 8 teams. Congratulations to Johann de Villiers and Trey Weedman who won.



Innocent or Guilty by Noah Mathew

Is Jimmy Valentine innocent or guilty? You decided! On 11/1/17 and 11/2/17 in the 7th grade English class students decided whether Jimmy Valentine from the story “A Retrieved Reformation” was guilty of robbing a bank. The 7th grade decided by doing a mock trial, each person in the class got a role as a part of the court. Some of the roles were: The Judge, the Court Bailiff, Prosecuting Attorney, Defense Attorney, Witnesses. When witnesses are called up, the court bailiff swears them in. Then the witness would sit on a stool in front of the classroom, and the prosecuting attorneys would ask the witness a series of prepared questions trying to prove that Jimmy Valentine had robbed a bank, then the defending attorneys could ask the witness a series of question while the jury listened and took notes. Then the defensive attorneys got to go first and make rebuttals. When both the prosecuting attorneys and defensive attorneys had both had a turn the jury which had been taking notes the whole time went out into the hall and voted on whether Jimmy was guilty.

Two of the trials that the 7th grade conducted resulted in Jimmy being guilty; the other two classes resulted in a “hung jury” which means the jury was undecided, split, and couldn’t reach a verdict. This was the first time Mrs. Graves, the 7th grade English teacher, had tried this with her classes. The purpose of the mock trial was to have students be involved in a more interactive, hands-on, project that taught justice-seeking. So, was Jimmy Valentine innocent or guilty? I think we can say that Jimmy was found guilty in the eyes of the 7th grade court, and is now serving several long hard years in prison.



2nd period English Class— Judge Savanna Taylor, Witness Kaitlyn Novak and Bailiff Cam Aaselund

Where is God in Your Life? by Kate Finch

The chapel team asked Ms. Albright to speak in chapel last week. She read many passages of scripture from the books of Deuteronomy, 1 Kings, Psalm, and James. Ms. Albright asked questions like “Where in your life is God whispering come away with me?” and “How are you hiding away God?” She challenged us to see where we are spiritually in life right now, are we close to God, or are we far away from Him? Many people probably found themselves spending more time on their phones and shopping. A few ways to focus on God are praying once a night or reading the Bible every day. Ms. Albright did an amazing job speaking at chapel!

Woodshop by Kevin Li

Junior High Woodshop is a class that you can choose as one of your electives. In the class, you can do all sort of things with wood, for example woodcarving. Mr. Zschoche is the instructor. He said, “In woodshop student do many things, but we have been doing woodcarving for the last few weeks.” He has been doing workshop since he was a teenager, almost 40 years. He said also said, “I think that God has a plan for me to teach these kids, so I will keep on teaching them.”

Stephen Martin, a 7th grader in woodshop class, he said that he was very happy that he chose woodshop as one of his electives. He said that he had a good time during the woodshop class, “because in woodshop, you can learn a lot of cool ways to carve wood and the teacher is nice too.”

An Inside Look at the D1 Basketball Team

by Sean Ball

D1 team brings some competition to the court with a unique play style and outstanding players. If you are thinking about joining basketball, they (usually) have three practices and one game a week. Their home games are at the Bellevue First Presbyterian Church just down the road which is convenient for players.

The team and their coach were interviewed, the questions are stated below. Here are some answers they shared with me. Players said “That people should join basketball next year because it gets you in shape and it’s fun to hang out with friends.” The players stated how they felt about how much time they got on the court. Players said, “They feel they got a fair amount of playing.” Mr. Walters the D1 coach, was asked why he became a basketball coach and he answered, “I love the game of basketball and I want to share it with others.” Mr. Walters is following his calling by helping others learn the game of basketball.



D2 & D3 Teams

by Steven Escobar

Almost every day of the week, both the D2 and D3 basketball teams walk down the street to Bellevue Presbyterian Church to practice. Each team starts practice by running, then each team does drills to improve the team’s skills and chances of winning. Both teams have already played multiple games, home and away, and won some and lost some.

Coach Tom Pridmore, the D2 basketball coach, says he has always loved and used to play basketball until he couldn’t, which he then started to teach players, which he has been doing since high school (40 years!). He ties in the famous quote from George Bernard Shaw: “Those who can do, those who can’t teach.” With basketball this year, his goal for the D2 team is to improve. He thinks basketball praises God through teamwork, lifting each other’s spirits up and the camaraderie through each other.

Each player on the D2 and D3 teams go to practice, practically every day of the school week. Most players joined basketball to improve, and most of them already have improved through practice and games. Though playing basketball almost every day, and getting home late each night, each player has found a way to adapt.

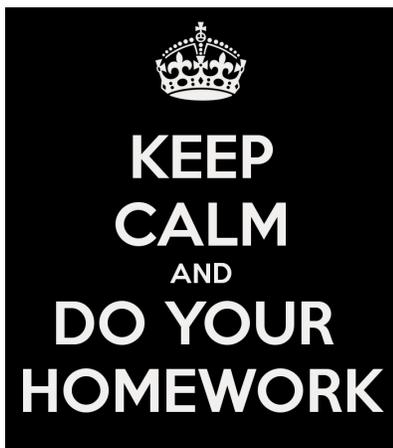


Editorial

by Amanda Pippel

Have you ever gotten home from school stressing about how much homework you have and how little time you have to do it? Wouldn't it be so helpful if you had more time to do that homework at school? I know we have office hours and all, but it takes so much longer than 1 hour to do all of your homework each week. I believe we need more office hour sessions each week.

I believe we need more office hours because it will reduce students stress of school and homework and let them relax and have fun each day. We should have office hours 2-3 days a week for about 45 min-1 hour each time. This will make it so kids will have more time to do homework. Plus, if we have office hours in a couple different sessions a week students will know all the homework they have to work on. This will make office hours more useful for students. Office hours are very helpful, and I believe if we increase the time and spread them over different days in the week it will greatly benefit the JH.



Joining the BCS Community *by Raegan Robison*

What is it like to be a new student at Bellevue Christian? Well, being a new student can be nerve racking and scary at times, but it is also fun getting to know people, meeting the amazing teachers, and don't forget all the great learning opportunities that you get as a new student. Here at BCS everyone feels welcome and some of the kids are exceedingly kind. Being a new student, it was hard at first to make friends but then I met more people. As far as the academic side it has been great. The teachers are outstanding and are really helpful with everything. All in all, the school, people, and teachers have been great and I'm glad I got to join the BCS community.

The Hard Working Mrs. Sorensen *by Tyler Pelts*

Have you ever walked up to the front desk and wondered who you're talking to? Her name is Mrs. Sorensen.

Mrs. Sorensen works really hard from 6:45A.M.-3:15P.M., starting her day out with opening up the deli with Mrs. Miller. She sees lots of people every day, about 50-75 kids, not including adults. She has been working in the student store, selling books and supplies since 1993, but this is her first year working at the front desk. Her favorite part of her job is being around people and being a welcoming presence to BCS. Mrs. Sorensen thinks the most interesting part of her job is getting to know the people who come to her at BCS, she says she gets to know people that she wouldn't know in any other way. Her boss is Mr. DeYoung. When she was asked if there was anything she would like to add, this is what she said, "I would want everyone to know that God is faithful to guide the steps in our lives! My daughters and I moved up from California in 1992. Because I am a widow, I needed to work but I didn't know where that would be. We didn't really know many people outside of our immediate family. I began praying that God would direct me to the best place, for me to work. I enrolled my daughters at BCS (one in HS and one in elementary). A short time later there was an announcement sent out to families asking if anyone would be willing to come volunteer at the BCS Bookstore one hour a week. It sounded interesting to me so I responded to the request. One thing led to another and I began working, not just volunteering, at Bellevue Christian a few months later! It has been 24 years and I love my job! When we ask God for help He answers – sometimes in ways we don't expect – but looking back it becomes clear just how much He knows what He's doing. I not only got to work at a wonderful place but it allowed me to work where my girls were attending school which was a special blessing." She is very good at her job and helps this school in a lot of ways.

As you can see we are lucky to have such a special person working at our front desk!

Viking for a Day *by Toni Denholm*

Viking for a Day is coming to Bellevue Christian School. BCS has already had two Viking for a Day in 2017. The first one was on October 16, 2017 and the next was November 13, 2017. The third Viking for a Day will happen on January 8, 2018. Viking for a Day is an opportunity for new students to get to know the main campus. Ms. Ann Kats, the Admission Coordinator, is in charge of Viking for a Day.

Another type of Viking for a Day is a half day event involving the sixth and seventh graders where the sixth graders get an opportunity to shadow a seventh-grade student for half the day. Going to class with the seventh grader gives a chance for the sixth grader to get to know his or her teachers in preparation for when they attend BCS next year. That event usually happens in late spring.

It's that Time of Year—Parent Teacher Conferences *by Lucas Hage*

Have you ever wondered what is discussed in the Parent Teacher Meetings or what they do for the school? Well if you have then this article is the right article for you. The Bellevue Christian School Parent-Teacher-Conferences were held on Monday the 20th and Tuesday the 21st of November. The junior high meetings are held in the LRC and the senior high meetings were held in the commons area. Parents, Teachers and Students met for 10 minutes with each teacher.

Conferences are held once a year during the Thanksgiving break because we are far enough into the school year to see progress and to set reasonable goals to work on for the rest of the year. This allows the teachers to talk with both the students and the parents about the student's strengths and weaknesses, without focusing on grades, and for parents to ask questions. By junior high, it is important for students to participate, too "What do the teachers say when they dislike the child?" According to the assistant principal Mike Olson, "Good news! These kids do not attend this school. Any teacher would talk to the student first." When asked what he thinks the parents and teachers think about these meetings, Mr. Olson replied, "Everyone comes away from the experience with something beneficial. Continued questioning Mr. Olson, "Do you think the parents and teachers find this informative? Or is it just the parents that get something out of it? Why do you think it is beneficial to have these meetings?" He simply stated, "I think it is a chance to build relationships, Conferences, goal-setting, relationship-building...it's all about helping students achieve in this school!"

ANON(ymous) HS Drama *by Andrew Chang*

On November 16, 17, and 18, the high school drama group performed *ANON(ymous)*, a modern story based on Homer's *The Odyssey* about a young refugee named Anon who is shipwrecked and separated from his mother. Maddie Oz plays Anon and did a wonderful job portraying Anon's journey to find his mom and his encounters with friends, refugees, and enemies. The production was directed by our illustrious drama teacher Mr. Ramquist. The high school drama group hosted three performances. Approximately one hundred people showed up for the first performance and a whopping one hundred seventy people came to the second performance. They ended strongly with about one hundred people in the audience for the final performance. The high schoolers did an amazing job and had been practicing after school for ten weeks. The beautiful backdrops and other props were designed by Mr. Ramquist and hand-made by the drama group and their families. Maddie Oz said, "The show was dramatic, heart breaking and heartwarming, violent at times, and touching. It was emotional, and it taught messages of exile, transformation, growth, and the common themes of love and finding home."

Thanksgiving with Grandma *by Gus Oslund*

Hellen Losleben, my grandma, talked about what it's like to celebrate Thanksgiving over Thanksgiving break. She goes to see her family and friends and have dinner at the Sato's house.

Family and friends go to Terrie and Mike Sato's house to eat dinner. The Oslunds, Satos, Loslebens, Mocks, came over for dinner. The kids and adults play games, watch football games, and sing for fun. The event is on Thanksgiving Day at 4 pm. There are usually 25 to 30 people and everyone is seated at tables to go get food.

Everyone brings some food for dinner. She says that Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to be with family and friends to count your blessings, and see her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren that she doesn't see often.

Viking Parent Group

by Jessica Elbert

Viking Parent Group is a group that uses parents' capabilities to support mission-fit events to serve the community. Viking Parent Group is vital to creating and fostering a strong relationship between the school and parents. The meetings and events they hold are at the Clyde Hill Campus. Viking Parent Group meet on the first and second Tuesday at 1pm. Viking Parent Group (VPG) hosts annual events and meetings throughout the school year. Some of the events they hosted include the carnival, the welcome back picnic, the auction, and the staff appreciation.

The Carnival was full of fun, there was the cake-walk, games, inflatables, food trucks, Taco Del Mar, and entertainment. The Welcome Back Picnic was an afternoon to connect, get information, eat, and sign-up for activities. The Auction consisted of an evening of entertainment, a silent auction, and dinner. The Staff Appreciation had a week of lunch and daily activities.

They have those events because they want to help strengthen the schools and parents' relationship. Rebecca Ortega, the president of VPG said "What I like most about VPG is working with other parents who care about our school. It is enjoyable to give back and be a part of the BCS community."



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The Amazing Bacon Day *by Ashton Becker*

Do you have a deep love for bacon? Well, on 11/15/17 we celebrated the day where you got to eat all the bacon you ever wanted!! Bacon: a tasty snack fit for breakfast, all the way down to a midnight snack. It's rich protein and makes you want to stuff more into your mouth. The only people who got to have bacon on this day were the Junior High at our school. To find out why we celebrated this day, an interview was set up with student council member and bacon day supervisor, Josiah Clark, to get intel on this magical day:

Q: What was bacon day?

A: "A day for free bacon for the Junior High from the Student Council."

Q: Is it a national or international holiday? If so, which one?

A: "Not today, but there is a national one coming soon."

Q: When was this idea thought of?

A: "A few months ago [from bacon day]."

Q: How much bacon will be eaten (estimate)?

A: "Estimated 200-250 pieces of bacon."

Q: Where will it be celebrated?

A: "Right outside the BCS gym."

Q: What if some people don't like bacon (there are probably not many)?

A: "The Student Council will try to make something that all Junior Highers will like."

Q: Who thought of the idea?

A: "Myself."

Q: Why Bacon?

A: "Because bacon is a choice that most Junior Highers will like (approved!)."

Well, there you have it folks. Bacon day really was a magical day. We hope you love it like us bacon lovers do. Thank you!