



THE BELLE RINGER

Oct. 2019
ISSUE NO. 2

The Official Newsletter of Belle Meade Montessori School

D.C. Field Trip



Left Photo by Joseph; Middle Photo by Venla; Right Photo Provided by Kathryn

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed. Oct. 16

PSAT

(High School Students Only)

Sat. Oct. 19

School Board Fundraiser

(Come Show Support!)

Fri. Oct. 25

NO SCHOOL

Teacher Inservice Day

Tue. Oct. 29

Bike Repair Trip

(P.E. Bike Riders Only)

Thur. Oct. 31

Halloween Party

All-School Sleepover

(John's House)

Fri. Nov. 1

Art Show

Open House 5-7 p.m.

(567 Mt. Salem Ave.,
Washington, Va.)

Thur. Nov. 7

Writer's Eye Field Trip

(Includes Activities at UVA)

Fri. Nov. 8

End of Term

Sat. Nov. 9

Neighbor's Helping

Neighbors

(Volunteer Opportunity)

Fri. Nov. 21

Trimester Dinner

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Farm Tour an enjoyable day and successful fundraiser—especially to everyone who gathered items, volunteered for chef cook-off, prepared food, participated in the auction and raffle, and worked at the many jobs that made the day go smoothly.

In addition to fund raising, Farm Tour provided the opportunity to introduce many new people to the Belle Meade Community. We are particularly grateful for the part that our students played in hosting the community and showing visitors their school.

We raised \$1,125 in the silent auction and \$1,567 in sales, including pony rides, food, face painting, jewelry and cards.

—John

www.bellemeadeschool.org

New Middle School Students Join Belle Meade

Archie Fuller is 11 years old and lives in Warrenton. He's the newest student at Belle Meade, having joined fifth grade last week. His mom owns a bookstore called the Open Book, and he has a dog named Bobcat. Archie has brought Bobcat to school a couple of times. He is also interested in tractors, specifically Kubota. He also likes trucks.

—Jack

Mia Phaneuf is a new sixth grader. She's fun, creative, and a good friend. Her choice elective is art, and she's a part of our equestrian program as she enjoys being around and riding horses. She likes ice skating and playing games like Magic: The Gathering and Dungeons and Dragons. She has several pets, including two cats named Jimmie and Ammie, a dog named Kylo, a bearded dragon, and a cute black bunny named Fuzzy. She's a wonderful addition to the school, and we're all so happy she's here.

—Lela



Photo by Kathryn

New Teacher Feature

Erica is the new teacher at the lower school. We are so glad to have her at Belle Meade. She is very kind and patient with the students. She lives in Culpeper like I do. Some mornings I ride to school with her and her two daughters. I think it's cool that she listens to classical music in her car. I am looking forward to getting to know her better.

—Landen

Kathryn is a reader, a writer, and a list maker. She loves writing about writing and is an active member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. She always comes armed with a book to read and has a recommended reading list for every occasion. Kathryn has a B.S. in communication from Brigham Young University-Idaho and an M.F.A. in creative writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts. In her past life, she has delivered newspapers, made pizzas, and scripted action-sports events.

Neil is an artist-athlete born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia. He competed as an adaptive snowboarder with the National Ability Center in Park City, Utah. He currently teaches skateboarding and adaptive skateboarding for the Charlottesville Park District. He is an advocate for persons with disabilities and writes children's books through the eye of disability. He holds a B.A. from the University of Utah and an M.F.A. from the Institute of American Indian Arts.

Melanie is the Spanish language instructor at Belle Meade Montessori School. While her formal education features an AS in Paralegal Studies from Utah Valley University, she has many diverse skills and interests, including music and foreign language. She first studied French in junior high and high school, then in 2003 learned the Spanish language. Melanie enjoys sewing, research and personal development, and spending time with her family.



Photos by Archie

Tractors Keep School Running

There are many different types of machinery at Belle Meade farm school. One example is the John Deere tractor. It is a late-sixties/early-seventies tractor. It can mow with a John Deere sickle mower. Another example is the Kubota B series with a loader. It's a 2000-2001 model. Come to Belle Meade school to find out more.

—Archie

Changes to the Masquerade Ball

Because of a scheduling conflict, the student council planned a whole school bonfire, haunted house, sleepover and Halloween party for Thursday, Oct. 31, at John and Becky's house at 4650 Orange Rd., Aroda, Va.

Like camping trips, chaperones will be provided and females and males will sleep in separate areas.

Students planning to attend should bring clothes and supplies for school on Friday with them on Thursday. Transportation to and from the sleepover will be provided. Students unable to attend should be picked up after school on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. and dropped off for school on Friday. Friday school will end on a regular schedule.

The Art Tour Open House is scheduled for the evening of Fri., Nov. 1. Art students, who all entered works, are invited and encouraged to attend the Open House from 5-7 p.m. at the Washington School at 567 Mt. Salem Ave., Washington, Va.



Photo by Kathryn

An Interview with Buster

Buster is the very nice farm dog here at Belle Meade. And before Farm Tour he got a bath! He behaved very well during Farm Tour, and all the guests loved him. Here is an interview with the dog himself.

“How much did you enjoy farm tour?”

Buster: sniffs my knee.

“Did you like your bath?”

Buster: growls.

“Do you enjoy life at Belle Meade?”

Buster: barks three times.

“Thank you for your time.”

Buster: “You're welcome.”

Everybody loves buster and he is amazing here at Belle Meade.

—Lucas

COMING SOON: PSAT

Eight Belle Meade students will be taking the PSAT at Rappahannock High School on Wednesday. The bus will run at standard times. Students taking the PSAT who ride the bus should get off the bus at Headmaster's in Sperryville. Students not riding the bus should be at school before 7:25 a.m. or at Headmaster's by 7:35.

Students taking the test should bring \$17 in cash or check made out to RCHS. They should also bring a stand alone scientific/graphing calculator if they have one as well as two sharpened pencils and a lunch that does not require heating. Belle Meade will have additional standard calculators to borrow if needed.

A Photo Essay

Farm Tour



Top Left: Face painting at farm tour was a big hit with both the young and old.

—Hannah

Top Right: A chef and her sous-chef prepare their meal for the cook-off.

—Joseph

Bottom Left: The band played "You are My Sunshine" arranged by Johnny Cash and "Sweater Weather" by the Neighborhood.

—Morgan

Above: Jewelry sales added a splash of color to the Farm Tour.

—Alyssa



Top: Everybody enjoyed delicious, locally grown food.

—Venla

Middle Left: Pony ride aren't just for little kids. Morgan finishing a pony ride on Dakota.

—Sofie

Middle Right: Visitors and students use the apple cider press to juice locally grown apples.

—Photo by Anna

Bottom: Mike leads a hay-ride tour of the Belle Meade school and farm.

—Gavin