

# THE Bear Claw



## FROM THE BEAR'S DEN

### 🦃 Happy Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving was my grandfather's favorite holiday. He loved baking the turkey, making dressing, and watching any football game he could find. But most importantly, he loved that his family was all together. He passed away 22 years ago, but I can still remember those Thanksgivings around our dinner table like it was yesterday.

As we enter the holiday season, I'm thankful those memories. I'm thankful for the opportunity now to create and share new memories with my family- my wife Monica, my son Jack, and my daughter Molly. I'm thankful that my mother, brother, grandmother, aunt, and uncle are still with us to celebrate.

This year, I'm especially thankful to build new traditions and memories with my Britton family. I'm thankful for each person that put their faith in our school to begin this journey with us. And while the road is not always smooth, I know our destination will be worth it.

I hope each of you takes time to reflect on all you have to be thankful for. Enjoy your break next week!

### 🌲 Britton and UK Planting for the Future

The [University of Kentucky Department of Landscape Architecture](#) (UKLA) is working with Ms. Morgan Margita's 7th grade class at our school to create a tree planting plan and landscape master plan for the school campus. The tree planting plan will culminate with a tree planting next spring or fall, and the landscape master plan will help prioritize and guide future development of planting areas and outdoor spaces around our campus.

An important part of their design process is hearing from our school community and what we value and would like to see in outdoor spaces around our school. UKLA has developed a survey that will help shape the designs they develop with our students. Please take a few minutes to [complete the survey here](#) by Tuesday, November 25 at 11am. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jordan Phemister ([jph235@uky.edu](mailto:jph235@uky.edu)). Thank you so much for taking time to complete their survey!

[Survey link](#)

Thanks so much for all of your help and support!

## THIS WEEK

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025

- Dance practice at 7:15 AM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Academic team hosts Christ the King at 5:00 PM
- Volleyball hosts Morton at 5:00 PM
  - Tickets: Abigail Nash & Dana Bingham
  - Concessions:
  - Supervision: Hunter Barners & Hayley Bromagen

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2025

- Dance practice at 7:15 AM
- Cheer practice at 4:15 PM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Volleyball practice at 4:15 PM
- Super Cool Variety Cool at 4:15 PM

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2025

- No school

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025

- No school
- Happy Thanksgiving!

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2025

- No school

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2025

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## LOOKING AHEAD...

- December 1: Academic team vs. Jessie Clark
- December 1: Volleyball vs. EJ Hayes
- December 2: MAP Math winter testing
- December 2: Volleyball hosts Jessie M. Clark
- December 4: Volleyball travels to Leestown
- December 4: MAP Reading winter testing
- December 9: Volleyball district tournament begins
- December 12: Winter dance
- December 18: District volleyball finals
- December 22-January 5: Winter break
- January 6: Students return to class

The mission of Mary E. Britton Middle School is to foster a safe and supportive environment where every student is valued and inspired to reach their fullest potential. Through academic rigor, civic engagement, and strong relationships, we cultivate leaders prepared to thrive today and build a better tomorrow.

### THE BEAR NECESSITIES FOR SUCCESS

- Be Curious
- Be Kind
- Be Bold
- Be Responsible

### VISION: BRITTON AND BEYOND

- Expose Students to Career Pathways in Health and Medical Sciences
- Ensure Equitable Access to Courses So Every Student Earns at Least One High School Credit.
- Provide Opportunities for Civic Engagement.
- Foster School Pride and a Sense of Belonging.



## ♥ Family Support Resources

At Mary E. Britton Middle School, we are committed to supporting the well-being of our students and their families. We recognize that some members of our community may be facing challenges such as food insecurity or the need for winter clothing. To ensure we can connect families with the appropriate resources, we have created a [confidential support form](#). Completing the form allows our team to identify needs and provide assistance with care and compassion.

In addition, FCPS has created a [centralized directory](#) of supports and services for students, families, and the community.

Here's what you'll find and why it matters for our school community.

### 📁 What's Included

The [resource page](#) organizes help into categories that address key needs, including:

- Food → Pantries and meal supports around the community (e.g., God's Pantry Food Bank, The Salvation Army)
- Housing → Agencies assisting with safe, stable housing and resources for residents
- Rent & Utilities Help → Support for utilities, rent/mortgage, and related household expenses
- Household Needs & Clothing → Clothing closets, furniture, household goods to help families in transition
- Emergency Shelters → Immediate shelter resources for individuals and families in crisis
- Healthcare → Medical, dental, vision and preventive care for children and families
- Mental Health & Crisis Support → Hotlines, counseling resources, substance abuse help, and LGBTQ+-friendly supports
- Employment & Job Training → Agencies providing job readiness, training and employment help

## 🎁 Celebrate the Holidays with School Spirit! 🎁

We're excited to announce that the official online apparel stores for Mary E. Britton Middle School are now LIVE — just in time for holiday shopping! Whether you're looking for gifts, warm winter gear, or something special to show off your Britton pride, we've got three great options for you:

- ★ Store 1 – [BSN SPORTS Official Team Shop](#)
- ★ Store 2 – [K3 Kreations](#)
- ★ Store 3 – [Varsity Print Winter Apparel Store](#)

The stores close soon so act now!

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

### GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, November 17... 91.91%
- Tuesday, November 18... 92.91%
- Wednesday, November 19... 94.63%
- Thursday, November 20... 92.75%
- Friday, November 21...

## STAFF ATTENDANCE

### GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, November 17... 87.78%
- Tuesday, November 18... 86.67%
- Wednesday, November 19... 95.56%
- Thursday, November 20... 90.00%
- Friday, November 21... 92.22%

## WEEKLY DISCIPLINE

### SIXTH GRADE

- Number of referrals... 6
- Number in detention... 13
- RESET days... 1.08
- Suspension days... 0

### SEVENTH GRADE

- Number of referrals... 5
- Number in detention... 2
- RESET days... 2.35
- Suspension days... 0

### EIGHTH GRADE

- Number of referrals... 4
- Number in detention... 10
- RESET days... .38
- Suspension days... 0

## INFO

### TIMES

- Doors open daily at 8:35 AM
- First period begins at 9:05 AM
- Dismissal is at 3:55 PM
- Walkers and car riders should be picked up by 4:15 PM

### LINKS

- [Absence form](#)
- [eOS](#)
- [Campus Parent](#)
- [Canvas](#)
- [Student and Family Handbook](#)
- [Voluntary Student Accident Insurance](#)
- [Consent for Outside Traceable Communication](#)
- [Tutoring sign ups](#)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [PhotoSnap \(Upload pics for the yearbook\)](#)
  - Access code: BEARS26

### CURRENT ENROLLMENT

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 245 (-1)
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade: 177 (+1)
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade: 137 (+1)
- **Total: 559 (+1)**



### BEAR HUGS

- STLP earned a bid to state competition, based on their Tech Help Desk project. A representative from Apple has asked to partner with them to expand the project!
- Congratulations to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade volleyball team. They defeated Bryan Station and Tates Creek this week!



**Preferred Financial Partner of  
Mary E. Britton Middle School**  
Call us at 859.293.0411

**Mortgage Interest Rates-what really matters? The headline rates don't apply to everyone. Your credit score, debt levels and loan type influence your actual rate more than the headline rates. Timing isn't everything: being financially prepared puts you in the best position regardless of rate swings. You can get into the right home for your goals and refinance in the future. Call us to take the first step; we want to guide you with no obligation!**

**How can we help?  
Scan for our website:**

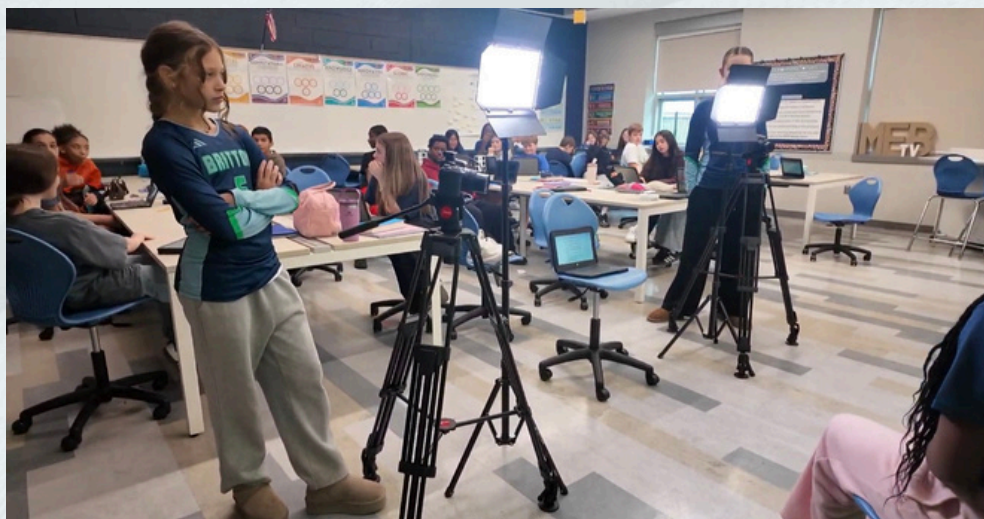


**lexington.benchmark.us**  
Call us: 859.293.0411 &  
let us know you are a  
Britton Bear

Ark-La-Tex Financial Services, LLC NMLS# 3043 ([www.rusticconsumerservices.org](http://www.rusticconsumerservices.org)). All loans subject to borrower qualifying. This is not a commitment to lend. Other restrictions may apply. (<https://benchmark.us>)



# BEAR SNAPS

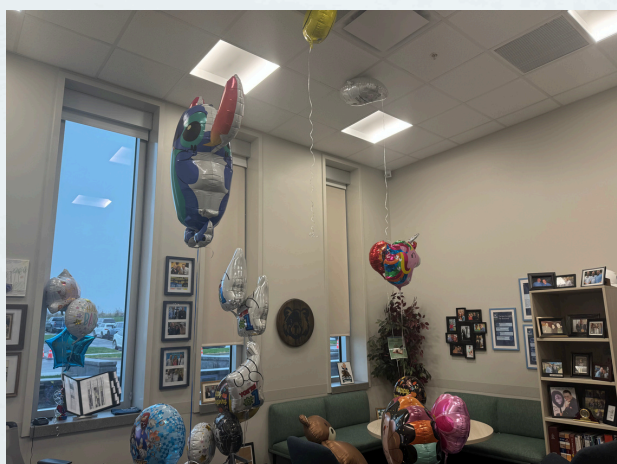


Digital Art students are learning lighting, video production, and interview techniques to support Mary E. Britton Middle School's live daily news broadcast, MEbTV.

Students enjoyed our first book fair of the year!



Our friends at North Lexington Church of Christ on Hume Road graciously volunteer their time to staff our Youth Services Center during the week! They have been busy washing and sorting clothes, stocking school supplies, and organizing our donations!

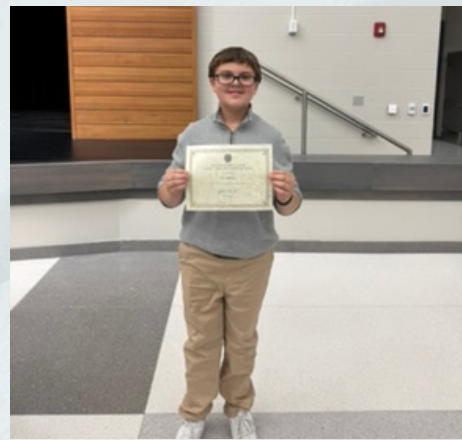


Deylen Burnett and I share a birthday- November 25! I was inundated with balloons today at the most random and awkward times. In a meeting, with a parent, hall duty, it didn't matter. I think Mrs. Kiser has been watching too many Tik Tok videos.



# BEAR SNAPS

These students accepted invitations to our Beta Club! They are ready to begin their service hours!





# TEEN NIGHT OUT

This November, join us at the Y for Teen Night Out - packed with friends and fun!

Enjoy pizza, games, and the usual hangout vibes, PLUS a chance to win prizes and be the first to dive into an immersive experience and try our brand-new VR headsets! It's FREE to register and open to both members and non-members! Registration closes Nov. 20.

**EVENT IS  
FREE!**

Registration required  
at [ymcackey.org](http://ymcackey.org)

**AGES:** 13-18

**LOCATION:** WHITAKER FAMILY YMCA

**DATE:** Saturday, Nov. 22

**TIME:** 6:30-9 p.m.

MADE POSSIBLE BY



# BEARS, YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!



What will you remember from this historic year? The yearbook has the complete story of the year – reserve your copy today!

**COST: \$35**  
**TO PURCHASE:**

Want to make your book EXTRA special?  
Cover Personalization/Namestamping  
starts at just \$9.15, but hurry, it's only  
available until March 1!

To use a credit card, debit card or PayPal, go to **yearbookforever.com** and enter our school name or **scan the QR code**.

For cash or check, bring order form and payment made out to Mary E. Britton Middle School to Room A218.

Student name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of yearbooks \_\_\_\_\_ x \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ Total cost

